



Minutes of the Woodland Committee Meeting

Wednesday 7th May 2024 at 6.30 pm held at Wickersley Community Centre

Members : Cllrs M Scott (Chair) E Harwood,
K Phillips, M Woodhead,

In attendance: Cllrs M Scott, E Harwood, M Woodhead

Additional attendees: J Whitworth (Assistant Clerk), K Smith

The Chair welcomed all the attendees.

516 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted

517 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 matters to be excluded.

518 To approve minutes of meeting held on 13th March 2024

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

Signed :

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M Scott', written over a faint blue line.

Councillor Mark Scott

dated :

A handwritten date '3/9/24' in blue ink, written over a faint blue line.

519 To note any matters arising from the meeting held on 13th March 2024

Page 2 item 509 – there is now a section on the agenda for community matters from councillors.

Page 3 item 509 – it was confirmed that the fencing is checked regularly by the handymen

520 To note any issues arising from members of the public in attendance

There are no members of the public in attendance.

521 To consider any community matters from Councillors

Cllr Harwood wished to raise the Dawn Chorus walk which was led by Paul Leonard , Biodiversity, at Rotherham Council. He had told Cllr Harwood that in his opinion more glades need opening up as well as the central area. He also said he was pleasantly surprised with the variety of birds and he had indicated he was willing to do this walk each year Cllr Scott said that he would like to concentrate on the paths first. Cllr Scott asked that Mr Leonard be invited to a woodland committee meeting.

Cllr Harwood also mentioned that near to the welcome sign there are now some Spanish bluebells and should these be kept or removed.

Cllr Woodhead wished to raise the issue of rubbish being thrown into the woods at the rear of Larch House. It is understood that it is garden rubbish and the Assistant Clerk will ask the handymen to look into this issue.

Action : Assistant clerk to invite Mr Leonard to the next Woodland Committee meeting. Assistant Clerk to ask the handymen to look into the issue of rubbish being put into the woods. Assistant Clerk to look at the effect of Spanish bluebells on the native ones.

Signed :



Councillor Mark Scott

dated :

3/19/29



522 To receive financial update

Wickersley Parish Council Financial Report to 31/03/2024	As at 31/03/2024	Committed to 31/03/2024	Total projected to 31/03/2024	Budget 2023/24	Surplus/-Deficit at 31/03/2024
Gorse - general	£2,802.50	£0.00	£2,802.50	£2,500.00	£302.50
Wood - general	£2,495.00	£0.00	£2,495.00	£2,700.00	-£205.00
Wood & Gorse Wardens	£110.00	£0.00	£110.00	£110.00	£0.00
Common Bank Lease	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£100.00	-£100.00
Woodland Committee Events	£303.77	£0.00	£303.77	£400.00	-£96.23
Total Woodland Management	£5,711.27	£0.00	£5,711.27	£5,810.00	-£98.73

The financial document was discussed, the majority of the budget was spent last year. The budget for this financial year is the same as it was last year.

523 To discuss matters relating to The Gorse

523.1 Report from Paul Paddock

A report had been sent through together with photographs. The orange water which was reported is flowing clear and the sediment appears to be bright orange, there doesn't appear to be any sort of pollution. There is a bridge in the Gorse needs to be looked at due to the size of the gap caused by the ground eroding. Assistant clerk is to ask the handymen to have a look at it. The paths are in reasonable order and the bluebell walk went very well.

523.2 Update on works

The work at the viewpoint has been done together with the area around Peters Patch and also a limb has been cut from a tree at Peters Patch. Cllr Harwood was in the Gorse when the contractor was there and had spoken to him, Cllr Harwood was impressed with the contractor and commended him on his work.

523.3 To discuss the bridges at the Gorse

This was covered in Paul Paddock's report. The Assistant Clerk will ask the handymen to have a look.

523.4 To discuss and agree Gorse Warden Honorary

Signed :

Councillor Mark Scott

dated :

3/9/24



This was proposed by Cllr Scott and approved by Cllr Woodhead and Cllr Harwood

Action : Assistant Clerk to ask the handymen to look at the bridge at the Gorse.

524 To discuss matters relating to Wickersley wood

524.1 Report from Katie Smith

A report had been prepared which was handed out. There appears to be an increase of litter within the woods and it needs a thorough litter pick. In respect of the pipe in the woods the homeowner needs to be contacted about it. This will be discussed later in the meeting. The Easter Egg hunt was a success and Katie, the Wood Warden said it had been a privilege to be involved in it. At the request of the Assistant Clerk some trees which were behind 30 Wood Lane had been looked at. There appears to be 2 – 3 dead trees. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that she had contacted Ian Kennedy, our consultant who will hopefully be able to go and have a look at those trees. It was agreed to wait to see what Ian Kennedy advises to do with these trees.

524.2 Update on works

The areas which needed coppicing have been done, the large limb has been taken off the beech tree. Another tree which was hung up near to the stone entrance has also been taken down. The glade work is still to be done.

524.3 To discuss the water pipe in Wickersley wood

The water is still flowing into the woods. Assistant Clerk had contacted the Water company and also the Environment Agency who cannot assist. It is now considered that the homeowner needs to be contacted about this issue.

Signed :

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. Scott'.

Councillor Mark Scott

dated :

3/19/24

524.4 To discuss research project request

It was agreed that this was a good idea. Assistant Clerk has been in touch with them and they will forward any findings to us. The wood warden is also interested in being involved and the organisers have been informed.

524.5 To discuss and agree Wickersley Wood Warden Honorarium

This was proposed by Cllr Scott and agreed by Cllr Woodhead and Cllr Harwood

Action : Assistant Clerk to liaise with Ian Kennedy about the trees behind 30 Wood Lane. Assistant Clerk to contact the homeowners of the property on Woodside Court whose pipe is discharging water into the woods

525 To discuss woodland events

525.1 Debrief of Easter Event

The Easter event was discussed. It was a popular event and well attended. There was an issue of running out of easter eggs. Discussions took place regarding the possibility of using an app or have tickets, and possibly stagger the times. This is something to be considered and could be implemented for the lantern walk to give an idea of how many are expected. The issue could be that not all have facebook and some will just see the noticeboards, the notices could direct them to book a ticket. This needs further consideration due to the extra work this may create.

525.2 Debrief of Teddy Bears Picnic

This was lead by Cllr Harwood who confirmed that it was not the greatest day but there was some great feedback from the event. Most people found out about the event from Amy, the other Assistant Clerk who attended. There was a suggestion that nurseries should have been notified directly, the issue of this is that not all of the children who attend the nurseries live within the parish. It was thought that the event was held too early in the year but it was very engaging with games, songs and other activities. Cllr Scott said that it would be a question as to whether to run this event next year. Cllr Harwood asked whether the

Signed :



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3/9/24

committee wanted to run another teddy bears picnic in the summer but Cllr Scott suggested not this year which was agreed by the committee. The decision regarding the teddy bears picnic is to be made at the September meeting.

525.3 Lantern Walk

This event can be partly organised over email. Cllr Scott plans on taking to full council the suggestion for having tickets or staggering times. A date was agreed for this event to take place of 25th October.

525.4 Himalayan Balsam

The Gorse warden had been asked whether this is ready for pulling but it is too small. A date of 1st June 10am – 12pm has been agreed for this to take place.

525.5 Bracken Pulling

This takes place in Wickersley wood and a date was arranged for 13th July 10am – 12pm

525.6 Bluebell Walk

This took place yesterday and the Gorse Warden had confirmed that this was a success and the bluebells are now out in full and looking very nice.

525.7 To discuss any other events

Cllr Scott would like to arrange for a litter pick to take place in Wickersley wood. The date agreed for this to take place is 18th May 10.30am – 12pm

Action : Assistant Clerk to put the teddy bears picnic onto the next agenda, to organise the Himalayan balsam pull and the bracken pull and also the litter pick.

526 To discuss next meeting dates

3rd September 2024

3rd December 2024

Signed : 

Councillor Mark Scott dated : 3/9/24



Signed :

Councillor Mark Scott

dated :

