

Minutes of the 20th Staveley Nature Reserve Liaison Group meeting held at Church Hide, Staveley Nature Reserve on July 11th 2017.

1. Group members present

Dorothy Griffin (Chairman)	Ken Barker
Kevin Atkinson (Parish Council)	John Thornton
James Searle (YWT)	Margaret Stringer
Bill Kirkpatrick	

2. Observers

One village resident was present.

3. Minutes of the last meeting on March 14th 2017

These were accepted as an accurate record of the last meeting.

4. Registration of interest in today's proceedings.

DG, JT and MS registered their interest as members of YWT.

5. Matters arising from previous meeting.

(a) Footpaths signage.

JS brought some circular waymark signs which will be installed at various points with DG's advice. (At the pub end of the footpath, at the end of the fenced part of this path, in the Reserve after the public footpath crosses the Tutt and opposite the public footpath entrance on Minskip Road.) *Action: JS and DG*

(b) Overflow parking notice.

JS has installed "no parking" notices on the verge near the main entrance and KB reported that there has been no parking on the verges since then.

(c) Crafts events

Maria E-L has moved posts and so these events have been suspended.

(d) Workshops/courses

JS reported that a volunteer Events Co-ordinator is to be recruited for Staveley, who would develop a programme for next year. Ideas will be welcome at the next meeting.

(e) Wildflower planting

In April the reception class from Staveley School planted some 120 plants grown by DG, into the orchard area, as in previous years. There was lots of help from other adults and the day went well.

(f) Annual walk

The walk had been held just prior to the meeting. 8 people had joined JS and had seen parts of the Reserve not usually open to the general public - i.e. the backwater area near the Tutt. It was suggested that a longer walk might be enjoyed and if so an evening in June would be ideal for next year.

(g) Butterfly count.

MS reported that another volunteer had been recruited and further volunteers from Staveley East were helping with the Staveley West rota. More volunteers are always welcome.

6. YWT progress report

JS reported that volunteers have pulled balsam as usual, a wild bird seed crop has been sown on the east side of the Reserve, the backwater has been completed and seeded and, as part of the River Tutt Project, coir mats appropriately rooted with aquatic plants have been installed near the flow deflector. The White Park cattle have now been replaced with Highland cattle as the latter are easier to handle and their feet do less damage to the ecosystem.

7. Chairman's report

DG reminded the meeting of the "Staveley Orchards" website where information on the community orchard can be found.

8. Parish Council report

No current matters were discussed.

9. YWT future plans for SNR

As usual the hay meadow will be cut and baled in early August (by Chris Tesseyman). Emily McGregor is preparing new signs, interpretation boards and up-dated maps for the Reserve. Laura Watson is returning from maternity leave in the autumn, when JS will leave us.

10. Future events in the area.

Sept 2nd and 3rd – exhibition in Village Hall by Robert Addyman re Staveley history and the Addyman family's links elsewhere.

11. Communication with the parish.

There may be some fruit available from the community orchard in the autumn. DG to liaise with Dianne Hepplewhite about a notice in the Link.

Action: DG

12. AOB

As there is possibly a new landlord coming to the pub there will need to be contact re the offer of overflow carparking by the pub.

Action: KA

KB asked if JS would hold a Reserve walk for the Youth Club - possibly on Sept. 8th.

Action: KB and JS

BK had found a dead owl by the green bus-stop and wondered if an R.S.P.B. transfer on the glass would be useful. DG will enquire of the R.S.P.B.

Action: DG

Many thanks were given to JS for his work at the Reserve and with us over the past year.

16. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at Staveley and Copgrove Village Hall on November 7th at 7.00pm.