**Pinewoods Conservation Group**

**AGM 16 March 2023**

At The Green Hut, 7.30pm

1. Welcome from Neil Hind, Chair to all present.
2. Apologies from: Lucy Hind; Sergeant Dougall – Community Safety Hub; Acting Inspector Coe, Neighbourhood Policing Team; Sergeant Lopez of the NPT, Councillor Mike Schofield, Carole Dumville, Terry Knowles, Peter Hannon.
3. Matters arising from last AGM 21/3/22. None.
4. Review of 2022 and current plans for 2023
   1. Review of 2022
      1. Maintenance projects in the woods continued, with unwanted dens and graffiti removed. Litter picks continued, and signage was replaced, and improved. The bird feeding, litter picking and log cutting groups continued. The council were approached about their obligations within the Pinewoods Management Plan. Dog waste signage was improved and warden approached.
   2. Finance
      1. The accounts were presented by the Treasurer and acceptance was proposed by Geoff Scurrah, and seconded by Joy Allen
   3. Plans for 2023
      1. Steps for the viewpoint and repair of the binoculars
      2. Bird feeding information
      3. Bye law signage
      4. Lay by to be made accessible
      5. Footpath improvement
      6. Curbing anti social behaviour
   4. A memorial for Jim Clark will be created. Most likely to be a signed Nature Trail in the woods
5. Election of Committee officers and members. The names as listed were elected, and the proposer was Joy Allen, seconder Cath Varley.
6. Update on proposed developments
   1. Harrogate Spring water
      1. A comment from HSWL said they were still considering the feedback from the public consultation last year.
   2. Harrogate Nursery – the council is planning 60 houses on the site, but the Bowling Club and their car park will remain.
   3. The new Harrogate & Knaresborough Planning Committee is chaired by Pat Marsh and their first meeting is on 23/4.
7. Save Rotary Wood Again campaign update by Sarah Gibbs
   1. Sarah mentioned a Facebook group with over 250 members, a campaign to get people photographed in the woods saying why they love them, a schools engagement process to get families in the woods, which are free to access anytime.
   2. A consultant is looking at the discharges made by HSW in their washing process
   3. The land around the woods is not available for purchase
   4. There is a proposed new borehole on Crag Lane
8. Update and plans from North Yorkshire Council – presented by Kate Dawson (HBC)
   1. Kate answered questions that had been raised prior to the meeting.
   2. The main website will change on 1/4/23 and will redirect users to the correct departments. All staff have new emails, but they will run concurrently with the HBC ones for now. Work is expected to continue as before, and then departments will restructure over time.
   3. Kate reiterated than any anti-social behaviour should always be reported, and the reporting is monitored, and action can be taken
   4. Footpath maintenance will be done where a need is identified and funding allows
9. AOB
   1. The binoculars will need to be removed for repair
   2. Thanks to the committee for all their hard work, from Joy Allen
   3. Litter Pick Sunday 26th 10am, meet at the Council Nursery. Litter pickers and bags provided
   4. A Bat Handler and checker is needed.

Meeting ended at 8.35pm.