

## KWA AGM JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> 2006

### PRESENT

Clive Atkins  
Carol Banks  
Robin Banks,  
Maggie Cook  
John Creasey  
Tony Green  
Victor Jones  
Jenny Monk  
Jack Owens, 1 Redwood Glade  
Liz Burnett, 4 Carlton Grove  
Mr and Mrs Kiddle, 43 Redwood Glade  
Jane Parry, "Tamarind", Taylors ride  
Doreen Cope, 19 Sandy Lane  
Pauline Lyon, 61 Redwood Glade

### APOLOGIES

John Cook, 4 Redwood Glade  
George Monk, 30 Redwood Glade  
Rae Smith, 23 Redwood Glade

### REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Chairman, Victor Jones, welcomed everyone; in particular Joan Kiddle, who served on the committee over twenty years ago when Knolls Wood was threatened with building. He also expressed his thanks to the committee for their good work, a lot of which takes place behind the scenes.

He then gave a presentation, starting with the objectives of the Knolls Wood Association and covering the following:

#### **Achievements 2005 -2006**

- planted spring bulbs
- trained 2 members for brush cutting
- 4 work parties throughout the year to clear the wood etc
- very successful Children's Day
- close links with P3 Parish Paths Partnership which is involved with things to do with footpaths and open spaces in and around LB
- quarterly newsletters
- application for the DEFRA grant

- good working relationship with the GST and SBDC
- arranged to remove fallen trees
- achieved the Greenspace Award in recognition of the KWA's dedication towards environmental issues

### **The Way forward – What we would like to do next year**

- renew gates at Sandy lane
- arrange brushcutting of the pathways
- monitor P3 - Parish Paths Partnership
- long term preservation and planning and planting
- lighting of path near Plantation road
- more planting
- amend KWA constitution
- improve the website
- involve local schools

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer, Clive Atkins, passed round copies of the Treasurer's report

The KWA came into the year with £800 as a result of subs.

We don't claim for anything in terms of refreshments.

We have spent over £200 on bulbs and will invest in trees in the future but will not spend money on things the county should be paying for

The website costs money

Clive went on to say that the committee would like to change the constitution so that people can donate what they would like rather than pay subs. We need more money to plant trees and would like to be able to replace fencing etc if we were to obtain a grant.

Questions from the floor followed:

Why do we replace trees and not SBDC?

John explained that the county council has put orange spots on trees. Mr Owens said that he phoned up and found out that the trees with orange spots are trees which need to be monitored. If they are taken down they will be replaced with two. Those trees which are next to a public highway are the responsibility of the county council.

John Creasey pointed out that the great thing about groups like ours is that we can put pressure on the authorities as it is their responsibility

Clive pointed out that the Scots Pine are coming to the end of their life and we need to think about replacing them

John Creasey pointed out that a lot of the trees were planted at the same time so will die off at the same time. Clive said that we do have a management plan and the committee would like to keep the wood as a wood and plant the right trees in the right places.

John said that the native trees are cheap but the wood has more unusual trees because it is a plantation, so the prices are more difficult to judge.

Clive felt that we could create interest through the website before the planting time in the autumn. A question was asked about the possibility of donating a tree in memory of someone. Another person asked if we could get schools involved in planting trees. A question was asked about cutting the nettles. Tony and Robin have been trained. The municipal paths should be done by strimming. Our brushcutters help out. They did Monkey Puzzle Avenue before. Victor suggested that we may need to find out more about the regulations regarding this.

Discussion followed about the problems with tidying the woods

A question was asked about whether we get any finance from the golf club.

It may be worthwhile to try to ask for funding from the golf club.

There is also the Knolls Nursing Home. There is broken down fencing on to the wood which still needs replaced.

Victor suggested that people contact him on [Victor@knollswood.com](mailto:Victor@knollswood.com) if they have comments and suggestions.

### **Newsletter**

We need to better define our areas for newsletters and leaflets and ensure that enough newsletters are printed.

We could put publicity on the Sandy Lane notice board. We will remember this for the next leaflet drop. We would like to have funding to put more information on notice boards.

Members in attendance at the meeting were asked if they would be willing to have correspondence sent to their email addresses so that the committee can keep in touch and inform them of things. Those in attendance recorded their details.

It was suggested that we could use 3 Counties Radio to inform people about the KWA. Jack Owens made the point that if you urbanise the wood it's not the same and it may attract vandalism

A question was asked about the Bluebell Wood in Linslade - who owns it and is there anything we can learn from them? Can we tap into the same source?

Tony pointed out that Knolls Wood is woodland and we want to maintain it as woodland. John Creasey said that we need to strike a balance; we don't want to stop kids playing in the woods but we don't want vandalism and destruction.

Trees within our gardens are our responsibility. Realistically, how many people have their trees tested? Should we mention in a future newsletter that it is a good idea to have the trees assessed and maybe give members contact numbers etc to contact if members need advice? It is possible that if we do things as a group we may get a better price for the job. John will draft a paragraph for the next newsletter about this sort of thing.

## **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE**

### **OFFICERS**

CHAIR: Victor Jones

SECRETARY: Maggie Cook

TREASURER: Clive Atkins

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER: Carol Banks

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Robin Banks, Tony Green, Jenny Monk

NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS STANDING: Liz Burnett, Jack Owens and Jane Parry.  
Doreen Cope offered to help from time to time and would like the minutes sent to her.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

This will be held at Victor's house, 55 Redwood Glade at 8pm on Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup> 2006.