

Folly Wood Members' Meeting, 8 June 2022

Present: Dominique Shead (minutes), Ruth Illingworth, Andy Freedman, Paul Sheridan, Nigel Westaway, Tom Sykes

Apologies: Jack Richardson, Barbara Imrie, Mark Harrison, John McLellan, Wendy Gerard, Gabriel Kaye, Jackie Rowanly

Minutes from the previous meeting: matters arising

Dom to email Helen Keating to ask if she could remind people about giving a voluntary £20 donation.

Ash trees

Ruth and Andy will contact Stuart Roweth to see if he can come and update the original list of diseased ash trees that he made for us back in September 2021. Now that the trees are in leaf, it will be easier to see which trees are diseased. Dom will send him the revised list, as some trees we have already taken down. We have a tree surgeon in line to do any necessary felling in July, after the nesting season, with particular focus on any diseased roadside trees. The two fallen trees blocking the top path will be cleared this month.

Chair

Nigel agreed to take on the job of Chair for the next year, followed by Tom for the following year. The meeting thanked them both. Dom will find out who the Dropbox Admin person is (possibly Mark) and get them both put on. Dom to send rules to Nigel.

'Looking After Folly Wood' document

Jack Richardson has offered to update this. It was agreed that the Ecology Group would look at the document at our next meeting, though the feeling is that not much has changed from when it was first written. The Ecology Group needs to have an overview of human activity in the wood, and report back to Jack on what is sustainable, for example on the numbers of people gathering at events and how much felling of larch we should do.

Ecology group

Ruth has led two wildflower surveys so far, on the last Saturday of the month. The next one will be on 25th June at 10.30am. Dom to send John Rees's list to Tom so he can reconvert it into Word and we can update it. There will be a bat survey on Thursday 16th June at dusk – please let me know if you'd like to come.

AOB

1. We agreed to have a members' get-together on Sunday 3 July, partly to finalise the Social Group findings, but also to celebrate the solstice (a little late). At 2pm there will be a work afternoon for those who want to join in, followed at 4pm by afternoon tea round the campfire.
2. Update on milling: Beth's contact has an Alaskan saw mill, which is not suitable for work in the wood, so the hunt is still on for a mobile wood mizer. Andy suggested asking the people living at Wades Farm, who he thinks have a mill.