

MINUTES OF THE MOOR POND WOOD ‘STEERING COMMITTEE’

MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER 2006

AT 143 MOOR ROAD, PAPPLEWICK

<u>Present:</u>	Mr S Walker	Chairman
	Mrs M Barker	Secretary
	Mr R Barton	Friends Group
	Mrs C Hardstaff	Linby Parish Council
	Mr D Hill	Ashfield District Council
	Mrs M Hull	Friends Group Treasurer
	Mrs M Kerr	Friends Group
	Mrs M Passey	Friends Group
	Mr L Scudder	Notts. County Council
	Mrs D Townsend	Friends Group

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19th OCTOBER 2006

Mrs Hull questioned the time-scale as to when the accounts would be split but agreed to carry on as Treasurer for the Friends’ until March 2007. With this amendment Mrs Passey proposed acceptance of the minutes, which was seconded by Mrs Kerr and agreed.

3. INTRODUCTION OF MR DENIS HILL OF ASHFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Chairman thanked both Mr Barton and Mr Hill for attending the meeting. Mr Hill informed the group that his remit at Ashfield was as the District Council’s Heritage and Tourism Development Officer.

Mr Walker explained to the committee members that Mr Hill had been invited in order to discuss the group’s concerns in respect of that part of the project area within the Ashfield District Council, namely Grange Cottage Wood. Mr Hill said he would be happy to take back any comments and discuss them with his colleagues at Ashfield, in particular the Planning Officer. He was informed of concerns relating to the corridor section between the River Leen and the Grange Farm development site, in particular how it would need to be managed to preserve the archaeology.

Mr Hill confirmed Brian Twigg the Ashfield District Council’s Planning Officer did not feel there was a problem with the group being involved with the management of this area, which would be handed over to the District Council in approximately two years. The importance of being involved earlier rather than later with the management of it was stressed to Mr Hill, in order there were no harmful effects on the habitat.

Mr Hill was also asked to ensure that the Planning Officer was aware of significant archaeology within the land bordering the River Leen behind the Mill. It was suggested a meeting be arranged with the developer and Ursilla Spencer on site to walk the area.

Mr Hill asked if there was any other relevant information available about the area and Mr Walker informed him of the Nan Greatorex report and of recent work undertaken by the group's archaeologists. Ursilla to be asked to write to Ashfield's Planning Officer and a meeting to be arranged with Mr Twigg to discuss the corridor section management.

Mr Walker asked Mr Hill what the group could do to help bring the project area into the Hidden Valley project. Mr Hill explained about his work to create a walk from Newstead via Papplewick and Linby but of the problems he was having with his development partners.

Mr Hill had already been given a copy of the sculpture design for the Grange Cottage Wood site and was informed of the current position with regard to this project. Also, of the P3 Strategy produced by the Parish Council, which it was felt might be helpful with regard to the Hidden Valley walk.

Mr Hill left the meeting at this point.

4. MODEL OF THE SITE

Mr Barton thanked the committee for giving him the opportunity to talk about the model for which he had two proposals:-

- a) A contoured model of the Upper Lean Valley from Hollinwell to Forge Mills, Bestwood showing the course of the river from its source, Newstead Abbey, Abbey Lakes, St James' Church site, Mills' sites, dams, ponds, leats, sluices, (scale permitting), roads and footpaths together with field boundaries.
- b) A contoured model of the area from just north of St James' Church to just south of the Grange Mill. This would show the course of the river from St James' Church site, Top Pond, Papplewick Dam, Linby (Castle) Mill site, Wark Mill and Grange Mill sites, leats and sluices together with roads, footpaths, boundaries etc.

Mr Walker confirmed the group felt the local area would be the better design and he informed Mr Barton that some talks had taken place with the Village Hall Committee who had agreed in principle to the model being located in the Hall but not where.

Mr Barton proceeded to give more details of the model in terms of construction, material and size, and confirmed he would be happy to fund the cost of the model. Mr Walker said the Steering Committee had also agreed to underwrite the costs of it. The method of display was also discussed. It was noted the next Village Hall Management Committee was on the 20th December – details of the size to be confirmed.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Papplewick Dam (Page 1) Mrs Barker reported no response had been received from the Co-op's agent Mr Hutchinson.

Friends' Annual General Meeting (Page 2) Mr Walker had not contacted Notts. Wildlife Trust as Ursilla Spence had agreed to send one of the archaeologists to the Friends' meeting on the 24th January to talk about the electronic mapping survey.

Biodiversity Action Group – Local Nature Reserve (Page 2) Mrs Barker confirmed she had sent a letter to Mr Crouch at Notts. CC asking for the site to be considered as a local nature reserve. No response had yet been received.

Accounts – Parish Council (Page 2) The accounting was discussed by the Parish Council. The constitution of the Friends' to be amended.

Sculpture Trail (Page 3) Mr Walker had emailed Mr MacDonald confirming the group is interested but it needed to be discussed further.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Sherwood Forest Trust – 2007 Guided Walks programme application form.

BTCV Newsletter

Greenwood Community Forest – Request for photographs showing friends working. Appropriate photos to be sent to Gill Grievson.

7. ACCCOUNTS

Parish Council – No movements since the last meeting on the 19th October. Mr Walker trying to establish how much there is in the account.

Friends' Account - Mrs Hull confirmed a total of £6,643.57 which included grants.

Mrs Barker pointed out she had run out of petty cash, which previously had come from the Parish Council's Moor Pond Wood general fund. It was agreed in future the Steering Committee expenses be paid out of the Friends' account. Mrs Barker to inform Mrs Hull of outstanding expenses.

Mrs Barker confirmed that all members had received a final request for subscription renewal. Mr Scudder suggested Jonathan Rhodes be contacted as he wished to be kept informed about the project.

8. GRANTS

- (a) Local Heritage Initiative – Mr Walker reported on a meeting between himself, Mrs Barker, Ursilla Spence and Emily to discuss further work that was needed. The archaeologists suggested a digital survey would be worthwhile as this could be used for all kinds of purposes, including producing a better model showing how the system worked. Also, once the data was obtained the image produced could be used in a variety of ways, including reconstructing the system following any subsidence damage and a virtual walk. Mr Walker asked the committee to ratify the decision taken to instruct the archaeologist to undertake this survey at a cost of £1,640, which was agreed.

The archaeologists were in favour of restoring the sluice exposed during the 2005 archaeological weekend and creating a path between this and the bridge.

Mr Walker had spoken to Richard Sheppard about asking Philip Turton to quote for this restoration.

'Plug Hole' - Lee Scudder to speak to ASS re a further survey from the pond culvert. Also, to speak to Jason at Notts. CC regarding restoration.

- (b) Other - including Heritage Lottery - Mrs Barker and Mrs Kerr gave a report on the funding seminar attended on Monday 13th November. They both felt a positive response had been received to submitting an application. Agreed a meeting be arranged with Linda Stone who organised to the seminar to discuss an application – suggested week commencing 22nd January.

Breathing Places - Mrs Kerr had started to complete the application but asked for assistance.

9. GRANGE FARM SITE

This had been discussed earlier in the meeting with Mr Hill of Ashfield District Council.

10. ANY OTHER MATTERS THE CHAIRMAN FEELS NEED TO BE DISCUSSED

Mr Scudder reported that Jonathan Rhodes had taken down a willow in Papplewick Dam and also undertaken some work to free up the water flow of the river.

It was noted with thanks to Mr Scudder that a fourth noticeboard had been installed at the Papplewick Lane entrance. He informed the committee he was in discussion with the maker about the actual cost. The broken Perspex in the other noticeboards still had to be replaced.

Workday – it was agreed to carry out excavations in the area identified by the water diviners in Grange Cottage Wood. Also, to undertake some cutting back and tidying. The date for the workday to be discussed at the Friends meeting.

Mr Walker had not received any further information from Nicole Killingsworth of Notts. CC regarding the roundabout.

Mrs Barker reported on a letter received from Notts. CC regarding the conditions made when planning permission had been given to import soil to Grange Cottage Wood site. This stated a hedge should be provided around the boundary. She had written informing County of the problems experienced with accident damage etc. An acknowledgement had been received for the work undertaken and suggesting Notts. CC Highways be asked about replacing the plantings as part of the roundabout development.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 17th January 2007