

Natural Kirklees Quarterly Meeting
2pm Thursday 6th June 2019
Beaumont Park Visitor Centre

Attendees	Organisation
Tim Duke	Deputy Chair Natural Kirklees
Mary Kenworthy	Treasurer Natural Kirklees
Joan Vevers	Secretary Natural Kirklees
Anne Blackburn	RRAG
Karen Mayfield	RRAG
Mike Denton	Huddersfield Birdwatchers
Jill Lucas	Botany Group
Keith Hickling	Friends of Greenhead Park
Jane Griffiths	Friends of Greenhead Park
Christine Senior	Meltham Pleasure Grounds
Susan Doran	Kirklees Countryside Volunteers
Pat Sheard	Friends of Greenhead Park
Pete Banks	Dewsbury Country Park
David Hirst	East Bierley Preservation Society
David Wilde	Denby Dale PC
Phil Slater	Don Catchment Rivers Trust
D Fallowfield	Easthill Woods
Christine Poundr	East Bierley Preservation Society
Michael Brook	YWT/Huddersfield Birdwatchers
Andy MacDonald	Friends of Storthes Hall Woods
Karen & Win Harrison	Holmepride - Community in Action
Bruce Bird	Dewsbury Partnership
Tim Scott	Burton Environment Group
Steve Moorhouse	Friends of Wilton Park

Apologies	Organisation
Gill Young	FO Crow Nest Park
Ed Day	Natural Kirklees
Rod Payne	Upper Dearne Woodlands
Vicky House	Clem's Garden
Steve Hemming	Honley Village Community Trust
Jane Faulkner	Farnley Tyas Community Group
Simon Hirst	River Holme Connections
Peter Turner	Natural Kirklees
Patrick Crowley	Volunteer Co-ordinator Batley & Spen
Bev Corrigan	Kirklees Bridleway Group
Keith Saunders	FO Slaithwaite Spa
Colin Walker	FO Slaithwaite Spa
Marianne McCleod-Hill	FO Storthes Hall Wood
Steve Kelly	Learn to Fish
Susan Greenwood	Kirklees Youth Alliance

Item	Action
<p>Introductions Tim welcomed everyone and they all introduced themselves and explained who they represented.</p>	
<p>Minutes of the Meeting on 21st March 2019 These were agreed</p>	
<p>Matters Arising Keith Hickling has agreed to compile our Skills Register. Could each group please look at the skills within their members which would be of help to others and email info@naturalkirklees.org with the details? The information will be passed to Keith so that he can prepare an electronic register. If anyone enquires about a person with a particular skill the 2 members can be put in touch privately (to comply with GDPR) and we can all make use of the skills available within Natural Kirklees.</p> <p>We have secured funding of £3,000 for a joint project with River Holme Connections to look at the eradication of Japanese Knotweed on other sites. We have £250 per day for 8 sites. If you have Japanese Knotweed on or near your site let us know. We have a day of their time per site. River Don Catchment has Environment Agency money for work on Japanese Knotweed. Simon is steward at RHC and we will try to get him to our next meeting. Christine Senior will be taking part in an RHC training for eradication of Japanese Knotweed. East Bierley presentation Society mentioned Spen Valley Scout site.</p>	<p>All Groups</p>
<p>GGG Great Green Get-Together It was wet and took up a lot of time and effort, parts went well but some not so good. We had 4 speakers for Saturday. We managed to get 7 groups wanting to come and 4 of those cancelled. Therefore, it was decided to cancel the Conference. Saturday afternoon was the Food and Drink Festival, all the traders were open and ready for business but it was very wet and not many people turned up. The Show Ground has had extensive work on drainage and the site was dry on Sunday. The Volunteering event had 70 people attending. Sharon and her team made up of Councillors and an MP served cakes and fizz. The event was opened by Kim Leadbeater who is an inspirational speaker and you can see pictures on Facebook. It was decided to close up at 5pm. Someone was critical of the event on Saturday but turned up on Sunday and was observed enjoying the Belly Dancing. Up until 1pm the weather was good when people turned up and, overall the traders covered their costs and said they would come back. Networking was disappointing. There was less than 10% of Natural Kirklees at the event. Are we running the wrong event? We need to know. The Woodland Trust spoke to a lot of people. The date is very popular for holidays. We need to know what you want. There followed lots of discussion about how to proceed. Mirfield Showground was a good venue and it was felt that it was fairly central in Kirklees. We also managed to get parking for the organisers and attendees. Rubbish</p>	

<p>was hand sorted and 58% was recycled. It was mentioned that local signage would have helped. We were on Facebook and Twitter but they are closed groups. We would like to build the event in a specific place. We had ordered a trackway from Kirklees but it didn't arrive.</p>	
<p>Booking Policy Greenhead Park have had problems with Kirklees around events and charging. Cabinet had produced a policy which was really about large events. Tim has written to Rob Dalby but has not had a reply. We could ask other parks if they have had problems. Rectory Park Gala has never paid. We have spoken to the Council to let them know what is happening and a long discussion followed around charges. There is work to do on this as it is damaging for community and voluntary events. Bruce proposed that Natural Kirklees write to the Council and tell them that the policy is not fair for members. Their document does not take into account our Groups in the parks.</p>	<p>TD</p>
<p>Any Other Business Natural Kirklees has obtained funding for another year and we will be looking to offer a Grant Scheme available to all full members at the end of this year or the beginning of next. There is a scheme in Kirklees to do with crowd funding an event in June at Dewsbury Town Hall and July at Meltham Carlile centre. Information is on the website. Jill was approached by 2 people to do a survey but she has lost the contact details. Jill Mike and Michael have done a survey of East Hill Woods and work on a Management plan is going ahead. Pollution monitoring is being carried out on the Don and Holme river. A new petanque pitch will be opening in Kirkburton on the 26th August.</p>	
<p>Any Unusual Sightings Bull finches and Yellow Hammer have been seen around Castle Hill and a cuckoo has been heard. Very few Sub-Saharan migrants have returned this year. Numbers are way down for various reasons. A Cuckoo was spotted below Hade Edge. There has been a large increase in the number of newts and Green Parakeets have been seen in Dewsbury.</p>	
<p>Date Time and Venue of the next meeting 26th September 2019 at 2pm in Beaumont Park Visitor Centre. Tim thanked Beaumont Park for letting us use the Visitor Centre.</p>	
<p>Presentations Pete Banks, Ranger at Dewsbury Country Park gave a very interesting presentation about the park and said that a Bioblitz was planned for the 16th July. Stephen Moorhouse, Landscape Historian gave a presentation about the history of the landscape of Wilton Park woodland showing what existed on the site over many years showing how you can still see outlines of what had been there previously. He also showed some</p>	

information about Rectory Park. On Sunday 15 th September Stephen will run a day at Bagshaw Museum showing the results of recent survey work.	
--	--