

# **Frodsham Festival of Walks Planning Group**

## **Meeting 3 – 2 December 2020**

Held by Zoom

Present:

Cllr Caroline Ashton

Kath Gee

Sue Kellett

Martin Maris

Ross Nichols (part)

Peter Webley

Apologies: Ross Nichols

Admin: Liz Kenny

### **1. Recording of Meeting**

It was agreed to allow the meeting to be recorded to assist with minute-taking. The recording will be deleted after the minutes are produced.

### **2. Notes of Last Meeting**

Accepted without amendment.

### **3. Foxhill Woodlands**

It was noted that Foxhill woodlands and grounds will be closed until 1 September 2021.

### **4. Self-Led Walks**

The sub-group noted that Kath's proposal of a "Two centuries of change in Castle Park" walk was included in the 7 self-led walks agreed at the previous meeting.

The group discussed Liz's suggestion of an audio commentary for an appropriate self-led walk and agreed that too much work would be involved in producing something this year, but it might be a possibility for the future.

Caroline confirmed that Hob Hey Wood Friends Group were happy to offer a walk. Depending on the COVID situation, this might be guided or self-led.

### **5. Website and Social Media**

It was agreed that Liz would speak to FTC's web developer about the possibility of setting up a section of the FTC website for the Festival of Walks that could be accessed via an easy to type address, eg [frodsham.gov.uk/walks](http://frodsham.gov.uk/walks) or a QR code. This site could potentially host walks leaflets and extra background information on the walks.

Martin offered to assist in the collation of appropriate information, which would also be sourced from the people developing and/or checking the walks. Liz will report back to the next meeting on the practicalities and the resource implications.

It was also agreed that all members of the working group would keep an eye open for how other walking festivals are planning to run in 2021, as we may be able to learn lessons from their approach.

There was a discussion about the possibility of using Facebook to encourage and enable people to share pictures and thoughts about the walks and their experiences of the countryside. It appears that Facebook would be a good medium for reaching people, although less good for selecting and “curating” shared content. Photographers might be encouraged to state the location of their shot, time of day and which walk it was on.

Martin also suggested developing an Instagram page.

Action:

- Ross to look into the possibilities of allowing contributors to submit material via Facebook.
- Martin to discuss the use of Facebook and Instagram with James Hutchinson
- Liz to discuss the use of the website with FTC’s web developer.

## 6. Safety information

It was agreed to start work on developing this by reviewing previous years’ safety guidance and considering the implications of COVID-19 at the next meeting.

## 7. Encouraging Creativity

Caroline reported that the Hob Hey Wood Friends Group would like to encourage walkers to submit photographs and other art inspired by walking the woods for possible inclusion in their 2022 Calendar.

Martin suggested that we should extend this beyond Hob Hey Wood and invite people to upload creative work inspired by the areas covered by the Festival Walks, eg poetry, short stories as well as sketches, photographs, etc. The relative merits of using a website, a Facebook page or Instagram were discussed.

## 8. Led Walks

It was agreed that these would be put on hold due to the uncertainties around COVID.

## 9. Self-Led Walks

It was agreed to concentrate initially on checking and redrafting 3 of the self-led walks, after which Liz would explore the costs and options for getting the leaflets designed professionally with a consistent and cohesive visual identity.

The 3 walks initially selected for checking and redrafting were No’s 1, 5 and 6 from the selfled walk list (below in full for reference)

1. **Around the Hills** – taken from *Frodsham Parish Paths*. It takes in Overton Hill, Dunsdale Hollow, Woodhouse Hill, Crowmere, Marlpits, Frodsham Caves and the Memorial Field.
2. **Thirty Blue Plaques** – devised by Kath Gee (see attached)
3. **Weaver Woods Walk** – kindly devised and supplied by The Woodland Trust
4. **Frodsham Woods Walk** – kindly devised and supplied by The Woodland Trust
5. **Castle Park Walk** – to be devised by Kath Gee incorporating historical and environmental aspects of the Park.
6. **Walk 8** – taken from *Walks Around Frodsham*. It includes the Swing Bridge, Aston, Dutton Lock, Catton Hall and Frodsham Bridge
7. **Helsby Hill & Woodhouse Hillfort** – a circular walk from *Cheshire Walks* kindly provided by Neil Oxley (see attached leaflet).
8. **Frodsham Blue Plaque Walk**

## 10. Date of Next Meeting

Friday 8 January 2021 at 9.30am by Zoom.