

**Minutes of a Meeting of Ilkeshall St Andrew and St John Land Management Company Ltd. at St John's Hall 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 at 7 p.m.**

Present: Tim Basey-Fisher (T B-F) (Chairman)  
John Bedwell (JB) (Secretary)  
Rod Apps (RA)  
Gerald Godfrey (GG)  
Roo Lee (RL)  
Chris Roberts (CR)

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

1.1 The Chairman welcomed everybody.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

2.1 The minutes of the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were agreed and signed by the Chairman. These will be posted on the Commons website. **Action: JB, CR**

2.2 It was agreed that in future, RA will produce a precis of the meeting for the Commoner's Association and the Parish Council so they do not have to wait for the signed minutes. **Action: RA**

**3. Matter Arising not elsewhere covered in the Agenda**

3.1 The meeting scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> April did not take place due to the Covid-19 lockdown.

**4. Finance**

4.1 The current financial position showed total funds of £68766.04. Since the last Board meeting interest on the HTB No. 2 bond had been received. There had been payments to:  
a) TiaGrace, final payment of website design (£450), b) JB, Butterfly Conservation membership and Grass-cutting at Beck's Green (£125), c) HTB, Additional funds for Bond No. 2 (£10,000) d) Keiron McCarthy, Grass-cutting (£35), e) CR, Material for new benches (£295.82) and f) Village Hall hire (£37.50)

4.2 Cheques were signed for:

- a) CR, Simon Topham strimming (£252)
- b) JB, TiaGrace website management and tree surgery at Beck's Green (£221.80)
- c) SWT, Membership and donation (£200)

4.3 It was agreed that now was not the time to consider investment in the Stock Market.

4.4 It was agreed to change the accounting period from 1<sup>st</sup> April/31<sup>st</sup> March to 1<sup>st</sup> October/30<sup>th</sup> September so that the accounts presented to the AGM in February will be more relevant. This means that for this year only the accounting period will be from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020. **Action: JB**

**5. Implementation of the Management Plan**

5.1 Section 1.1 states that the LMC 'intends to consult widely with its stakeholders'. To this end, RA will identify the sort of questions that should be asked in any survey and consider having a meeting within the next 3 months depending on the progress of Covid-19. **Action: RA**

5.2 Section 1.2 states that the LMC 'will seek to establish more precisely the boundaries of all the Commons etc.'. To this end RA and CR will liaise to produce a list of properties abutting the commons together with the details of Land Registry titles already obtained by the LMC. **Action: RA, CR**

5.3 The website proposed in section 1.4 is up and running and has been well received.

5.4 A derogation has been obtained for harrowing and rolling so that the proposals in section 2.2 can proceed once haymaking has been completed.

5.5 Spot spraying of thistles on Great Common, (section 2.3), was carried out on 13<sup>th</sup> May. It remains to be seen whether or not it will need to be repeated in 2021.

5.6 A pond survey mentioned in section 4.1 was carried out on 15<sup>th</sup> June and the results will be posted on the website in due course.

5.7 A number of ditches and bunds have been identified as requiring work, section 4.2. CR will liaise with Brian Andrews in order to get this work carried out. **Action: CR**

1 Signed .....  .....

Date..... 12/10/2020 .....

## 6. LMC Website

- 6.1 The website went live on 1<sup>st</sup> April. It has been well received and is proving easy to update with news items.
- 6.2 Information about the website use and traffic is available it seems from Google Analytics. RL who is familiar with this package will liaise with TiaGrace in order to obtain number of hits etc.  
Action: RL
- 6.3 Detail of haymaking will be added to the website news together with relevant photographs.
- 6.4 CR will contact the local newspaper to see if they will run an article on the website and thereby give it some exposure.  
Action: CR

## 7. Recent Works

- 7.1 Three more benches have been made but their installation has been delayed by the social distancing requirements of Covid-19. The concrete bench at Beck's Green will be replaced with an oak one after checking with Adrian Sampson.
- 7.2 Simon Topham has trimmed gateways and pond fronts. T B-F said that Ms Zeitland agreed to undertake the flailing of the front of the English Cottage pond but since she has failed to do so he would get that done himself and at the same time sort out the problem with the tilted drainage pipe.  
Action: T B-F

## 8. Haymaking 2020

- 8.1 GG said that the commons will be cut at the beginning of July, weather permitting. He will liaise with Brian Andrews and June Hall and mark out the 10% uncut areas. The description of these areas is causing confusion because they do eventually get cut; it might be better to call them 'over-wintering areas'.  
Action: GG

## 9. Winter Bird Feeding Strips

- 9.1 T B-F and GG both reported that they had drilled their strips of land adjoining Great Common and a good emergence was expected.

## 10. Reserved Business

- 10.1 There were several items of reserved business.

## 11. Any Other Business

- 11.1 The provision of a Commons Information Pack for newcomers to the village was discussed. CR will dig out the information written by Adrian that is presently provided via the Village Hall system, and CR and RA will draw up a suggested list of do's and don'ts that could be made available on the website.  
Action: RA, CR
- 11.2 GG reported that he had completed the task of filling in the hole on Blacksmith's Common adjacent to the pond.
- 11.3 The possibility of obtaining a second hand flail that could be used by a small tractor was discussed and RL will approach a contact of hers to see if anything is available.  
Action: RL

## 12. Date of the Next Meeting

- 12.1 The date of the next Board meeting will be on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 7pm at St John's Hall  
There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.13 hours.

J Bedwell  
28<sup>th</sup> June 2020

2 Signed JCB

Date 12/10/2020