

The Stubbs Wood Management Advisory Group:

Meeting Notes 24th October 2018 at 4pm

Attendance:

Richard Don, Dominic Rossi, Graham Hughes, Caroline Lingham, Don Baker, Stephen Palmer.

Apologies: Clive Witton, Roni Lovegrove.

The following items on the Agenda were discussed:

1) Tree Survey: The Tree Survey was reviewed following the successful completion of the work carried out by TreeAbility. It was noted that the tree survey runs to February 2019 when the next action has to be undertaken and the Group will need to decide on whether the recommendations in the Tree survey set out as to conclude in 12 months should be undertaken and regularity of the tree surveys.

It was suggested that Julian should be asked to join the next Group meeting to advise us on the ongoing requirement for tree surveys, fee basis and how best to deal with opening the vistas

A/P: The Group asked for Julian Miller to be invited to attend the next meeting in January if possible.

2) Management Plan Update: – Caroline updated the Group on the progress of the Man. Plan. She told the Group that the RPA staff had been moved on to priority work in existing Man Plan holders in favour of new plans. However, she still expects the plan to receive approval in the next couple of months.

She will be raising the issues with the RPA at a meeting on the 31st Oct at the Forestry Woodland Advisory Council.

It was also noted that the Man. Plan registration is still held in the name of Hendon Manor and not the Parish Council and the Group are anguished to get this changed as soon as possible.

A/P The Group would like to ask R Lovegrove to change the registration details of the Man Plan as soon as possible and is necessary before the pursuit of grants.

3) York Hill Repairs: The group recommend to the Parish Council that the pothole is repaired as a matter of urgency. The Parish Clerk or RFO to chase the contractor Deano to repair the pothole in the entrance to the car park at Stubbs Wood.

A/P: PC or RFO to chase instructions and Deano to repair pothole.

4) Budget: The budget and Charity money was discussed at length by the Group, which concluded that the Group would recommend that the £15k Charity money should be reserved for Man Plan Operations rather than repairs as it is supposed that the objects of the Charity for maintenance and improvement of the woodland suggested that to be the case.

The Group are aware that the budget of £3000 received from the Parish Council for 2017/8 Financial Year has been overspent due to the Tree Survey. However, it is hoped that the overall budget surplus will counter this deficit and the repair to the car park gate will also be able to be covered by this surplus.

5) Knotweed:

A local contractor with qualifications and licence should be asked to spray the Japanese Knotweed next to the car park area, at the correct time of the year. The Group acknowledges that John Evans has volunteered at no expense to undertake this action in due course.

A/P: Caroline volunteered to gain the necessary approval to undertake this action.

6) Voluntary Work: The Group are aware that October – February is a suitable opportunity to carry out work in the Woodland.

However, it was decided to await the approval of the Man Plan before embarking any further voluntary work.

The offer for assistance from the Bromley Ramblers was also noted and we will contact them again when we have the approval for the Man Plan.

5) Communication: The Group decided that it would be beneficial to publish a report on progress in the Ide Hill Bugle to keep people informed on our activities.

A/P An article will be forwarded to the Editor for the November edition.

Meeting concluded at 6pm

Next Meeting will be arranged in early January 2019.