



THREE BROOKS NATURE CONSERVATION GROUP
Minutes of General Meeting
Held on 12 December 2007 at the Ramada Grange Hotel, Winterbourne

Present:

Members

Hannah Watts (Chair)

Dave Baker
Rachel Callow
Steven Callow
Emma Creasey
Richard Cridland
Sara Messenger
John Morris
Rob Williams

In attendance:

Paul Humphreys, BTCV

Apologies received from: Rachael Ann, Colin Blenkinsopp, Martin Collier, Robin Jones, Ceri Pritchard.

Minutes of the last meeting (25 April 2007) and matters arising

Tool store - The group was delighted that a tool store had now been procured and had been installed at the leisure centre by the Green Gym. The group thanked John Morris for all his work in getting the tool store.

Fencing by Savage's Wood - The leisure centre had not wanted an entrance into the wood opposite the skate park as it would come out onto their roadway. The group wondered whether an entrance next to the "shoe tree" would be a possibility.

Seating- not done but can tie in with any future tree felling.

Website – the first version of the group's website was nearly complete thanks to work from Robin. Emma would need to inform the council about the new site. **Action: EC.**

Funds – the group have just over £9000 in the bank but nearly all of this is committed. Steve had decided to open a deposit account in order to earn interest.

Breathing Places grant

Emma outlined the plans for the Breathing Places grant which would be used as follows:

Path improvements around Savage's Wood. A nature/orienteering trail with waymarkers.

Leaflets linked to the nature trail.

1 day community wildflower planting

2 wildlife monitoring events with an ecologist (Rupert Higgins had suggested an arable plant and insect survey near Webb's Wood, and another day with BRERC, in addition to the normal workday timetable, was also suggested).

Guided walks

Promotional materials

Tools

The group were happy with the committee's suggestions for guided walks which included:

Bat walks with Paul

Moth trapping

Dawn Chorus

History walks

Action: Committee to meet in New Year to discuss – EC to arrange.

Workday and event planning

The following workdays for 2008 were planned:

Saturday 5th/Sunday 6th January- hedgelaying weekend in the north plantation near Primrose Bridge.

Saturday 2nd February – Thinning out the woodland opposite the school fence.

Saturday 1st March – Continuing to thin out the woodland.

Saturday 5th April – Planting wildflowers in the community orchard. (*Breathing places grant*)

Saturday 3rd May- A day out with an ecologist carrying out a survey on the reserve. (*Breathing places grant*). **Action: EC to contact ecologist**

Saturday 7th June – Stream clearing.

Other suggestions were:

- Another bird box making session, or possibly other groups (e.g. Rainbows?) could make them and the group or the Green Gym could put them up. Richard Cridland offered to make the boxes if Paul could supply the timber.
- Collection of tree guards.
- If we make name disks again at the June festival it would be helpful to saw these up in advance.

Any other business

A fence is needed around the new pond to stop damage from dogs and vandals while the plants are establishing. Funds will be needed for this. **Action: Paul to cost up.**

50 slow-worms were translocated around the lake 2 months previously – the group could look for these while doing the survey.

The evening concluded with a talk from Dave Baker on the history of Bradley Stoke and the nature reserve.