

TWINBERROW FOUNDATION
(Registered Charity No. 301524)

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the TWINBERROW FOUNDATION held in the Community Room, The Fire Station, Kingshill Road, Dursley at 8.10 pm on Tuesday 21st January 2020.

PRESENT

Trustees: M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), P Hayes, A Stennett, A Whitwell, M Stennett, A Sheffield, S Ackroyd, J. Ball, J Smee and J Rubin.

Also present: John Kay, Clerk to the Foundation; Leah Wellings, Deputy Clerk to the Foundation and two members of the public.

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

A Stennett moved that J Ball be re-elected Chair for the ensuing year. A Whitwell seconded and there being no other nominations, **IT WAS RESOLVED.**

The Chair J Ball moved that A Stennett be re-elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. N Grecian seconded and there being no other nominations, **IT WAS RESOLVED.**

2. TO ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Trustees D Thirlwell, L Patrick, J Burdge, K Reynolds, S Creswick and W Thomas (all personal).

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FOUNDATION HELD ON 22nd JANUARY 2019

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Foundation held on 22nd January 2019, having been circulated among the Members were taken as read, considered, approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

5. WOODLAND MANAGER REPORT

The Clerk to the Foundation read out an update report from the Woodland Manager which had been received today, summarising the following main points:

- Drive past examinations were undertaken in March and April 2019.
- The original felling arrangement had now finished and all works completed.
- A reported broken branch, hanging over the main road, had been removed.
- A reported broken branch above the Brian Marsh memorial seat had been safely removed.
- Roadside tree inspection was undertaken in January 2020
- There are fresh bleeding cankers on some beech within the Sculpture trail which are being monitored.
- Recent storms have had little impact on the woodland.
- There are a number of squirrel-damaged branches which have broken and fallen. Some remain hung-up but are situated away from the road and paths.
- A few detached branches are piled up by the top gate. These would be cleared. A neighbour's willow came down and blocked the road (now cleared) with some of the brash cleared to our wood.
- Two previously crown-reduced sycamores at the SE corner of the wood continue to decay at the base. These are being monitored.
- The quarry warning sign had fallen from its post, the timber decayed.
- The woodland could usefully be thinned (mainly compartments 6 & 7). Trees have yet to be marked for felling, work would be planned together with a felling licence application.
- The woodland would be examined again before the leaves emerge.

The points were all noted and Trustees were informed that the Clerk and Deputy Clerk would be undertaking a site visit on 28th January 2020.

The issue of Ash Dieback was raised and whether it was problem in Twinberrow wood.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Clerk would circulate the update report to Trustees via email and question the Woodland Manager about Ash Dieback in relation to Twinberrow Wood.

6. UPDATE ON THE CULL OF GREY SQUIRRELS

Trustees noted the email update report and Site Specific Risk Assessment circulated with the agenda, from Mr Popum (Site Contact), regarding the above cull.

Within the update, Mr Popum put forward an idea for an art/educational installation in the woods/Sculpture Trail, using a selection of varnished (non-toxic) squirrel damaged branches to create a fence/mini maze with an information board explaining the impact the grey squirrels have on the woodland.

A member of the public made Trustees aware of new automatic trap systems for grey squirrel control that don't require daily checks (e.g. good nature company).

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Deputy Clerk would discuss the idea for the art/educational installation with Vale Vision at their upcoming meeting, to see whether it would be a welcome addition, and feedback to the Clerk.

The Clerk agreed to pass on the information raised about the automatic control systems to Mr Popum.

7. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Use of Plastic in Sculpture Trail

The Clerk had received an email from a member of the public concerned about the use of plastic in sculptures and the impact on the local environment. The email highlighted that many of the sculptures in Twinberrow Wood use plastic and when these parts degrade bits fall off and litter the woodland, the use of CD's may also disturb the wildlife as they are often used in gardens as deterrents.

During the discussion, it was suggested that sculptures could be made safe to prevent debris by encasing materials to stop them falling on floor (e.g. bottle tops).

The use of single plastics as a much bigger national/global issue was highlighted.

IT WAS AGREED that the issue would be passed to Vale Vision for their consideration, it was suggested that they issue some guidance to those making sculptures to strongly encourage them to consider the materials they plan to use and the robustness of the sculptures, so that they are built to withstand the weather and not adversely impact the environment.

Cotswold Car Trial

It was noted that the annual event would be going ahead.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:28pm.

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Chairman

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Date