

Notes of the Executive Committee (EC) Meeting held at 7.30pm at Otterton Village Hall 23 May 2017

Present: Roger Saunders (RS) Chairman, Bob Wiltshire (BW), Haylor Lass (HL), David Daniel (DD), Patrick Hamilton (PH), Jon Roseway (JR), Penny Kurowski (PK) Hon Sec, Pat Porter (PP) and Geoff Porter (GP).

Apologies: George Maddaford (GM), Nicky Daniel (ND), Geoff Lake (GL), Clive Bowman (CB),

RS welcomed Pat and Geoff Porter attending as potential Otterton village reps.

Minutes of the EC meeting held on 25 April 2017 were confirmed and signed. There were no matters arising.

The EC discussed the following matters:

- 1 Eleven new volunteers for Himalayan Balsam work. The season starts with a joint OVA/CDE visit to East Budleigh Brook, June 21st.
- 2 A proposal to plant replacement trees on the hill east of the Otter and south of Otterton (SY 077 837) was agreed in principle, subject to clearer idea on costs.
- 3 HL attended LORP Stakeholder Group meeting. Four main options remain, all involve creation of wetlands as compensatory habitat for that lost in the River Exe. Public consultation on July 5th. HL also conformed that FAB link project moving forward. This would include creation of a 1.5m wide footpath along the western edge of the estuary, which will be about 0.5m higher than existing path.
- 4 OVA to have stall at Scarecrow Festival, East Budleigh 10 -11 June, plus organising village walks both days.
- 5 BS neighbourhood plan with Independent Examiner. IE raised queries about green spaces in the plan, including the hospital garden
- 6 The proposed walk for visually impaired people, led by Heather Fereday and Dee Woods was very successful.
- 7 First aid course for walks leaders organised for October 23rd. OVA to cover cost of basic navigation course for walk leaders, and first aid course.
- 8 Membership numbers have dropped slightly from last year. EC agreed that expansion to Ottery St. Mary not a good idea.
- 9 Chairman's report- AGM went well and David White talk well received. JR to assess stocks of leaflets. EC to discuss possible participation in and ideas for BS Carnival at next EC meeting
- 10 Deadline for next newsletter is June 19th.