

South Norfolk Tree Warden Network Committee Meeting 26/06/19 The Red Lion, Poringland: 19.00

Present: Henry Gowman (Poringland), Steve Dowall (Poringland), Robert Hosea (Forncett), Roma Beardsell (Brooke), Christine Jones (Brooke), Andrew Goodman (Dickleburgh and Rushall.), Anne Edwards (Hetherset), Phil Grimes (Hales and Heckingham), Richard Beese (Cringleford), Sarah Barney (Colney)

Apologies: Joe Darrel (Tacolneston), Raz Wollacott (Shotesham).

The minutes of the general meeting on 11th May had been circulated and agreed. The endorsement at that meeting for a SNTWN to now consist of a coordinator with individual or sub group members taking on responsibilities was then executed.

Committee members responsibilities: nominated or offered.

Co-ordinator: Henry Gowman (elected)

Minutes Secretary: Sarah Barney

Treasurer: Richard Beese

Webmaster: Steve Dowall

Co-ordinating the ordering of trees and associated equipment: Roma Beardsell and Christine Jones

Raz made contact and confirmed he would take the lead on organising educational events aiming to hold three a year

A sub group has been set up to study and advise on The Greater Norwich Plan for development, which affects South Norfolk, comprising Richard, Andrew Goodman and Phil Grimes

It was also agreed that Richard would investigate possible alternatives to plastic tree guards. The possibility of planting without guards was discussed as they are environmentally harmful and unsightly but the consensus was that they are necessary.

Greater Norwich Development Plan: (GNDP) and Parish Neighbourhood Plans

Andrew gave an informal presentation on the purpose and opportunities with in the GNDP for tree planting. This document contains a long list of proposals for housing development sites within each parish and is now arriving at a short list. Four fifths of these sites(for 40,000 houses) are along the A11 and A140 corridors. Parishes having firm Neighbourhood Plans which prioritise environmental policies will be in a good position to insist on not only the replanting of felled trees or uprooted hedgerows but also on environment enhancement. Andrew suggested five additional trees for every new house. He has furnished the network with easy access links to the GNDP and our parishes.

The subgroup will determine its own agenda but topics discussed were to look at the key legislation enabling Tree Wardens to best advise their parishes on ways of protecting highly sensitive sites and lobbying for the least damaging and most environmentally friendly proposals to be approved.

Thanks were given to Andrew for his input.

Sundry topics of discussion for information:

NWT: New Commons can be nominated within the Neighbourhood Plans and it encourages hedge planting and the coppicing of Hazel Woods.

Anne Edwards has bundles of coppiced hazel from her winter coppicing work at Ashwellthorpe Woods. Contact her if you need some.

Alison Old , Environmental Quality Team at SNDC can be contacted for air quality monitoring equipment. aold@s-norfolk.gov.uk

Tree Council Tree Planting Grant: Sharing Urban Tree Planting

Henry outlined this scheme which is complicated, urban in focus and has to be submitted by the end of July. It was agreed that we must first concentrate on fully using the £5000 annual grant from Bussey's in order to secure it annually.

Parish Magazines: A useful way of getting out tree news to the community

Training: Someone will be needed to promote training opportunities for the Network several suggestions for speakers were made.

Tree Nursery;

Anne Edwards, Phil Grimes and Henry Gowman will visit the old landfill site near Berg Apton which has offered us space for a tree nursery.

Richard Beese told us about his 'Back to Nature Woodland Experience' work at Cringleford School inspired by the Duchess of Cambridge's Chelsea Flower Show garden. The importance of working with schools and young people was endorsed.

The meeting ended at 8.45 Sarah Barney 28/6/19