



**Three Brooks Nature Conservation Group
Minutes of committee meeting
11 December 2012, Three Brooks Pub**

Present: Hannah, Emma, Sara, Dave, Robin, Rob, Gill, Mary

Future workdays

The following workdays were agreed:

5/6 Jan	Hedgelaying weekend
2 Feb	Coppicing - Webb's Wood (meet tool store at 10)
2 March	Coppicing crack willows at pump track plantation
6 April	Clearing scrub on the Tump and slopes, ground disturbance in Webbs meadow
4 May	Survey - if we have had training, survey newts, plus other amphibians and reptiles
1 June	Stream clearing
6 July	Haycut - Orchard
3 August	Haycut - Webb's meadow/banks
7 Sept	Marsh clearing/irrigation

The May survey will require advance planning - Dave agreed to look into this.

Action: Dave.

Community walks

The committee agreed to have three bat walks in 2013 but these should be held later in the year (1 in September and 2 in October) as these were the most popular. We should ask for donations from those attending.

We agreed we would have our annual community walk with Rupert but it might be better not to have it on the festival day itself but another Saturday around that time. We also agreed that since Tawny Owls have been heard around the reserve, it might be worth trying another Owl Prowl in late October/early November. **Action: EC to contact Rupert Higgins and Ian Maguire.**

Updating procedures

We agreed to print out and laminate the safety procedure drafted after the November workday and draw attention to it on workdays. It should also be put on the website. We could also explain that we use traditional techniques, i.e. not power tools. **Action: Emma/Robin.**

Some but not all members have sent in an emergency contact number. These will need to be collected at workdays from people who have not otherwise provided them.

We agreed that we need to use tool signout sheets more effectively, writing down the number of each tool taken out and ensuring that the sheet is taken out on site.

Path update

It was confirmed that the tree officer had entirely vetoed the construction of a stone path in Savage's Wood, despite it being 'no dig', as he felt the construction of the path would be more damaging (through compaction and damage to mycorrhizae) than the continued erosion of the woodland understorey. John is looking into the possibility of boardwalks, but this is not an ideal solution due to the risk of vandalism and of slipping. The rest of this discussion was not suitable for minuting.