

Wickersley Parish Council

Minutes of the Woodland Committee Meeting

Tuesday 13th June 2023 @6.30 held at Wickersley Community Centre

Members : Cllrs M Scott (Chairperson), , K Phillips, M Woodhead, E Boswell, M Biggin

In attendance: Cllrs M Scott, K Phillips, M Woodhead, M Biggin

In attendance: J Whitworth (assistant clerk)

The Chair welcomed all the attendees

473 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from the Wickersley Wood warden and the Gorse Warden

474 To resolve if members of the press and public are to be excluded from any agenda items of the meeting due to the nature of the business to be transacted. Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1(2)

There are no items to be excluded

475 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2023


The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chair

476 To note any matters arriving from the meeting held on 21 March 2023

Item 470.1, the Assistant Clerk had informed the contractor to hold back the brush cutting until September.

Item 471.1, the assistant Clerk had obtained quotes and the urgent work to be done in Wickersley wood has been carried out with agreement of the Chair.

477 To note any issues from members of the public in attendance

Signed  M Scott (Chair) dated 26/6/23

There were 2 members of the public in attendance who wanted to discuss trees which were behind their property. The trees are in Wickersley woods and are now estimated to be over 100ft high. The trees are overhanging their boundary and are producing sap which is causing problems. They informed the committee that this matter dates back to 2014 and that they have attended Council meetings to report these trees in 2014, 2015 and 2016. They were informed that the previous management plan didn't cover these trees but have said that it had been minuted previously that something would get done. They said that nothing has been done in 30 years. They had provided some photographs to the Assistant Clerk who had provided copies for the Woodland Committee to look at. The Chair confirmed that coppicing was planned for later this year but that this would not cover those high trees. A special licence would be needed regarding the trees and that Ian Kennedy would be asked to look at them when he is next attending Wickersley wood so advise on them. The Assistant Clerk will ask Ian Kennedy to look at the trees and see what the best way forward would be. They also discussed a drain which is a surface water drain, they were advised to report this to the water company to have a look at the pipework.

Action : Assistant Clerk to ask Ian Kennedy to have a look and advise on the trees which the member of the public have brought to our attention

478 To receive financial update

Last years financial figures were provided, this year's aren't available yet as the accounts for April / May aren't up to date. So far there is £165 paid out on the Gorse and Wickersley Wood general codes. Assistant Clerk said there would be another fee on Wickersley wood from a contractor who has carried out some urgent work.

479 To discuss matters relating to The Gorse

479.1 Anything to note from monitoring report from Ian Kennedy

Ian isn't in attendance and there is nothing to discuss with regards to his report.

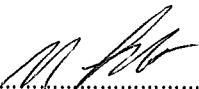
479.2 Report from Paul Paddock

Paul Paddock isn't in attendance; his report was provided to the Woodland Committee members to read through. With regards to the litter pick for the Gorse this needs to be re-arranged, date suggested is the 8th July between 11am – 12pm. The report says that rubbish is accumulating but doesn't say where so assistant clerk to check to ensure that area is covered.

Action : Assistant Clerk to ask Paul Paddock where the rubbish has been accumulating and prepare a poster for the re-arranged litter pick

479.3 Update on works

The work in the Gorse has been carried out, this was a tree which was leaning on another tree which didn't belong to the Parish Council. Unfortunately, in order to

Signed  M Scott (Chair) dated 26/4/23

take the tree down some fencing had to be removed. This fencing was rotten and now needs to be replaced. Assistant Clerk has 3 prices for getting this done, it was agreed that SO Services would be instructed to carry out the work. It was also confirmed that the path had now been strimmed.

Action : Assistant Clerk to instruct SO Services to repair the fencing at the Gorse

480 To discuss matters relating to Wickersley Wood

480.1 Anything to note from monitoring report from Ian Kennedy

Ian isn't in attendance and there is nothing to discuss with regards to his report.

480.2 Report from Katie Smith

Katie Smith isn't in attendance; her report was handed to the Woodland Committee for them to read. The damage is to be discussed later on as it is an item on the agenda. With regards to her comment about trees behind Woodside Court Ian Kennedy would be asked to look at these. The broken limb had also been noticed by Assistant Clerk and the handymen will be asked if they can remove this.

Action: Assistant Clerk to ask Ian Kennedy to look at the trees behind Woodside Court and also to ask the handymen to see if they can remove the broken limb

480.3 Update on Works

All the work outstanding on Ian Kennedy's report except 1 piece has been carried out. The other works are the brush cutting of the glade to be done September time. The outstanding tree is now broken, it was decided to get a quote to have this removed and made safe. The pathway towards Winthrop from the woods is overgrown and will need cutting.

Action: Assistant Clerk to get a quote for getting the tree made safe, to arrange for the glade to be brush cut in September and to ask the handymen to trim the paths towards Winthrop

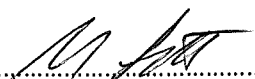
480.4 To discuss noticeboards

The noticeboards are all rotten, the Chair has spoken to others and their noticeboards don't need to be replaced. We need 5 in total. The cost is £1495 plus delivery per noticeboard. The Chair suggested that this would need to be small projects bid and asked the assistant clerk to send over the quote.

Action: Assistant Clerk to send through the quotation to the Chair

480.5 To discuss the damage to the gate and noticeboard (First Lane entrance)

There has been some damage to a noticeboard and the gate at the First Lane entrance. It appears that items from the building site at Harron homes had been

Signed  M Scott (Chair) dated 26/9/23

taken from their site and taken into the woods. These items have been recovered by Harron homes. Harron homes have been contacted to ask if they would wish to contribute towards repair but unfortunately they haven't agreed to this. The woodland committee would like to see if a claim could be made to replace the gate and noticeboard through the insurance company.

Action: Assistant Clerk to get a price of replacing or repairing the gate and then contact the insurance company to see if we are able to claim for the damage

480.6 To discuss the request from Willows School

Willows school have asked whether they can continue to use Wickersley Wood as part of their curriculum. There are no objections to this but the only concern is that they are wanting to do fire lighting. There is a policy of no fires allowed in the woods and the concern was that if one group was allowed then others may also do this. It was decided that they would be able to continue to use the woods but not do any fire lighting. It was asked to see whether they have any photographs of the things they do which we might be able to put into the next newsletter.

Action: Assistant clerk to respond to Willows school confirming that whilst the Woodland committee are happy for them to continue to use the woods there should be no fire lighting and also to see whether they have any photographs they would like to share.

481 To discuss woodland events

481.1 Teddy bears picnic

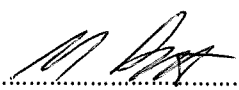
Assistant Clerk explained that bubble wands were usually handed out at this event and asked if more could be purchased. This was agreed. The event is usually where families attend and take part in games using a parachute and also a foraging hunt. Assistant Clerk will get these items ready.

Action: Assistant Clerk to prepare foraging hunt, purchase bubble wands and get the parachute ready.

481.2 Lantern Walk

The assistant clerk asked if more battery tea lights could be purchased, this was agreed. More jam jars are also needed to the Woodland Committee was asked to save any. There was a meeting scheduled to take place on 5th September but this is to be cancelled due to members of the committee not being available. The committee decided to have an informal discussion about this on 15th July at 12pm at Wickersley wood (when bracken pulling is due to take place).

Action: Assistant Clerk to purchase some battery powered tea lights and to ensure the 5th September meeting is cancelled

Signed  M Scott (Chair) dated 26/9/23

481.3 Himalayan Balsam Pull

This is due to take place on 1st July but the Gorse Warden need to be asked about the date.

Action: Assistant Clerk to liaise with the Gorse Warden about whether the Himalayan balsam is ready for pulling

481.4 Bracken Cutting

This is due to take place on 24th June but suggested this be put back to 15th July, assistant clerk to liaise with the wood warden.

Action: Change the date of the bracken cutting in Wickersley wood to 15th July 2023

Meeting closes 8pm

Date of next meeting: 26th September 2023

Signed  M Scott (Chair) dated ..20/9/23

