

# MANAGERS OF STELLING MINNIS COMMON

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: 6 January 2016  
Held at: Stelling Minnis Villlage Hall  
Present: J Haffenden (chair), G Baldwin, A Barchi, I Champion, A Day, C Gooch,  
R Griffin, P Fry, A-S Speakman, J Speakman

### **1 Apologies**

M Hamilton, S Chantler

### **2 Minutes of the Meeting on 7 October 2015**

The minutes were approved and signed by J Haffenden.

### **3 Matters Arising**

No information had been received from MH re competitive insurance quotes. See item 5 below.

### **4 Correspondence**

Letter dated 30 Oct from N Smith to K Smyth: JH to respond

Email dated 23 October from D Stuart to K Smyth: The majority of items raised had been resolved as a result of FOSM clearing. Also see item 7.

Email to D Cripps from N Smith: AS to respond re request to publish draft minutes. The meeting decided that this was not appropriate in order to ensure accuracy of minutes prior to publication.

### **5 NFU Insurance**

As the premium has increased again this year and payment is due on 6 January, the meeting agreed that A Day contact NFU and request a quote for 3 months' cover whilst competitive quotes are obtained.

### **6 KWT Extend Management Plan**

I Champion reported on discussions with KWT who had confirmed that the plan would be available within the next 2-3 months. IC to follow up with KWT.

### **7 Application for renewal of consent for fencing before 15.02.2017**

JH outlined current status and options for consideration by the meeting. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that an application be made to Defra for time limited fencing with a further enclosure added to the current three. A public meeting will be held on 22 March.

### **8 Training for identifying dangerous trees and associated insurance**

C Gooch to raise this matter with W Trower and recommend that a professional survey and report be commissioned. J Haffenden to respond accordingly to D Stuart, item 4 above.

## 9 Reports

- a) Secretary – there were no items to report
- b) Grazing – there were no items to report
- c) Ponds / School Liaison – AB reported on appreciative response from Stelling Minnis School re their 'Forest School' which has proved successful and will continue.
- d) Mowing & Bracken Bruising – it was agreed that bruising will continue.
- e) Trees / Shrubs / Bird Boxes / Owl Boxes / Surveys – no report as S Chantler was unable to attend the meeting. Some boxes need replacing. A Day to contact Countryfile TV programme to seek their opinion suitable types. It was agreed that J Speakman liaise with S Chantler with a view to carrying out an audit of current boxes.

## 10 Press Release

C Gooch reported that he had submitted an article for the January issue of the Parish Magazine.

It was agreed that the following notifications be submitted the Parish Magazine:

- January for publication in February issue – update article re appointment of new chair, manager and secretary as well as an update re consent for fencing matter.
- February for publication in March issue – Managers' decision re consent for fencing and invitation to a public meeting on 22 March. I Champion to book SMVH.

It was agreed that more frequent notifications be submitted to keep readers informed of activities, as appropriate.

## 11 Any Other Business

A Barchi said the Agincourt Day had been well received and the meeting concurred.

G Baldwin said Nicola Maxwell would like to have a bench on the Minnis in memory of her husband. C Gooch asked that she write to him with her proposals.

C Gooch suggested a photographic competition with a Prize and this was agreed.

I Champion asked about reimbursement from UK Power for siting poles on private land as the sums paid seem to vary significantly. A Day reported that the Minnis has recently received payment of £16.85.

## 12 Date and time of next meeting

19.30 on        29 March 2016  
                    5 July 2016  
                    4 October 2016  
                    3 January 2017 (AGM)

Meetings to be held at Stelling Minnis Village Hall.