

Minutes of Director/ Trustees Meeting on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Methodist Chapel Rooms, Knapton

Present

**David Gosling (DG) (Chair of meeting); Brian Abbs (BA; ) Peter Kaye (BA): Nick Sutherland (NS) Edward de Feyter (EdeF)**

Apologies Brian Abbs (BA) It was noted that since attendance had been restricted by adverse winter weather, the meeting would be kept short and deal with as much as possible over a short time span. DG agreed to give a short position summary on all matters recorded in item 2 of the Minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> December

1. **Minutes of the Director/ Trustees meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> December** These had been circulated with the Agenda for this meeting and were approved as a correct record and signed by DG
2. **Matters Awaiting Resolution**
  - 2.1. **Tree Survey by R Yaxley.** Agreed to defer for time being
  - 2.2. **Wildlife Boards/ Posters for Barn.** BA to complete when his time permits
  - 2.3. **Second Observation Hide.** DG to challenge supplier in New Year
  - 2.4. **Hazel Coppicing.** No further action. Plantations agreed to be left to mature.
  - 2.5. **Canal Banks** The agreement by the Owner to do no further work on the Eastern boundary of the Soak Dyke, unless such work was agreed by Pigneys as urgent, will be noted and will be "policed"
  - 2.6. **Heather Seedlings.** The delivery had been delayed and when it arrived the access to the Dog Leg area by lorry had proved impossible, requiring all materials to be left in piles there. EdeF was thanked for moving the heather in smaller piles from there to the prepared site at very short notice. BA had already worked long hours and made good progress in spreading the material. It had been noted that the delivery included quite a volume of small branches and gorse; but this was not seen as an issue. It is to be expected that the heather will have a long gestation period. This closes a long project.
  8. **Wetland Ponds.** Date for NCC survey awaited—see also point 2.15
  9. **Autumn Tree felling.** BA is progressing with sycamore from the Old Wood. DG has been approached by two interested private purchasers. Suitable timber is expected to be sold in early March onwards BA will advise plans and date
  - 2.10 **Barn Walls.** BA will complete re-pointing when he has available time
  - 2.11 **Litter Bin Costs.** DG still in discussion with NCC who seem unsure of their ground There seems a possibility of a refund when this is resolved and NCC has agreed with him that the NCC invoicing system and wordings need to be overhauled before the next round of invoicing in May/June
  - 2.12 **Pond Enhancement.** The documentation for this has been agreed and signed off by DG and work should start soon. This will involve specific species enhancement of some ponds by the EA to offset habitat loss as reported at the last meeting. BA to monitor.
  - 2.13 **Pipeline Agency** It was that the noted that the Agency has now acted to remove all the immature trees which may pose a potential root risk to the pipeline in the future. The Agency has also put a second large marker post to indicate where the pipeline crosses into Mr Puncher's land. The land must know be left without trees; this will not be an issue and may allow further emergence of orchid and other plants in that area
  - 2.14 **Re-siting of fruit trees.** Timing still uncertain
  - 2.15 **Dredging of parts of Reserve Area** Thought to be part of the work set out in 2.12.
3. **Finance**
  1. **DG** recorded that the only movements in the Bank balance since the last meeting were the payment of the audit fee of £331.47 plus recoverable VAT and grant work on the Heathland (pre sowing) of £800, also plus VAT
  2. **DG** reported that the bank balance, before VAT recoveries of around **£200 and payment for heather expected at £800 was £700.** This he considered precarious but not imminently dangerous
4. **Other**
  - 4.1 PK thanked for the publicity in the Knapton newsletter for the ELF & Matthew Projects
  - 4.2 DG Noted that two people had expressed a wish to buy cut timber in March.
  - 4.3 DG to send **end of Project report to NCF re Heather seeding**
5. **Next Meeting**

Agreed at Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March at Methodist Chapel Rooms, Mundesley at 7pm