

Minutes of the 9th Staveley Nature Reserve Liaison Group (SNR-LG) meeting held in Staveley and Copgrove Village Hall on April 22nd 2014 at 7.00pm

1. Group members present

Dorothy Griffin (Chairman)
Ken Barker
Jenny Hayward (YWT)
Bill Kirkpatrick
Lynne Manby (Parish Council)
Margaret Stringer
John Thornton (No apologies)

2. Observers

One village resident present.
Should any resident wish to contact the Liaison Group please email:
snr-lg@staveley-yorks.org.uk

3. Minutes of the last meeting on January 28th 2014.

Paragraph 6c was amended by deleting the final phrase “ or to obtain planning permission if necessary”. The minutes were accepted.

4. There were no additional registrations of interest.

5. Matters arising from the previous meeting:

- a) Dog waste bins
DG and BK have spoken to members of HBC. There is no current provision for supplying or emptying newly installed bins and the feeling of the meeting was that visitors would have to be responsible for removing their own dog waste.
- b) Footpath through Manor Farm
There was no up-to-date information on this.
- c) Reserve signs on village green
JH has this in hand. The siting of the sign on, or attached to, the PC noticeboard was discussed.

JH to design and email to DG and PC

There is no budgeted money available from YWT for a free-standing sign this year.

- d) Wildflower project
DG and JH have contacted Bernadette Lobo and the School but have not had further contact so far.
The project is planned to go ahead with DG sowing and raising seedlings this year ready for planting out in the orchard area next spring.

JH to email BL and School

6. YWT report

The original plans are underway now and further developments include:

Eastfield re-wetting is going well with 10cm of topsoil removed and deep furrows created, with fine grass sown to create a matrix for a fen community. Widgeon and teal have over-wintered there. There is now a permanent fence to control grazing areas. Highland and White Park cattle to be grazed again with sheep later in the year.

Weed control will continue using a “wiping” system as well. Success in some areas in removing himalayan balsam. Some japanese knotweed, thistles etc need ongoing control.

Hay meadow was re-seeded last year and is looking good – lots of cowslips.

7. Chairman’s report.

Nothing to report.

8. Future Reserve Plans

A reed bed is to be developed near the new hide.

The flooding of the River Tutt is not the responsibility of the I.D.B. (Internal Drainage Board)– YWT hope to place an impermeable bund along the bank to control the flooding.

Possible future plans to “meander” the river further down were discussed.

9. Future events in the area

June 7th. Strawberry tea on village green

June 22nd. Staveley Stampede – runs through Reserve.

July 13th. Garden Party at The Grange.

YWT - arranged walks in Reserve in May, June and July

August 20th. Family Fun Day (YWT)

YWT is happy for the village to advertise these events in the hides.

10. Communication with the parish

Details of YWT walks to go into The Link and the Knaresborough Post.

Action BK

11. Car Park

There has been a small problem with overnight littering of the car park and a couple of cars there very late at night. JH encouraged people to keep a look out and report anything untoward to her and possibly the Police.

It was noted that the car park can become very busy, especially on Sundays. JH confirmed that the overflow car park is for use on YWT event days.

JH asked about an enquiry from a local person who would like to use the car park to site a van selling food. The feeling of the meeting was that this could cause further congestion and litter problems at the car park. It was suggested that the person might consider approaching the village hall committee re this idea.

12. Parish Council

DG reported that she had had some discussion and correspondence with the PC over the holding of meetings when the YWT representative is unable to attend. It was felt that in the circumstances commented on, where DG and JH had had telephone discussions prior to the meeting, that such a meeting could still be useful and should generally go ahead at the discretion of the chairman.

LM to take back to PC for comment.

13. AOB

KB asked about the uncut part of the “orchard hedge” opposite his property.

JH to investigate

14. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on July 29th at 7.00pm in the new hide.