

Gallows Bank Trust

Committee Meeting held on Thursday 18th March 2024 at 23
Charlton Rise, Ludlow, 7.30 pm.

Present: Dave Davies (DD), Chair, Jane Davies (JD), Treasurer, Di Lyle (DL) Secretary, Kate Adams (KA), Trice Astill (TA), Brian Smart (BS) and Lesley Smart (LS).

Apologies: Heather Price and Alex Urka.

Minutes of Past Meeting

The Minutes from the meeting held on 25th October 2023 were agreed and signed by DD.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising not appearing on the agenda.

Chairman's Report:

Dave reported that there had been little activity due to the poor weather. The grass had been cut at the top of the Bank but it had been too wet to do any other work. He had purchased a new piece of machinery for the digger which will be used when work on the wetlands area and sensory garden can be started. Again, due to the weather, the grass hadn't been cut for hay and Dave will check with the farmer if he wants to continue.

Treasurer's Report:

Jane circulated brief details of income and expenditure. Income was from a £100 donations; expenditure totalled £407.38 which covered £274.33 insurance renewal, £98.00 for printing and £35.05 for the AGM. The current balance was £6,320.

Litter Picks:

KA proposed a late Spring/early Summer litter pick, in the Spring half term. DL to find out the dates and agree a litter pick with KA, details of which will be shared with the members.

Action: DL to find term dates, agree a litter pick with KA and circulate information to members.

A separate and specific litter pick would be needed to clear the rubbish around the brook once the weather improved.

There was another rough sleeper on the Bank, possibly the man who had been sleeping there last year. KA to send a map with the location of his tent to DL who will report it to the team at Shropshire Council.

**Action: KA to send location of rough sleeper to DL.
DL to report to Shropshire Council.**

Ongoing Maintenance:

General: All general maintenance was awaiting dry weather.

Culvert: The drains around the culvert appear to be working efficiently.

Future Projects:

Sensory Garden: No further action due to the weather. This is a long-term project and needs to be carefully planned. The suggestion to hold an informal gathering at the proposed site of the Garden to introduce the idea and to share information with members and residents generally was supported. Date to be agreed.

Wetland Area: No further action due to the weather.

Fundraising:

It was agreed to apply for Rotary Club funding again but to wait to apply for a project support grant from Ludlow Town Council until plans were further advanced.

Action: DD to apply for Rotary funding.

Information Board & Signage:

Dave has all the original images. KA will contact Matthew Lloyd to see if he would be interested in creating the new signs. The existing frame may not need replacing but the protective covering needs to be anti-graffiti and as robust as possible to withstand vandalism. The plinth will need to be replaced. A QR code will be included in the new artwork.

Action: DD to provide original artwork to KA.

KA to contact Matthew Lloyd

KA to seek quotations for all work involved.

AOB:

Dog Waste Bins: It was agreed to replace the dog waste bin at the top of the Bank, at a cost of £275 which includes delivery.

Action: KA to send details to DD and JD and they will order.

Biodiversity Audit: There was general support to investigate undertaking a biodiversity audit on the Bank. KA is pursuing this for the Sidney Road Green with Ludlow Town Council and will share her experiences. The Audit will require various surveys of trees, flowers, wildlife and it was agreed to appeal to the members to help with this once more is known and there is an agreed plan to under the audit.

Action: KA to send information she has gathered for Sidney Road.

Oak Trees: DD confirmed that the damaged oak trees have been replanted and seem to be thriving. None of the beech trees have survived and he will talk to the nursery about getting replacements.

Date of Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on Thursday, 27th June at 23 Charlton Rise.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 8.35 pm.