

LLIMEYS Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date: 01 March 2025

Time: 10:00hrs

Venue: Stables Education Block, Llanymynech Limeworks



Members Present:

Bob Cotter (**BC**)
Martyn Young (**MY**)
Kevin Young (**KY**)
Heather Dawson (**HD**)
Nick Thursfield (**NT**)
Terry Turnbull (**TT**)

1. Nomination of Chair for this Meeting

BC nominated as Chair for the meeting by those attending.

2. Apologies:

David Hurst

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The previous meeting minutes were accepted as a true record of the proceedings.

Actions from the minutes of 01 February 2025:

- **HD** agreed to look into the possibility of grants – *Ongoing*
- **MY** to talk to Mike Simms about replacing the benches/picnic tables – *Ongoing*
- **HD** to outline plans for Spring Watch at next meeting – **Complete**
- **MY** to discuss First aid kits, warning signs, lights and water heater – *See minutes for latest.*

4. Treasurers Report

The statement of accounts for year 01 April 2024 to date was distributed to those attending the meeting. The balance for our current account is £104.97 and for the Business Reserve account is £5,042.54. Total funds are £5,147.51

The accounts were accepted as a true record by those present.

5. Heritage Area Report

MY reported that he had been in contact with Mike Simms to fix the failed lights, fire extinguishers, first aid kits (2) and water heater. The Fire Extinguishers and Water Heater are still in hand to be completed.

Mike has also shared with us a quote for repairing the car park main notice board leg. We await approval from his boss. He also plans to provide us with a new picnic table.

Regular maintenance of the area was being carried out, including the following:

- Work continues with the felled tree in the lower field.
- The clearing of the draw kiln embankment.
- Cleaning of the chamber at black bridge.

MY has also received complaints about the gates not working and the pins being removed. This has now been rectified and padlocks are to be used to secure the pins.

6. Spring Watch 2025

HD shared with us the plans for the 11th and 12th April, a copy of which is attached at Annex A to the minutes.

In order for us to carry out the workshops during Spring Watch, we would need to provide certain equipment to those visiting. **HD** would provide a list and cost of the items needed. It was agreed by all that a budget of £200.00 be set aside for purchase of these items, any expenditure in excess of this amount is to be agreed beforehand.

Action: **HD** to provide a list with costing for the required items.

HD talked about an app called Merlin Bird ID by Cornell Lab, which identifies birds by the song, this can be used to assist with identifying the species we have here at the Limeworks (or anywhere). The results of our surveys can be shared with Shropshire Ornithological Society annual bird survey, feeding into the BirdTrack app. Details to appear on the Facebook site.

HD has also produced a database from the 1999 survey, and also a Bird Watch sheet and map that can be used as part of the ongoing surveys.

Refreshments for the two days were discussed with any decision being put off to our next meeting prior to the open days.

7. Feedback on External Engagement

HD has produced a list of people and groups that have been contacted, a copy of which is attached at Annex B to the minutes.

8. AOB

HD asked if we should form a Friends of the Llanymynech Limeworks Group. This was felt to be a good idea as it would help to bring our activities to a wider audience. However, this would mean a lot of work for someone who would need to be the Point-of-Contact for this group. A volunteer is needed and perhaps we can advertise it on Facebook and our web site!

MY asked if the Facebook site could represent more of the Heritage Area. It was agreed that the branding should reflect our leaflets and web site.

Action: **BC** to send brand images to **HD** for the Facebook site.

9. Date of Next Meeting: 29 March 2025

The meeting closed at 11:00hrs

Spring Watch 2025

Friday (adult-focused day).

1. Site Tour 9:00-9:45 - Martyn
2. An Introduction to Bird Song Walk 10 am- 10:45 am Alun Dawes — Shropshire Ornithological Society
3. How to get involved in the 2025 Bird Survey of the site (no previous skills required) 10:45 - 11:00 — Heather Dawson
4. An Introduction to Nature Journaling Workshop 11:15 - 13:00 — Sarah Bellis
5. Discovering the Myths and Magic of our Plants foraging walk 13:30 - 14:15 — Cath Price, Shropshire Wildlife (no plants to be removed)
6. How to get involved in the 2025 Flora Survey of the site (no previous skills required) 14:15 – 14:30 — Heather Dawson A self-led Eye-Spy plants trail
7. "Introduction to Painting Birds" between 14:30 — 16:15

Saturday (family-focused day — an adult must accompany all children)

1. Site Tour 10:00-11:00 - Martyn
2. Pond Dipping (AM) Cath Price, Shropshire Wildlife
3. Nest and Egg Identification Workshop (PM) Cath Price, Shropshire Wildlife
4. Self-led Plant Eye-Spy Self-led Bug Hunt
5. Self-led Scavenger Hunt
6. Dream catcher workshop
7. Decorated wooden plaques to hang in the Fairy Tree—I thought it would be great if the kids coloured in bird images on these, but I don't know how realistic it would be to get the transfers on them.

To-do/notes:

All activities are free, but donations are very welcome (LIMMEYs do not receive any direct funding for their work)

- Discuss budget
- Cost of future room rental to leaders of workshops
- Insurance

Advertising:

- Facebook page and all related pages
- Flyer to school children Carreghofa and Bryn Offa
- Flyer to Beavers/Scouts/ Local Groups/ Oswestry Climate Action/ U3A
- Oswestry Life Magazine, The Advertiser and the County Times
- Posters around two villages and in town — Library, Doctor's Surgeries etc.

Llanymynech Heritage Area and Local Nature Reserve Nature Reserve Contacts

Artists:

Gill Crosier — want to use the site but past running workshops

Mark Walters — Watercolour Artist — interested but waiting to hear
(artbydavid65@gmail.com)

Emma Holmes £150 per day (emmatheartist@me.com)

Sarah Bellis — Nature Journalling — hopefully providing a workshop
(getoutgetarty@gmail.com)

Schools:

Bryn Offa — met new Head — Celine Keleher and Sara Taaffe
(head@brynoffa.shropshire.sch.uk)

Carreghofa — meeting head Clair Prichard on 18th (office@carreghoffa.powys.sch.uk)

Wildlife Trusts:

Shropshire Wild Life Trust — Cath Price — carrying out 3 workshops on Friday and Saturday

Montgomeryshire Wild Life Trust — haven't got capacity to help

Oswestry Wild Life Trust — no reply (David Hardwick has been very ill)

3 Parishes Wildlife Group — Polly Smith (Mike is going to put me in touch)

Ifton Meadows (Mike is going to put me in touch)

Council:

Mike Simms — Ranger (Michael.Simms@shropshire.gov.uk)

Local Groups:

U3A Birdwatching Group

U3A Photography Group

Oswestry Beevers — Sarah Taaffe (Taaffe.s@brynoffa.shropshire.sch.uk)

Shropshire Ornithological Society — Allan Dawes (allandawes@btinternet.com) — Doing an Introduction to Bird Song Walk for us

Shropshire Botanical Society — Booked visits for this year (shropbotsoc@gmail.com)