

FRIENDS OF SHURNHOLD FIELDS GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 1st October 2018

Meeting room 3 Melksham Town Hall.

Present. Roy Dobson, Phil Mason Paul Carter, Shirley Horwood, Jason Reeves, Sam Reeves, Claire Bainton, Ellie Benham Taylor, Roy Horwood, Sarah Woodruff, Ray Buckley Humphries, John Stewart, Sheena Roberts.

Apologies were received from Robin Lydell and Phil Oliver.

1. The opening business was to formally elect a committee from those present and those who had expressed an interest via email, the committee will comprise as follows: Roy Dobson-Chair, Sarah Woodruff- Vice Chair, Phil Mason- Secretary, Claire Bainton, Treasurer, Roy Horwood, Ray Woodruff, Frank Roberts, Jason Reeves, John Stewart, Andrew Hamilton (email), Tia Miff Smith (email) Andrew Newman (elected in his absence). A vote was taken, Proposed by Frank Roberts, seconded by Roy Dobson and unanimously accepted.
2. Roy produced a copy of a constitution which had been drawn up, this was shared with the meeting for comment and request for adoption, there was one amendment requested from the floor that reference be made to being sympathetic to the enhancement of flora and fauna on the site. With this amendment agreed, now point 1.1a of the attached document, a vote was taken and the motion for acceptance carried.
3. The Chairman gave a brief outline of progress so far: a) Persimmon have granted permission for the grass on the field to now be cut. b) Roy proposed to put up a notice outside of the bungalow asking for any field users to volunteer to assist or take part in meetings regarding the field, a unique email address has been set up shurnholdfields@gmail.com which is password protected but can be made accessible to all committee members.
4. Roy produced a proposal for the setting out the trees in the field which he shared with the group (copy supplied) the proposal for a horseshoe style of planting was accepted as it was synonymous with the with the reason for the planting ie the first world war. When put to the vote this proposal was also accepted.
5. A sub group was then set up to discuss the best way forward with the planting of the trees comprising of Paul Carter, Annie Benham Taylor (tree Warden) John Stewart (Tree Warden) Sarah Woodruff and Ray Buckley Humphries. All of whom have an area of expertise in these matters. Paul Carter produced a list of the potential specimens that were to be available, and the group determined that they would meet separately to determine how to lay the saplings out in the designated shape to give the best impact and best future conditions for growth. Paul also identified that the packs provided should also contain stakes for support and protective covers to get them going. The first meeting of the sub group is to be held on Monday October 8th at 5 PM. Venue to be at Sheena and Roy's , 104 Dunch Lane which is situated adjacent to the fields allowing easy access to view the site.

6. General discussion was undertaken regarding whether or not we should advertise for assistance in the local press, i believe it was concluded that time constraints were against this proposal at this time.
7. Sheena said she would contact Maria, the owner of the equestrian centre on the railway end of Dunch Lane to see if they would be prepared to cut bale and remove the grass on site. **It would appear that this is a no go as the grass is beyond being of any usage to them.**
8. Question was raised regarding the requirement for insurance to be found for the site, it was muted that as the councils would own the property would they be responsible for the insurance, i.e. Public liability etc
9. AOB. There was no significant points to raise but a general discussion did ensue.

The meeting was closed at 20-09.

The next meeting will be held on the 24th October, Venue TBA by email asap