

HESWORTH COMMON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD on April 3rd 2017

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) Electronic version of the Management Plan is out, but it is not yet on the website. CW will action.
- b) MA has checked with the Land Registry, about Badgers, the cottage at the top of St Mary's. The garden has strayed onto common land. The Parish council will be in contact with the owners by letter. MA to action.
- c) New seat required in NW area to replace Joan Harvey's pine stumps. MA is awaiting quotes.
- d) Trees in central plantation were checked and re-staked using larger stakes with new rubber ties.
- e) Trees in Birchwalks Wood, the Centenary Tree and near the Bradley-Williams seat still need doing. Seat needs Wood preservative to be applied.
- f) MA replaced some broken pales in the fencing around the bowls green.
- g) MA had walked the Common with DC and BM in the spring 2016, checking on possible future works to be done, and had found lots of Sundews in the bog area.
- h) Signboards in main car park had been renovated, but one needs replacing. DC will check to see if we can help with funding from Bruce Middleton for this. Also decided to have a map on display.
- i) Still more birch needs cutting down in area C later in the year, possibly by DC and his volunteers.
- j) Trees were cut within Birchwalks and on path to Holly Grove.
- k) Centenary Tree needs attention to allow it to grow more upright.
- l) MC cleared about 50% of ivy growing on some large trees.
- m) DC dealt with some birch re-growth in area A, and on lower slopes down from Trig point. More needs to be done along with trimming of low branches to pine trees north of the Trig point
- n) MA fitted 3 new pales along fence over the bowling green.
- o) WCV cleared scrub and bracken on slopes below the Trig Point on their autumn work day.

New Items:

- 1) Remove brambles, scrub and birch from the Trig Point down to the lower seat.
- 2) Rhododendrons need clearing from near Holly Grove driveway and also one large bush in centre of common to the west of the lower seat. Scouts may help in July after a successful meeting with MA to agree to some conservation works in Birchwalks Woods this summer.
- 3) Bruce Middleton to be asked about help with boards in car parks.
- 4) DC will look at maps (and on site) to decide if encroachment onto the Common is taking place at Holly Grove.

visitors' amenity

renewal of

will action

has cleared

try to bring

Faint text at the top of the page, possibly a header or page number.

- 5) More scrapings needed around the bog area, and to check whether scraping already done has been successful.
- 6) MA will repair the seat at Trig Point, and try to refill the deep hole in front.
- 7) New planting near the bog area needs checking.
- 8) DC will try to organise another working group with his volunteers in the autumn.
- 9) Check the footpath between areas B and E for heather re-growth, and the grass at the edges need cutting.
- 10) Heather on slopes from Trig Point down to lower seat need cutting and spreading onto lower slopes of area E and A.
- 11) Trees near the Centenary Tree need branches lopped to give more space for it to grow straight and tall.

Future dates:

Work Days will be organised on April 23rd and October 15th.

Management meeting on October 9th at Woodside at 4.30pm

- 5) More scrapings needed around the bog area, and to check whether scraping already done has been successful.
- 6) MA will repair the seat at Trig Point, and try to refill the deep hole in front.
- 7) New planting near the bog area needs checking.
- 8) DC will try to organise another working group with his volunteers in the autumn.
- 9) Check the footpath between areas B and E for heather re-growth, and the grass at the edges need cutting.
- 10) Heather on slopes from Trig Point down to lower seat need cutting and spreading onto lower slopes of area E and A.
- 11) Trees near the Centenary Tree need branches lopped to give more space for it to grow straight and tall.