



Friends of Bradford's Becks

Minutes of AGM and quarterly 'meeting' on Monday 6th July 2020

Held on Zoom, 7:30-8:30 pm.

Item	Action
AGM	
Present: Graham, Rob, Irene, James, Barney, Rose, David, Nick, Kevin, Matt (YWS), Rachel (EA), Eddie, Wendy Apologies: Lola, Andrew, Rob (Pratt), John	
1. Election of Officers a. Chair: Barney Lerner re-elected, <i>nem. con.</i>	
2. There are no accounts as all our finances go through ART (Aire Rivers Trust). We still have about £11K available, unless there are outstanding invoices that we haven't paid yet. Healthy!	
3. Review of the last year – Chair's report a. Pollution continues to be an issue. It appeared to be less during lockdown. The PollutionWatch project got underway. b. Canal Rd projects. The fish easements and planting for Phase 1 have been completed, although there is damage to the coir rolls installed, and Phase 2 is in planning. The road scheme and linked renaturalisation of the beck are in survey. c. Walks, litter picks, education and talks – relatively little since last AGM, mainly due to lockdown.	
4. Minutes of 2019 AGM – accepted.	

Quarterly meeting – progress in last quarter and plans for the coming period

1. Pollution



- a. Summary by Rob: 13 volunteers, 831 reports so far, approx. 100 interesting photos and the rest are checking for pollution. Pollution spotted in June in Westbrook, Farmers Boy, Clayton Beck, Keepmoat, Fagley Beck, Leeds Rd Shipley, Ambler Mill, Pitty Beck, Middlebrook.
- b. YW's presentation on PollutionWatch by Matt: 68 instances of discolouration by outfalls. Example of Leeds Rd outfall – has both a CSO and surface water flow. Turns out 16 properties are connected to the sw drain, and there were 2 blockages. Ongoing work to fix these issues. Also action at: Dock Lane, Middlebrook View, Sam's Mill, Pitty Beck, Bull Greave Beck, Red Beck, Carr Mires Beck, Barnsley Beck. Very keen to get more observations.
- c. Rob will be shadowing one of the YW teams on site this week.

More volunteers wanted!

Rob. Take photos please so we can make a T&A story.

2. Footpath signage and Information boards – no developments

<p>3. “Bradford-Shipley Route Improvement”, including deculverting and renaturalisation from Stanley Rd to Briggate. Info provided by James Wilson, Highways Engineer CBMDC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. WSP are close to being appointed by CBMDC this month to develop the de-culverting of the existing Bradford Beck twin culvert that is located parallel to Valley Road. b. The project will form part of advance works of the wider Bradford Shipley Route Improvement Scheme and be part funded by European Structural and Investment Funding subject to our bid being approved. c. The current preferred option remains as decommissioning the existing twin culvert and replacing with a new open channel to the East re-connecting back into Bradford Beck. d. Focus group meeting planned for early August <p><u>Estimated Programme Dates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July/August 2020 – WSP formally appointed • February 2021 – Outline Planning completed • March 2021 – Planning Application • September 2021 – Construction start 	<p>Barney to check whether a geomorphologist is included in the WSP team</p> <p>Barney</p>
<p>4. Renaturalisation project Aire - Briggate – update from discussion with EA/WTT/Bradford</p> <p>As noted above, the fish easements and planting for Phase 1 have been completed and Phase 2 is in planning. Electrofished in June by Jonny Grey (WTT), leading to a nice story in the T&A and a great video by Wendy.</p> <p>An easement for the gauging weir (the next one upstream) is in active discussion for Phase 2 and may happen this year. A survey of the cobbled weir (the next one upwards) will be done for the road project (item 3 above).</p> <p>Site meeting on Tuesday 7th July.</p>	<p>Barney</p>

<p>5. Enforcement Undertakings, all still ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. we believe that the Applebridge EU has been approved and we await their cheque. b. We had a query about issuing a receipt to Keepmoat which suggests that they are in the final stages of agreeing theirs. c. Both of the above would bring significant cash specifically for FOBB projects. 	
<p>6. Stewardship days (litter picks) – all cancelled due to lockdown</p> <p>7.</p>	
<p>8. Knotweed eradication update from Nick: 5 volunteers helping survey, 3 reports in and 2 to come. Short of observations around Clayton Beck (reach C). Nick and Wendy will tackle the treatments in the autumn.</p>	<p>Barney to put note on FB</p>
<p>9. Guided walks. New walk leaflets have been prepared for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Gill Beck, Baildon b. Royd Hall Beck and Judy Woods c. Morton Beck 	

<p>10. Bradford Science Festival (24th October-1st November). We would need to fit one of the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science in the Sustainable City - We will explore the science behind climate and sustainability and delve into local initiatives and research. • Science in Bradford - We will highlight local opportunities to learn about and study STEM in Bradford. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Digital: - - record a short video of your favourite experiment, kitchen sink science or behind the scenes of your workplace b. Printed Science at home: do you have any great activities that you think families would enjoy making at home, related to the themes? They need to use easily available materials c. Radio (BCB): would you be willing to go on BCB to talk about science in Bradford? <p>Suggestions made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add questions to walks • Videos on fish, wildlife • Tampon stuff • Riverfly – H&S – maybe a video? • Where do your drains go? • Making blockages in pipes with butter and ice • Different cleaning things to avoid • Identification of flies coming from the Beck? • Why do we care about pollution, what does it look like? 	<p>Barney to circulate an email about these ideas and see if we can develop them.</p>
<p>11. Any other business and news</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Miss Connection – unlikely to be doing in-school activities in the near future, but schools interested in digital content. Can we afford to commission something? b. Four manhole covers still missing in the Beck 	<p>Barney to discuss with Irene</p> <p>Matt to chase up.</p>
<p>12. Minutes of last meeting – approved</p>	
<p>13. Next meetings and events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Quarterly catch-up: Mon 5th October, probably online 	<p>All</p>