



AGM Notes -2017/18 AGM

26th Sept 2018

Introductions and Apologies

- Marcus Swann, Carolyn Hassell

Minutes of previous meeting

- The meeting minutes from the 2016/17 AGM were briefly discussed and had been previously circulated and were agreed to be an accurate record of the events that had taken place.

Review of 2017/18

Wood allotments 2017/18

- We had 2 new allotment holders and a total of 7 new members, some sharing some new allotment holders.
- Tree felling training was on 1st & 7th October 2017.
- First aid training was 14th June, thanks to Graham Gowland.
- Andy Cooper continued as our named chain saw operator to help us with the larger trees throughout the year. Again this helped with the larger trees and we will be continuing this in 2018/19.

Coppicing

- We had 4 coppicing dates in November, January, February and March.
- Two were with Sale and Altrincham Conservation Volunteers and we will do a task with them in 2019.
- We did a lot of coppicing and had plenty for making hurdles

Spud Wood Activities:

- New trees - ~43 are still standing and are showing above the thistles.
- Visit by various Woodland Trust groups– very interested in the wood allotments scheme.
- Bat walk in Autumn, 2nd September - well attended 22 adults and children. We started from Oughtrington Community Centre this year with a short talk by Donald Kernott.
- Wood sculpture - Wayne has been busy and has carved some faces we used at our activity day.
- Woodland Activity day 28th October - TESP came along as did Neil and Tim Kirwin ran bows and arrows and potato cake making activities. Well attended in the morning, but poorly in the afternoon when it started raining.

Planned for 2018/19

Wood allotments 2018/19

- A new contract has been signed. Another 3-year contract.
- We have agreed we can increase this total number up to a maximum of 25 and maintaining the option that if previous members (of good character) have a period of rest, which can be for up to 2 years (within the 25).
- All allotments are allocated; we still have a waiting list of 5 people – there is the possibility Mersey Forest might find them an alternative wood as they now have a new wood allotment site starting in November.

- 1 allotment holder left, 2 are now sharing, 2 are moving from sharing to having their own allotment – so losing 1 person.
- For 2018/19 we have 2 new allotment holders, 2 additional sharers we have allocated 23.5 allotments at the time of writing. That is a total of 6 new people.
- Tree felling training will be on 6th and 14th October.

Other Spud Wood activities

- Orienteering - Spring. Ask for funding from Round Table.
- New trees. Look to interplant some in the wood allotments area – holly, cherry, hazel etc. Oughtrington Primary School have invited to get involved.
- Bat walk. We would like to hold one in Sept 2019
- Coppicing
 - Sat 10th Nov – 2-4pm
 - Sun 13th Jan – 10.30am-3.30pm
 - Sun 10th Feb – 2-4.30pm
 - Sun 17th March – 2-5pm
- WT have a coppicing weekend on 24/25 Nov.
- Jo Yellen has been nominated for the WT Acorn Award and they have been to do some filming – short video for their judging and lunch award ceremony.

Treasurer's Report & receive annual accounts

- That the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018 were received and Nick has signed them
- In a good position, still need to pay ~£300 for insurance

Change in Directors

- No changes this year.

AOB, Other initiatives, ideas from the floor

- Peel Holdings - Bob McCulloch asked if we should invite Peel Holdings to come and chip wood piles again. It was agreed Bob should follow-up and see if they can come in Feb/March when there are lots of brash piles.
- LCL website – Richard Pearce says he has found someone (Al Walker) to provide some training so we can get what we need as the site needs streamlining. Richard will organise a date to discuss changes before we meet with Al. James Hurrell is interested in being involved.
- Spud Wood 21st Birthday Party – Spud Wood was planted in winter 1997/1998 and we want to celebrate. Joyce Penlington from luncheon club is keen to be involved and invite those that helped fund raise and plant the wood. Need to speak to Ackerley's and others to plan – best date is probably April/May 2019.
- Info Board - Woodland Trust have funding for an Info Board maybe two. The site manager will ask us for input. Only comment so far is that it should say Spud Wood, Oughtrington, Lymm and if there are two – one in car park and one on Oughtrington Lane entrance
- WA - can the group have hazard tape for closing paths whilst tree felling – Jo to organise
- Bin - Is it possible to move the 2nd bin in the car park so both are near to path to reduce the overflowing bin issues? Jo to ask Neil.