

North Norfolk Community Woodland Trust

Pigneys board Sept 12

Minutes of Director Trustees on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at the Methodist Chapel School Room, Knapton

Present

David Gosling (DG): (Chair of Meeting): Peter Kaye (PK): B Abbs (BA): Mike Wright (MW)

Apologies

Edward de Feyter (EdeF); Neil Stubbs (NSt); Nick Sutherland (NS)

**1 Minutes of Director/Trustees Meeting held on 26th July 2012**

**1.1** The **Minutes** had been circulated before the meeting and were approved by all and signed by DG

**1.2** Any matters arising are to be dealt with when appropriate during the meeting

**2 Main Items**

**2.1 Community Spaces Grant-Phase 3:** Noted that most of the Tree Tags were now in place—thanks to BA for doing this. DG wishes to alter the leaflet to add one more tree and to change some of the wording on the back—he will consult PK on this

**2.2 Community Spaces Grant-Phase 4:** DG was pleased to report that the application has been approved in the sum of £ and will consist on the preparation by a Consultant (R Yaxley) of a whole site medium / long range Management Plan together with a Community Engagement initiative led by M Webster (of BTCV). Groups of young people and families will take part in Wood based activities designed to give them a taste for wildlife, woods and conservation with the long term aim of widening and extending our volunteer base.

**2.2 Possible Heathland reinstatement:** DG has submitted a Grant application to the NNDC Big Society Fund for this in August and BA will liaise with Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Dominic Arnold to confirm details, costs and dates. Agreed to place firm order for the seed heads which will come from Buxton Heath, since the project is considered to be both exciting and important for Pigneys Wood

The Big Society bid will also include a west facing viewing platform and various other small items and the result will be known in early October

**2.4 Sluice Gates** The need for expenditure on a gate will be discussed with various agencies with a Grant application hopefully to be made in due course—this may prove difficult

**2.5 Canal/ Footpath Updates** DG noted that the canalside footpath has been mown by Canal Trust volunteers who had pointed out that this wasn't strictly their responsibility. Work by Mr Ashton on the Canal has largely stopped, awaiting the outcome of a forthcoming legal challenge

**2.6 Dipping Platform** The alternative solution of buying new boarding from Marmax to lift the flooring was discussed and it was felt better to "go with nature" and if the water levels are as high as last years to advise schools. We should in the Spring (possibly via M Webster) advise local schools of this and other "attractions" available in the Wood—possibly also asking for a small donation from visiting schools.

**2.7 Maintenance** (a) Agreed that the future programme should include picnic table maintenance and a formal tree survey. (b) The Barn needs attention/ upgrading, particularly re Benches/Gutters/ Tables and Frontage (c) Full Tree Survey work but need to locate & use the report matrices used by NNDC was noted

**3 Other Items**

**3.1 Finance** DG circulated schedules showing the final income and expenditure figures for the year including detailed analyses of the main figures. He will next prepare the accounts in prescribed Charities Act formats for submission to the Independent Examiner. The intention is that these formal Accounts will be ready in time for approval by the Board at its November meeting. DG noted that this meeting will be preceded by a short (legally required) AGM

**3.2 N Norfolk Environment Award** It was noted with pleasure that Pigneys Wood had received a Runners Up Award, having been 3<sup>rd</sup> equal in a competition across the District. BA and DG had attended the presentation. PK will publicise the Award on the website

**3.3 Planting of Norway Spruce** Agreed that we will try again to grow Christmas Trees; BA will source bare root plants

**3.4 Wetland Plants funded from Lottery grant** BA will source and plant asap

**3.5 User Complaint** Directors considered and resolved a complaint from a member of the public about a note left on his car

**4. Next Meeting**

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November at Knapton Methodist Church, starting at 7.00pm