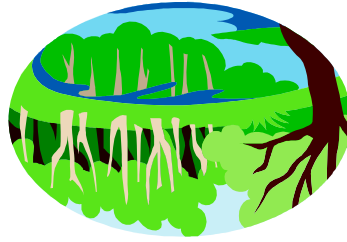


Moor Pond Wood Project, Papplewick



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE 'FRIENDS OF MOOR POND WOOD' HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER 2009 IN PAPPLEWICK VILLAGE HALL

In attendance:

Mr A Adams
Mrs P Andrews
Mrs M Barker
Mr T Barker
Mr R Barton
Mrs A Boucher
Mr T Buttle
Ms M Else
Mrs S Flegg
Mrs C Hardstaff
Mr D Hill
Mrs M Hull
Mr R Hull
Mr A Johns
Mrs C Johns
Mrs J Kendall
Mrs M Kerr
Mr J Lee

Mr D McCracken
Mrs G McCracken
Mr K Morton
Mrs P Morton
Mrs M Passey
Mr C Peal
Mrs J Peal
Mr R Preston
Mrs V Preston
Mrs L Redgate
Mr L Scudder
Mrs C Spencer
Mr R Spencer
Mr M Stinchcombe
Mrs D Townsend
Mr S Walker
Mrs D Welling
Mr C Womble

Mr Walker introduced himself as the Parish Council's representative and Chairman of the Moor Pond Wood Steering Committee. He then welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Richard Sheppard the archaeologist, and then requested any apologies.

1. APOLOGIES

These were received and accepted on behalf of the following members:
Mr R Kerr, Mrs R Lee, Mr B & Mrs Paulson, Mr & Mrs Penlington, Mr T Redgate
Mr & Mrs Taylor and Mrs C Tyack.

Mr Walker explained how the meeting would proceed with the AGM first; then the introduction of the site model by Mr Robin Barton followed by refreshments.

2. MINUTES OF THE 2008 MEETING

The Chairman asked if anyone had any comments on the minutes. Mr Hull

pointed out the licence several members had obtained for strimming was now out of date, which was noted. Mrs Passey then proposed acceptance of the minutes, which was seconded by Mr Hull and agreed.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

For new members the Chairman explained the relationship between the Parish Council and the Friends group, and how the funding of the project had evolved. Although it had been anticipated that by the 2009 AGM the Parish Council's account would have been closed with the Friends group running the project, this had not happened. This was due to the unspent funds in the Parish Council account, which had been earmarked for developing interpretation and completion of the area around the pond and plughole. There had been delays in producing the artwork for the interpretation boards, although this was now ready for printing, and also the high water level in the pond had prevented landscaping works around the drain area.

Friends were informed of schemes being considered to control the water level in the pond and its outflow but that before any works could be undertaken an engineer's report was needed on the plughole. As the water level had now receded work could be started in this area and once completed the invoices could be submitted and the Parish Council closed.

Richard Sheppard - results awaited of his report which hopefully would shed light on various issues relating to the site, i.e. what water was used for and the processes undertaken on the site.

Mr Walker informed the Friends that during the rebuilding of the steps near the pond and tidying up of this area, there had been an exciting discovery. Mr Scudder had uncovered further archaeology around the plughole. Since discovering the plughole the main question had been how water had crossed Papplewick Lane and it was hoped the latest discovery would go some way to answer this question.

Friends were also informed of other archaeology, which had been recorded in Dam Banks Wood, following the installation of a water irrigation pipe by the farmer, and the improvements undertaken to the path in Papplewick Dam following erosion. Further work was to be undertaken to this path to raise the level where it had become very muddy.

The Chairman confirmed that following receipt of a £6,500 Breathing Spaces grant the new footpath through Papplewick Dam had been completed. This connected the meadows footpath between Papplewick and Linby, and the layby.

As members would recall a presentation had been made at a previous Friends' meeting to redevelop the project's website. Unfortunately, the funding application had been unsuccessful but it had been agreed to fund the project internally. It was anticipated this would be launched within the next few months.

In summary, the Chairman stated the year had been busy in some ways but in others disappointing with some projects being at the same stage as last year. He thanked the Steering Committee and confirmed all the members had agreed to re-stand for the following year. However, changes would be needed by the next AGM

when the Friends would be running the project. The composition of the committee would then need to be changed and he encouraged others to join the committee which could lose its Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

With no questions raised he called on Mr Adams to present the Friends' group accounts.

4. REPORTS ON THE PROJECT ACCOUNTS

The accounts were presented as follows:-

- (b) Friends' Accounts - Mr Adams spoke to the accounts, which were circulated at the meeting. He asked members to note that income was down due to low interest rate, reduced membership and donations. However, there was still £5,500 to spend and hopefully further funding would be received during the year.
- (a) Parish Council Accounts - No detailed accounts were circulated at the meeting. The Chairman informed members around £85,000 had been raised since the project started, most of which had now been spent but there had been little change since the previous AGM. Around £6,000 would be left in this account following the cost of the website relaunch. However, as this could not be transferred directly to the Friends' account it would be used for improvements around the pond and plughole.
- (c) Subscriptions - The Chairman explained the purpose for the subscription, in that it was a requirement for insurance purposes, and obviously needed to cover the cost of printing etc. He reported that most of the meetings in 2009 had just about covered costs. The Treasurer and Steering Committee therefore recommended no change in subscriptions, i.e. £3 for an adult, £1 for under 18s and £5 for any organisation membership. Mrs Kendall proposed acceptance, which was seconded by Mrs Hull and unanimously agreed.

5. ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

As all members were prepared to carry on they were elected unopposed. The Chairman welcomed any other Friends to join the committee.

With no further AGM business the Chairman closed the formal AGM.



The Chairman then called upon Robin Barton to give a presentation on the model he had created which was on display.

Mr Barton informed members the model was not finished but represented a rough outline of what it would look like. He thanked Richard Sheppard, the archaeologist, and Denis Hill from Ashfield District Council for coming along to the meeting and for their help. He asked members not to touch the model which was fragile and confirmed the identify tags were temporary for the presentation. The

1881 map adjacent to the model showed a grid, which would assist members in identifying locations when making comment.

Mr Barton said he had never created such a model before and what he had produced was an interpretation from the information obtained. He was now seeking comments so that when it was finished it would be a consensus of the Moor Pond Wood Friends and professional advisers. He asked that any comments in respect of additions, amendments etc., be given to him in writing by the 20th October as he wished to create a credible representation of how things might have been. These comments would then be collated and presented at the November Friends meeting.

The Chairman thanked Mr Barton for the presentation. He felt Mr Barton had worked extremely hard producing the model, which would help people to visually appreciate the site and provide a talking point, which was the real merit of the project.

Mr Scudder confirmed two workdays would be on Sundays, 12th and 25th October starting at 10am.

The AGM then closed.