

Notes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at 7.00pm at Otterton Village Hall, on 30 April 2019

Present: Bob Wiltshire (BW) Chairman, Penny Kurowski (PK) Hon Sec, Jon Roseway (JR) Hon Treasurer, Pat Porter (PP), Geoff Porter (GP), Clive Bowman (CB), Haylor Lass (HL), David Daniel (DD), Nicky Daniel (ND), George Maddaford (GM), David Hatch (DH)

Apologies: Geoff Lake (GL), Jacqui Baldwin (JB).

- 1 Minutes of the EC meeting held on 19 March 2019 were agreed and signed.

The EC discussed the following matters.

- 2 The new Himalayan Balsam (HB) pulling season. OVA and CDE have met, and decided to widen the project to all parishes in the Otter Valley; adverts will be placed in parish newsletters to ask for working groups and to offer advice. DH and Kate Ponting have already been to Otterton Parish Council. It is thought HB work may start in June instead of July due to the early season.
- 3 The Natural Environment Committee will have a stand at Heath Week.
- 4 Updates on the harebells at Jubilee Meadow and the 3 Pines project.
- 5 The litter pick – GP thanked those who helped.
- 6 Replacing the commemorative tree (in memory of John Brenan, who served on the OVA EC and was president in the 1990s) outside East Budleigh Church Hall. It was agreed that the OVA would pay for a replacement.
- 7 The Ruby Anniversary, the visit to Stantyway Farm and the Christmas Party. All are on track.
- 8 The application for funding for an East Budleigh Heritage project. The OVA was asked to make it more inclusive, so it has been extended to include other local areas, and subsequently £3,000 has been awarded by the AONB to pay for training and so on.
- 9 ND has completed the Historic England consultation on behalf of the OVA.
- 10 The problems surrounding planning conditions not being met, eg in West Hill Lane. ND to write to EDDC.
- 11 The planning application for a new build next to The Pound in East Budleigh has been approved by the Development Management Committee of the EDDC, by a narrow margin.
- 12 There have been good numbers for recent walks, with walkers are coming from further afield, eg Chard and Seaton, and some have joined the OVA.
- 13 Preparations for the AGM - all committee posts should be filled, with the exception of a Colaton Raleigh representative.
- 14 The Hon. Treasurer's Report, all is in order for JR to hand over. The Annual Accounts were accepted by the EC with thanks to JR for his work
- 15 The Membership Secretary is still inputting the membership renewal information from the bank. There is a steady stream of new members as well.
- 16 Options paper for a new gazebo. NEC will now look at these and make recommendations to the EC.
- 17 A new introduction leaflet/application form that would work better for banks and be GDPR compliant. CB to produce a mock up and circulate to the EC.
- 18 The EC agreed that if a trustee went to a conference on a subject relevant to our remit their fee will be paid.
- 19 The OVA stand at the East Budleigh Scarecrow Festival.
- 20 Distribution of the new Himalayan Balsam leaflets.
- 21 GP reported on the recent AONB Partnership Meeting which he had attended.
- 22 GP has permission from Sam (farmer at Stantyway) to walk the fields, and has his agreement to put an information board about the wildlife that is around in the honesty cafe. The EC agreed to fund this.