

## **FRIENDS OF COOMBE WOOD**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on November 28th, 2012**

**Apologies:** Mrs Eileen Peck

**Attendees:** Mr. Alan Morley

B. Hayes reported the death of one of our members and supporters, Mr. David Waller

Minutes of the last AGM on December 25<sup>th</sup> 2010 were read and approved by all attendees.  
There were no outstanding actions.

#### **1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman, Terry Russell, had informed the Committee several months ago that he had decided to stand down at the time of the next AGM, and as a result of his decision he had been taking a back seat for some months. His decision was purely for personal reasons and had no connection to Friends of Coombe Wood. He will remain a member and be available for consultation should we so wish it. Occasionally he receives notification from ECC regarding fallen branches and undergrowth that needs clearing and he will inform us should this recur at any time. He submitted a written statement for the AGM:

“It is probably well over a year ago that I actually stepped down as Chairman of Friends of Coombe Wood. What with the finish of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Village Green application through the many legal and administrative stages, the time of relinquishing the post of Chairman seemed quite appropriate and was a move that the Committee had been previously informed about on many occasions.

During my tenure as Chairman much has been achieved with regards to the protection of Coombe Wood, and I leave knowing that the Friends of Coombe Wood group is held in high esteem both within the community and with the local Council.

There will always be continuing matters to be addressed in protecting Coombe Wood, but I have no doubt that the present Committee, with the continuing support of the community, will strive to make Coombe Wood the place that we all know and enjoy.

Many thanks for all of your support over the last few years and long may it continue”

Terry Russell (Chairman Departed)

#### **2. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Terry Isherwood reported that this year FOC incurred very little costs, with outgoings including our membership of CAVS and the Open Spaces Society and the cost of hosting the FOC website. At the start of our financial year (01/11/2011) the bank balance was £389.99. Income was £567 and expenditure £122.80. The closing bank balance was £793.19.

Membership for 2011/2012 fell to 40 households.

#### **3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

After the Chairman decided to step down from his post, the committee met to decide the future of Friends of Coombe Wood. All agreed that our access to Coombe Wood was too valuable an amenity to lose and therefore the committee has been rearranged as follows: Chairman: Terry Isherwood; Treasurer: Terry Tokely; Secretary: John Rostron; Committee member: Beryl Hayes.

Terry Isherwood will inform ECC, CPBC, CAVS, OSS and ELF of the changes of Officers. He will also inform CPBC of our amended Constitution.

The original aim on formation of the group was to put in place protection for the area and now this has almost been accomplished and the majority of the workload is finished. The future role would now focus on monitoring the woods for encroachment, twice-yearly litter picking and an autumn bramble pull, plus regular updating of the website.

It was decided that future meetings would be held every four months with the next committee meeting due mid March.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Affiliation to other organisations**

It was unanimously agreed that FOC should keep its affiliation with CAVS and the Open Spaces Society as this lends weight to our group.

#### **FOC Website**

John Rostron was congratulated on his creation and updating of the FOC website. Annual costs are about £58.00.

#### **Membership Fee**

All agreed that the annual fee should remain £5.00 per family.

#### **Constitution**

The Constitution has had some minor updating and alterations. There is now no capacity for affiliated members.

#### **Objectives for 2013**

The 'lake' will not feature in any future plans as this is the responsibility of the landowners, CPBC.

Progress needs to be made with regard to boundary marking the established Village Green. The western boundary of Cartref in Lake Drive and the adjacent land owned by CPBC needs to be clarified and nothing can be done until the Council address the problem. As ECC have ratified a new bridle path from Lake Drive which will be on VG land they will need to be contacted regarding boundary marking. Terry Isherwood will raise this when requesting a meeting with Ryan Lynch.

#### **Fungus Surveys**

John Rostron reported that two surveys had taken place, one in September (after very dry weather) and one in October. Both had proved productive and the results are published on the website.