

NOTES OF HOLME PARK QUARRY LOCAL NATURE RESERVE MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WED 12th Oct 2011 AT THE CLAWTHORPE HALL
BUSINESS CENTRE

Present: Judy Palmer (JP), Anne Dale (AD), Reg Hesketh (RH), Dan Jackson (DJ), Steve Rigby (SR), Peter Smith (PS), Kathryn Smith (KS),

1. **Apologies and Minutes of the Last Meeting.** Apologies had been received from, Steve Matthewman and Kath Unsworth. The minutes of the meeting held on 9th Mar 11 were accepted.

2. **Matters Arising.** JP had not yet written to the Quarry management about the management's committee's wish to see the bund left in place at the cessation of quarrying activities ; she would do so and report back at the next meeting. **JP**

3. **Health and Safety.** The H&S Policy Statement was still not on the website despite 3 requests to the web site manger to do this. However, all other H&S documents had been installed. A record of site inspections was being kept by the secretary. The quarry still had to replace some warning signs. **KS/SR**

4. **Biodiversity Partnership** A partners stakeholder meeting had been held in August to review progress on the project for Holme Park Quarry to achieve the Biodiversity Benchmark Award. Interaction with the LNR was seen to be good with the required reports, work, and recording evident and published on the website. Natural England did not have as much documented evidence for management of the National Nature Reserve within the quarry site but Rob Petley Jones had subsequently undertaken to rectify this. Final assessment for the award would be on 22 November and the LNR Management committee would ensure that all web site records were up to date. **KS/PS/RH**

Issues raised by this initiative;

Management of the deer population: Other agencies cull the local deer population.
Was there any record of dormouse activity? AD would find out if there was a dormouse recording group. **AD**

Natural England would like a record of butterfly activity on the island. RH stated that he might have a contact willing to undertake this or that Martin Wain could be involved **RH**

5. **Website (<http://naturereserve.burtonweb.org.uk>.) Promotional Activities and Photo Competition**

All relevant reports would be put on the website before 22 November.

SR reported that there had been one school visit by Holme school to the quarry and LNR and that they would welcome more.

A photo competition had been run by the Holme and District Photographic Society in conjunction with the LNR committee, of photographs taken in the reserve. The number and quality of entries was very good and judging (KU would represent the LNR on the panel of judges) and presentation of prizes, (provided by the LNR) would take place on Sat 15th and Sun 16th Oct in the Burton Memorial Hall. (**Sec's Note:** There were at least 43 entries in the senior category: Winner Tom Dale with 'Cinnabar Moth Caterpillar' - £20 +bottle of wine, 2nd prize John Wright with 'Colour Woodland - £10 cash + bottle of wine and 3rd John Jackson with Autumn Beauty - £5 book token. The junior winner was Erin Neesham who received a £15 book token. Prizes were presented by Judy Palmer, Cumbria County Council Ecologist and Chairman

of the LNT committee). Many thanks to Reg Hesketh who coordinated this event on behalf of the LNR). RH would also put details of the event on the website. **RH**

6. Reserve Activities up to Oct 11. Some scrub clearance had been done in early spring before bird nesting. General maintenance had been carried out including restoration of finger posts. Following a walk round later in summer some areas of bracken were strimmed rather than 'bashed' and a 'ride' in the SW corner cut through. A grassy bank in front of the bund was cleared of scrub and gorse to make a sunny bank for butterflies. The redundant steps had been removed.

Steve Matthewman, a Holme resident, had volunteered to make a record of bird activity on his visits to the LNR and had produced the results of his visits, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The committee expressed their thanks to Steve for this report as up till now there has been no list of birds seen or heard in the LNR. The hope was expressed that Steve would continue to report on bird activity if he continued to visit the LNR as this now gave a basis for recording. AD reported that Cumbria Wildlife Trust had been doing a bird survey on the Hutton Roof reserve and had noted that this was an important area for migrating birds.

RH had completed a butterfly transect and his 2 reports are attached.

SR reported that deadly nightshade had been found in the quarry site and TW would be asked if any had been seen in the LNR **KS**

7. Proposed Work Programme Oct 11 to Mar 12. Martin Wain would be asked if it was preferable to rake away dead bracken or whether it should be left undisturbed to protect fritillary eggs. **PS**

Usual maintenance tasks would be undertaken with special attention to the steps to the viewing platform which were getting overgrown and obstructed. **PS**

8. Terms of Reference and Management Plan Issues: All committee members now had TORs. It was suggested that as the nominal end date for quarrying activity at Holme Park Quarry was 2021, the MP should be amended to reflect that date. JP would effect this change by end 2011. KS would nag her. **JP/KS**

PS agreed to complete the Annual Report by early November. KS would nag him also. **PS/KS**

8. Any Other Business. PS would attend the Quarry Liaison Mtg on Thu 13th Oct. AD reported that next year was the centenary of the Wildlife Trusts and the 50th anniversary of the Cumbria Wildlife Trust. Of the original sites detailed by Charles Rothschild as important and needing protection the only limestone pavement area was Hutton Roof. Meathop Moss was also on the original list. The CWT was interested to get in touch with local people who might remember the area before it became managed.

9. Date of Next Meeting. The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 14 March 2012 at the Clawthorpe Hall Business Centre. (**SR please confirm the room is booked - many thanks**)

Kathryn Smith
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