

## Meeting of the Old Park Wood Owner's Association - 16/3/07

### Main points discussed:

1 Woodland event. The first OLD Park Wood event will be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. John Waller, underwoodsman, woodland consultant and trainer has been booked to run a day at Old Park Wood for owners and families. In the morning he will lead a woodland management walk, giving general advice on management issues. In the afternoon he will run a practical workshop making green wood benches. We hope to have a lathe and shave-horses set up set up. To end the day all will be invited to share a beer and enjoy a barbecue. John's charge for the day is £140 plus vat and travel. The cost per person will depend on how many join in. The day will be a great way for people to get to know the wood and their neighbours.

2 The main track and drainage gullies. These need attention twice year. It was agreed to ask Woodlands.co to continue to take responsibility for this. JA is happy to be the link and to liaise with the contractor. At this stage of its life it was not felt appropriate for the Assoc. to manage this.

3 Woodland management. With Old Park Wood in the hands of a large number of owners and conservation rather than timber exploitation becoming the management priority, the key role of the assoc. could be to help owners develop their skills and knowledge, through :

- ...events like the 2<sup>nd</sup> June (annual ? bi-annual ?)
- ...inviting the Forestry Commission to advise on the wood as a whole (subject to individual owners consent)
- .....drawing on the previous owner's expertise
- ....circulating information via the website

4 Website. An Old Park Wood website is now being developed, under the auspices of the Woodland Trust's Community Woodland initiative, and sponsored by the Woodland Trust.

The site is being developed as a forum for owners to share information, news and events etc and will be launched formally later this year, hopefully in early summer.

5 Fires and security. There were no reported incidents of damage or break-ins. A request was made for owners to pay special attention to the risk of fire in very dry weather, as last summer.

Attendance etc - woods represented at the meeting: Crow, Silver, John's, Cathedral, Bent Oak, Beech Mast

Apologies rec'd – Bugle, Fox, June and Limberlost woods

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*Notes by Martin Garwood (martin.garwood@btinternet.com)*