

Allington Hill Volunteers Committee Meeting

Thursday 27 March 2014

Present: Cathy Harvey (Chair), Sal Robinson (Treasurer), Chris Toombs, Deanne Trott, Kevin Trott and Paul Bowditch.

1. **Apologies.**

Adam Sheering sent his apologies.

2. **Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 20 February 2014 & Matters Arising.**

The minutes were agreed and signed.

3. **Treasurer's Report**

Sal reported that cash + bank = £1,987.84, of which £1,179.63 is earmarked for more equipment for the play trail, which leaves £808.31 free for other things.

The Internal Audit of the 2013 accounts has been carried out with no issues found.

4. **Funding – Grants from West Bay Car Boot Fund and Allington Parish Council.**

Car Boot Fund – Cathy suggested that we ask for money for the promotion and upkeep of this community area.

Allington Parish Council – ask for support towards general running costs.

5. **Poo Bins / Equipment/ Poster Campaign / etc.**

The big poo bins have been ordered by Allington Parish Council.

Chris will decide what litter picking equipment is required

A poster campaign asking people to pick up their dog's poo especially on the paths and cut grass areas is to be run.

It was suggested that wood chippings by the small gate could provide a doggie loo area – the chippings would need to be changed periodically.

A news article will be put in the Bridport News when the poo bins have been installed

Where should the poo bins go? – one by the main gate and one by the five a side pitch?

A litter bin is needed near the five a side pitch

If the poo bins are successful then maybe another 2 could be bought for the top of the field.

Allington Parish Council is going to recycle their old notice board(s) to the Allington Hillbillies.

6. **Seesaw.**

Agreed that the 4 person seesaw (NR0106 from Kompan Ltd) should be ordered (by Allington Parish Council).

7. **Hibernia Planning Application.**

Cathy has asked the developer if they would include storage and meeting room facilities for the Allington Hill and Coopers woods & Field Community Group as there is a historical link between the volunteers and the previous owner of the property.

8. **Ropewalk Fair / Washingpool Farm Open Day.**

Agreed that we will have a stall at the Ropewalk Fair but not at the Washingpool Farm open Day.

9. **Kate & Kipp the horse.**

The bracken should be "rolled" once a year for 4 years. It was done for the first time last year, paid for by the Woodland Trust. Cathy will contact Tim Russell (Woodland Trust Manager) about this.

10. **Sarah Smith's (Kingston Maurward College) Map of Coopers Wood and Field.**

This is progressing. She needs to know what we want shown, over and above benches, play equipment, paths and key trees.

Agreed to ask her to show

- Poo bin locations
- Litter bin locations
- Five a side football pitch

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- “Dog toilet” area
- Wildflower meadow
- Mushroom seats
- Willow arbour
- Dead hedge.

What is happening about the Woodland Trust Information board? Agreed we need to get Tim Russell down for a site meeting open to all.

11. **Coopers Wood 10th Anniversary.**

The Cooper family will be here July / August. It was agreed to hold the anniversary event in early August, and to keep it simple, with no marquee, and ask people to bring a picnic. Children’s activities / sports could be organised.

12. **Autumn Festival / Woodland Trust Tree WWI Commemoration Pack.**

The Autumn Festival will be held during the day, probably in mid November, and again it was agreed to keep it simple, with activities for children and tree planting. The trees will be planted as hedging with a few “stand-alone”.

Sal said that the Chideock Society will have some birches they don’t want (not suitable for a seaside location) and would like some willow whips in return.

13. **Working Parties / Projects.**

Wood chippings need to be spread in all suitable locations on the paths.

The dead hedge needs to be finished.

The brambles in Jubilee Wood need to be attacked.

14. **Community Involvement.**

Cathy said she would send in a report on the AGM to the Bridport News, stressing that we are a community group and asking local people to get involved with Allington Hill and Coopers Wood and Field.

And another article will be put in once the poo bins have been installed, saying we welcome dog walkers and emphasising the dog poo “rules” – to pick up on paths and where is grass is cut (especially where children play), with “stick and flick” elsewhere.

15. **Any Other Business.**

Kevin and Deanne volunteered to be bank account signatories, to replace Anne-Marie Beer.

Cathy said that she has started on the butterfly count for this year. She has registered with the Biological Research Centre re the butterflies on the hill. All data submitted will be put on to a national database.

Signed:-.....Date:-.....