

Friends of Badock's Wood - Notes of Meeting

25th September, 2012. 7.30pm.

Greenway Centre, Doncaster Road, Southmead.

Present:

Alan Aburrow, Lerraine Smith (Grounds 4 Change), Becky Johnson (Grounds 4 Change), Geoff Burns, Sylvia Kelly, Mary Wood (AWT), Matt Hobbs, Jeni Sandercott, Brian Tommy, Roy Rudge, Ivor Reese, Jerry Cole (BCC Parks), Jane Cole (notes), Tony Smith, Frances Robertson.

Apologies:

David Parke, Christine Callinan, Mark Newport (BCC), Geoff Perrett, Alex Kittow,

1. Fun Day 29th Sept

Grounds 4 Change explained what has been arranged:

- Publicity is out, banner has been up two weeks, posters have been put out, insert in 'The Mead' newsletter with an editorial.
- Interest has been high.
- Woodland walks are arranged.
- Neil Green from the Avon Invasive Weeds Forum will be holding pond dipping sessions
- Chainsaw sculpture taking place.
- Hedgehog rescue display.
- Couldn't get hold of Avon Bat Group.
- Storyteller, willow weaver, bird box making.
- Community Police Officer - grounds for change to chase up whether they are coming or not.

BS10 5PP is the postcode for adventure playground - useful if contacting the police.

Frances has publicised the event to the Evening Post magazine and put it on BBC Autumnwatch website.

Frances will be conducting a survey of visitors on the day. This is useful information for funding applications.

Mary explained that AWT can run a walk on the day to explain the management plan to people.

Joe MCsorley from AWT will be launching the pond. There will also be pond dipping with Neil Green.

2. Pond Project Update

Mary brought along the pond management plan from AWT.

Some people commented that the pond is continually being vandalised.

An interpretation board may help as it seems that some local people do not know the purpose of the pond.

Jerry Cole (Parks) thinks that usually vandalism tails off after an initial peak and hopefully the pond will be able to settle down.

3. Management Plan

Mary brought a couple of paper copies for FOBW.

Some costings are needed from BCC and they also need to sign it - Jerry agreed to provide this within the week.

Action: Jerry Cole

The plan aims to explain why things need to be done as well as what.

Avon Bat Group have agreed to provide 10 new bat boxes and check the existing 3 that are already there. Jane to check with Jerry on any trees that are marked for removal.

Action: Jane Cole

Brownies are doing an Owl Prowl and Frances agreed to ask if they find any evidence of owls using the boxes that are in the wood.

Action: Frances Robertson

4. Other events and activities in the wood

Sunday 28th October- fungal foray

Sunday 18th November - identification of trees in winter

3 more volunteer habitat management days still to go this year.

20th October

15th November

8th December

More Wilson's honeysuckle removal, rock face clearance, some sapling clearance of holm oak, sycamore depending on how many volunteers turn up.

5. Funding

FOBW has secured another lottery grant. The money is for:

- i. Evaluation project to look at ways of increasing community engagement, Mary pointed out that one of the management plan appendices includes some survey data on people using the wood
- ii. Funding for another event – planned to coincide with BBC Springwatch in May and will be nature and arts event.
- iii. Leader and volunteer training for woodland management
- iv. Greetings cards using photos of Badock's Wood from Geoff
- v. For software for developing QR codes for use on signs and trails in the wood. QR codes are the pixel squares that can be read by mobile phones and connect direct to websites.

6. Approval of notes of previous meeting.

Notes approved.

7. Matters arising not already covered.

7a Supplementary plan for grasslands management is planned by AWT.

The wildlife rich meadows are spreading into the less rich areas which demonstrates the success of the planting.

7b Website. Matt and Frances had some informal training and have done some updating. Matt has agreed to take on some of the updating work so that Alistair can step

back a bit. Frances to talk to Alistair about maintaining the domain name and whether he is prepared to continue looking after this.

Action: Frances Robertson

7c Early morning visitors to the wood are still being very noisy for residents near the entrance. Putting up a notice was discussed. Jerry agreed to have one priced up with BCC on it to make it official.

Action: Jerry Cole

8. AOB

Jeni has spoken to a couple of people walking in the wood who said that they feel safer visiting the wood knowing that it is being actively managed.

Praise was given to Mark who works in the wood and talks to dog owners about their dog poo and hands out bags for people to collect it.

Dog poo is still an issue especially on the playing field

It was reported that there is some erosion of the river banks close to some areas of the path was brought up and Jerry agreed to look into repairs or improvements.

Action: Jerry Cole

9. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 4th December 2012 - mince pies will be provided