

THE BEACON HILL SOCIETY

Minutes for AGM held on Tuesday 25th April 2017

Somerset Earth Science Centre, Moon's Hill Quarry, Stoke St. Michael

1. Chairman:- Welcome and apologies for absence

Present:- Richard Raynsford (Chairman), Peter Banks (Treasurer), Bo Walsh (Secretary and Mendip District Council), Mary Newman (Membership Secretary), Fran Britten, Jake Britten, Paul Oswin, Joe Middleton (Woodland Trust), Kaye Watts (Forest School Co-ordinator), Roy Vbranch, Graham Price (Mendip Society), Lucy Chard, Janet Raynsford, Lesley Rowan, John Rowan, Audrey Truan, Kevin Gibbs, Anne Crowcombe (Doulting Parish Council), Margaret Hams, Barry Clarke (Doulting Parish Council), Maureen Derbyshire, Jennie O Kane, Marion Black, Nicola Stoate, Jo Baverstock, Lila Morris (Somerset Wildlife Trust), Paula Jordan

Apologies:- Victoria Britten, Alan Stone, Rod Hill, Stuart Jenkins, Rick Gledhill, Paul Newman, Mark Adler, Liz Fishbourne (Somerset Wildlife Trust), Peter Langmaid (on behalf of Ashwick Parish Council), Councillor David Van Dyk (Mendip District Council)

2. Minutes of previous meeting and AGM – accepted

3. Matters arising from the Minutes & not on the agenda – none – please see item 5 for suggestions that were discussed during the AGM

4. Officers Reports:-

Chairman - welcomed new members and reflected that the Society was active with events being arranged throughout the year

Secretary – stated that activities coming up included health walk and family day in discussion with Kaye Watts Forest School

Treasurer – statement of account 2016-2017 – monies in £ 242.00, monies out £ 249.39, Dennis Hill Bequest balance of £ 0.00; society bank balance £ 749.54.

Membership Secretary – membership stands at 32 members, annual subscriptions due – remains at £ 5.00 per annum;

Web-master / Social Media co-ordinator – vacant post (**NB.** Lesley Rowan agreed to take on the Face-Book page and Graham Price offered to host the web-page)

4a. Election of Officers:- All current Officers re-elected

Chairman - Richard Raynsford

Treasurer - Peter Banks

Secretary - Bo Walsh

Membership Secretary - Mary Newman

Web -master / Social Media co-ordinator – vacant post

5. **Future Events and Activities:-**

i. Forest School / Family Day – Kaye Watts – hoping to have a family day of forest school activities in the wood in early in the school summer holidays – date to be arranged following discussion with Joe

Middleton (WT) – potentially 24th July (?)

ii. Beacon Hill Health Walk – 11th May – Lesley Rowan – meet in car park 10.30am – walk is part of the Naturally Healthy Month

iii. Geology Field Trip / Walk – TBC – Mr Roy Vbranch aiming to take place in August dependent on landowners consent and ground conditions / presence of crops, etc. - TBC

iv. Fungal Foray – TBC – possibly October - TBC

v. Calendar / Seasonal photos – Lucy Chard – up-date, more research required – suggestions include asking members to take photos of the wood during different seasons and collect (possibly part of a competition), potential for a lecture from an expert like David Chedgy / Victoria Hillman and hold a lecture / training session (master class) at a suitable venue, eg. Somerset Earth Science Centre – this could be an event that attracts an entrance fee / fundraiser. Similarly a lecture about trees / woodlands – eg Julian Hight (author / journalist).

vi. Archaeology / site investigation into WWII features – liaison with CART / BRA – date to be arranged with Peter Banks and Shepton Mallet History Group.

7. **Woodland Trust – proposed Management Plan (MP) for the Wood 2017-2022**

Joe Middleton – personal introduction followed by a presentation and back-ground of the Woodland Trust's current Management and proposed new Management Plan for the next 5 years. **** (Much Reduced!!!)

8. **Any Other Business – up-coming events – Collett Park Festival June, Mid Somerset Show – August**

Jake Britten raised the matter that the No Motorbike sign had been removed from the Yellingmill Lane entrance to the wood. Joe said he'd make arrangements to put up a new sign and possibly let us have a couple of spares if we needed to do the same.

9. **Date of next meeting – to be confirmed**

For more information about the **Beacon Hill Society** please visit the web-site

www.beaconhillsociety.org.uk

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