



Registered Charity no
SCO43123

Murieston Environmental Group

Minutes of meeting 15th Feb 2018

1. Attendees

Ian Jeffray, Arthur Marris, Ainslie Jones, Alistair Hunter, Isobel Lyman
Apologies: Michelle Van Eck, Pauline McCourt

2. Approval of last month's minutes

IJ Approved, AH seconded.

3. Treasurers report

Balance on 15th February unchanged from January at £2277.95.

AM has added himself as a signatory to the bank account.

Action for IJ to register with Amazon Smile as they provide money to local charities

4. Projects update

MvE said her boyfriend Andrew would be willing to supply equipment and help with moving the hard core which has solidified on the path. It has been agreed to hold a volunteer event at 10:30am on Sunday the 25th February to move this. Action for MvE to ask Andrew to break up the hardcore in advance of this date and time. Action for IJ to fix the broken wheelbarrow in advance of this event.

AJ reported at September's meeting that the planters were being repeatedly vandalized. Action for IJ and AM to move these to a safer location nearer the nursery.

Williamston Wood project being pursued by Ainslie, Isobel, Alistair and Michelle. They have contacted Jean Frame of the Woodland Trust and discussed possible things that can be done. A volunteer event has been arranged in conjunction with the Woodland Trust for the 29th April from 10:30am to 2:00pm to work on the paths. The Woodland Trust will supply a contractor to direct the work

- The path needs an upgrade as it is boggy at the entrance nearest the school and there are two sections which could have drains cleared out and path scraped back. Jean Frame has spoken with her contractor and the contractor would be happy to lead this as a volunteer day with The Woodland Trust paying for material and providing equipment.

Action for IL to confirm details with Jean Frame of the Woodland Trust and ask about any health and safety requirements particularly concerning the age of the participants.

MEG received communication Amy Fergusson of the River Forth Fisheries Trust asking MEG to support "Fish in the Classroom" at Williamston School. We agreed to part fund this as long as the nursery was included. Fish have now been delivered to Williamston School and the nursery. AJ reports that the fish have hatched successfully and the children are enjoying watching them develop. Action for IJ to contact the school to find out when they intend to release the fish.

There was discussion of the diary of events for the coming year. Pauline has been in contact with Lynn Yuill of the Ranger Service to discuss dates for pond dipping in the spring and another bat walk. Action for Pauline to confirm dates. The bat walk is expected to be held on the 18th September and the pond dipping in the last week of May.

AJ tried to contact the Lothian Amphibian and Reptile Group <http://www.lothian-arg.org.uk/> with a view to repeating the popular toad watch. However, we received no response and assume that this group is no longer in operation.

AM has contacted Stephen Brockbank of Harburn Development Trust by email to set up a liaison meeting and see if there are joint projects we can pursue. SB has responded positively. Action for AM to set up a face-to-face meeting in February.

A tentative diary of events has been discussed and agreed and posted on the website at: <http://www.meg.btck.co.uk/Calendar> . Action for MvE to put something on the notice board by the pond:

25th February, 10:30am – Break up hardcore and distribute on paths

March – Toad Watch

April – Path work in Williamston Wood

May – Pond dipping

June – Tidy up around Cambridge pond (may be hold this on a weekday evening)

1st September - Dog show/gala day at the Cricket Club

18th September – Bat walk

5. Date of next meeting 22nd March 2018, 7.00pm at Cricket Club.

It was decided to postpone the meeting by a week to allow MEG committee members to attend the public meeting scheduled for the 15th March to set up a Murieston Development Trust. It was decided that this meeting will be very significant for MEG and so the MEG meeting should be re-arranged to accommodate.

6. Meeting closed at 8:05pm

Minutes produced by Arthur Marris (arthurm@cadence.com)