



Annual General Meeting Minutes

**Thursday 4th March 2021
6.45pm for 7.00pm Via Zoom**

- 1 Welcome
Neil welcomed all attendees to the Pinewoods 2021 AGM & advised that the evening was being recorded
- 2 Apologies
Apologies from Geoff Scurrah, Ann Grange, Richard Wealden
- 3 Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting (14th March 2019)
 - Reappoint contractor balsam company to continue balsam bashing 2020
 - Request re other improvement for the woods to the group members
 - Neil Hind to write to Harrogate Council to look at funding via S106 re funding & grants to maintain / conserve (confirmed we have had as much funding as we could have at the time) will be writing again later this year.
- 4 **Review of 2019/20 and Current Plans for 2021**
 - Review of 2019/20
 - Overview of works undertaken 2019 / 20
 - Overview 2020 – thank you Geoff S who continues to fill the bird feeders / Cath V & Joy A, Peter Singleton & Carolyn Rothwell – litter picking, for keeping volunteering during lockdown
 - Overview of events 2019 outlined

- **Treasurer's Report for 2019 & 2020**

Ian Ward Campbell - outline of financial 2019 & 2020

- Ian outlined how quiet from a fundraising perspective 2020 has been but that membership has stayed stable.
- Ian outlined profession fee fund £5220 and outlined some legal fees that have been paid out
- Balance sheet fund showing as a restricted fund which is held for the legal fund along with general funds
- Ian suggested that 2021 will be relatively quiet so does not expect funding to change much over the 2021 period
- Well positioned funding for events

Propose Malcolm Jones

Accepted Cath Varley

- **Plans for 2021**

- Neil Hind outlined priorities and events for 2021 to include spring online trail similar to Pinewoods Heros with Harrogate International Festivals
- Nature stacks / bird & bat boxes (over 100 habitats currently in the woods) along with new information boards of the bird feeder station
- Thank you to Harlow Carr for the new bird & bat boxes that have been donated & thank you to Cath Varley for the owl box that she had donated and which will be relocated
- Neil outlined that the Pinewoods was looking a little bit of a mess but with the heavy snow it has caused a number of branches and trees that have come down
- Footpaths – tarmac path Harlow Moor Rd – RHS will be being reviewed over 2021 also path between the war memorial to Harlow Moor Road will be being rereviewed again

5 **Election of Committee Officers & Members**

Re election – all elected committee officers & members are happy to stand again 2021

Propose Joy Allan

Accepted Cath Varley

6 **Harrogate Nurseries Update**

Neil outlined proposals for the Nursery Site and outlined the date of Sept 2021 as being a key date for planning.

What does this mean for the Pinewoods - open area which includes the fire yard and the green house area (lots of mature trees down Nursery Lane east along with hedgerow along with wildlife – key for us (Pinewoods) preservation of trees / wildlife and how sympathetic the new housing be to the local surrounding.

Harrogate indoor bowling is also on the site and Neil recommended that people should visit

7 Rotary Wood Planning Update

- Neil acknowledges that James Cain is on the call
- Lots of articles and press
- Update re larger extension – rejected Jan 2021
- Full plans for the full plans submitted May 2020 just before the 3 year outline deadline are in
- Concerns re the ecological compensation which is believed to not being considered with a number of possible new public access areas being suggested to HSWL that could mitigate losses
- Neil raised that the council meeting yesterday outlined that the full application is there and ready to be commented on – please comment
- Could some of the Nursery Land be used for the land required to compensate for the loss of rotary wood was proposed?

8 Any Other Business

Cath V – Q 1. Bird & bat box maintenance 2 fallen tree over memorial bench (council has been advised and request) 3 number of dens built in the wood sand a lot of evening & night time activity – litter / fires & drugs – can we do anything more

Photos have been shared with the council & PCOs (John Jakes) John has started to have conversations and we have been advised that police officers will make themselves more visible

Sarah Gibbs - I have objected. It is a disgrace. We need more habitats, not more plastic. Save Rotary Wood I it's entirety!

Neil outlined that we are trying to conserve and protect the area

Terry Knowles – thank you to Neil for all the fantastic work he has done re Rotary Wood

Neil acknowledged and said he had help by many others but thank you

Jane & Peter Blaney – what promoted the single file mud slide to the west side of rotary wood (farmers field)

Neil outlined that this was undertaken by the farmer (not a direct Pinewood responsibility) but a pathway created by the farmer

Caroline – nature stacking fallen branches & what governs what goes in pinewoods boards

Neil outlines we want to keep nature stacking going – it is the best thing to do re ecology and other insect and animal life

Re the notice boards – they are looking weathered & battered and we will look at some work as being talked about for some time as there are some opportunities

Summary of Key actions:

- Consider new notice boards and relocation of boards to correct places
- Consider refurbishment of paths as per the minutes
- Consider land at council nursery site to be used as the off set of the loss of Rotary Wood
- Email to Sarah Gibbs & Darius Samadian who have offered their support & any assistance

END – 19.50pm