

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE 4CS

Castlemorton Parish Hall on Wednesday, 5 March 2008 7.30 pm

Present:- Lionel Bartlett (Chairman), Anthony Bunn, Richard Dawe, Jerry Fryman, Roger Gillard, Angus Golightly, Fay Priday, Chris Rouse, Sue Thetford, .

In attendance:- Ian Rowat (Director), Val Moore (Admin Officer), Rob Havard (Conservation Officer) of the Malvern Hills Conservators, Victoria Oaten (Malvern Heritage Project), William Eustace.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Andrea Calvesbert, Med Snookes, Sue Windle.

2. REPORT OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 22 NOVEMBER 2007. On the proposal of Sue Thetford, seconded by Richard Dawe, it was **AGREED** that the report of the meeting held on the 22 November 2007 should be signed by the Chairman.

3. MATTERS ARISING.

3.1 8. Higher Level Stewardship. Rob Havard reported that the go ahead had been given to make application for the Higher Level Stewardship on the Common and he was awaiting the application form from DEFRA. Roger Gillard advised that Mr Dawes was willing to meet to check that the maps were correct.

3.2 9. Update on the Management of the Common and what is planned for the coming months. Rob Havard reported that pollarding and scrub management had been carried out on the SSSI in the area of Hancocks Lane and flailing at Hollybed Common.

3.3 10. Hancocks Lane broken parapet (Map ref: SO7882 3941). Ian Rowat reported that the work to repair the parapet of the bridge on the road from the Gloucester Road to Hancocks Lane was in hand.

3.4 11. Fishing. Ian Rowat said that following the decision of MHC to ban ledgering at the Mill Pond, a representative from Worcester Angling Academy had contacted him offering to hold education days for existing anglers and new anglers. The purpose of these days would be to show people that they could still enjoy the sport whilst ensuring the safety of the local wildlife.

3.5 13.1 Dam Wall at the Mill Pond. The work to repair the dam wall had been completed.

4. MEMBER TO REPRESENT RECREATIONAL INTERESTS. Ian Rowat advised that he had received a communication from David Jones to say that he had decided not to stand for the Committee and although Lyn Hartmann was prepared to stand, she had recently had a family bereavement and was unable to make her presentation personally. She had however prepared a paper introducing herself, explaining her involvement with recreational interests and stressing the importance of communication between residents and users of the Common. On the proposal of Sue Thetford, seconded by Chris Rouse, it was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** that Lyn Hartmann should be invited to become a member of the Committee.

5. COMMONS REGISTER. Lionel Bartlett said that the decision at the last meeting to send letters to all commoners registered under CL9 had thrown up discrepancies in the register. The information used had been taken from the copy held at the MHC office of the register at County Hall, Worcestershire County Council being the Commons Registration Authority. He had compiled his own up to date list which ran to four pages of names, addresses, including post codes. Lionel Bartlett was thanked for all his work. It was pointed out that

Worcestershire County Council had a duty under the 2006 Commons Act to keep the register up to date but that new owners of properties with common rights had a responsibility to let WCC know of changes. Angus Golightly said that there was currently a consultation exercise being carried out by DEFRA as to how the provisions in the Act should best be implemented. Victoria Oaten suggested that perhaps the register could be included on the website and it was **AGREED** to make enquiries as to whether this would be possible.

6. UPDATE ON THE WEBSITE AND LEAFLET WORKING PARTY. Victoria Oaten circulated a draft of the 4Cs website and asked members to let her have their comments. She invited those members who were not on the web to arrange to meet her at Malvern Library to use facilities there to view the site. She drew attention to the temporary address and advised that eventually it would be on MHC's website. Jerry Fryman asked why it could not have its own domain name and Victoria Oaten agreed to look into this.

Jerry Fryman agreed to design a few samples of suggested letter heading for consideration at the next meeting.

With regard to the leaflet, once the website was completed information from there would be used to compile the leaflet.

7. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVE BODIES.

7.1 Graziers. At the request of Richard Dawe, Ian Rowat agreed to let him have in writing MHC's policy with regard to the maintenance of easements over the Common.

7.2 Birtsmorton Parish Council. Roger Gillard advised of various flooding issues as a result of the July 2007 rainstorms. An area of land surrounding a footpath between map references SO7771 3689 and SO7768 3698 was a quagmire in wet weather. Rob Havard would arrange to meet at the site to look at the problem.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS. None.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Wednesday, 12 November 2008 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed 12 November 2008
Chairman