

Friends of Bradford's Becks

Minutes of quarterly meeting on Monday 23rd January 2017

Kirkgate Centre, Shipley, 7-8:30 pm.

Item	Action
Present: Irene, Rose, Graham, Wendy, Elizabeth, Pauline, Kevin, David B, Rachel, Geoff, David P, Sara, Phil Marken, Rob Apologies: Eddie, Bernadette	
1. Urban Pollution hunting	
Rob been checking sites on Becks for pollution - visually, smells, some glowing tampon work. Found 14 incidents so far and reported to EA.	
Boggart Wood was first reported 7 years ago – finally sorted late 2016 due to our pressure. Other incidents include food waste, fly-tipping, building construction, Nisa store. Farm slurry on Harden Beck – 12 tonnes discharged into the beck! Work continues.	Rob
Time-lapse camera to be installed against one of the regular polluters.	Rob
Looking for places to access the culverted becks for sampling. Found one liftable manhole on Eastbrook. We should ask some of those with local knowledge: Nick Reynolds – Rachel, Tony Poole – Barney.	Rachel, Barney
2. Education Project on pollution	
Miss Connection (Irene) will be talking to school assemblies about misconnections. Irene working with Wenna to build a model. We will design stickers (Barney) and other take home gifts (Irene). Got a trial school arranged, and been in touch with a range of suitable schools (aiming for 12 primaries, 3 academies).	Irene Wenna Barney
3. Listening sculpture	
a. Planning permission – waiting on maintenance agreement	David and Barney to keep
 Maintenance commitment required by Bradford before issuing licence to install the sculpture. Options include: 	
 i. Lump sum payment to Bradford, or to other organisation such as River Stewardship Company 	moving!
ii. FOBB/ART accepting liability for maintenance	
iii. An insurance option	
c. Fundraising: underwriting of matched funding agreed by	

APT to anable us to hid for Arts Council funding	
ART to enable us to bid for Arts Council funding.	
Geoff reported on visit of EA CEO. He was walked along plaques walk by Geoff, and talked to about lots of aspects of our agenda. He liked the listening sculpture concept! Mark Scott (regional manager) and others also there.	
4. Walks booklet	
Team has been checking routes. Wendy done flower drawings – congratulations given. Got a designer (Mick Long). Aiming for content by beginning of next week, Irene to proof read in a week, then to designer.	Rose, Wendy, Elisabeth, Pauline, Irene,
Pitty Beck walk is rather boggy – needs checking again. No word from Danny Jackson about permission to use paths on Pitty Beck; assume OK.	Barney
Lots of problems on Chellow Dene, tipping, unfinished swimming pool. Some fallen trees – report to Rights of Way.	
Barney to write his bit on pollution for booklet this week.	
5. River Stewardship and other wider projects	
Widest: - fish passage up the Aire. HLF declined to fund DNAire. Reframing and reducing to bid again at regional level. Also work being started on fish passage on tributaries.	Geoff
River Stewardship = litter, access, vegetation, bank maintenance, etc. Lots of similar work in Leeds (Phil Marken). Expecting some initial funding from Bradford to start stewardship in city limits. Planning to do work in Bradford Beck, Keighley becks, Bingley. RSC will be coming in to work with FOBB and others, do activities, get more public interest.	Geoff to initiate once funding received
6. Environment Agency report	
EA has installed continuous monitoring sondes in two sites on Beck. Rob and Barney receive alarms if they go over limits.	Rob, Barney
Flood programme for Bradford: Includes Canal Rd flood reduction study. Barney and Rachel waiting to be invited to meetings. Bradford also bidding to Leeds City Region for flood work.	Barney, Rachel
7. Beck event at Bradford Festival, 26/27 Aug	
Bid submitted for Saturday event outside Sunbridge Wells by Steve, Eddie & Irene. Singing, story collection, character walk through tunnels. Rose and Pauline can do guided walks as well.	Steve, Eddie & Irene, Wendy
Wendy to provide contact for landowner – MJ Map are agents.	
8. Water Management Scrutiny Review, Bradford Council.	
a. The key lines of enquiry for this scrutiny review are to:	

Examine the policies that impact on either the mitigation of flood risk or contribute to that risk; Identify potential sources of funding and other resources that could assist in reducing the risk and impact of flooding; Develop an action plan to reduce the risk and impact of flooding and to use the response to any future incidents; Consider future climate change assumptions and their impact on the frequency and severity of flooding incidents; Consider measures which could be taken to reduce the rate of water runoff into the river system; Consider the effect of increased flooding risk on proposed development and the effect of proposed and possible future development on run off and flooding risk. b. Public information gathering session in Committee room 1, City Hall. Tues 24th Jan and Tues 7th Feb, 17:30-19:30 Its really about floods. Bradford recently had a scrutiny review of response to floods. Geoff is submitting a position paper from ART, Geoff working closely with EA. FOBBs can comment on the draft. All It would be good for FOBBs to go along to demonstrate our interest. 9. Any other business Northcliff Dike - Rose at AGM of Friends of Northcliff last week. Rose Considering turning upper part of Northcliff Dike into a wetland. We can advise - Rose to pass on Barney's details. Should we use the paint which only shows when wet? Yes, although it is Irene, expensive. Add it to the Bradford Festival and/or Listening Sculpture Barney opening. Would anyone from the group be available and interested in giving a 30-450 minute talk to the Green Drinks group? Small group of about 10-15 Barnev to who meet in the Brown Cow, Keighley - the next meeting is Tuesday 9th check on March 2017 (but this date doesn't make sense, 9th is Thursday!). The date, and reason for mentioning Big Local- we have £2,000 to deliver a project to then ask if raise awareness of the River Worth- the lead a chappy called Phil anvone can Sheridan is promoting the idea of small badges/ artworks at pedestrian attend crossing points. (Geoff could, Irene might, Rob might!) Website - Graham asked if anyone would take over the website, which Graham, Rob, Wendy, needs a revamp. Rob/Wendy agreed to do so, with tech support from Geoff. It should support the walk booklet. Geoff David B has paid annual website fee – to reclaim from ART. David B 10. Minutes of last meeting - agreed 11. Next meetings a. Public session for Water Management Scrutiny Review, Tues 24th Jan and Tues 7th Feb, 17:30-19:30 b. Quarterly catch-up 10th Apr c. Keighley Green Drinks in March