



## **MINUTES**

### **FOG LNR Executive Meeting**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at 7.15 pm, Crown Hotel, Colne**

1. PRESENT: Helen Holmes; Paul Rawson; Peter Smith; Paul Clough; David Penney
2. APOLOGIES: Jenni Clough; Lee Johnson
3. MINUTES of 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016 were accepted as a true record
4. MATTERS ARISING:
  - Review of LNR Management Plan – DP to contact LJ to find out when he intends to start review
  - Working Parties took place as usual on 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in the month apart from 2<sup>nd</sup> July due to bad weather. PC involved with extra group with help of Ribble River Trust and volunteers from Capita. Waterside Neighbourhood Action Group has also done litter picking around LNR area under the Pick up for Pendle Project
  - PC has used the strimmer along LNR side of Whitewalls Drive to clear over hanging branches and undergrowth
  - There were 2 wasp nests – one inside cabin (now gone) and one ground nest on bankside below car park – be wary
  - Advised to look out for signs of ash die back disease as it has been seen in Marsden Park
  - Parks Depart has surplus hawthorn saplings which could be planted on LNR
  - PC to send DP list of volunteer hours for July-Sept quarter to forward to Louise Cooper at Pendle LNR Steering Committee
  - 10 Bat boxes had been dumped on LNR – suitable sites will be found to install them
  - PR reported that there were no deer sighted in fields adjacent to woodland this year but there is a kestrel as well bats in Bannister's fields as well as grey squirrels
  - Skip was needed to remove collected up heavy items during clear up sessions – PC to contact LJ
  - DP had not take photos of millstones in Colne Water as the level of the water was still too high. When he can done so

he will contact the Colne Fire Brigade to see if they can raise them as part of a training exercise.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT:

- Expenses of £52.79 paid for items of equipment
- Bank Balance: £379.82
- PS to make Grant Application for CVS CCG Environmental Therapy Project which would be supervised by PC involving clients referred by Health Services

6. WORK PROGRAMME:

- PC expressed concern that recent floods including the one in September has altered the course of the river and could cause erosion with the build up of stones, gravel and sand blocking and narrowing the flow of the water under the large sewage pipe
- The lower path still has to be repaired – the LNR does not qualify for flood grant monies – PC to arrange site meeting with LJ to see what can be done.
- No Parking Sign and yellow lines needed next to Cabin
- Repair of Fencing in Car Park and around pond – PC to contact LJ for wood railings
- Slippery broadwalk around the pond –DP to erect 4 warning signs.
- Work is needed on the pond as well as clearance of rubbish along the banks of the river
- We will have one more working party this year on Sat 5<sup>th</sup> November from 10 am before winter – resume working parties in March 2017 on 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month (as the weather allows)

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Pendle LNR SG discussed the issue of possible fracking in Pendle. Lancashire Wild Life Trust and other Environmental Agencies oppose fracking due to damage to the habitat and wildlife, flora and fauna. Pendle Borough Council has twice voted to oppose fracking in 2015 and 2016. Areas around Nelson, Brierfield, Barrowford and Colne have been licensed for exploratory seismic testing. If full fracking is allowed to proceed it would have adverse impacts on exposed LNRs.
- PR reported that the tawny owls family now have 3 young ones; rabbits are now infected by the fatal myxomatosis disease; there also stoats and weasels on the LNR

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.15pm in Crown Hotel, Colne