**Halesworth Millennium Green Trust**

Registered charity no. 1079518

**Notes from Trustees’ Meeting**

**held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 5th June 2017**

**at Brook House, Quay Street, Halesworth**

**Present**

Trustees: John Bainer, Don Foster, Paul Hyden, Sal Jenkinson, Nicky Rowbottom, Richard Woolnough

Secretary: Judith Woolnough

**1**. There were no **Apologies**

**2**. The **Notes** of the last meeting in January and the Extraordinary meeting in May were agreed and

signed as a correct record.

**3**. **Finance**

* Bank balance is £31,909.68 which includes the Financial Reserve of £24,000 (Minutes for 3rd October 2016 has the details of the Financial Reserve).
* Standing Orders now amount to £124 a month
* Container project now closed. John had sent reports and thanks to Adnams and Big Lottery.
* Richard had been told that Halesworth Community First Responders is closing down and they

would like to donate some of their funds to the Trust “as the Green contributes significantly to the mental and physical wellbeing of the Town”. Judith would contact them with bank details. **JW**

* John would ask Matthew Waters of Lovewell Blake Accountants to check the accounts. **JB**

**4. Unmanaged areas**

Richard produced a map with the areas of the Green that were not managed at present, they included Arthur’s Wood; behind the Reed Bed next to the Orchard in Folly meadow; Scrub Triangle (it was agreed to hang a gate here to deter dogs); woodland and scrub in the Folly; Angel wood; Angel meadow between Track and New Reach hedge; Chestnut meadow; hedge along Hammonds boundary; hedge against railway in Blyth meadow; 2 Acres.

Intensive haymaking is required to maintain the flora otherwise ‘scrub’ will develop.

Fencing against rabbits and muntjac is required to maintain a ‘scrubland’ area however this can deteriorate as it grows.

It was agreed -

* we always need to be aware of the total workload of our volunteer force and not get overloaded.
* that there is enough woodland but that part of Hammonds hedge would be coppiced and fenced against rabbits and muntjac to give a dense understorey;
* that the long vegetation in Chestnut meadow would be cut on a 3year rotation to arrest scrub and keep a certain amount of open grassland;
* that Angel wood would not be managed;
* Nicky and Richard would amend the map, define ‘scrub’ and why it is important **NR & RW**
* to ensure the public are made aware of these decisions
* that this would be the theme for next winter’s work parties

**5. Management Group**

**Report**

* the containers need their roofs painting for protection from tree sap and birds
* Chestnut meadow paths are kept cut and the fence next to the river has been removed.
* the new fence at the Town Park entrance to be agreed
* Southwold Railway Trust have done some weed control at the Engine Shed and are creating a noticeboard for the site.
* next meeting at 2pm on Monday 19th June

**Health and Safety**

Paul will review the Health and Safety procedures for Trustees to approve. Mike Jackson has offered to help with this task if required as he has experience from a past life. **PH**

Paul to review the emergency procedure following the recent accident. **PH**

Paul would check at the Management Group meeting if Facilities Check is still being done. It is probably a good time for a review.  **PH**

**Tools** - The Management Group would be asked to review the existing tools and equipment and suggest any extras or replacement. Don negotiating with Co-op for funding up to £5000 and all agreed that the Trust’s funds are available for this purpose.

**Thistles** - All agreed thistles in Blyth meadow and Lester’s Piece should not be sprayed but topped in July. Richard to contact David Pratt **RW**

**Track** - Sal negotiating with Sustrans regarding the Trust takeover of 2 Acres and Track to Mells. All agreed the river bridge should be part of this and Sal would ask Sustrans for a Surveyor’s report on the structure

prior to takeover **SJ**

**6. New Reach**

Further to recent discussions, Sal will ring Richard Hackney, Waveney District Council the registered “owner” of the Village Green (NR), to assure him that the New Reach Working Group is completely separate from the Green and let him know the Trustees are not entirely happy with the present arrangement and do have some concerns about the coordination of future work. ` **SJ**

**7. Annual Meeting**

It was agreed to hold this on Angel meadow near the junction with White Bridge. The Events Group are organising this and the display in the Library the week before.

**8. Any Other Business**

Sal had received an email from Abi Robinson, who runs the Forest School in the Folly, saying she wishes to “begin to deliver the John Muir award and would love to work more in partnership with the Millennium Green Trust to do this”. All were keen to support and encourage her in this venture and offer a walk round to find something suitable. **SJ**

*https://www.johnmuirtrust.org/john-muir-award This is an environmental award scheme with four challenges at its heart: discover a wild place; explore it; conserve it, share your experiences*

**9. Next Meeting**

Monday 2nd October 2017 at Brook House, Quay Street.

The meeting ended with thanks to John for his hospitality