



WINDERMERE TOWN COUNCIL

Representing the interests of the communities of Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge

Minutes of Elleray Woods and Orrest Head Advisory Group meeting: Wednesday 8th May 2019 at 5pm.

Present: Dr Helen Jones (Chair) Cllrs Adrian Legge, Lisa Greasley. Gary Hancox (Town Steward), Julie Hartley (Town Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Mike Stafford

1. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2018 were reviewed. Actions outstanding are covered on the agenda. It was agreed that the Clerk will look to order more daffodils in the Autumn of this year, depending on the funds remaining that were received from Civic Society.

2. New area of woods for clearance - boundary issues:

The Town Steward reported back from his meeting with representatives of Elleray Bank Management committee, where the Council's decision about land boundaries was communicated. The Clerk has also put the arrangements into a letter to Catherine Smith Lettings, who manage the building. A response has been received which confirms that the Management Committee are content with the Town Council's proposals. They have asked about signage (private access to their gardens) and it was confirmed that signage is part of the proposal and that it is envisaged that 4 signs will be erected when the work is done and the fencing complete.

The Town Steward has completed the hurdle fencing which was needed to secure the area by the quarry and also reported that the tree thinning work in the new compartment will not start until mid July (possibly), due to the wildlife protection requirements.

3. LDNPA Plans for Carriage Drive and Summit :

Cllr Legge reported on the meeting he had attended with the LDNPA project committee. It is good to see that plans are well advanced and that the LDNPA are now looking to roll together stages 2 and 3, which will take the access path all the way to the summit. Funding is almost in place for stage 2 and the LDNPA are positive about being able to attract funds for stage 3. At the moment, it is hoped that the work will be complete by the end of 2020.

4. Open fire on the summit of Orrest Head:

This had been reported to the Town Clerk and the Town Steward had investigated further. He was able to confirm that the problem is not as bad as thought. The fire had actually been a disposable BBQ which had been cleared.

5. Any Other Business:

- a) The Town Steward reported on a positive meeting with Andy Nicholl, who will put a proposal together for the Town Council , to review the risk with trees that are close to the main public access area. Also reported on the need to deal with Japanese Knotweed.
- b) There was a short discussion about sculptures in the woods and it was agreed that the Town Steward will liaise with Steve Hicks about further Gruffalo sculptures and the potential for Town Council support. It was also agreed that, once the new compartment felling is complete, there should be some consideration of commissioning a very natural sculpture similar to that in Rothay Park in Ambleside, using a felled tree.
- c) There was also a brief discussion on the subject of benches on the summit and replacements. It was agreed that, given the LDNPA plans to improve the summit, any requests for replacement or new benches should be forwarded to SLDC as they are seeking sponsors for benches at Millerground.

6. Date for next meetings

Autumn Site Visit: 16th October 2019 at 3pm

Meeting: 13th November 2019 at 5pm