

**HESWORTH COMMON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on April 5<sup>th</sup> 2016

Present: Mr Mike Allin (Fittleworth Parish Councillor)  
Mrs Hazel Barkworth (Commoner)  
Mr Dan Cornell (South Downs National Park)  
Mr Chris Welfare (Fittleworth Parish Councillor)

*Matters arising*

- a) Management Plan now finalised with Natural England. CW can put it on the web-site, when MA has obtained an electronic version.
- b) No more fly-tipping but quite a lot of litter on both car parks.
- c) We are still keeping an eye on Badgers in St Marys. Land Registry to be checked for EXACT line of property frontage, where a small garden has been created with fencing. It all looks rural and pleasing but worries arise over possible future if house is sold. MA had contacted the Land Registry.
- d) No recent communication from Forest Schools.
- e) MA will organise a revision of his flyer about the common and CW agreed that he could re-type this and incorporate into the Village Magazine for distribution.
- f) New seat required in NW area to replace Joan Harvey's pine stumps. The steps are to be left uncleared as there is a reasonable path alongside.
- g) Trees in central plantation were checked and need larger stakes for re-staking. Rubber ties are also required, and will be obtained from Mill Farm. Day of this work will be arranged.
- h) All our money for 2014/15 work has been received.
- i) Trees in Birchwalks Wood, the Centenary Tree and near the Bradley-Williams seat still need doing. Seat needs Wood preservative to be applied.
- j) Flailing done, and heather seed from Chapel Common collected and spread. Bracken was sprayed.
- k) MA and Andrew Gale surveyed trees growing on common edge adjacent to the A283 and those that were found to be diseased or dangerous were felled. On enquiry, north side of A283 is owned by Gadds family.
- l) Parish Council rejected the idea of the erection of a stone block on common land near the main carpark. Jon Edgar had offered to carve it. It was decided that too many trees would need felling, spoiling the area.
- m) Scraping done in areas B and c and from Trig point to area B last November.

*New Items:*

- 1) MA will keep an eye on the fence around the top of the Bowling Green, that has been pulled down once this autumn already, and replace the posts as necessary.
- 2) From the new Plan the next work-day will concentrate on cutting back the birch and scraping beside the path connecting areas B and C to create a heather link. Also the fly-tipped rubbish will be cleared.
- 3) South Downs Volunteers will be asked to take down a few more of the remaining the birch trees that obstruct the view of the downs from the seat in area C (TCCB's seat).
- 4) DC will send an electronic version of the Management Plan for inclusion on the Parish web-site.

- 5) Sign-boards in main car park need renovation, removal of riding comments and re-setting of posts. DC says that he could use part of the Heritage Lottery grant to fund this.
- 6) MA will contact Bruce Middleton asking for a possible donation towards the cost of £1000 for the scraping recently done.
- 7) More birch needs cutting down in area C in the Autumn, possibly by DC and his volunteers.
- 8) MA walked common with DC and BM checking on possible works for this year, such as clearing area E of dead bracken on lower slopes. Also to inspect scrapings in bog area to encourage Sundews.
- 9) Another bog area has been identified and needs further inspection.
- 10) MA confirmed having submitted the Stewardship Claim form for 2015/16. Subsequently a confirmation of receipt of the Claim form has been received.

*Future dates:*

Work Day will be organised on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Management meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup> 2016 at Woodside at 4.00pm