

REPORT ON THE TRUSTEES' MEETING DECEMBER 2018

The 60th meeting of the Trustees of Beckford Nature Reserve took place on 5th December 2018. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by Geoff Stringer. An application had been made to the BOV Fund and a most welcome donation of £175 has been received for the nature Reserve. This will allow the replacement of throw ropes and the donation box which had been vandalised. A letter of thanks will be sent. To help make donations safer and quicker, a text donation method has been set up. This only has a short time to run but it should be possible to find a replacement scheme if it proves successful.

The tree cutting has been completed on the northern bank and Orchard bank is been cleared to allow the growth of ground flora and to increase biodiversity. The SSSI spoil has been weeded and some of the spoil used to raise the path height to improve drainage in the area near the Rabbit Lane entrance. There are signs that deer are trying to enter the reserve through the fence and advice from WWT is that brash can be used to protect the hedge plants. It also gives us somewhere to dispose of the brash.

There are signs that the quarry face is receding and it may be advisable to leave the remaining spoil in place which has a protective function, otherwise we may lose the SSSI. For three days there were lots of bees covering the spoil, so it must serve a purpose. It was pleasing to note that there have been some new volunteers helping at the work party in November. The work parties have been advertised in the Parish Magazine and this may have helped.

Yo Yates nominated Tina as a Worcestershire Wildlife Hero and she will collect her certificate soon. The Trustees were delighted that Tina should receive this well-deserved award.

The annual Village Supper is being planned for the first half of May.