

**Hob Hey Wood Friends Group**  
**Minutes**  
**Meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018**  
**18.30 Castle Park House, Frodsham**

**Present:**

Yendle Barwise YB; Caroline Ashton CA; Alan Oulton AO; Tom Blundell TB; Lionel Rimmer LR; Les Blake LB; Hazel Blake HB; Shirley McArdle ShM; Jenny Mayers JM; Clare Birtles CB; Roger Eagle RE; Brian Webber BW; Cynthia Lawson CL; Julie O'Sullivan JO; Mark O'Sullivan MO; John Gascoyne JG

**Apologies:**

Paul Birtles PB; Steve McArdle StM; Chris Cawood CA

		Actions
1.	<p><b>Minutes of last meeting</b></p> <p>Minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May were approved (proposed by LB seconded by TB)</p>	
2.	<p><b>Group Name</b></p> <p>HC (Town Clerk) is still investigating the legalities surrounding the transfer of the Friends of Hob Hey Wood charity/name. It also requires Environment Committee approval; AO said he would inform LB of the outcome following the meeting on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.</p> <p>General consensus was to await the outcome and continue to refer to the group as Hob Hey Wood Friends group in the meantime.</p>	HC/AO
3.	<p><b>Committee</b></p> <p>The five core committee names were recorded as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: Les Blake</li> <li>• Treasurer: John Gascoyne</li> <li>• Co Treasurer/Fund Raising: Julie O'Sullivan</li> <li>• Secretary: Clare Birtles</li> <li>• Member: Brian Webber</li> </ul>	ALL
4.	<p><b>Bank Account</b></p> <p>JG reported that since the status of the group has not yet been finalised, it is difficult to create a bank account at the moment. CA suggested that Frodsham Town Council could act as a "holding facility" for any monies raised before the group has a formal/charitable status. If any imminent grant applications are successful therefore, JG/JO will liaise with CA. A bank account will be created once the group has official/charitable status.</p>	JG/JO/ CA
5.	<p><b>Funding Applications</b></p> <p>JO has already done fantastic work with two completed applications for grants with deadlines in the next couple of months. JO asked for some feedback on the applications and YB/CA agreed to help. CA and AO offered further suggestions for grant funding bodies that may be worth approaching.</p>	JO/YB/CA

<p>6. <b>Communications</b></p>	<p>Group members agreed on the need for a clear communication strategy to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>≈ Keep other group members/relevant parties in the loop</li> <li>≈ Inform and attract involvement from the wider community, both in terms of volunteering and also general enjoyment of Hob Hey wood.</li> </ul> <p>(1) Email – CB has created an email account: <a href="mailto:hobheywood@gmail.com">hobheywood@gmail.com</a> to which JO and YB also have login details. Anyone who wants information can use this as the first point of contact and it may be useful to use in any publicity. CB now has most of the group’s email addresses, YB also agreed to send additional addresses of absent members</p> <p>(2) Documents – All documents will be held on a shared (google) drive associated with the HHW email address; CB will share documents and communicate access details to members. YB agreed to send any existing documents to CB</p> <p>(3) Facebook Group – It was felt that a Facebook group page would be an ideal means of communicating information about the group. New posts could also then be shared easily on the “Frodsham.” Facebook page which attracts a large local following. CB (or any other volunteer?) agreed to do this when there is more information available to communicate</p> <p>(4) Website – Members agreed that a website containing minutes, information about Hob Hey Wood activities, photos and contact details would be useful in the fullness of time. PD (not present) may be the key person for this task</p>	<p>CB/YB ALL CB/YB CB? PD</p>
<p>7. <b>AOB</b></p>	<p>LB asked about the possibility of seating near the south bridge and it was agreed to add this to a list of possible actions/projects. LR gave an update on arrangements for replacing the broken bench which are underway. LR also advised that anyone with ideas should pass them to him to investigate or to simply keep a record of.</p> <p>JO raised the issue of the path from Townfield Lane which is frequently impassable due to mud. The neighbouring farmer’s field drains onto the path and it was suggested that the farmer should be approached and asked to resolve this. If the farmer is reluctant to do so promptly, his/her permission could be sought for the group to undertake the work. The possibility of securing funding for a contractor to carry out the work was discussed - JO will investigate.</p> <p>The group discussed the logistics of members undertaking specific jobs in the woods. YB advised that he can help with insurance arrangements if needed for specific tasks. There is a practical work day at the woods on 15<sup>th</sup> July and it was agreed that a walkabout/meeting could take place alongside that to discuss jobs that could be done by group members once tools have been obtained.</p> <p>AO mentioned that he might be able to help with practical training when needed.</p> <p>JM and others mentioned that the woods have been well used recently and that it has been lovely to hear the sound of happy children. A rope swing &amp; tyre has been attached to a tree and JO asked if the group might consider provision of a safer swing. This was ruled out on the grounds of cost, safety/risk and also protection of the woods.</p> <p>TB briefed the group on the orchard, which is looking fantastic thanks to work recently undertaken.</p> <p>LR has cleared some of the footpath areas near the wood and other routes have also</p>	<p>LR JO ALL AO</p>

	<p>recently been cleared by CWAC and mid Cheshire.</p> <p>The work done to repair the boardwalk has now been completed thanks to TCV and the group commented on how well it had been done.</p> <p>AO invited members (and anyone else interested) to sit in on the environment and community committees to find out what is happening in relation to our town, green spaces and footpaths etc.</p> <p>There was talk of a litter pick event for which AO can provide gloves, bags and pickers.</p>	AO
8.	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> July at the Hob Hey wood practical work day</p>	