**Friends of Bradgers Hill Meeting – 12 April2017**

1. **Present:**

Abi Coupe, Dave Coupe, Alan Mason, Charulata Patel, Bob Tarron, Rita Tarron, James Hetherington, Margaret Hetherington, Jim Casey, Steve Lee, Louise Purser, Esther Clarke (Wildlife Trust)

Esther delivered a 45 minute talk on the work of the Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust.

1. **Apologies:**

Paul Hammond, Scott Ashdown, Trevor Tween.

1. **Minutes of March 2017**

Agreed.

1. **Finance (Alan Mason)**

Scott has made good progress on the membership area of the website, the final step is to set up a PayPal link to allow online payments from 1 April 2017. Scott and Alan met to test the payment process and some final tweaking is required before go live. Payment will be via Paypal, we can also accept cash or cheque.

Alan is revising the breakdown of the figures for the Your Say Your Way Funding. We agreed that there is no need to carry out the power tool training and the money allocated to this could be used for first aid training instead.

***Action: Alan to send revised YSYW breakdown to Heather at Luton Council to seek her agreement.***

***Action: Paul to consider potential grant applications, revisiting the work done in 2016 listing funding opportunities (carried forward from March).***

1. **2017 Events**

Highlights include:

* Monthly meetings, excluding August. Confirmed speakers include: Andy Grimsey (bird expert) 10 May for a talk and 13 May for a “Dawn Chorus Walk”, we will give Andy an ex gratia fee of £20.
* Walks, approximately 5 miles, starting at 26 March, led by Bob and Rita.
* Litter picks - 4 per year
* Butterfly Surveying between May – October.
* TCV and conservation work
* Wildlife Weekend (14 (evening), 15 & 16 July) – Friday Evening - Bats (Bedfordshire Bat Society), offer £20 fee
* Saturday 15 July (am) – Geocaching event and possible treasure hunt for younger children
* Saturday 15 July (evening) - Astronomy event, confirmed for free, with Bedfordshire Astronomy Society.
* Sunday (am) - Butterfly walk at 12:30 led by Dave Coupe
* Sunday (pm) – Reptiles gazebo event with Chris Wellbourn, booked for £50. Possible session with the Wildlife Trust, slot tbc, Esther Clarke to confirm.
* Would be good to promote via leaflets (in 2015 cost was £512 from Clive Mead, we will need to instruct Clive in May)
* ***Action: Scott to add the Wildlife Weekend programme to the website and social media (carried forward).***

Charulata has made various contacts about the possibility of a small badger watch group, but received no response.***Action: Trevor to investigate any badger expert contacts (carried forward).***

***Action: Trevor to send the link for the North Chilterns volunteering so that Scott can add to the website (carried forward).***

1. **Rights of Way/Access Update (James Hetherington)**

James update note attached.

Step rebuilding work successfully completed on 19 April, thanks to James for leading a very successful project.

Public Liability Insurance and first aid kit/training are still required. James previously advised that the public liability insurance used by TCV is with Zurich Insurance and costs approximately £200-£300.

1. **Interpretation Signage Update**

Paul liaising with Clive on a final draft.

1. **AOB**

Nothing raised.