

# Meeting of ECONET

13th February 2017

Parks Department Offices, Prospect Park 7:30pm

## Present:

Alan Stevens  
John Lerpiniere  
Judith Oliver  
Steve Ayers (Minutes)  
Tricia Marcouse

## Apologies:

Kit Brownlow, Dave Kenny, Mike Cox, Chris Cliburn

## Minutes of the last Meeting

Have not been produced

## News and Updates

CROW: The details of the busy programme are being finalised. Waiting on BBOWT. John is willing to insert a Clayfield day if meaningful work is required

CLAYFIELD COPSE: A 'Celebration of the Oak Trees' is being planned for Sat 17th June. Children education, folk music, dancing, activities etc. Some assistance with funding maybe required. The meeting agreed to release up to £100 for the production of publicity material and leaflets. It was not felt appropriate to financially support commercial enterprises (such as face painting).

If further funding is required Judith should contact Alan in the first instance, and he will contact the other members as necessary.

Sec Note: Subsequent to the meeting Trish reported: **"I contacted nature nurture last night and Natalie has already replied to say she will come to clayfield copse on 17th June whether she has funding or not"**.

John will talk to Marcus regarding guided walks at the event.

A Dawn Chorus walk will take place on Sunday 7th May. Alan will publicise this on the website

MAPLEDURHAM: Steve gave the current status regarding the Heights Free School - as far as is publicly known. Some drilling work had taken place, presumably to test the ground conditions. The local Action Group continue to oppose development with the focus on whether RBC are suitable Trustees.

Monthly work parties had focused on clearing bramble and scrub undergrowth beneath regenerating trees. A planting day is planned with the Beaver group on Sunday 2nd April. Trees have been provided by TCV and Woodland Trust.

McILROYS: Tasks continue with up to 6 people attending

WATERLOO MEADOWS: Tasks continue with 3-4 people attending

RUWG: RBC has issued the Local Plan for comments. A consultation document is expected in April

TCV: There is a new contact ??name?? ECONET are providing materials for hedge laying

FOBNEY ISLAND: Funding for the next 3 years has been confirmed from RBC & EA. A management plan is outstanding. The definition of the boundary line is under question

### **Health & Safety**

Trish requester a First Aid kit - Alan to sort out. First Aid courses are available to "anyone who is interested".

Alan reminded us that a list of Emergency Contacts should be available at each event and should include a Post Code or Grid Ref of the location.

### **Accounts**

There is £12950 in the bank account, of which £2170 is proper to Cemetery Junction. An additional £1000 is outstanding for completed work (BBOWT, WBC, Lavells, Rushells Farm & Wolf Trust). TCV will pay us £120 for hedge laying materials. Expenditure for the year is £2k with income of £3.72k. Christmas tree sales raised over £2k net.

Annual insurance costs are £340 + TCV affiliation fee. However a TCV contribution leaves just £40 to pay for 2017.

### **Publicity & Events**

Christmas Trees: A brilliant 2016 event where every stall holder did better than in previous years. Trish turned-down a request from someone using recycled materials because it was a for profit activity. Also, John Ness (?) uses waste wood for seed & bird boxes and the like. He has been invited to Bean Pole Day.

Cutting for the 2017 Christmas event is on 8th December with Selling planned for Sat 9th

Bean Pole Day: Is on 22nd April 2017. 18 stalls have been confirmed with a few yet to make contact. Ways & Means Trust will be manning the kiosk.

The movement of Ash is not recommended at the moment due to die-back, so the Clayfield ash fields are not suitable. Supplies of Hazel poles are being tracked-down by John and others.

Trish will place an advert in Caversham Bridge, ECONET will pay as it was decided not to pursue the Estate Agent "sponsorship".

Alan will approach Luke/Kayleigh to borrow their gazebo. If not, BBOWT have one but it cannot be transported in a Nova !

### **Tools**

Nothing to report. There is money available.

### **AOB**

Nothing to Report

**DONM** was set for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017. This will be the AGM