

# FOLK AGM 2019



# AGENDA

- Welcome and apologies
- Minutes of 2018 AGM and matters arising
- Annual Report
- Election of officers and committee
- National Grid update
- Any other business
- Ian Stevenson: “Countryside management on open access sites”

# Chairman's Report

- Membership increased by 136 to 400 !
- Committee Meetings
  - 10 Indoor & 1 Site visit
  - Some of the issues discussed
    - Arrangements for running Work Parties
    - New Cheltenham Lottery
    - Membership
    - Charlton Kings Fair and Montpellier Fiesta
    - Members' involvement

# Major Management Developments

- Using Drone image to map and record vegetation
- Rebuilding Cotswold wall and installing steps on Cotswold Way
- Clearing Gorse (note Fires)
- Interruptions to grazing regime
- Adder survey
- Trumper route
- Ash Dieback
- Brownstones Car-park
- Restoring Cheltenham's Escarpment Grasslands
  - More detail to follow

# Secretary's Report

Activity	Volunteer hours
Work Parties	1,165
Project Work	415
Newsletter Production	140
Events	110
Committee meetings and work	420
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,240</b>

- Project work includes:
  - Mapping
  - National grid (Restoring Cheltenham's Escarpment Grasslands)
  - Cheltenham Lottery
  - Setting up Mailchimp

# Work Parties Report 2018/19

- Plan of work updated on FOLK website every 6 months
  - Short reports of each work party on website
- Tasks completed over last year include
  - Annual clearance of open area above Bridge car park
  - Tidying up piles of brash and grass cuttings
  - Removing gorse, ash saplings and cotoneaster
  - Clearing footpaths and tracks of encroaching and overhanging growth for walkers, horse riders and cattle
  - Litter picking
  - Repairing steps and support boards on footpaths
  - Removing ragwort and hemp agrimony

# Work Party Statistics 2018/19

- 1165 hours of volunteer work
  - 32 registered FOLK volunteers joined work parties over the year
  - 44 other volunteers joined a FOLK work party including:
    - Cheltenham Borough Council staff
    - Local paragliders
    - THB Group staff
    - Gloucester Vale Conservation Volunteers
  - Maximum group size was 32 (boosted by 21 paragliders)
  - Minimum group size was 4 (wet day)
  - Average group size was 10.8
- Other Groups who have worked on the site
  - 24th Cheltenham/Leckhampton Scouts
  - Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

# Finance Report

- Income £1,940.50 (inc £1,500 donation)
- Expenditure £802.90 (inc £553 drone survey)
- Surplus for the year £924.74
  
- Total funds at year end £5,226
  - Equivalent to more than 6 years of normal operating expense



# Election of officers and committee

Current	Term
John Harvey: Chair	2014 - 2019
Ken Brennan: Sec	2019 - 2022
Malcolm Geddes: Fin	2016 - 2020
Tony Duffin: Mem'ship	2018 - 2021
Anne North	2015 - 2018
Peter Whalley	2019 - 2022
Geoff Holt	2017 - 2020
Peter Nibliett	2017 - 2020
Chris Nelson	2018 - 2021
Mike Donnelly	2019 - 2022
Oliver Pointer	2019 - 2022

## Committee members departing

- Chris Ryder
- Andrew Ross
- Alistair McKenzie

Any Other Business ?