

Report on the Trustee's Meeting September 2014

The 37th meeting of the Trustee of Beckford Nature Reserve took place on Wednesday 10th September. Geoff welcomed the committee members and they were sorry that Trevor McGill had tendered his resignation from the post of Conservation Warden due to pressure of work. The trustees all expressed their thanks for all Trevor's hard work. Tina Brown has taken over the role and is to use the Maintenance Plan as the framework for future work to be carried out on the reserve. A motion-sensitive camera has been purchased to take photos of animals visiting the reserve. It is to be positioned in a variety of places around the reserve and already there have been pictures of deer and a badger.

There was some discussion about the advisability of reopening the bottom footpath which has been flooded since the winter. Although it is much drier now, it is still very muddy and not in a safe state. The temporary upper footpath needs renovation as it is very uneven. The consensus of opinion was to improve the top footpath while clearing the bottom footpath, but leave the barriers in place across the lower path.

The handover of the administration of the 200 Club from Jennifer Berriman to David and Jayne Allchurch seems to have gone smoothly. The trustees attended the last draw supervised by Jennifer in September and presented her with a bouquet as a token of their appreciation for all her hard work over the years. Plans for the Village Supper are well in hand and tickets for the event are available from Geoff at the Beckford Stores. It is to be a curry buffet.

The main work in the reserve over the summer has been clearing paths of brambles to make passage along them safe. The new hide has been treated with preservative to make it ready for the winter. Geoff had been approached by the Principal of Hartpury College with a view to a link with students from the college taking part in work on the reserve. This seems a good idea if they are able to get to the reserve to work on it.

No speaker had been found for the AGM. This is to take place in the Village Hall on Friday 17th October at 7.30pm. The event has been advertised in the Parish magazine.

The next meeting of the Trustees is on Wednesday 10th December at 7.30pm.