

Minutes of ECONET meeting on Monday 4th February 2019

Present: Steve Ayres (Chair), John Lerpiniere, Peter Scudamore, Alan Stevens, Tricia Marcouse

1. Apologies: Judith Oliver

2. Minutes of last meeting: Accepted

3. Matters arising: Trish had contacted DoE about re-establishing contact for conservation/environmental portion. Initial reply received asking for more information, which Trish provided. (Note, still waiting response in March 2019). Discussion about Econet's insurance for youngsters. There is cover, but not a great amount. Oldies have no cover.

First Aid Kits- majority require replacement during the summer as parts are expiring. Easier to replace whole kit than partial.

BBOWT's management plans still not identified: Trish to do this.

4. Grass verges project. Has started, but Alan not received purchase order for invoicing RCAN. Suggestion that Trish should contact Buglife re their bee lines project.

5. News and Updates

CROW: full winter programme with 10 people out on task on average. a few tasks cancelled due to bad weather. Programme in place until the end of May. Money is coming in.

Clayfield Copse: 2-7 people at work parties

5th May planned for early bird song walk.

Meadows Day planned for 6th July. Econet agreed to pay nature nurture £100 to come, plus more if more funds become available.

Cemetery Junction: £900 still in the account belonging to CJ. Alan to ask them to spend this money in the next year or we would have to refund it. No active work happening at the site (Alan has written to them)

Mapledurham Playing Fields: 35-40 people came to a recent tree walk led by the tree warden Marcus.

Work party days mainly bracken cutting and using for path maintenance.

Supplementary planning application in for the school because architect had failed to take falls across the site into account. New application requires more mature trees to go. Although the planning

department ecologist has challenged this there is recommendation for acceptance at planning committee.

Money is granted to put in new planting, footpaths and new drainage and football pitches

Ongoing debate about proposals for non-native tree planting, particularly across the site in an avenue of American gums. Landscape plan still to be finalised and no planning application in for it at present.

RUWG: Planting verges.

6. Health and Safety

No issues

7. Accounts

£14,400 in the bank including the £900 for Cemetery Junction.

Income £2,600 (including £1,600 from Christmas trees); £900 pending from tasks. Expenditure £1,850.

8. Christmas trees

Everyone on site did well this year. Discussion about bringing in more Christmas trees next year, but agreed it is about the right number so that we do not have extras to dispose of at the end.

This year sale is to finish at 13.00. Cutting 6th December, selling on 7th. Banners need changing.

9. Beanpole Day. 13th April, beanpoles to be cut on the 10th. Need about 30 bundles. There are peasticks cut at Bowdown so these are not so important for CROW to collect.

Trish to put advert/ article in Caversham Bridge, but only if not hidden in centre of magazine.

10. Tools

No issues

11. AOB

About 30 longworth traps available to a good home.

12. Date of next meeting

Monday 9th September 2019