

Notes of the Executive Committee Meeting held at 7.00pm at Otterton Village Hall on 27 November 2018

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

Apologies: None

- 1 Minutes of the EC meeting held on 23 October 2018 were agreed and signed.

The EC discussed the following matters:

- 2 Safeguarding – PK is working on draft documentation and will circulate to EC members to comment.
- 3 The breach of the embankment near Lime Kiln car park, with the footpath unlikely to be restored until March 2019, and the poor quality of the alternative path along the Little Otter. HL and JR to find out more if possible.
- 4 The LORP. BW had written to the EA supporting the funding bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. GP had attended the LORP Visitor Management meeting and gave a summary.
- 5 BW had sourced information for an obituary on Derek Rowland. The EC agreed that in future a short note rather than a full obituary, for notable people from the OVA membership who die, would be appropriate.
- 6 DH updated the meeting with progress on re-establishing harebells on Jubilee Meadow. Seed has been sown with more planned for the spring, together with planting plug-grown plants.
- 7 Progress on clearing Himalayan Balsam from the target area, with plans to move further afield in 2019 and to work with CDE on plans for a “Balsam Free Bicton”. The new Himalayan Balsam Leaflet was agreed, subject to small changes. GP, CB and DD to work on getting it printed ready for the new season.
- 8 The trees planted on 3 Pines Hill, and plans to plant in other areas.
- 9 The Litter Pick is scheduled for 23 March 2019. GP has worked with Kate Ponting on this and most aspects are in place. Kate will produce the posters.
- 10 Plans for the Christmas Party, which are progressing well. 104 people have now booked. The event should make a profit, and the EC agreed to ring-fence this for future events, with the profit from the raffle and auction going to the Strummers' charity.
- 11 The East Devon Golf Club is booked for 19th June for the Ruby Anniversary strawberry cream tea. Cost to members to be £10 each, including the food and pink Prosecco.
- 12 GL has decided to step down as talks organiser at the end of this season, giving a chance for a new person to shadow him for a few months.
- 13 ND and DD have organised for the Director of CPRE Devon to provide an additional talk on 16th January in the Peter Hall on the subject of Housing Needs.
- 14 The EC noted that there was a clash between the March 26 talk and an EC meeting. PK and BW to liaise and find a suitable new date and venue.
- 15 The visit to Stantyway Farm is now set for 3 July 2019 at 6pm. Suitable for children, attendees to bring their own food and drink. BW to suggest that Sam from the farm contacts CDE re a projector etc.
- 16 The EC agreed that the OVA should continue to pay for the web address ovapedia.org.uk as this helps keep Ovapedia near the top of Google searches.
- 17 On the “Land to the rear of Pynes Close East Budleigh” application, ND had investigated going to the Ombudsman, but finds this is really only open to individuals. Following contact from ND, the National Trust are including this case in a paper on bad decisions in Conservation Areas.
- 18 BW and ND had attended a meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee of EDDC where the Heritage Asset Strategy for the next few years was discussed. It became apparent at the meeting that it would take many years to get the Heritage Asset List agreed.
- 19 The next walks programme is progressing well and will be ready for the newsletter deadline. The number of people on walks has recently been into double figures.

- 20** The Treasurer's report had been circulated. Gift aid had now been received. Possible membership of Civic Voice was again discussed, and BW asked JR to supply a list of the OVA's affiliations and the cost of these.
- 21** The Membership Secretary's report had been circulated. Numbers are increasing, now standing at 809, and a significant number of newer members have booked for the Christmas Dinner.
- 22** BW and ND had met with John Varley of CDE and had a wide ranging discussion. It was agreed to continue to meet, perhaps every 2-3 months.
- 23** BW and ND will respond to consultation on the AONB 5 year Partnership Plan.
- 24** A small group (DD, ND, BW, PK, CB and DH) are preparing a response to the Glover Review consultation on National Parks and AONBs. The response will include a recommendation that East Devon and Dorset AONBs should be part of a new National Park. The AONB will be advised of the OVA response.
- 25** A former student had been in contact offering support. BW to suggest she contact Sam Bridgewater who is looking for help with the LORP.
- 26** The footpath near the development site south of King Alfred Way in Newton Poppleford is closed again. The surgery proposed for this site will not now be built and two houses are proposed instead, changing the affordable homes ratio. The planning application for these houses references an as yet unpublished archaeological survey which found remains of a Bronze Age settlement on the site.
- 27** All Saints Church, East Budleigh came 2nd in the Devon CPRE's "Best Churchyard" competition.
- 28** In Otterton there were events to commemorate Remembrance Day, and a book detailing lives of the WW1 fallen had been produced. The Reindeer Run was due to take place on Saturday.
- 29** Discussions on the digital data archive started – EC Members to consider the possibilities and bring their thoughts to the next meeting.