



AGM Notes -2019/20

No AGM held due to COVID-19

Minutes of previous meeting

- The meeting minutes from the 2018/19 AGM are available on our website.

Planned for 2020/21

Activities are planned and Wood Allotments can continue, but the COVID-19 situation is limiting the size of groups and curtailing what can be achieved

Ash-die back is having an impact on the wood and we have changed the way we can felling the wood allotments to address the danger of falling dead wood due to the impact/death of the canopy

Wood allotments

- We continued to have a busy allotment group with 24 allotment allocated
- We are in the final year of the current 3 year contract cycle
- Tree felling training is in groups of 6 including the trainer and will be held throughout October
- First aid training is not being run but it is hoped will be available from January 2021 at Safety Central
- Andy Cooper continues as our named chain-sawer but needs to renew his license to fit with WT rules that require this every 3 years

Volunteer activities

- The Woodland Wednesday Group will continue to run but with max of 6 until WT are happy 2 or more groups can be run. We need to follow revised risk assessment and the rule of 6 and any new local rules
- Weekend tasks will only be arranged once the WA group is working well
- We aim to complete the hedgelaying this year and continue with coppicing activities, esp those that are in front of the WA area
- We are going to trial storing hazel fire wood on site to we can sell in future years to provide an income. This will be managed by the Wednesday group
- We are talking about taking over the path grass cutting activities and using the orchard lawn mowers to do this. WT agree in principle

Spud Wood Activities

- New trees – there are dates for tree planning with Lloyds (17 Nov) and we aim to plant more trees in the WA area once cleared
- Ecology – Sarah Barber would like to be able to assist Lymm High School with ecology field work if allowed
- Bridgewater Canal Company – have agreed to help again and we will manage brash to enable more chipping
- Cheshire Wildlife Trust – look to see what sessions they can continue to operate

Review of 2019/20

Work ended on 23rd March 2020, earlier than planned due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

Wood allotments

- For 2019/20 we allocated 24 allotments had 9 new members on 6 allotments and 3 returned from resting - with 24 allotments allocated
- Tree felling training was on 5th and 13th October

Other Spud Wood activities

- **New trees (2014)** ~40 are still standing and are showing above the thistles.
- **New trees (2019)** – 20 pupils from Oughtrington Primary School heled plant 130 trees esp along the laid hedge
- **New trees (2020)** – with Wilmslow WI planned more than 200 new trees on 13th March esp in WA area

Volunteer Activities

- We held 3 weekend tasks, last one was cancelled because of COVID-19
- Nick Storer set up Woodland Wednesdays, they meet weekly &
 - Communicate via WhatsApp
 - Didn't manage to continue into the s[pring] but started again in the late summer
- Did a lot of coppicing and hedgelaying, Andy helped by felling many trees
- Nigel Howe became a volunteer leader working with Nick on the Wednesday group
- Gave Ravenbank some more stumps for their storytelling corner

Treasurer's Report & receive annual accounts

- That the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 were received and Nick signed them
- We plan to open a FoSW bank account and move away from the LCL one this year

Change in Directors

- No changes this year

AOB

- Were involved in local talks about tree planting and "Spud Wood 2." Still happy to be involved
- We sold some of Wayne carving walking sticks, there are still some for sale on the website
- Thank you to all our supporters, esp including Andy Cooper (chain-sawer), Bridgewater Canal Company (wood chipping), Woodland Trust (Neil Oxley site manager for supporting us)