



**QTNWG: MEETING OF TRUSTEES 17/01/23**  
**at Skippers, Sherborne. 20.15- 22.15**

Attending: Kim Creswell (Chair), Emma Etherington (Treasurer), Rowan Duffy (Trustee)

Trustees all welcome from long and well deserved extended xmas rest. Last informal meet was 11th December 2023.

**1. Group structure :**

Continuing to look for an office/ water test space in the parish - possibly garage. converted shed, need electric and mains drains in order to carry out photometer testing.

**ACTION: KIM TO INCLUDE SHOUT OUT IN NEWSLETTER**

**2: RULES:**

To be added to rules on website: confidentiality rules should be covered by GDPR

**ACTION: ROWAN TO ADD:social media code of conduct, trustees code of conduct, GDPR policy statement, add consent to forms ; NWG's financial RULE: BANK ACCOUNT SHOULD NEVER DROP BELOW £100 CREDIT.**

**3. BANKING :**

Balance £1008.73 on 31st December.

Trustees are now going to claim outstanding expenses claims: Rowan has created form to log expenses claim, once filled must be seconded by another trustee and then sent to treasurer, who will then pay by BACS, seconded by another. NWG is using 45ppm for future travel expense, to be logged on Fuel expenses form. Expenses forms to be submitted by 20th each month and paid by 28th each month.

**ACTION: EMMA TO ENQUIRE WITH CC RE. ACCEPTED EXPENSES FOR PRINTING PER PAGE.**

**ACTION: ROWAN TO CONTACT MEMBER TO CHANGE STANDING ORDER, ALTER FOR WEBSITE DOMAIN**

Gift Aid -

**NWG is now registered with HMRC for Gift Aid.**

**ACTION: ROWAN TO SET UP SPREAD SHEET FOR ACCOUNTS AND THEN NOTIFY KIM ND EMMA**

**ACTION: KIM TO INCLUDE IN NEWSLETTER**

Just Giving - Active page, which is ready for when we need it.

**4. FUNDING:**

- NWG has now cashed cheque from PC
- Emma has compiled a list of potential funders

**ACTION: ROWAN TO LOOK AT GENERAL FUNDING AND GRANTS SPECIFICALLY FOR A PROJECT: QUEEN THORNE STATE OF NATURE SURVEY; PARISH WIDE NEWSLETTER**

**5. MEMBERS:**

- AGM required - will aim for end tax year, in March
- Plotgate jolly 13 April 2024 for members of NWG and other environmental groups groups (also to include MPCAN)

**ACTION: KIM TO INCLUDE IN NEWSLETTER**

- Riverfly event March 23rd, and extended training to be available.

**ACTION: KIM TO INCLUDE IN NEWSLETTER**

- Members' mailchimp newsletter: Kim to summarise last year and give plans for this year, including members jolly and possible other events, call out for active members and donations, skills/ time

**ACTION: KIM TO DRAFT AND SEEK APPROVAL FROM TRUSTEES BEFORE MAILING****6. PLANS FOR 2024**

- CONTINUE WATER TESTING
- NWG PARISH WIDE NEWSLETTER

**ACTION: TEMPLATE FROM GEORGE AND ROWAN; KIM TO DRAFT CONTENT READY FOR TRUSTEE APPROVAL**

- QUEEN THORNE STATE OF NATURE SURVEY

**ACTION: KIM TO APPROACH UNIVERSITIES/ PHD STUDENTS**

- HEDGEROW DEROGATION LETTER AND PETITION:

**ACTION: KIM TO DRAFT LETTER FOR CIRCULATION AMONGST ENVIRONMENTAL NGOS, ROWAN TO LOOK INTO ONLINE PETITION**

- HEDGEROW DEROGATION ACTION TO CREATE TEMPLATE FOR BADGER CULL AWARENESS RAISING AND ACTION

**7. NETWORKING:**

Kim gave an-line presentation for 'Councillors in Dorset Climate and Ecological Emergency support group meetings' arranged by Julie-Anne Booker, and Caz, who we met at Dorset COP. It was very well received. Cllr Fraser from Sturminster Newton Town Council has been in touch about water testing.

**ACTION: KIM TO EMAIL CLLR FRASER WITH DETAILS ON PHOTOMETER AND MINIMUM DONATION DETAILS.**

- LNP- our previous meeting with Maria was postponed

**ACTION: ROWAN TO ARRANGE A MEETING**

- Wildlife and Countryside Link : trustees agree to become members

**ACTION: KIM TO MAKE APPLICATION.**

-MP Loder - we are disappointed that MP Loder has failed to engage positively with us following our meeting, only emailing to ask for confirmation that we did not record the meeting (which we didn't, as requested). MP Loder has not yet sent the photos he took of us with his 'phone, or confirmed that he has read the state of nature report. NWG trustees are concerned that his parliamentary voting record shows a lack of concern in environmental protection, favouring business interests over the environment.

**ACTION: KIM TO WRITE TO MP LODER FOR CLARIFICATION****ACTION: KIM TO INCLUDE NETWORKING IN NEWSLETTER**

**8. WEBSITE , SOCIAL MEDIA, MEDIA:**

QT Parish Magazine- Kim submitted 200 words on light pollution by Jan 15th.

**ACTION: KIM TO WRITE 200 words on hedgerow maintenance by feb 15th**

Abbey Radio: Kim was interviewed and managed to include a good summary of NWG.

**ACTION: KIM TO PROVIDE USB TO ROWAN FOR DOWNLOAD**

Wider media: all actions on hold due to current time constraints.

**9. RESEARCH:**

Water Testing:

Kick testing on hold until after Riverfly event in March.

Photometer: **ACTION: Kim and Clare TO AIM TO TEST LAST MONDAY EACH MONTH**

**10. Queen Thorne Parish Council:**

**ACTION: ROWAN TO SEND NWG TRUSTEES RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS.**

KIM attended last PC meet as a resident, not as a rep of NWG, requesting that PC write to DEFRA requesting they do not grant automatic derogation for farmers to cut hedges during nesting season in Queen Thorne, as multiple residents have noticed a decline in birdlife which appears consistent with the national figures (drop of about 60%). Environmental lead remarked they are reluctant to interfere with farmers' legal rights. Kim suggested there may be a conversation to have here about the role of the PC in protecting the environment as priority. PC chair and environmental lead agreed to discuss the way forward outside of the meeting. We will see how this develops.

**Next Meet of NWG Trustees: MID FEB date TBC**

QT Parish Council: Dates of Future Meetings 2024: March 4 in Sandford Orcas, May 13 in Nether Compton.