

Holders Woods Conservation

Minutes of the 2022 AGM

July 3rd 2022, 2pm

1. Attendees and apologies

Attendees: Helen Harvey, Ian Harvey, Fiona Tyson, Peter Tyson, Liz Matey, George Fleming, Jenny Daniels, Claire Sanders, Barry Wood, Dave Clarke, Kevin Doig, Andrew Wadsworth

Apologies: Eva Hyde, Peter Searle, Ruth Peaker, Anne Snell

2. Minutes of last meeting

Our last AGM was held on 11th July 2021. The minutes were formally approved.

3. Membership

- A) Election of Chair (Helen), Committee member (Ian), Secretary (Fiona), Treasurer (Eva). Jenny Daniels has proposed the existing committee members be appointed for a further year. This has been seconded by Liz Matey. There being no other nominations, the existing committee will be appointed for a further year.
- B) A member is defined as anyone who has attended 3 meet ups in any one year. We currently have 23 full members of Holders Woods Conservation. A fantastic number. We also have 3 recent attendees who we hope will become full members soon. As our membership grows we need to split into 2-3 groups at times, so as to not crowd each other when completing tasks. As we don't always get to all work together when the group is large we will look at a date for a HWC Social, so we can have a proper catch up. We of course hope to maintain the great membership we currently have and continue to welcome any new people keen to join us
- C) Covid concerns: We must not forget that the virus is still out there and make sure we consider all current guidelines. If you are feeling unwell, do not attend.

4. Activity Report

Below is our Activity Report summary for July 2021 – June 2022.

Date of Activity	No. of attendees	Brief description of activity	No. of hours group working
Jul-21	12	Brambles and Himalayan Balsam pulling.	24
Aug-21	8	Brambles and Himalayan Balsam pulling.	16
Sep-21	15	Clearing long pond and channels, tree tidy.	30
Sep-21	9	Two lots of meadow raking after being mown.	18
Oct-21	14	Long pond clear, cutting back, meadow maintenance.	28
Nov-21	11	Coppice work in new part of woods.	22

Dec-21	17	Willow arch and cutting back squirrel damaged trees.	34
Jan-22	0	Cancelled - covid concerns.	0
Feb-22	17	Bramble pulling and whip clearing round the wood anemone, path maintenance, sowing yellow rattle.	34
Mar-22	16	Path maintenance part 2, bramble clear edge of meadow, sow more seed, sycamore cut back.	32
Apr-22	23	Build new shed, litter pick for national GB campaign, plant wild seedlings, Brockley Grove path clearing., clearing channel of logs	46
May-22	14	Continue reclaiming Brockley Grove pathway, den dismantle, tidy willow, move fallen boughs from channel.	28
Jun-22	14	small pond repair, swale tidy/clear, channels cleared, tree binding, fallen tree removal, ditch clear by 2nd Avenue.	28
		TOTAL HRS WORKING ON SITE DURING 12 MONTHS:	340

This shows that since the last AGM we have volunteered 340 hours between us in 11 sessions (January was cancelled due to covid), calculated by the number of people x 2 hours a session. These are great numbers. We have tackled everything including pruning, coppicing, litter picking, path clearing, thinning out, bramble clearing, repairs and maintenance, meadow maintenance, seed sowing, pond clearing and, last but not least, litter picking. We also built a new store to house the tools in!

This figure for number of hours does not include all the behind the scenes work on research for funding, admin, tool maintenance, sanitising, buying and maintaining tools, accounts, etc.

Remember, what we do makes a huge difference to the area and local people do appreciate our efforts, not just the Rangers. So well done everyone – what you do really adds up.

5. Treasurer's report

A) Income and expenditure In July 2021.

In July 2021 we had £1499 in total of which £1273 came from lottery funding (awarded in March 2021) and £225.65 was from BOSF.

We have continued to receive £10 per month from BOSF (Birmingham Open Spaces Forum) and have had £110 since July last year.

This gives us a total of £593.62 credit.

Expenditure is listed in the table below.

Date		Credit	Purchases
11 07 2021	Balance	1499.14	
04 08 2021	BOSF	10.00	
11 10 2021	BOSF	40.00	
28 10 2021	Transfer Balance to NatWest		
11 11 2021	Safety specs (Toolstation)		11.96
23 11 2021	Safety specs (Homebase)		19.50
07 01 2022	BOSF	20.00	
19 01 2022	Asgard (shed and base)		806.00
04 02 2022	Selco (MOT road stone)		42.48
21 02 2022	BOSF	10.00	
10 03 2022	Selco (MOT road stone)		35.40
15 03 2022	Selco (ballast, cement and wood)		51.00
19 03 2022	Selco (more ballast, cement)		35.64
06 05 2022	BOSF	20.00	
06 06 2022	BOSF	10.00	
06 06 2022	Selco (more ballast, cement)		13.54
Total credit/expenditure		110.00	1015.52
Balance		593.62	

B) Lottery Grant

This year we continued purchase tools and a tool store from the lottery grant. We have now purchased all the tools requested in the grant and have £302.97 left from this (out of £2524 awarded). From the rules of the award, we are allowed to retain this amount to spend as required and agreed by the committee. Appendix 1 gives a full summary of the spend from the lottery grant.

C) Banking arrangements

In October 2021, HSBC was about to charge for use of banking so we transferred our account to NatWest, which currently does not charge for charities. New cards have been issued to the committee and online banking set up.

6. Insurance

As in previous years, our insurance is covered by BOSF (Birmingham Open Spaces Forum). This is an agency that supports small volunteer groups, like us, to function safely. We will stay with them as long as we are allowed, as minimum insurance for us is approximately £150 per year (ie more than our income!). Note: Under this insurance we cannot work with under 18s. However, we can signpost them to other groups that specialise in family and young person activities, such as Highbury Orchard.

7. BOSF Coffee Morning Wednesday 14th September 2022

We will need some volunteers to join in and help on the day. More information nearer the time

8. Plans for next year

This was an open discussion listing ideas and thoughts for future activities.

We have had interest in:

- Foraging course
- Fungi hunting and identifying
- First aid courses – not found any free courses in the end – things for free seem to have dried up a bit these days. Looking for funding and a course that suits our needs.

We would also hope to continue our work on:

- Creating / establishing the meadow area. Slow progress, but will start to see more wild flowers over next couple of years we hope.
- Following management plan for activities – adding / amending as we go.
- Keep the brambles back from certain areas: wood anemone, meadow, etc.
- Keep on at the Himalayan Balsam in the areas we have identified.
- Maintain the willow arch – possibly start afresh. Alf thinks we should do something radical with the willow arch. Anyone willing to do some research on it let us know.
- Keep main paths in good order for all to access as much as possible.
- Gradually, over the years, continue to coppice through the woods as required and under ranger guidance.
- Keep up the biennial coppicing of willow and hazel along the path up from the doctor's entrance.
- Under Ranger guidance, protect / re-establish plants, e.g. wood anemone.
- Do some recording of plants and animals that visit / reside. Ecorecord.
- Keeping on top of litter.
- Promote working with the group as a positive and enjoyable experience.
- Encourage Park users to take care and appreciate what they have.
- Tree mapping and how to promote once achieved. Helen has been meaning to get working on planning how to progress a tree trail for the woods, that Sophie and Claire kindly started and Sophie put time in to create on Google. It would be lovely to get moving with this electronically and then have a printed version too. If anyone is interested in working on this please speak up.

9. AOB

Helen thanked everyone for their contributions with special mentions for committee members.

Signed by Chair

Date

Holders Woods Conservation tools request for getgrants bid 24th January 2021						Order Information			
Item	Brand	Supplier	Number required	Price Each	Total Price	Ordered from	Number ordered	Price Each	Total Price
24" Bow Saw	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	2	£ 16.99	£ 33.98	mytoolshed.co.uk	2	£ 14.99	£ 29.98
21" Bow Saw	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	2	£ 14.59	£ 29.18	mytoolshed.co.uk	2	£ 12.17	£ 24.34
24" Bow Saw wet cut blades	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	10	£ 4.03	£ 40.30	mytoolshed.co.uk	10	£ 3.42	£ 34.20
21" Bow Saw wet cut blades	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	10	£ 4.03	£ 40.30	mytoolshed.co.uk	10	£ 3.42	£ 34.20
P121-23 Bypass Secateurs	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	4	£ 21.41	£ 85.64	mytoolshed.co.uk	4	£ 18.95	£ 75.80
P16-60-F Loppers	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	4	£ 56.51	£ 226.04	mytoolshed.co.uk	4	£ 50.03	£ 200.10
P51 Garden Hedge Shears 22"	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 49.46	£ 49.46	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 49.99	£ 49.99
P51-H-SL Hedge Shears 73cm Long Handle	Bahco	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 52.85	£ 52.85	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 52.85	£ 52.85
FSK1001584 XL Leaf Rake	Fiskars	mytoolshed.co.uk	2	£ 18.95	£ 37.90	cromwell.co.uk	2	£ 17.99	£ 35.98
BDS Digging Spade	Bulldog	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 20.93	£ 20.93	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 20.93	£ 20.93
7102 Border Spade PD	Bulldog	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 22.74	£ 22.74	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 21.19	£ 21.19
36" Broom, Handle, Stay	Faithfull	mytoolshed.co.uk	1	£ 12.61	£ 12.61	cromwell.co.uk	1	£ 17.50	£ 17.50
120 litre wheelbarrow	Walsall	Selco	1	£ 58.31	£ 58.31	Selco	1	£ 65.03	£ 65.03
Hard hats		Selco	6	£ 4.79	£ 28.74	Selco	5	£ 5.05	£ 25.25
Hard hats		Selco				Selco	1	£ 5.05	£ 5.05
Jumbo bag limestone 10mm		Selco	1	£ 90.23	£ 90.23	Selco	12	£ 3.54	£ 42.48
Jumbo bag limestone 10mm		Selco			£ -	Selco	10	£ 3.54	£ 35.40
Pruning saw and holster	Wilkinson Sword		4	£ 19.99	£ 79.96	Amazon	4	£ 19.99	£ 79.96
Countryman Bill Hook	Faithfull	Building Supplies Online	2	£ 21.14	£ 42.28	Powertoolsdirect.com	2	£ 19.50	£ 39.00
Countryman Grass Hook	Faithfull	mad4tools.com	2	£ 16.96	£ 33.92	mad4tools.com	2	£ 16.96	£ 33.92
Countryman Scythette 37" Handle	Faithfull	mad4tools.com	2	£ 23.98	£ 47.96	mad4tools.com	2	£ 23.98	£ 47.96
Scythette spare blade	Faithfull	mad4tools.com	2	£ 9.01	£ 18.02	mad4tools.com	2	£ 9.01	£ 18.02
MS1501 4in1 sharpener	Multi-Sharp	mad4tools.com	1	£ 9.53	£ 9.53	mad4tools.com	1	£ 9.53	£ 9.53
Thigh length waders size 7		mad4tools.com	1	£ 32.39	£ 32.39	Ace safetywear	1	£ 39.59	£ 39.59
Thigh length waders size 10		mad4tools.com	1	£ 32.39	£ 32.39	Ace safetywear	1	£ 39.59	£ 39.59
Annex High Security Garden store bundle 2 6'x3	Asgard	asgardsss.co.uk	1	£ 793.00	£ 793.00	Asgard	1	£ 806.00	£ 806.00
Garden Store base (estimate)			1	£ 100.00	£ 100.00	Selco	1	£ 51.00	£ 51.00
						Selco	1	£ 35.64	£ 35.64
1609-CS Manure drag fork	Spear and Jackson	cromwell.co.uk	2	£ 68.99	£ 137.98	cromwell.co.uk	2	£ 70.49	£ 140.98
350R thornmaster Gloves	Showa	Screwfix	20	£ 4.99	£ 99.80	Screwfix	20	£ 4.99	£ 99.80
Cargo bag - 100l	Highlander	ukmcpro.co.uk	2	£ 18.10	£ 36.20	ukmcpro.co.uk	2	£ 18.40	£ 36.80
				Sub-total	£ 2,292.64			Spent	£ 2,248.06
				Allowance for delivery and price variation	10% £ 229.26			Estimate	£ 2,292.64
				Total	£ 2,521.90			Delta vs Estimate	-£ 44.58

Funds remaining £ 273.85

Order Summary		
Company	Invoice Total	Received
mytoolshed.co.uk	£ 543.58	Yes
cromwell.co.uk	£ 194.46	Yes
Selco	£ 254.80	Yes
Amazon	£ 79.96	Yes
mad4tools.com	£ 109.43	Yes
Ace safetywear	£ 85.00	Yes
ukmcpro.co.uk	£ 36.80	Yes
Screwfix	£ 99.80	Yes
Powertoolsdirect.com	£ 42.95	Yes
Selco (2nd visit)	£ 5.05	Yes
Asgard	£ 806.00	Yes

Paid by Ian total	£ 616.65
Total paid to Ian by Eva	£ 606.82
Balance owed	£ 9.83

Refund BldgSupOnline	-£ 147.60
Replacement costs	£ 152.38
Extra hard hat from Selco	£ 5.05
Difference	£ 9.83