

# The Hoppit Woodland & Waterways Steering Group

## Minutes of AGM on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022

### 1. Members Present:

Steve Robbins	(860304)	<a href="mailto:crossgreeners@btinternet.com">crossgreeners@btinternet.com</a>
Alan Cushion	(860527)	<a href="mailto:alancushions63@gmail.com">alancushions63@gmail.com</a>
Howard Simpson (Secretary)	(860138)	<a href="mailto:howardclivesimpson@gmail.com">howardclivesimpson@gmail.com</a>
Steve Palframan (PC Rep)		
Rhona Allen	(860990)	<a href="mailto:rhona.allen@icloud.com">rhona.allen@icloud.com</a>

Visitors:

Ben Dowman	07831 171481	<a href="mailto:dowmanben@gmail.com">dowmanben@gmail.com</a>
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(Ben gave verbal consent to publish his contact details, as per GDPR requirement)

### 2. Apologies

Brian Fearnley (Vice-Chair)	(861007)	
Kevin Voller (Treasurer)	(861688)	<a href="mailto:kev.voller@btopenworld.com">kev.voller@btopenworld.com</a>

#### Not Present

Gerry Baxter	(861111)	<a href="mailto:gerrybaxter@outlook.com">gerrybaxter@outlook.com</a>
Steve Giddings	(860721)	<a href="mailto:sdgiddings8591@gmail.com">sdgiddings8591@gmail.com</a>
Peter Richardson	(860996)	<a href="mailto:peter.richardson@aspall.co.uk">peter.richardson@aspall.co.uk</a>
Caroline Giddings	(860721)	<a href="mailto:cpgiddings5591@gmail.com">cpgiddings5591@gmail.com</a>

Steve welcomed Ben and invited everyone to introduce themselves, and gave a brief history of the W&W project.

### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting (AGM on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021)

Outstanding actions from the previous AGM were reviewed:

- Coordination with Bernard Rose from the Mens' Shed re: bases for the wooden sculptures. Drain has been installed so that the otter sculpture does not get wet feet.  
**Status: Closed**
- Membership: Pete, Caroline and Steve were all contacted for continued membership.  
**Status: Closed**
- Publicity: Requirement for a special webpage for W&W, linked from the Parish Council website. **Action: Howard to contact Deborah Sage to get this done.**
- Maintenance: Cutting of diagonal rides to 1 metre width. Alan asked if we could use the PC contract with Richard Winrow-Giffin to get these rides cut. We would pay for this. **Action: Howard to ask Parish Clerk Dina to contact Richard, to ask if he would be prepared to add this to his workload.**
- Plant for Hope: bluebells were planted in October 2021. The daffodils and crocuses are coming up from the previous planting. **Status: Closed**
- Notice board: see later in these minutes.

- Plans for the possible orchard: the use for the land in question was discussed at PC, but there's nothing to report. Steve Palframan anticipates a decision in the next few months, before our September meeting. **Action: Steve P. to update this committee in September.**
- Work Parties: **Status: Closed**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

A bank balance update had been received from Kevin prior to the meeting (with thanks to Parish Clerk, Dina):

Deposit Account:	£7,276.20
Current Account:	£2,087.56
Total	£9,363.76

#### **5. Future Funding Sources**

Regular funding will probably be reduced in future years, so there is a need to consider possible future revenue streams.

Peter Richardson has been asked, and reportedly thought that Aspoll Cider might contribute to a local project, such as planting of established apple trees. **Action: Howard to follow up with Pete.**

It was suggested that some parishioners might consider leaving a legacy in their wills. **Action: Howard to draft half a page for the Parish Magazine suggesting this idea, also to include the date for next working party.**

#### **6. Maintenance Issues**

Joe Westrup will be contacted again around September to do his usual bramble cutting. It was agreed that hedge cutting would need doing this year after last October's trim up. **(Action: Steve R.)**

#### **7. Activities for Future Workparties**

Activities: remove tree guards; planting of new trees. Several trees of a variety of native species are currently heeled in, in Steve R's garden. These could be planted, particularly at the far northeast end of the wood, to replace the dead trees that were planted by the scouts. Siting of new trees however needs careful consideration.

Hoggin needs repairing at each end of the bridge.

Suggest date: **Sunday April 3rd**

Tree thinning – Gary Battell, tree officer for the county, should be contacted to ask about what our plan should be, to improve the health of the woodland. **Action: Howard**

#### **8. Notice Boards & Publicity**

From a previous meeting, it was agreed to retain the No Swimming rule notice only, and reinstall this in a new frame for near the lake. It was suggested to install a new, lockable notice board, with the

Rules, recent minutes, working party plans and schedules, etc. **Action: Howard to source a suitable noticeboard online.**

#### **9. AOB**

Richard Blackwell to be copied on the minutes (**Action: Howard**), so he can put them on the village noticeboard.

Steve R. shared some photos of the muddy conditions on the bridleway, plus tyre tracks left by someone with a trailer. We may be able to get advice from County, through Frankie Winrow-Giffin to get the surface improved, maybe with the orange surface at the Kenton Rd end of the path. Steve had already written to Frankie but had not had a reply. (**Action: Steve P. to reach out to Frankie**)

#### **10. Dates for Next Meetings**

Next meeting: AGM Wednesday September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm in Dove Cottage