

TWINBERROW FOUNDATION

(Registered Charity No 301524)

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS of the MEETING of the TWINBERROW FOUNDATION held online at 8:05pm on Tuesday the 6th April 2021.

PRESENT

Trustees: J Ball (Chair), N Grecian, P Hayes, S Ackroyd, W Thomas, A Stennett, S Creswick, M Stennett, J Rubin, T White and D Savvidou.

Also present: John Kay, Clerk for the Foundation and Leah Wellings, Deputy Clerk to the Foundation.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Trustees: A Whitwell, A Sheffield, L Patrick and M Woodward.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To receive representations from the public

i) Nuisance mountain bikes

A letter from a member of the public, circulated with the agenda, was considered. The letter highlighted concerns relating to the misuse of Stinchcombe Hill by an increased number of mountain bike riders resulting in damage to the existing woodland, paths and the creation of additional tracks and artificial jumps. Safety issues were also raised.

Councillor Ackroyd reported that the Stinchcombe Hill Trust had discussed the issues raised in the letter and were currently working to improve signage to clearly mark paths.

Councillor M Stennett reported that the Cam, Dursley and Uley Joint Woodlands Committee (CDUJW) had discussed the issues raised in the letter and were working with Stroud District Council and the local police team to consider signage, byelaws and other possible actions, in an attempt to tackle misuse of the woodland.

It was noted that the CDUJW Committee would be meeting week commencing 12th April 2021 to continue discussions. Councillor M Stennett agreed to provide an update at the Dursley Town Council meeting in May.

4. Minutes of the Twinberrow Foundation Meeting held on 7th October 2020

The Minutes of the Twinberrow Foundation Meeting held on 7th October 2020, having been circulated among the members were taken as read, confirmed, and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings at that meeting.

5. Woodland Manager's Update

The Clerk summarised the Woodland Manager's written update and agreed to circulate by email.

It included the outcomes of inspections carried out on 1st April and 3rd April 2021 which covered roadside trees, the perimeter and paths.

Several trees had been identified for felling/removal due to storm damage and decay fungus. This included Beech, Ash, small Wych Elm (by the A4135) and also a dead Oak by the main entrance.

Other recommended works included repair of fencing on the boundary with a neighboring property (following fallen tree clearance); removing broken branches; crown reduction to an Oak tree; cutting regrowth to maintain view from woodland seat, flattening of bike jumps and resolving problems with sculpture steel cables, so that damage to the main bole of trees was prevented.

It was noted that much of the tree felling/removal works would be undertaken by H Cowles, at no cost to the Foundation other than use of the felled wood.

It was agreed that the work should proceed as recommended by the Woodland Manager.

6. Sculpture and Play Trail Update

Trustees noted that Vale Vision are planning a visit to carry out work in the Sculpture and Play Trail, now that Covid restrictions had started to lift; there are plans for a new sculpture to be installed over the coming months and the bottle top sculpture was being refurbished, board by board.

7. Financial Report

It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate a financial report outside of the meeting, due to technical problems accessing the accounts during the meeting.

8. Any Other Urgent Business

The Clerk gave an update on grey squirrel culling activities. The Coordinator had reported that no major activities were planned but use of a new style humane CO2 trap fitted to trees would be trialed, following successful use elsewhere. The Foundation would be kept up to date.

The meeting closed at 8:18pm.

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Chairman

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Date