

## REPORT ON THE TRUSTEES' MEETING DECEMBER 2019

The 65<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Trustees of Beckford Nature Reserve took place on December 4th 2019. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by Mark McCauley. There was some discussion about the Beckford Open Village weekend in June 2020. It was proposed that the nature reserve should be promoted as part of this event by some good signage, leaflets being available in the village hall where teas were to be served and including the reserve in the Mother and Toddler Treasure Trail.

Tina reported on the work parties that had been started. One had, had to be cancelled due to bad weather which made working on the reserve dangerous for the volunteers. In addition work had taken place to clear some trees and during this it had been noted that some evidence of scarring which looked like Ash Die Back disease had been seen. This means we have to be vigilant to see if this is indeed a problem. Advice from the tree surgeon was to cut down some of the older trees and let the saplings grow up. The flood alleviation work from last year had improved the situation but there is still a problem with water-logging and more work is needed. There are two Duke of Edinburgh award scheme students who are working on the reserve with Tina as part of their scheme requirements and they will be working over the winter and spring months.

The bench on the south side of the lake is broken and needs replacing. There was discussion about what would be the best design to use as it is a very popular place for people to stop. The trustees will research the possibilities. It is planned to organise a bat walk with an expert sometime in June.