

FOCRLNR Meeting - Minutes

Tescos 6.30pm, Wednesday 5th December 2018

Attendees: Ruth Galpine (RG), Kristan Johnstone (KJ), Denis Stuckey (DS), Angela Stuckey (AS), Doug Bradshaw (DB), Pete Stone (PS), Mavis Stone (MS), Andy Field (AF), Babs Field (BF)

Apologies: Philip Earis, Jo Lewis

<p>1. Minutes & Actions from last meeting</p> <p>KJ ran through the minutes and actions from the last meeting.</p>	<p>KJ</p>
<p>2. Reserve History and Overview</p> <p>DS gave a brief history of the Reserve, and also shared important documents relating to its history and Local Nature Reserve status allocation. This information is to be kept with all Reserve documentation for safe-keeping and future Friends members (RG & KJ).</p> <p>Key take-aways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The field has been undisturbed for 50+ years so is very special - The dew pond was added in 2002-2003 - Some primrose and cowslip planting has happened alongside the Green Lane - The original objective of the Friends group was to get the site protected and achieve SSSI status - "Local" nature reserve status was accredited by Natural England - Ruth Gilliam applied for and achieved Town Green status for the field which means it is well protected 	<p>DS</p> <p><i>No actions</i></p>
<p>3. Tesco Bags for Help</p> <p>We came second in the voting and have been allocated the requested £1000. We estimate that the sculpture will cost £400 (quoted by Andy O'Neill of Wild Wood Carving) plus costs for affixing and securing the sculpture, and preserving / ongoing maintenance. The funding application process requires detailed breakdown of spend so it is unlikely we will be able to use any left-over money for other projects. If we do have surplus, or come into any future funds, our wishlist is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance on the info boards - Maintenance on the pond jetty - Plug planting - Flora tour and species identification by an expert (Troopers Hill have a fungi expert) - Bat boxes - Environmental survey (c. £6k for this) – last one was in 2008 	<p>RG</p> <p>Update – the owl is in place and looks fantastic (show photo).</p> <p>Tesco have given us the money and Andy has been paid.</p> <p>Tesco have given us the full £1000 even though it only cost us £700. Unless we are</p>

<p>RG is to complete the application form for the funds, and is liaising with Andy over the sculpture and how to securely fix it in place to prevent theft.</p>	<p>asked to provide a detailed breakdown of spend, we may have £300 surplus. Please refer to wish list alongside.</p>
<p>4. Bristol Parks Forum updates</p> <p>We have given our support to the Parks & Green Spaces Vision, the key points of which are to achieve by 2030:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be outstanding for quantity and quality - Available to everyone in all areas of the city - Enhancing the physical and mental wellbeing of all people - Hubs of activity for local communities where people are empowered - Free access for everyone - Recognised for their value to the city - Places where wildlife thrives - Places where our heritage can be explored <p>BPF have shared a Soil Survey Soilscales map which shows soil types across the UK. The nature reserve is within a swathe of “slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage”</p> <p>There is an initiative called Future Proof Parks that encourages young people to get involved with their local Friend groups. RG has contacted them to find out how we can get involved.</p> <p>DS and AS attended the last BPF meeting and reported that a petition about national parks cuts went to Government and there has been a response, but nothing remarkable has come of it. Also, BCC are allocating £17k to counter funding cuts, and a further £250k is pledged for 2019. No information yet on how this will be spent.</p> <p>Next BPF meeting dates: Sat 16th Feb, Sat 18th May, Sat 19th Oct (9.30-12.30). RG & KJ will attend the February date.</p>	<p>RG</p> <p>Update: not heard anything back but will pick this up again.</p> <p>DS & AS</p> <p>Update: Ruth & KJ were unable to attend due to an urgent work commitment for KJ but all updates have been captured from their newsletters and will be shared as next Agenda point. We will go to the next one in May.</p>
<p>5. Events</p>	<p>Group</p>

<p>The plug planting went well in October. It was a wet day so we finished quickly in about an hour. This was funded by Urban Buzz, we are still unsure what happened to the money set aside to buy plugs 2 years ago. Becky Belfin seems unaware of this – RG will enquire one more time and if still no luck, we might have to accept it has disappeared.</p> <p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bramble Bash: Saturday February 23rd 10.30am – 2pm - Spring Litter Pick: Saturday March 23rd 10am - 12pm 	<p>Update: Change of dates to the next two events – Bramble Bash is this Sunday 24th March, 11am-2pm. We are hiring equipment from the Council. Who can attend? We have 5 via the Facebook event...</p> <p>Litter Pick we need to find a date for... May?</p>
<p>6. Interesting sightings on the Reserve</p> <p>Nothing unusual! Squirrels and a variety of common bird species.</p>	<p>Group</p>
<p>7. Next meeting</p> <p>Wednesday March 20th 2019, 6.30pm – 8pm, Tesco's Brislington</p>	<p>Group</p>
<p>8. AOB</p> <p>University of Bristol have student projects running looking at air, water and soil quality. We can submit a proposal for them to study within the Reserve, and suggest we do this for next year.</p> <p>The Dogs on Leads sign has disappeared from the entrance to the Upper Slopes, so we will purchase a rigid PVC one that can be secured to a gate post. RG has found some online that only cost £3 so will buy one. KJ to look into how to fix it in place – all suggestions welcome! The sign about toxic algae in the pond also needs replacing (KJ).</p> <p>We discussed the idea of a padlock for the gate to the Upper Slopes to prevent bikes and vehicles being driven in (combination code that we and BCC know the code to) – KJ to contact Tom Penn about this.</p>	<p>Group</p> <p>Update: We have bought a Dogs on Leads sign (was £9.60 to get an A4 sized rigid one plus delivery) and affixed it. Show photo. Need to do the toxic algae sign – need to find a laminator!</p> <p>Update: not sure about this on reflection – will the emergency vehicles not need access to the back</p>

	of the hospital? RG & KJ think we should pull the gate shut but leave unlocked.
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