

Forest Town Nature Conservation Group (FTNCG) Committee Meeting

Wednesday 26th June 2013, from 7 pm, at the Doven's residence

Present: Shlomo, Lorraine, Josh, Ian and Richard

The following Committee roles were agreed in accordance with FTNCG's Constitution: Shlomo as Chair and Co-Secretary, Josh as Treasurer, Ian as Vice-Chair, Lorraine as Co-Secretary / Membership Secretary, and Richard, who was co-opted onto the Committee, as Facebook Manager and Rushpool Liaison (Liaising with the Sherwood Forest Trust).

Spa Ponds Appeal - Ian informed the Committee that he is waiting for a response to FTNCG's improved offer. The Committee discussed plans to promote the forthcoming Mercian Spa Ponds talk and associated Spa Ponds Appeal. Shlomo circulated a draft poster. Josh and Shlomo agreed to send out a press release. Shlomo circulated a first draft of a leaflet, and asked for feedback. Ian offered to produce a map for the leaflet. We also discussed internet stuff – website and Facebook, etc. including the intention to add a new Spa Ponds section to foresttown.net website – making case for why the site is special (both heritage and nature conservation value), to overlap with leaflet content. It was agreed that we needed to draft a new “sponsorship letter” and that we needed to draft a list of potential recipients. We will also want to thank and update those who have already pledged, as well as getting back to Alan and Betty re: their donation of two mountain bikes.

Dates for hedge surveying – Ian offered Thursday evening 4th July from 7pm. Members and supporters were subsequently invited to take part. Ian explained that the hedges are thought to be about 400 years old, based on the number of tree species present, but that ground flora surveying is needed to complement the tree data.

Arrangements for 7th July Balsam Pull and 8th July Samworth event were also discussed. Volunteers are to meet at 9:45am on the recreation ground near Spa Ponds.

Rainworth nightjar walk rearranged for Tuesday evening 13th August from “Pit Lane” at 7:30pm. Participants are advised to bring a torch. Booking with contact details essential!

Finances and audit requirements were discussed, along with the need to produce a reserves policy, a sub-account and a change of signatories. Shlomo and Josh will progress these.

Rufford off-road biking objections have been submitted by NWT and RSPB. Shlomo to draft objection to be submitted on behalf of FTNCG Committee

Future programme, beyond September's fungi talk – Date yet to be chosen for November 2013 meeting or for Christmas party. From 5th March 2014 FTNCG meetings will be held on the 1st Wednesday of the month for most months (5th March, 2nd April, 7th May (AGM), 4th June, 2nd July, 3rd September, 1st October 2014). Shlomo to contact Welfare to book room.

Rushpool - Sherwood Forest Trust's Ian Major has been in touch to let us know that the funding bid for survey and improvement work for Rushpool is progressing to the next stage.

Any other business – Shlomo to pass Betty's tyre concerns on to the Forestry Commission. Sightings to be sent to recorders.