

REPORT ON THE TRUSTEES' MEETING APRIL 2016

The 45th meeting of the Trustees of Beckford Nature Reserve took place on 13th April 2016. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by Geoff Stringer. The Village Supper at the Beckford Inn was well-attended and a great success. Over £600 was raised and this was in no small part to the successful raffle. The venue was good and the table decorations added to the welcoming ambience. This annual event is an important part of the fundraising to help maintain the Reserve. The 200 Club, which helps cover a considerable portion of our expenses, is another vital part of our fundraising and thanks were expressed to Dave and Jayne Allchurch who are actively promoting the membership. As the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Nature Reserve is coming up it is felt that a major event should be planned to mark the occasion.

The tree guards around some of the trees have been removed and Tina has plans to replace them. Mulching of the hedge line has been completed and this is helping to suppress weeds. It seems unlikely that the sand martins will return this year but the advice has been that there is little that can be done to encourage them to return. It is possible that clearing away vegetation from the base of the quarry face could provide a better flight path but this is difficult to predict.

There have still been no applicants for the Treasurer's post and thanks were expressed to Jonathan for being willing to carry on in post. The Reserve will be part of Beckford Open Village and hopefully the visitors will enjoy the serenity of the site.