

AGM Minutes 14th Jan 2019

Everyone welcomed. All committee members retaining their positions but we now have Mark Rhodes as an additional.

What started as a small project has escalated to a larger one with more potential to grow. We need to get more people involved and start our Bat and Badger Walks. We have a bat detector, bird boxes made by Men Shed and a night camera so we need to start using them or people will lose interest.

We are looking at quadrupling the size of the mixed flower meadow as the project has been well received. It is attracting the bees and wildlife but we are trying to encourage more. We have planted seeds that have been donated by members or been given along the way. These seem to have taken, but were planted later in the year so need time to establish.

Graves are now not going to be cleared as we first started to. This decision was made on the fact that there was just way too many to do in the time we have. Now it is a case of getting rid of all overgrown weeds and brambles and use our cordless strimmer which we got through one of our grants.

All bird boxes that were kindly built by Men shed are now up and receiving visitors. We shall be starting to review types of birds visiting.

A fox and wood pecker were spotted recently on one of the work party days. So hopefully we can see and attract more in the months to come.

It was suggested that maybe we involve people who are more interested in wildlife than graves to monitor the areas. Maybe the wildlife trust may be able to assist, although we did not get much help from them when asking about where we could put our bird boxes. Maybe we need to go to them again with a different approach as they are always very proactive when we see them at events.

We have done very well with grants received this year and are just about to collect a cheque for £200 from Asda. This will enable us to purchase a laptop for the recording of information on the graves that Robert is doing.

Also on the purchase list this year is a moth trap, and we have already purchased some bluebells and snowdrops to be planted as soon as they arrive.

Having now had the use of the vestibule for some time, this has enabled us store everything we have purchased along the way and has been invaluable.

Projects for this year will be to remain active in clearing more graves, trees, and bushes. Records being added to the computer system and attending any events to promote ourselves.

We had a very good response to our event at the chapel and we hope to do another one of a similar idea in 2020. This year we will aim again to have the chapel open for Heritage Day, need to check in exact date and organise another walk/chat. This apparently was the most visited last year.

There was a suggestion to getting a sign made to show exactly what we are doing in the cemetery. This could be located at the front entrance or somewhere visible for the public who are visiting the cemetery and would maybe attract more members. We shall need to change the contact email address to 'info@'

A poster was also suggested, we could maybe put that up at Paxcroft community hall, again another idea to attract people..and anywhere else that maybe costs nothing.

It is important to make sure we are collecting new membership fees, and contact details correctly so we keep these people in the loop at all times.

Membership fees are now £2 per person and £6 for businesses

We have insurance now to enable us go to events, and we need to renew this annually.

£100 is due to be paid to Men Shed for works done.

Hopefully this year we can achieve more members, walks, talks and general upkeep of this wonderful project.