

Report on the Trustees' meeting May 2014

The Beckford Nature Reserve committee met on May 19th and were welcomed by the chairman Geoff Stringer. The main items on the agenda were the presentation to John Clifford on his retirement, the annual financial report, the involvement in the Open Village and the future administration of the 200 Club.

Geoff welcomed John and Madeline Clifford to the meeting and presented John with a book "Tales from the Wood" which was inscribed with a message of thanks, as a token of appreciation from the committee, for his work in setting up the reserve and his untiring efforts over the years. He also thanked Madeline for her support of John in his work with the reserve.

Trevor reported that the sand martins were back on the reserve and visitors had been photographing their activities. The dog waste bins were being used and the reserve seemed much tidier. The broken steps and access to the lower path needed attention but it was felt that too much activity during the nesting season would be inadvisable and this meant that some of these tasks needed to wait until later in the year. Although an advert had been placed in the Parish Magazine for a Conservation Warden to replace John Clifford, there had been no response. Tina Brown would like to take on the role but would need help with some of the other roles she undertakes.

The Treasurer's report had been sent in by Jonathan Grice as he was unable to attend the meeting. This showed a surplus for the year of £533 but this would soon be offset by the invoice for the dog waste bin which would cost £577.48 which included the initial installation fees and admin fees as well as the annual costs of emptying and maintenance.

The reserve was to be manned by Tina for both days of the Open Village weekend and Earth Heritage and Worcestershire Wildlife Trust were both to have stands.

Jennifer Berriman has tendered her resignation as administrator of the 200 Club, which is the main annual fund raiser for the Nature Reserve. She has undertaken this role faithfully for many years and the Trustees appreciate all that she has done. It is imperative that a new administrator should be appointed and she is to be invited to speak to the committee members to explain the role and advise on how it should be carried out.

Photos are being sought to be made up into next year's calendar and members of the public who take photos of the reserve are to be asked to contribute their photos for inclusion if they are suitable.

The next committee meeting is to be held on Wednesday 16th July.