

FRIENDS OF PUTNOE WOOD and MOWSBURY HILLFORT

Minutes of the General Meeting held on 13 July 2021 via Zoom.

Members present: Lynn Caudrey, Martin Fannon, Sue Fannon, Anne Lilliman, Dave Parratt, Chris Moss, Diana Readhead, John Wallace, Marion Wallace, Chris Wedge, Helen Wilkie, John Wilkie, Allison Wilkins and Andy Wilkins.

1 Apologies for absence - Jon Bishop and Mick Lilliman had warned that they would join after the start of the meeting.

2 Minutes of last meeting held on Tuesday 11 May2021. These were agreed as an accurate record. There were no matters arising.

3 Future Tasks and Events

John Wallace reported.

3.1 Hillfort

- Jon will bring a chainsaw to cut up the fallen cherry plum tree in the orchard on 14 July. Work will commence at 12 noon, and Andy, Dave, and Philip volunteered to assist with removing the timber and tidying the site. Others to arrive at usual time.

- Tasks during July and August include: cutting nettles in neglected orchard; cutting grass in the orchard after all flowers have bloomed and seedheads have set, and removal of arisings; removing debris from moat and cutting back vegetation to reveal archaeology; work on ponds 1 and 2 once water dries up including removal of debris and cutting back vegetation,

3.2 Putnoe Wood

Work during July and August to include continuing management of small balsam, trimming back vegetation along path edges as required, and clearance of fallen timber from the stream.

4 Update from Country Park Guardian

Jon reported on evidence of oak die back in Putnoe Wood. He was seeking guidance from the Borough tree officer regarding any action to be taken. He commented on how good the hillfort was looking and that there had been less evidence of anti-social behaviour so far this summer. One of the three medlar trees in the orchard appears to be dying and could be replaced in due course.

5 Financial Matters

John Wilkie presented figures as at 13 July 2021.

Category	Brought Forward	Current Balances
Money held in bank	320.10	320.10
Petty cash	0.00	0.00
Total	320.10	320.10

Transactions since last report:

Income:

Total Income **£0.00**

Outgoings:

Total outgoings: **£0.00**

6 Reports from members –

6.1 Chris Wedge had received no communication from Green Flag regarding the applications for both sites. Lizzie Dobbie from the Wildlife Trust had visited Mowsbury Hill Meadow once and plans a second visit at the end of July. She is hopeful that an application for County Wildlife Site status will be approved at the next CWS panel meeting in September.

7 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

8 Date of next meeting

7.00pm Tuesday 14 September 2021 – location to be advised.