



## KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

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### **Minutes of a meeting of the Manor Vale Committee of the Kirkbymoorside Town Council held at Church House, Kirkbymoorside, on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 2.30pm.**

**Present:** Members present were Cllrs Martin Brampton (chair), Jan Cossins, Chris Dowie and Don Davies, Andrew Hall and Mike Simpson.

Also present was Lisa Bolland, Town Clerk and Adrian Bury

**MV-13023** Apologies for absence were received from Tom Denney.

**MV-13024** There were no declarations of interests.

**MV-13025** The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2013 were **approved** and signed. There were no matters arising.

**MV-13026** There were no members of the public present.

**MV-13027** It was noted that Walls of Ampleforth have removed the felled trees that were in excess following the works undertaken by Lewis Tree Surgeons, as agreed in minute MV-13018 dated 25 July 2013.

#### **MV-13028** NEW SIGNS

Adrian Bury provided a presentation of the most current draft of the interpretation sign together with a document of the edited content. It was agreed that the text would be distributed to the management committee members for consideration and any editing suggestions would be passed on to Adrian via Don Davies in order to establish a final, accurate text for the sign.

It was suggested that it would be most representative of Kirkbymoorside if the images used on the sign had been taken by a local resident. It was subsequently proposed and agreed to hold a photo competition in order to collate pictures of Manor Vale for use on the interpretation sign in addition to updating the website and creating a booklet/leaflet promoting the flora and fauna of Manor Vale Woodland. The Town Clerk and Cllr Brampton agreed to collaborate in this respect.

It was agreed to make use of the vacant slot on the reverse of the English Heritage sign and subsequently the costs of the signs would be reduced as this would adopt a cheaper print approach. Adrian Bury will provide revised costing at the earliest opportunity.

The quotations provided by Adrian Bury for the cost of the new signs was considered and it was agreed, depending upon sufficiency of funds available to the Manor Vale Management Committee, to supplement the REACT grant of £1000 to cover the cost for 3 signs.

**MV-13029** It was agreed to contact Ken Hornby to cut the vegetation aligning the bridleway only once the wild raspberries have finished fruiting.  
Don Davies agreed to mark out areas for coppicing. The tender process will then be adopted to appoint a suitable contractor to the task of piecemeal coppicing. Don Davies will work with the Town Clerk in this respect.

Andrew Hall confirmed that he is presently awaiting confirmation of funds in order to proceed with a maintenance project that will create a bordered edged path, 1 – 1.5m wide, filled with crushed plainings to be laid on the middle section of the footpath descending from the Ancient Ash to the Manor Vale Lane. It is hoped that these works will be carried out before Christmas 2013.

Additionally, Andrew suggested that whilst undertaking this project it would provide a suitable opportunity to re-dress the diagonal path that joins the lower/south end of Manor Vale Lane, as this fits with the NYCC objective to 'improve rights of way with limited resources'.

Andrew Hall's efforts were noted and appreciation expressed.

**MV-13030**

*A number of projects were revisited, for which grant funding could be sought:*

- An app providing pictorial and factual interpretation of the woodland, its history, complete with sat nav guidance and details of plant and animal species etc.
- Provision of outreach days for local schools using The Conservation Volunteers who specialise in environmental education
- Updated specialist surveys on beetles and flies associated with deadwood to establish if they are still inhabiting the woodland in which case the management plan is working

**MV-13031**

Don Davies reported that the Hay Making Volunteer afternoon held on 8th September was successful with good weather and 5 volunteers.

**MV-13032**

The request for permission to place a geocache by the Ancient Ash Tree was agreed in principal.

**MV-13033**

Volunteer activity was considered and Seed gathering projects were suggested. Bearing in mind the chalara outbreak and the high population of ash in Manor Vale it would be worthwhile to introduce a seed gathering project to be adopted by the Scouts and local school children to take seeds from the wood, germinate them off site (at home or in the class room) and plant back into the woodland a few years later

**MV-13034**

**QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN**

Concern was raised about the excessive speed of vehicles travelling to and from the Golf Club on Manor Vale Lane. The Town Clerk agreed to contact golf club management to address this issue.

It was suggested that due to the possibility of Ash Dieback it might be appropriate to replace the Don Smith tree with an oak in the cleared area behind the existing ash. This was consented and the Town Clerk will contact Don Smith's widow to request approval.

**MV-13035**

It was **agreed** that the next meeting should be at 2.30pm on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013 with a walk around Manor Vale for any willing participants, meeting at Neville's Castle at 1.30pm.

The meeting concluded at 4.30pm