



Friends of Bradford's Becks

Minutes for quarterly meeting on Monday 27th Apr 2015

Kirkgate Centre, 39A Kirkgate, Shipley, BD18 3EH. 19:00 – 21:00, **Room 3.**

Item	Actions
<p>1. Introductions</p> <p>Present: Martin, Howard, Rose, Ed, Sarah, Eddie, Dave, Kevin, Pauline, Dagmara, Francis, Barney, Graham, Geoff</p> <p>2. Apologies. Dave Mould, Stuart Jenkinson, Irene, Steve Bottoms, Colin Fine</p>	
<p>3. Poetry and plaques</p> <p>Reviewed progress: poetry competition was imposed on us. It was a publicity success but slowed down progress. Carver now not available till August. Will have to buy stone, cant get a freebie from Marshalls. Sponsorship stalled – 40 more letters went out last week, no replies yet.</p> <p>Most of sponsors have come from personal contacts – so contacts needed!</p>	<p>Anyone who can introduce us to a sponsor!</p> <p>Rose/Ed to discuss Sunbridge Wells</p> <p>Graham to get Pavilion café contact</p>
<p>4. Exhibitions and festivals. Thanks to Irene!</p> <p>Applied to Shipley Street Arts Festival. Shortlisted for 'interview' on 29th April.</p> <p>Poetry exhibition touring various libraries.</p> <p>Got slot at Words in the City fringe event (for poetry) on 6th June</p>	<p>Keep up good work Irene!</p>
<p>5. Invasives</p> <p>Did lots of spraying/injection in downstream parts of Beck last year.</p> <p>EA contact (Dan) wanting to link our trained people to River Stewardship Company (RSC), they would need some more certificates. Our people are willing.</p>	<p>Francis to liaise with Dan and our team.</p> <p>Kevin and Francis to discuss BGB</p>

<p>Biggest area of JK is Bullgreave Beck, we will need help to tackle.</p> <p>Legal stick available this year.</p>	
<p>6. Footpaths and Beckwalks</p> <p>7th June, 12th July. Details on FB page. Will not be cancelled by the weather!</p> <p>Irene looking into funding for booklets. David B looking at mapping.</p>	<p>Rose and Eddie</p> <p>Sarahjane to bring some people</p>
<p>7. Litter picks</p> <p>next event 9th May. Details on FB. Meet at Nisa store carpark at 10am.</p>	<p>Graham to publicise</p> <p>Rose to tell John Bromley, James Craig to contact Sustrans people</p>
<p>8. Chair's report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Response to New Bolton Woods planning submitted b. Annual update to Bradford Council Environment Committee 21st April. Continuing support from the Councillors which is helpful in getting action from Officers, especially close to committee meeting. c. EA has advised that the Beck system has been divided into two water bodies for the Water Framework Directive (WFD). Although we are not focussed on the WFD, it is important as it guides EA decision-making. The divide is approx. Cemetery Rd and the two are completely different characters. Upstream are all the relatively natural becks (Pitty, Pinch, High Birks) and Chellow Dean, Bull Greave, etc. Downstream are all the heavily modified and culverted Becks. We should have plans for each water body which reflect their character and which are achievable in a lifetime! d. Most of our members are from the downstream end of the catchment, with only a couple of people in the city centre or upstream. We should make an effort to build membership in the upstream area; it should be possible to do this with the support of the project worker for the pollution monitoring project (below). e. Canal Rd culverting: Kevin has had serious exchanges with Bradford over lack of attention to WFD. £8000 compensation available to FOBB. 	<p>Barney to circulate report presented to committee.</p> <p>Barney to work with Stuart to develop a statement of ambitions for the two water bodies</p> <p>Barney to suggest projects for £8000.</p>

<p>9. Pollution monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Environment Agency report of incidents since Jan circulated. The visual monitors are still going strong. b. Riverfly monitoring (Howard). 3 trained observers, observing at Pitty Beck, Cemetery Rd, and near Shipley. Pitty Beck water is good. c. Proposed project for 2015-16 is use of glowing tampons to track down misconnections more formally. Also to develop a schools pack. Bid for funding seems to be successful, and will provide funding for a part-time worker until March 2016. Meeting agreed that the job should be advertised. 	<p>Thanks to all – keep it up!</p> <p>Howard to put link to Riverfly on FB and website</p> <p>Barney to do job description and advertise</p>
<p>10. Renaturalisation project, Poplar Rd to Briggate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The plan is to work towards a HLF bid, which will take 12-24 months to get ready. Will need significant matched funding. b. Feasibility study and outline design completed by JBA Consulting, funded by the Environment Agency via ART. Has 3 options: do minimum (£100K), do maximum (£1M), and intermediate. Largest unknown is the degree on contaminated land. c. Final report will be available by 5th May, just a few points to tidy up. d. Meeting with Bradford Council has been arranged for Tuesday 12th May to discuss next steps. e. Still no news from EA deculverting team on whether they will prioritise removal of culvert in this reach. This would provide the matching funds if it went ahead. 	<p>Barney to attend and report back</p> <p>Barney to contact EA</p>
<p>11. A video - Ongoing project</p>	<p>Graham</p>
<p>12. Any other business.</p> <p>Rose: Exhibition at Shipley Heritage day at St Pauls, Sat 4th July.</p> <p>Contaminated water sign still up at MacDonalds.</p>	
<p>13. Minutes of last meeting. no matters arising not already dealt with</p>	
<p>14. Next meeting – Monday 6th July. This will be the AGM.</p>	<p>Barney</p>