



**THREE BROOKS NATURE CONSERVATION GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Held on Wednesday 15th April 2009
at the Ramada Grange Hotel, Winterbourne**

Present:

Members

Hannah Watts (Chair)
Rachael Ann
Dave Baker
Rachel Callow
Steven Callow (Treasurer)
Martin Collier
Emma Creasey (Secretary)
David Dace
Naomi Davidson
Robin Jones
Sara Messenger
Andy Moon
Ceri Pritchard
Rob Williams

In attendance

Martin Davies
Paul Humphreys, BTCV
John Morris, South Gloucestershire Council

1. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes were approved.

Living landmarks – DB suggested that the Green Gym could put in the flagstone for Bowsland Green. Carrie Creamer was no longer managing this project.

Create project – the group wanted to work by themselves to begin with. John would be meeting the group leader shortly.

Sharepoint system website – John had spoken to the Council's IT department but they would not be able to work on projects that were outside the Council's authority. However it could be considered as a pilot project.

Youth group – this was a non-starter as it was too difficult to work out a planned programme.

Newt pond – the newts were being monitored. **Action: John to contact ecologist for update.**

Section of Savage's Wood in Tesco car park – John thought this was Tesco property. **Action: John to confirm.**

2. Secretary's report on activity 2008-09

Emma presented the report. Work on the tasks for the Breathing Spaces grant had now been completed and the group had been successful in obtaining other grants during the year, notably an SLA with Bradley Stoke Town Council. The group was increasingly self-sufficient but recruiting new volunteers was still a major concern.

3. Treasurer's report 2008-09

Steve presented the report. The group held just under £2000 in total but only £84 was uncommitted.

4. Appointment of officers

Hannah, Emma, Sara and Dave were re-appointed.

Steve stood down as Treasurer. The Chair thanked Steve for his work on the Committee since the group's formation.

Robin was appointed as an ordinary member.

The committee agreed to hold a further meeting to agree roles. Steve agreed to provide the new Treasurer with a full handover. *Update: Sara has now been confirmed as Treasurer.*

5. Workday and event planning

The workdays for the remainder of the year were agreed as follows:

May – Walk with Rupert – it was agreed to start by heading down to Webb's Wood, then looking at the Marsh and asking Rupert for any advice on management.

June – Stream clearing in Stoke Brook.

July/August – Hay cutting by Webbs Wood/Orchard.

September – Marsh irrigation.

October – Coppicing. (*Subsequently changed to drainage work*)

November – Coppicing.

December – Felling in new plantation by Sherbourne's Brake.

6. Green Gym and other activities

Dave explained that the Green Gym was now locally led by him and Sara; they had both attended a first aid course.

7. Any other business

John informed the group that Richard Cridland had made more bird boxes which the group could put up.

Paul might work on creating bike ramps in the plantation with a local youth group. The exact spot was still to be determined; 3BNCG wished to be consulted. The youth group could also do some conservation work.

Paul had started making fencing for the pond project.

John would consider how drainage from the plantation between Webb's and Savage's might be improved.

A blog was now live on the group website.

Talk from Martin Davies

The evening concluded with a talk from Martin Davies about the history of the area prior to the building of Bradley Stoke.