

Natural Kirklees Trustees Meeting
12th January 2022 2,30pm Beaumont Park Visitor Centre

Attendee	Organisation
Ed Day	Natural Kirklees
Tim Duke	Chair Natural Kirklees
Joan Vevers	Secretary Natural Kirklees
Christine Senior	FO Honley Old Wood
David Rudd	FO Beaumont Park
Julie Hirst	Treasurer Natural Kirklees
Phil Slater	Upper Dearne Catchment

Item	Action
<p>Agenda for Quarterly Meetings Ed said that Rachael Palmer Kirklees Recycling Officer would attend to talk about litter picking. Dennis Whittle wants to start the monthly co-ordinators meetings to link their activities with us. Ruth Dodds is now Parks Manager. We have a family tree from Greenhead Park showing some of who does what at the Council but we have not had any response to whether this is accurate. Tim has sent this to Andy Goff to check and amend where required, this is a work in progress due to the changes still taking place in Kirklees but Tim hopes to have something to present to members on the 26th (once permission is sought). There will be a standard Agenda for the quarterly meetings and the speakers. Tim will stand down as Chair at the next meeting.</p>	ED/TD
<p>Member Banking Members wanting to open accounts with the Co-op are being asked if they are a subsidiary or a Member of NK. Tim has spoken to them but there seems to be confusion around Groups being Members, Subsidiary or Branches of NK. There was discussion on this and a suggestion that this may be something to raise at the quarterly meeting.</p>	

<p>Council Relationship Update We must put a proposal to the Council for further promised funding. We have technically enough money for 2 years but Rob promised 3 years funding. We must work out what the gap in funding is before we approach the Council.</p> <p>The original tools provided in 2017 by the council are now old and many need replacing. Clarification needed from the council that these have all been written off by the council and we are free to do what we need to with them.</p>	<p>ED/TD/JH</p> <p>ED/TD</p>
<p>Small Grant Scheme for 2022 The trustees debated the desire for another small grant scheme for members and it was agreed this would be beneficial plus a second grant for the eradication of Japanese knotweed. This all depends on council funding. Propose a maximum of 10 grants @£750 plus £3000 for knotweed.</p>	<p>ED/TD/JH</p>
<p>Any Other Business Kirklees Countryside Volunteers have ceased operations, Dave Clarkin is coordinating the distribution of their funds and hoped to establish Friends of Dalton Bank. However, this has not been successful, We will contact Dave to progress after discussions with Dennis Whittle. Footpath Fettleers Dot Woodcock may be an avenue for the funds and Christine will contact Dot to ask for her email.</p>	<p>TD /ED</p> <p>CS</p>

General Discussion on the future of Natural Kirklees

A discussion took place around the role of Natural Kirklees and agreement was made on the following areas.

We perceive our primary role is to perform as an umbrella organisation for the benefit of our members by: -

- Assisting in the establishment of new “friends of” groups in terms of advice regarding their management, constitution and objectives.
- Providing ongoing support to members with news, regulatory documents (e.g. risk assessments and policies) and advice where we have experience or expertise.
- Providing public liability insurance and cover for tools to full, constituted members to an agreed value (currently £5m) with the council.
- Providing tools on loan to the public from two tool stores at Beaumont and Wilton Parks
- Organising and holding quarterly meetings of members to enable discussion and exchange of views on relevant matters.
- Providing small grants for improvement work for constituted members and on site training for the eradication of Japanese Knotweed where funding allows.
- Providing a frequent newsletter informing members of relevant matters.
- Providing a web site for members and the public to identify volunteering opportunities, member details, green space locations, volunteer coordinator contacts, details of helpful resources and a depository of useful documentation. A link to Facebook and our newsletters to provide a news and interest feed for those not subscribed to these media.
- Providing a Social Media presence advertising what Natural Kirklees and its members are undertaking and provide a source of interest for things natural in Kirklees
- Acting as a link between Kirklees Council Parks and Green Spaces and our members.
- Supporting Kirklees Council in their relevant initiatives where it affects the natural world and/ or our members.

<p>A discussion around the web site and social media concluded that the web site should be informational and relatively static but improved or the public to explore volunteering opportunities etc. As such it would require much less maintenance as the news and events pages would be removed and rely on and be linked to social media outlets.</p> <p>Phil explained how Facebook works and volunteered to coordinate it regeneration so that it and potential other media became the focus for news and events for NK and its members. The newsletter will continue</p> <p>Ed will send Phil and Dave a list of groups to improve the use of our Facebook. In the past Mary took care of Facebook and vetted everything.</p>	<p>ED</p> <p>PS</p> <p>ED/PS</p>
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