

# FRIENDS OF PUTNOE WOOD and MOWSBURY HILLFORT

## Minutes of the General Meeting held on 7 November 2023 via Zoom.

**Members present:** Lynn Caudrey, Jon Bishop, Rachel Howton, Anne Lilliman, Chris Moss, Dave Parratt, Diana Readhead, Peter Stathers, John Wallace, Chris Wedge, Helen Wilkie, Andy Wilkins, Allison Wilkins.

1 **Apologies for absence** were received from Mick Lilliman and Marion Wallace.

2 **Minutes of last meeting held on Tuesday 12 September 2023 and Matters Arising.**

The minutes were amended to record Sue Fanon and Martin Fanon as sending apologies for their absence. With this amendment they were agreed as an accurate record.

3 **Update from Country Park Guardian.**

Jon reported that the Tree Surgeons were currently carrying out tree safety work in Putnoe Wood. He had submitted an order for safety work on Mowsbury Hillfort on various Scots Pines and a Monterey Pine which require attention. He will obtain a price for wood for the benches to be installed following the recent donation.

4 **Future Tasks and Events**

John Wallace presented his report.

### Putnoe Wood

- Replace bench at east end of central ride the legs of which are rotting.
- Coppicing after preparatory brush cutting of undergrowth. This will not be carried out until leaves have been given time to drop.
- Tidy up after recent work by tree surgeons.
- Litter pick.

### Mowsbury Hillfort

- Install new benches in due course. Select suitable wood from Jon's and Helen's stocks.
- Wassail Tuesday 9 January 2023. Pre-Wassail work to trim fruit trees in areas affected. Jon reported that the Wassail tree used over past years is looking ill. It may be necessary to select an alternative one.
- When chipper available, process woody cuttings for filling holes in paths.

5 **Financial Matters**

Peter presented his Financial Report as at 4 November 2023.

Category	Brought Forward	Current Balances	Change
Money held in bank	226.89	476.89	250.00
Petty cash	22.08	22.08	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>248.97</b>	<b>498.97</b>	<b>250.00</b>

There was no financial summary issued in September 2023 – there were no changes from the report issued in July 2023

There was a donation of £250 given to the group account in September by Airedale Nursing Home to provide two benches for the Hillfort area.

There is still currently no debit card associated with the Bank Account. Peter is investigating options but will need to try to make formal application through the bank which will include an

on-line form signed by two signatories (past history has not proven this to be easy). Peter apologised for not having resolved this matter to date.

**6 Reports from members**

There were no reports from members.

**7 Any Other Business**

Mick Lilliman joined the meeting.

**7.1.** Jon reported that two volunteers from Hill Rise Local Nature Reserve who were trained to use brush cutters, had offered their help to the Friends.

**7.2.** Discussion took place as to how to attract new volunteers to the Friends. This agreed to write a notice for the volunteering opportunities section in some local free newspapers. It was noted that Rachel was attracted to the group via the volunteering opportunities section of the Borough Council website.

**8 Date of next General Meeting**

7.30pm Tuesday 16 January 2024 via Zoom.