

MEETING OF MANAGERS OF STELLING MINNIS COMMON

Date: 7th January 2015

Held at: Stelling Minnis Village Hall

Present: K Smyth (Chairman), A Barchi, G Baldwin, M Hamilton, S Chantler, R Griffin, D Cripps

Attendees: C Gooch, J Haffenden,

	Action
<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>I Champion and A Day</p>	
<p><u>Minutes of last AGM</u></p> <p>Approved and signed by Chairman</p>	
<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Charlie Gooch advised that he retired from Savills in December 2014 and that he is in discussions with the Trustees Representative about continuing to represent the Trustees in relation to the Minnis. Andrew Barchi asked that the minutes record that the managers were grateful for having had the benefit of Charlie Gooch's experience over many years and wished to thank him for all of his hard work</p>	
<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <p>Kevin Smyth reported that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 questions had been posed by Stelling Minnis Parish Council of which Kevin Smyth had answered 11 and Charlie Gooch needed to answer the other 2. • a letter had been received from The Kent Men of The Trees, a charity, regarding the Trees in The Village Competition 2015 which Kevin Smyth would circulate to all members for discussion at the next meeting 	
<p><u>Press Releases</u></p> <p>It was reported that William Trower had prepared an article for publication in the Parish magazine detailing the ownership and history of his family involvement in Upper Hardres and Stelling Minnis as he had promised to do following the public meeting held at the end of 2013.</p>	KS
<p><u>Tree Thinning in the Northern section</u></p> <p>KS advised that a felling licence has been granted for the designated area until 2020. Work will now commence to open up the ride end of the Northern</p>	

MEETING OF MANAGERS OF STELLING MINNIS COMMON

<p>Section by 10 metres either side, keeping all Oak and removing Silver Birch to be completed by end February 2015. It was noted that the work involved was beyond the usual working parties and Charlie Gooch and Kevin Smyth would each be approaching contactors known to them who may be prepared to assist for the wood only. Signs will need to be erected warning of the felling work and the area cordoned off. Kevin Smyth confirmed that our intention to widen some of the rides in the northern section had been previously published in the village magazine.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">KS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS</p>
<p><u>Stump Grinding</u> It was reported that Ivor Champion has a new stump grinding machine and has been doing some good work with it on the Minnis and will continue to do so</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IC</p>
<p><u>NFU Insurance</u> It was noted that the premium for 2015 has been paid</p>	
<p><u>Time Limited Fencing</u> It was noted that the existing approval for fencing of parts of the Minnis expires 2017. The members agreed to meet on 11th February 2015 at 3.00pm at the Village Hall to discuss the options for presentation to a public meeting to be held on 21st October 2015 at 7.00pm where the views of the Minnis Mangers , the Public and Natural England will be discussed.</p>	
<p><u>Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary – None • Grazing GB reported that the cattle had now been removed and that sheep continue to graze on various parts of the Minnis. • Ponds/School Liaison – The Headmaster had reported that Canterbury Rotary Club had donated 6 High Vis jackets to the school which would now be worn by the children when on the Minnis. It was suggested that AB should speak to the headmaster to advise that if they needed more High Vis jackets the Trustees would be willing to consider make a contribution • Mowing – KS reported that the mowing and bracken bruising had worked well and that he would be looking at repeating it again in Spring and Autumn. • Trees/Scrub/ Bird Boxes/Owl Boxes/Surveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SC reported that many of the Bird and Dormice Boxes had fallen off the trees and needed to be replaced. IC should be asked to dig out the plans 	<p style="text-align: center;">AB</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">IC</p>

MEETING OF MANAGERS OF STELLING MINNIS COMMON

for the boxes so that replacements can be made.

--	--