

Present: Paul & Clare Sheridan, Nadine Smykatz-Kloss, Ruth Illingworth, Andy Freedman, Barbara Imrie, Symon Doliczny, Jackie Rowanly, Michael Dannenberg, Nick Weir, Martin Benson, Rob Bermingham

Apologies: Ben Spencer, Julia Wade, Mark Harrison, Richard and Helen Keating, Simon Fowler, Liz Cowan, Adam Biscoe, Dominique Shead, Gabriele Kaye, Ruth Davey, Nick and Fiona Mills, Jess and Jack McQuail.

Ruth Illingworth chaired the meeting.

## 2. Minutes of 2018 AGM

Proposed as correct by Clare Sheridan, seconded by Nick Weir and agreed by all.

Matters arising – Ruth to ask Martin about grants and Paul to follow up with Tom about website hosting. Other matters covered below.

## 3. Finance report

Accounts were circulated before the meeting and the finance report discussed.

Accounts to be accepted proposed by Symon Doliczny and seconded by Nick Weir agreed by all those present.

Ruth to contact Helen to see if she is willing to contact all members about annual voluntary donations to help with woodland costs.

Thanks to Mark for all his work as treasurer over the last year.

## 4. Exemption from auditing

Proposed by Barbara Imrie and seconded by Ruth Illingworth. It was agreed unanimously that we do not need to have the accounts audited professionally.

## 5. Election of directors

Alice Goodenough is standing down. Thanks to Alice for her work over many years as a founder member of Stroudwoods. Three people offered to stand as directors, Nick Mills, Barbara Imrie and Dominique Shead along with Paul Sheridan, Mark Harrison and Ruth Illingworth the existing directors were all duly elected to serve. Dominique is the new secretary taking over from Paul.

## 6. Secretary reported

The report was circulated before the meeting and was summarised at the meeting.

## 7. Discuss wood felling plan.

Michael has met Patrick Baldwin on site and he has offered to fell trees for £160 a day with Michael helping him out. It is too late to fell the trees this spring now as the birds are nesting. It was agreed that Michael would arrange for 2 days felling work in the woods with Patrick in the autumn and let the secretary know so they can be added to the calendar so everyone knows when the felling will take place.

Ruth to ask Richard Keating to re-mark the trees for felling as the marks on the previous chosen trees have faded and also to include some trees of 20inch diameter so they can be used for solitary bee hive construction. This project of making bee hives was discussed and those present thought it was a good idea.

Once felled these trees need to be cut into lengths and Michael will arrange some dates for working parties in the woods.

## 8. Inspection rota for next year.

Nadine to send out email asking for volunteers to do the monthly inspections, this can be done in pairs so people who haven't done it before can share the job and see what is involved.

## 9. Parking

The ongoing issue of parking near the woods was discussed. Rob had a constructive talk with the tenant farmer Mr Goby.

Symon to ask Stroud District Council whether planning permission required to clear an area for car parking. Although there was concern it could lead to more fly tipping.

Nadine to look into options for car sharing up to the woods.

There is a grass verge just down from the woods that can take a couple of cars off road. But we still encourage people to park at the bottom of Folly Lane at the junction with Peghouse Rise and not by the woods.

## 10. AOB

I. Rob asked about allowing Dom Thomas to implant some fungus spores into the woods to encourage more fungus growth. This was thought to be a good idea. Rob to ask his intention, is it for business or just to increase quantity of local mushrooms. Also to see if he would do a fungus workshop.

II. Andy has agreed with Flies on the Wall theatre group to perform in the woods. Andy has plans for the creation of a theatre in the bowl with the fallen tree across, some work was done on this on Sunday.

III. Nadine suggested some of the Stroud Valleys Project bat boxes could be installed in the woods. Michael would be able to climb the trees to install them.

IV. Ruth reminded everyone that there is a first aid kit located under a large stone by the wall. A photo was taken and will be send out with these minutes. The kit will be checked annually at the AGM.

Michael was thanked for his work in the woods over the last year. And all the officers were thanked for their work over the previous year.

Meeting closed.