

**Natural Kirklees Quarterly Meeting**  
**2pm Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2022**  
**At Beaumont Park Visitor Centre**

Attendees	Organisation
Ed Day	Chair Natural Kirklees
Joan Vevers	Secretary Natural Kirklees
Tim Duke	Trustee Natural Kirklees
Christine Senior	Trustee Natural Kirklees
Stefanie Rofke	Rotcher Wood
David Rudd	Trustee Natural Kirklees
Julie Hirst	Treasurer Natural Kirklees
Gill Young	FO Crow Nest Park
Andrew Lindley	Spennings Beck & Man Dam
Caz Goodwill	Red House Gomersal, Spennings Beck/Man Dam
Karen Mayfield	Ravensthorpe Residents Assoc
Lyn Holland	Ravensthorpe Residents Assoc
Andy Wickham	Kirklees Volunteer Coordinator
Mary Keady	Urban Tree Huggers
Lynn Holland	Urban Tree Huggers
Julie Dempster	FO Beaumont Park
Bev Corrigan	Kirklees Bridleways/BHS
Mark Corrigan	Kirklees Bridleways
Lizzie Windelinckx	Clems Garden
Gill Logan	Kirklees Volunteer Coordinator
Michael Brook	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Pete Banks	Kirklees PROW
Rachel Palmer	Kirklees Recycling Officer
Jackie Hirst	Secretary Honley Old Wood
Becky Bracey	Third Sector Leaders
Deborah Wyles	FO Cliffe Rec
Colin Berry	Spennings Valley Civic Soc
Erica Amende	Spennings Valley Civic Soc

Apologies	Organisation
Phil Slater	Upper Dearne & Trustee
Win & Karen Harrison	Holmepride Community in Action
Jane Griffith	FO Greenhead Park
Andrew O'Connor	FO Dean Wood
Christine Sykes	Mirfield in Bloom
Peter Taylor	Burton Environment Group
Dave Wilde	Denby Dale Countryside Officer
Ken Gledhill	Birkby Community Wildlife Garden
Linda Jenkinson	Swift Chicks
Ali Stopher	EPIKS
Bruce Bird	Dewsbury Partnership

Item	Action
<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <p>Ed welcomed everyone and reminded them that the next meeting would be the AGM held on 26<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm in Beaumont Park Visitor Centre. Each member around the room introduced themselves. He then said that Linda Jenkinson, who was going to talk about her work with Swifts was unable to come due to an influx of chicks to look after and would be at our next meeting. A phot of a swift chick was circulated</p>	
<p><b>Minutes of the AGM and Matters Arising</b></p> <p>Ed asked if anyone would propose the minutes of the last meeting as a true copy. Bev Corrigan proposed and Caz Goodwill seconded. The proposed Facebook training was held and feedback was positive, although Phil has not had much follow up. Ed thanked Julie and Bruce for providing the session. Becky said the Third Sector offered support for social media. If anyone would like further training to let Ed know.</p> <p>Bev Corrigan has succeeded in opening a bank account with the Co-Op with the help of a letter from Natural Kirklees stating they were a full constituted member. Anyone else who wishes to open an account should contact Ed with the names of the three required signatories to the account.</p> <p>Ed promised at last November's AGM to produce an organisation chart of the key contacts in the council. Nine months on this is proving a difficult and ever-changing task. Here's hoping we can publish something meaningful soon.</p> <p>Caz updated on the situation regarding toxic waste being burnt at Spen Beck that the burning continues and no-one is willing or able to prevent it. It appears caravans are present and people living on the site and building rubble is being dumped close to the riverbank.</p> <p>Natural Kirklees has provided a grant to River Holme Connections to undertake eradication at Caulms Wood, East Bierley and Honley Old Woods. If any other member has this problem then there are funds still available to treat. Training for members is not available as this requires specialist equipment, however, NK will consider paying for training for Balsam Bashing if anyone requests it.</p> <p><b>Council Meeting Update</b></p> <p>Ed met with Mark Ferris last Wednesday to request second tranche for this year's grants before our financial year end. The proposal submitted in February reflected the budgeted costs to run Natural Kirklees for a 3-year period to provide continuity and assurity to members. Mark responded that Natural Kirklees were well regarded in the council and would seek to get the payment authorised.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ED</b></p>

<p>When Natural Kirklees was conceived Rob Dalby and Peter Turner negotiated a 3-year agreement which expired in 2019. We are in discussions to conclude a new 3-year agreement from September 2022 to our year end in September 2025. It is intended this is signed off before 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022.</p> <p>Discussions were had regarding increasing collaboration on social media and the NK website. Ed will meet with Dennis Whittle on 24<sup>th</sup> August to explore opportunities.</p> <p>We also discussed the structure within the Council, although discussions within the council are still ongoing. A decision and the possible revised role to replace Rob Dalby is expected soon. In the meantime, Will Acornley is overseeing this role. Ruth Dodds has moved to Forestry and we wish her well and thank her for her help and support in the past. Her pre secondment role as a Park Development officer will be advertised soon. Dennis Whittle is currently covering her role, although he remains on secondment himself. Patrick Crowley's Volunteer Coordinator role and Pete Banks replacement as a Park Ranger are also being discussed and finalised and if and when agreed will be advertised, hopefully in the Autumn.</p> <p>Ed will be contacting Sam Connolly (Green Space Action Team), Julian Faulkner (among other things Invasive Plant Eradication and Redundant Church Cemeteries) and Joe Robertson (Forestry) to identify areas of common interest and potential collaboration.</p>	
<p>Becky Bracey – Third Sector Leaders</p> <p>Becky spoke about the work Third Sector Leaders offer volunteer groups. Specifically, she explained that working with children (defined as those under 18) and vulnerable adults would require the group to have a safe-guarding policy for each. A template exists on their website which is available here <a href="https://tslkirklees.org.uk/get-help-with/safeguarding/">https://tslkirklees.org.uk/get-help-with/safeguarding/</a></p> <p>Two safeguarding templates will be available on our new web site but Becky pointed out that they are regularly updated due to changes in legislation and it would be best to refer to their site</p> <p>If anyone wants copies of information on Becky's presentation or assistance from TSL she may be contacted at <a href="mailto:Becky@tslkirklees.org.uk">Becky@tslkirklees.org.uk</a></p> <p>In response to a question about DBS checks Becky has responded via email - An organisation can check if a role is eligible for a standard or enhanced check here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/find-out-which-dbs-check-is-right-for-your-employee">Find out which DBS check is right for your employee - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</a> Simply being a safeguarding lead is not a regulated activity on its own.</p> <p>If a role is not eligible then an individual can still apply for a basic DBS check which costs £18 (Volunteers still pay) – the individual applying can pay or the organisation can make the payment on their behalf.</p>	

<p>If an organisation has any tricky questions relating to the DBS process, we now have a regional adviser:</p> <p><b>Rebecca Bool</b>   Regional Outreach Adviser for Yorkshire &amp; The Humber Partnerships Team   Strategy, Performance and Change Directorate Disclosure and Barring Service Tel: 0300 0731577</p>	
<p><b>Rachel Palmer Kirklees Recycling Officer</b> Rachel talked about the Recycling Champions and the work they are doing. There are 42 active members throughout Kirklees and there is a Facebook group for Champions and information on the Kirklees website. There is a save food workshop and there will be a subsidised scheme for composters. They are carrying out an audit of litter bins to look at restructuring these. Karen from Ravensthorpe said that many of the litter bins in their area have been removed which causes a lot of problems with littering. Caz from Spen Beck said they also had problems. Rachel said that she would get in touch with them to discuss the problem so that an audit can be carried out. There was a question of what can be placed in the green bins and Rachel said that all bins should have a new sticker on them but a list of what goes where is on the website. See <a href="https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/your-property-bins-recycling/green-bins.aspx">https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/your-property-bins-recycling/green-bins.aspx</a></p>	<p><b>RP</b></p>
<p><b>Pete Banks PROW</b> Pete gave an interesting presentation about the work of Public Rights of Way and explained his role and the areas they cover. He also highlighted whose responsibility aspects of maintenance fall under and showed before and after pictures of some of the paths, steps and stiles they have refurbished. Ed will ask Pete for a copy of the leaflet he handed out in electronic form if it exists and add it to the new web site documents</p>	
<p><b>Insurance Renewal Update</b> The insurance is due for renewal in September and we will be asking all members to re-submit their membership details as some groups no longer exist and other contact details are out of date. Additionally, some insurance questions having changed. This can only be done once the new web site is available, hopefully in a couple of weeks. Brush Cutters are now being sold along with strimmers (i.e., steel blade attachments). While these can be insured, correct suitable training must be given and correct PPE used. As such Natural Kirklees require a copy of the relevant training certificate for the specific individuals before the cover is effective. Normal risk assessments and safety briefings are, as always, required for any</p>	

<p>activity. There was also a question of scrub cutters which are a type of hedge trimmer used close to the ground. <b>ED</b> will ask the question of the brokers but in the meantime these would not be covered.</p>	<p><b>ED</b></p>
<p><b>New Website</b> As time was running out Stefanie quickly ran through how the new website would look and how things would work. It will be another couple of weeks before it goes live.</p>	
<p><b>Any Other Business</b> Karen from Ravensthorpe was worried about land near Ravensthorpe Allotments which has been flattened and hedges have been removed. It is felt that this and any further work will eventually lead to flooding lower down. Caz suggested that both groups join together to approach the Council. Contacting Will Simpson - Portfolio Holder for Culture and Greener Kirklees was suggested as someone to contact who may be able to assist.</p> <p>Chris Woolf has provided some saplings of various tree species for the members which were gladly received</p> <p>The meeting closed due to time constraints but Ed would like to thank Becky, Rachel and Pete for their excellent presentations, Christine for the cakes and serving the refreshments and Julie on behalf of FoBP for letting us use the Visitor Centre</p>	
<p><b>Next Meeting</b> Will be the AGM on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 2pm at Beaumont Park Visitor Centre.</p>	