

MARESFIELD CONSERVATION GROUP

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee

Held at 7.00pm on Monday 24th April 2023 at The Chequers, Maresfield

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jo Lawrance (JL)	Chair
Terence Brady (TB)	Treasurer
Stan Sadowski (SS)	Membership
Bruce Milton (BM)	
Alex Clarke (AC)	
Jacqui Royal (JR)	
Ian Shaw (IS)	
Rob Penfold (RP)	
Stephany Reed-Perkins (SRP)	

PRESENT: Jo Lawrance, Stan Sadowski, Ian Shaw, Jacqui Royal, Terence Brady, Stephany Reed-Perkins, Alex Clarke, Stephanie Bassett (Minutes Secretary).

APOLOGIES: Bruce Milton, Rob Penfold.

1. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 27th March 2023 & MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes were APPROVED.

Matters arising

Pictorial Map & DT memorial

c/f next meeting

Roles and Responsibilities

NTR

c/f next meeting

Quiz Night in aid of Uckfield Food Bank.

A cheque for £784.25 was presented to the Foodbank by IS and RP and a photo taken.

Improvement to MCG Notice Board

ACTION: BM

Summer Social – 1st July 6.30 – 8pm

Village Hall booked.

ACTION: SS to contact Ann Thompson

3. TREASURER'S REPORT – TB

Accounts Update

There has been very little change from last month's report: only £6.20 expenditure and £15.00 income (membership renewal). The annual accounts look better than expected due to the income from February Quiz of £780.

TB has applied to Wealden Community Lottery from which we will receive 60p in the £ if successful. He had circulated details of the Veolia Sustainability Fund prior to the meeting but we would need to identify a specific project, maybe funding towards work undertaken by the Footpaths Group.

ACTION: TB to follow up. c/f next meeting.

Subscription income has fallen since the last financial year but income from Gift Aid has risen by £150. SS clarified that donors are responsible for declaring their eligibility for Gift Aid.

ACTION: TB and SS to review paperwork.

JR handed over £16.00 in respect of merchandising.

AC said she would be submitting a bill from Quarry for AGM printing.

End of year audit

JL read out a note from our verifying officer requesting a narrative to accompany the accounts.

ACTION: JL to forward note to AC with copy to TB.

AC to ensure RP receives a copy of the narrative for submission to the Charities Commission.

4. MEMBERSHIP – SS

Membership

The number of members stands at 162.

The targeted mailshot to Parklands received no response. Another area (Wellington Gate/Rolling Mill/The Paddock) was suggested.

ACTION: SS to review letter wording. c/f next meeting

SS to ask at AGM for suggestions on how to increase membership in pockets of the village not currently represented.

5. UPCOMING EVENTS:

AGM – 16th May

SS had circulated a draft presentation prior to the meeting and asked for any photos. Underhill bridge and the potholes outside the school were suggested.

Future Projects:

Post at twitter next to Chequers : Footpaths Group will be liaising with Underhill residents.

ACTION: SS to liaise with JL for photos to illustrate her report.

SS handed a nomination for election to the Committee to AC.

SB will draft an attendance register.

Great British Spring Clean – 29th April

Posters are on display. JL will be at the church car park by 9.30.

ACTION: IS to ask RP for hi-viz jackets.

JL to publicise on Maresfield Matters (AC to send copy of poster).

SS to email reminder to membership.

JL to thank members at AGM

King's Coronation Picnic – 7th May

There will be no plant stall. RP is organising an information stall.

ACTION: AC to supply information re Queens Green Canopy project.

Summer Newsletter

No progress so far. Copy IS to be received by early June ready for distribution at the end of June/early July..

Classic Vehicle Show

Too late to organise for this year.

Members' BBQ – Autumn 2023

It was felt that holding a BBQ in Autumn (organised by The Chequers and sponsored by MCG) would be too soon after the Summer Social..

ACTION: Revisit next year in conjunction with Classic Vehicle Show.

Xmas Tree

ACTION: RP to check date with Angie.

February Quiz – 24th February 2024

RP/IS to organise again next year.

ACTION: Suggestions for nominated charity.

6. FOOTPATHS GROUP UPDATE – NTR

ACTION: BM/TB to draw up calendar of events/activity for the year. c/f next meeting.

7. PLANNING UPDATE

The Downlands building application has been refused. JL has received an email from Ben Read thanking MCG for their help in raising awareness.

ACTION: JL to forward copy to SS for inclusion on website.

Ashdown Business Park

ACTION: JL to forward letter of thanks from Alan Strevons to SS.

There is an application for 2,000 homes at Owlsbury Farm.

Uckfield Swimming Pool

ACTION: RP to send SS the link for lodging objections to the proposed closure of Uckfield Swimming Pool.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Committee membership

JL requested that all future Committee members should be made aware that they will also be Trustees. Anyone unwilling to be a Trustee can serve as a co-opted member. Our Constitution allows for up to 3.

The number of Committee members was discussed. Any change would need a Resolution, mailed out to members in advance and voted on at the AGM.

ACTION: c/f during planning for next year's AGM.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING : Monday 19th June at 7pm in The Chequers.

The meeting closed at 20.20.

Dates of Future Meetings For 2023: TBA