

THE BEACON HILL SOCIETY

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Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday, 26th September 2012 at Doultling Village Hall

Present: Richard Raynsford (chairman), Julian Back (secretary, webmaster), Peter Banks (treasurer), Mary Newman (mem. sec & Doultling PC), Jonathan Burgess (Woodland Trust), Brenda Rogers, Fran Britten, Philip Malcolm, Rina May, Jennie O'Kane

Apologies: Caroline Gentinetta, Paul Newman, Elizabeth Gibbs, Alan Stone, Peter Leach

1 Welcome & Apologies

Richard welcomed us to the meeting.

2 Minutes of previous meeting 18th April, 2012

The previous minutes were accepted

3 Matters arising

- The Moth Trapping and BBQ event was cancelled due to bad weather. We hope to rearrange this event for next summer.
- The visit to the Earth Science Centre was cancelled due to illness. This will also be rearranged for a future date.
- Winter hedge laying. Julian has spoken to Alex Bown and he is interested in working with us. Next step is for Julian to arrange a meeting with Alex and Steve Britten to look at the hedge.

4 Officers reports

Secretary: Despite cancellation of the above events we had a presence at the Mid Somerset Show and Oakhill Village Fete. We also installed the Bluebell Trail which proved to be a great success. It was suggested we follow up with an Autumn Trail and Rina agreed to look into creating a 'quiz' for the trail.

Treasurer: No significant change since last meeting. There was some discussion about who has paid for the Portaloos used at the Doultling School visit, this will be clarified.

Membership Secretary: Membership is dwindling; we need to recruit more members. We agreed to produce a new membership leaflet for use at future public events. Julian will create the new leaflet based on the old leaflet. Mary also reported on the very successful visit to the wood by Doultling School.

Woodland Trust: Jon told us that Beacon Hill wood will shortly be audited by the Forest Stewardship Council. This is to check that the wood is being properly managed. This is also an opportunity to comment on the management of the wood. A few trees along the road have been felled as they

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could become a driving hazard. The wood is changing in response to the thinning work carried out last year, one result of this is an increase in brambles so it would be useful to do some path clearing.

5 Future Events

Path Clearing Work Party: Sunday, 21st October at 10am. Bring secateurs, gloves and bin bags. We may also install the Autumn Trail if it is ready.

Doultling School visiting Beacon Hill: 25th October 2012.

6 Any other business

There has been more fly tipping at the entrance to the wood. It was removed by Mendip District Council.

There are some cans and other rubbish at party sites in the wood. The work party will remove any rubbish it finds.

Caroline Gentinetta is stepping down as newsletter editor. Rina May offered to edit the next newsletter.

7 Next Meeting

Wednesday, 23rd January 2013, 7.30pm at Doultling Village Hall

Julian Back (Secretary)

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