
Minutes

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| Time | 19:00 – 20:00 |
| Date | 14 June 2022 |
| Location | Deri Woods pump house |
| Attendees | FoDW: Adrian Bickers, Ken Burton, Nick Burton (Chair) , Sonia Harmer, Jim Inkster. LCTC: Sam Webster. MWT: Clive Faulkner. |
| Documents | None |

Friends of Deri Woods committee meeting

- 1 Apologies for absence received from: Angela Aldis, Cadvan Evans and Ceri Jones. Ceri was represented at the meeting by Clive Faulkner.
- 2 Nick welcomed everyone to the meeting and the attendees introduced themselves.
- 3 All actions from previous meeting were completed (3c) Eley Hart (MWT) should be copied in on emails of meeting minutes. Adrian
- 4 The result of the funding application to Tirgwynt Community Fund for the proposed Gorsedd stones wet spring meadow should be known by early July. The amount (£638) will not cover the VAT of £128. Sam will see if LCTC are able to fund the VAT element. Clive indicated that MWT might provide the funding if LCTC can't. If the funding is successful the work would happen in Aug/Sept 2022. Sam
- 5 The funding application to Focus on Forestry First (FFF) for chainsaw training and tree survey and inspection training had not been successful due to all the available funding being allocated in a couple of days. Any future applications will need to be in as soon as funding rounds open. Nick
- 6 The Basic Tree Survey & Inspection course can go ahead with funding from MWT. A trainer will come to us which allows more people to be trained at only a small extra

- cost for the certification from Lantra.
Anyone interested in being considered for the training to contact Nick. All
- 7 Two events with MWT are planned for Deri Woods this summer.
On 3 August at 8pm there will be a Bat/moth evening. This event will be open to the general public. It may be possible to advertise it in the Llanfair Chronicle by contacting Ursula Griffiths and/or Robert Robinson. Adrian
On 3 October there will be a small mammals morning. As this survey will require setting traps the previous evening this event will not be open to the public. FoDW and their immediate families are very welcome to attend.
- 8 Adrian reported that the bird boxes in Deri Woods had generally been successful. The tits had done very well but the pied flycatchers had lost some chicks to the bad weather. Tawny owl, dipper and nuthatch had been successful.
A full written report to follow. Adrian
The photo of the owl chick can now be added to the website. Adrian
- 9 Nick is providing input into the council's Biodiversity & Resilience of Ecosystems Plan. It's hoped that a draft of the plan will go to a full council meeting shortly.
- 10 Related to, and forming part of item 9, is the Ancient Woodland Restoration plan for Deri Woods which was drawn up in 2016 by Alistair Hotchkiss of the Woodland Trust but which has, so far, been only partially implemented due to the sensitivity around felling quite a number of non native trees. This management is still required to enable regeneration of native species which will preserve the character of Deri Woods for future generations. Nick has produced a 2 page summary of the full restoration plan with a view to presenting it to a council meeting in the near future. Nick
The possible meeting date of 27 June to be confirmed. Sam
The 2 page summary will be added to the FoDW website and the link circulated. Adrian
- 11 The next committee meeting, which will include our AGM, will be organised for some time in November. Adrian
- 12 Other business follows:

- a With funding from LCTC Ken has arranged the production of personalised FoDW tabards for the volunteers to wear while working in the woods. These will be available at the next workday.
- b Nick suggested we should draw up a work plan of the major activity to be undertaken in Deri Woods this year. A draft will be circulated for comments/suggestions. Nick
LCTC to advise Nick of any items it wants included in the work plan. Sam
- c It was confirmed that the lower (riverside) path in Deri Woods will be closed on 18-19 June to allow contractors to reprofile the badly sloping section.
- d The car park gate is occasionally obstructed by visitors' cars despite the no parking signage. Painting crosshatching in front of the gate may prevent the problem.
Establish if LCTC owns the car park and if the work could be carried out. Sam.
- e It has been the consistent practice of FoDW to remove certain cleared timber from Deri Woods for safety reasons. Timber of a size that could be moved or rolled about by members of the public can, and has, damaged fences and railing and also poses a danger to visitors. In order to address concerns raised by the community about removal of wood from Deri Woods this practice needs to be considered by LCTC and a policy produced. Sam
- f In relation to the above. The FoDW confirmed that the tools provided through the lottery fund do not include chainsaws. The chainsaws used by the volunteers are their own tools and are only used by qualified individuals on tasks covered by the qualification. Fuel and oil is provided by the chainsaw users, not by LCTC. The chainsaw qualification includes training in use and maintenance of a saw's safety features and it would be possible for chainsaw qualified FoDW member to inspect and test other member's chainsaws, as an update to the current risk assessment.
Sam to look into whether it is OK for FoDW volunteers to use their own tools on site and LCTC insurance implications. Sam
It was felt that chainsaws should not be kept in the tool store as it may attract theft if people know about this.