

Stutton Grows
Minutes of Meeting 13 November 2006

1. Present

Neil Mordey, Debbie Brown, David Coleman, Rik and Julie Bond, Sarah Gray, Sue and Bill Hewlett, Ken Wilson

2. Apologies

Louise Lock, Mary Field

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting 11 September were agreed with one amendment. It had been agreed that Sue would attend a story telling course run by Greenlight. This had been omitted from the minutes.

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1. **Story Telling Day** - Sue attended and found it enjoyable.
- 4.2. **Cards** – Sue and Bill had bought 4 packs (£12). As this equated to the cost of the Story Telling – which Sue paid directly. **Debbie to note.**
- 4.3. **New Sign** – Neil has the marine plywood base, and Rik has ordered the Perspex cover
 - **Sue/Bill to prepare a notice.**
- 4.4. **Seats** –Neil had attended to seats, more action need in drier season. Russell had been paid for cement, ballast and delivery
- 4.5. **Working Party** – only Stutton Grows members attended. Grass cut on the crescent area and some on the northern part. Fewer than 10 saplings had died, given the dry summer - this was a very good result. Rik's web site photos were appreciated.
- 4.6. **Tree Nursery** – 22 Sept. cleared weeds – but this would need regular attention. **Sarah Gray volunteered.** Sue reported that a football wall had been erected near the nursery and hence we might suffer damage from misdirected shots. Sue felt that we might need a small barrier erected to protect them. Good news - Planting of acorns had been done.
- 4.7. **Web site** – Rik had done some great work and now had the bird surveys posted there and was working on links so people could see an image of the bird.

5. Planting Day 26 November

As agreed the Branch Committee met, determined a planting mix and resolved that we should plant 250 trees. This reflected the anticipated number of willing recruits on the planting day.

It was hoped that we could get the day advertised in Roundabout.

Bill has ordered the trees from Paul Double.

Ken suggested that to encourage children a coin could be planted under each one. This was considered to be a good idea.

Grant aid – Bill had been investigating "BBC breathing places" with potential for Lottery Funding and had also spoken to Teresa at Stutton Hall Farms to bear Stutton Grows in mind if they were seeking grants for planting.

Agreed:

- **250 saplings to be planted and 2/3 beech trees in line with the bequest we have received.**
- **Sue would ensure school children would be told**
- **Sue/Bill would write inviting past "planter's" to join us.**

6. Flower Meadow.

The area between the northern planting area and the playing field had been subject to a limited grass cutting regime. Stutton Hall Farms needed to be assured that the area would continue to be cut. Bill had spoken to John Whittle, who would cut this and the northern area between the trees and charge Stutton Grows. **This was agreed. It was felt that we need to agree with Stutton Community Council future plans for this area and who would be responsible for maintenance and costs arising.**

A flower meadow was discussed. Both David and Neil talked about other meadows they knew or had learnt about. Whilst planting can produce good results in the second year, their impact tapers off as more dominant species take over hence reducing the diversity. It was suggested that bulb planting might be a way forward. Further discussion needed.

7. Child Protection Policy

Bill had previously circulated the Greenlight revised policy. This was discussed in detail. It was agreed that as a general rule, the aim of Stutton Grows was to encourage family involvement, so that children would be accompanied by parent(s). Specific children's activities were promoted through Stutton Primary School, where Stutton Grows would work with a teacher.

- **Amendments were agreed and Stutton Grows Child Protection policy was adopted.**
- **Bill would circulate the revised policy incorporating the changes**
- **Rik would place the policy on the web site.**

8. Treasurer's Report

The balance at the last meeting was £1,139.30.

With the receipt of £30 for the sale of the Stutton Grows Cards and the expenditure of £47.00 for the cement and ballast to concrete the bases for the fairy ring seats, the balance now stood at £1,122.30.

9. Working Party Dates

The following working party dates for the New Year were agreed

All at 2pm

- **Sunday 21 January**
- **Sunday 25 February**
- **Saturday 24 March**

10. Future Fund Raising

It was the consensus of the meeting that we would not have a "bring and buy" sale as in the two previous years. It was fortuitous that we were able to off load the unsold items at a jumble sale at the village hall. It was recognised that the tea and cakes element was successful and we needed to think about what we might do on a future occasion. An event based around an egg hunt / games at Easter was suggested. No firm decisions were made and would be discussed again.

11. Management Plan

Neil referred to the need to ensure that all elements in the management plan be addressed and regularly reported upon. The plan was now in need of review. Once Stutton Grows had developed a revised plan, it was recognised that discussion with Stutton Hall Farms would be needed.

- **Neil would draft a revised Management Plan for consideration at the next meeting. The plan would include both Canhams Wood and the newly planted areas.**

12. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 15 January 2007 8pm at Rik and Julies