MANAGERS OF STELLING MINNIS COMMON

MINUTES

Date	Tuesday 3 January 2017 at 7pm
Held at	Stelling Minnis Village Hall
Present	J Haffenden (chair), I Champion, A Day, L Dudas, R Griffin, P Fry, A-S Speakman (minute taker)

1 Apologies

A Barchi, S Chantler, C Gooch, J Speakman

2 Minutes from the meeting on 22 November 2016

The Minutes were approved and signed.

3 Matters Arising from meeting on 5 July and 15 September 2016

Dumping of rubbish on the Minnis – covered under item 9 below.

4 Correspondence

There was no correspondence raised.

5 KWT Extended Management Plan

IC reported that a meeting was scheduled with KWT on Thursday 5 January 2017

6 National Grid / Charitable Trust Grant application

JH/IC said that the Minnis Managers have been invited to participate (through KWT) in an application for funding from the National Grid, to be submitted by Kent Downs AONB. Funding is made available for schemes which are positioned within a 5km radius of National Grid pylons. The scheme provides funding for a three-year period. The scheme will require matched funding which should be achievable through the anticipated charitable funding.

JH/IC presented costings for installing and managing the invisible fencing scheme and training and support appropriate for FoSM to help clearance work on the Minnis, and funding for a website for the Minnis. The costings and items included were discussed by the meeting and a number of opportunities were identified. It was agreed that the Minnis seek to participate in the application for funding. JH/IC to submit application as agreed at the meeting.

The benefits of a Minnis website were discussed and it was agreed that this would provide much improved communication with a wider audience. A person available to help build a website has been identified and it was agreed that this be explored further.

7 Fencing on the Minnis

a) Removal of existing fencing – IC reported that he has had expressions of interest from a number of people willing to help remove the fencing and this was being organised. All large gates have been removed and there are plans for removing the kissing gates. IC is coordinating this work. The Horse Society have been informed.

b) Installation of invisible fencing – IC and PF have started clearing along Bossingham Road to allow for the wire for the invisible fencing to be laid. JH said he will contact the Horse Society re relevant statutes relating to a 30mph speed limit.

8 Reports

a) Secretary – there was nothing to report

b) Grazing – there was nothing to report

c) Ponds/School Liaison – there was nothing to report

d) Mowing and bracken bruising – there was nothing to report

e) Trees/shrubs/bird boxes, owl boxes/surveys – PF said kestrel boxes are to be put in place in Harvest Lane.

9 Press release

J Haffenden is continuing to contribute monthly articles to the Parish Magazine. JH to include reminders about not to dump garden rubbish and or put bollards on the Minnis as this had not been possible in the last article. It was proposed that restrictions on vehicular access also be included.

10 Any Other Business

LD thanked IC for all the work carried out by IC in looking after the cattle over the last year as well as preparations for the introduction of the invisible fencing, and the meeting fully agreed with this.

11 Date and time of the next meeting

Dates for meetings for the year were agreed as follows:
Tuesday 4 April 2017
Tuesday 27 June 2017
Tuesday 3 October 2017
Tuesday 9 January 2018
All meetings will be held in Stelling Minnis Village Hall at 6.30pm

4.4.17.