



NEWSLETTER

Issue 40 April 2018

News

2017 AGM.

On Wednesday 18th Oct 2017, 37 were present for the evenings business. Stephanie Luxton Chaired with Michael Thornton alongside in capacity as Secretary. The business of the evening was conducted in accordance with our Constitution. We are very pleased this year to have a full complement of twelve Committee members, as our 2017 committee decided that the care and management of Hob Moor this year is a serious concern that we have taken to York City Council. So, the more of us the better.

The proposed removal to the Constitution of clause 5.2.3 was defeated therefore remains unchanged.

Thanks to Ian and Elizabeth Tomlinson for providing and serving refreshments after the business of the meeting closed.

There was lots of interest at the display of Hob Moor maps and archive documents and a number of our popular photo cards were sold.

Tree Survey.

Hob Moor and Little Hob Moor have had a complete tree survey done. The document for this can be seen as maps, on Localview maps on the York City Council website.

There appears, on the survey, to be some trees coming down across the road from Little Hob Moor at the boundary to the Knavesmire. It seems sad but it may be necessary in light of the tree survey for that area to be cleared.

Hob Moor Hedgerows.

One of the main attractions of Hob Moor is the boundary hedge. Most of the hedgerow is hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*, a native tree, which supports about 150 species of insect.

The hedge between North Lane pasture and Hob Moor could be 600 years old. The boundary hedge is also made up of Elder, Blackthorn, Holly, Yew, Gogrose, Guelder Rose, plus some larger trees of Oak, English Elm, Willow, Silver Birch, Poplar, Beech and Sycamore.

Leaflets Dispensers.

I wonder how many of you have seen our five new Leaflet dispensers? They are positioned at entrances: Green Lane, North Lane, Windsor Garth, Hob Moor Drive and Tadcaster Rd.

The committee have shared out the responsibility of keeping some of our leaflets (Grant 2016) in each dispenser. The reason only "some" is because on one occasion the leaflets were taken out of one of the dispensers and strewn on the grass nearby.

Immediate Future/Grants.

We have been very successful with our Grant applications that have provided new leaflets, a bench, a notice board and five Leaflet Dispensers. We all hope that the people of York and Hob Moor surrounding wards will enjoy their visits to this Nature Reserve and take family and friends for a healthy experience. With leaflets and notice boards full of information and benches to relax on and enjoy the views and fresh air on this wonderful site.

Margaret Weeden.

Margaret Weeden, a founder member and most committed supporter of FOHM, died last October. She led bird walks for the Group on a regular basis and attended all the events concerned with Hob Moor. The photo on page 65 of the Hob Moor book (published by FOHM in 2004) shows Margaret at the Local Nature Reserve launch event in May 2003: as usual, she was at the centre of the action, in this case helping at the FOHM gazebo, including blowing up balloons. She was also a long-term active member of Friends of West Bank Park and the York Family History Society.

Her funeral ceremony, attended by some members of FOHM, reflected the overriding importance in Margaret's life of children, family and the green environment. Let us hope that the skylarks will return soon to join the other birds which have their home on Hob Moor and remind us of Margaret.

Future Ahead.

Hob Moor as a Nature Reserve is the responsibility of York City Council and their Ecology Department. We as a Committee support you, our members, in our responsibility to continue to communicate with the council, as Guardians of Hob Moor and their practical management role. This can be as “Thanks” and as “Concerns”. For example: the trees near the boundary to Hob Stone Estate are under a preservation order and these may not be renewed. Tree planting is massively restricted at the moment under the Higher Level of Natural England Stewardship Scheme and after all, the 99acre site is called Hob Moor---Moor being the operative word. We would hope to replace any trees that come down.

A lot depends on the effects of Brexit and Defra funding, areas of the unknown regarding Hob Moor land management as yet.

Continued walking across the Moor brings to our attention the drainage damage near the underpass; any residential fly-tipping or encroachment/claiming of the Buffer Zone (which is Council Land); damage by vehicle tracks, graffiti; and the white gates keyed access that are not being slammed shut. All of these issues we take to City Council to investigate.

Thanks yet again to all our volunteer **Litter Collectors**, you do a great job.

Events

Kite flying on Little Hob Moor Monday 26th March at 2.30pm.

Bird Walk Saturday 28th April at 6.00am. Led by Barry Bishop, meeting at the yellow railings, Little Hob Moor.

Mayfield Woodland walk Friday 18th May at 7.00 pm. Led by Ian Tomlinson, Malcolm Cresser & Steve Hart, meeting at the yellow railings, Little Hob Moor.

West Bank Park Summer Fair Sunday 24th June 1-4pm. Friends of Hob Moor will have a stand.

Balsam Bashing Friday 6th July 6.30pm. Meeting at the yellow railings, Little Hob Moor. Wear strong shoes and have garden gloves too.

Butterfly walk Saturday 28th July. Led by Antony Fairburn (details of time & meeting place to be confirmed)

Bat walk Saturday 25th August. Led by Clair Merrifield (details of time & meeting place to be confirmed)

We always welcome new members. To join please visit our website www.fohm.org.uk.

Contact Friends of Hob Moor

Follow us on Twitter www.twitter.com/HobMoorFriends

Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/FriendsOfHobMoor/?fref=ts

Visit our website www.fohm.org.uk/contacts

Stephanie Luxton, Chair of Friends of Hob Moor 07761 085091 or 01904 593788

Useful contacts

To report damage etc. urgently on Hob Moor (24 hrs) contact CYC: 01904 625751

To report motor cyclists on Hob Moor contact North Yorkshire Police: 101

To report dog problems:

- If a dog bites a person, call the police and report the incident ([101 for a non-emergency](#), [999 for an emergency](#))
- If a dog bites another dog, or any issues with people being harassed or intimidated by dogs, contact CYC: 01904 551551

For removal of fly-tipped debris, litter, graffiti etc. contact CYC: 01904 551551

Members updates: If you would like to be kept informed of news and events around Hob Moor we do have an email list. If you haven't been receiving these and would prefer a PDF copy of this newsletter as well as regular reminders of events then send your email address to the Friends of Hob Moor Membership Secretary at candic13@yahoo.co.uk