## **Minutes**

Time 18:30 – 19:30

Date 3 July 2023

Location Deri Woods Pump House

Attendees FoDW: Becky Davies, Adrian Bickers, Ken Burton,

Nick Burton (Chair), Sonia Harmer, Jim Inkster.

LCTC: Rob Astley, Sam Webster.

Documents Chairs update 3 July 23

## Friends of Deri Woods committee meeting

- 1 Apologies for absence received from: Lottie Glover (MWT).
- 2 Nick welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- A few actions from the previous meeting had not resulted in a conclusion:
  - (3) Following investigations by LCTC it appears that the car park is unregistered. Transferring ownership to LCTC is in the Council's 2023 plan. The surface would need repairing before the requested line painting could be considered. LCTC will keep FoDW updated about the transfer of ownership.

(3) A policy on removing timber has not been produced. Rob advised moving timber away from the paths and that if FoDW notify him where there is timber along side the track that he will arrange for its removal.

(5) LCTC confirmed they had a leaf blower and, once it was located, would move it to the Deri Woods store room.

(6) An expert from MWT has advised that the Nant Ty-Lissa isn't a particularly suitable site for an Otter holt. FoDW agreed not to pursue this idea any further.

(7) Nick will continue to review the risk assessment documents to identify any gaps.

4 Nick updated the meeting on ten items – for the full text see 'Chair's update 3 July 23' document. Matters arising from these items follow:

Sam

LCTC

Nick

Item 2. Jim and Adrian would be interested in joining Nick, Robert and Rob to look at the next phase of the thinning work. Nick will circulate a date.

Nick

Item 3. The meeting discussed the advantages and disadvantages of planting fewer more mature trees than the 12 suggested. As cost would be a factor LCTC Rob will ask Robert to check availability and costs. Nick advised that bare root trees are likely to be more successful.

Rob

Item 4. The meeting agreed that the compartment markers required red or white paint on top for visibility and that they be set back from the paths so as not to hinder any machinery manoeuvring in the woods.

Item 5. Rob was concerned that weldmesh on the bridge decks may present a slip hazard. The meeting agreed it should be trialled on one deck ensuring that bars on the upper surface ran across the path and that the mesh was well tensioned.

Rob would speak to Glyn from Boys & Boden about the prices against the timber order.

Rob

*Item 10.* Adrian will re-circulate the link to the letter from the council.

Adrian

- 5 Becky Davies agreed to become a FoDW committee member as the group's social media officer.
- Rob was concerned that the leaky dam project was pointless and could cause erosion to the banks of the Nant Ty-Lissa. Nick confirmed that the work had been given the go ahead by LCTC in an email from Robert on 23 June. This project has also been in the work plan for Deri Woods since 2002, the work was scheduled in for July's work day, in a couple of week's time, and that staff and volunteers from Severn Rivers Trust had committed to helping with the work. Nick felt that stopping the project now was unjustified. Adrian explained that the dam's design didn't create permanent pools of water upstream. Rob agreed that the planned work could go ahead.

Rob also agreed to move a large tree, which could be used for the dam construction, to neared the Nant Ty-Lissa to avoid felling one of the two trees which had been identified for the project.

Rob

7 Nick invited everyone to send him any ideas for our 2024 work plan. Adrian would recirculate a link to the existing

work plan. Adrian

Sam had been approached with the idea of installing ground level timber edging to the main track. This was used on the diagonal path in Deri Woods to reduce erosion of the path edge. Nick said the friends would see if there were any areas along the main path which would benefit from similar erosion protection. The inspection would be planned in to a future work day.

Becky had documented a number of broken rails which needed replacing which would be fixed as part of the regular maintenance.

Nick

- 8 Three items of other business was raised.
  - a Sonia asked for an update on the proposed trim trail. Sam and Rob confirmed that the idea was being considered but that, for various reasons, it was unlikely to be sited in Deri Woods. Nick voiced the Friend's concern that there wasn't enough flat ground in Deri woods for such equipment. Nick asked that FoDW be consulted again if the situation changes.

**LCTC** 

b Jim agreed to attend the Zoom meeting about the Llanfair Caereinon WiFi zone.

Jim

c Nick is running a scheme with local landowners to install and monitor 30 bird boxes to benefit the area's pied flycatcher population. This project doesn't directly involve Deri Woods.