

# LLIMEYS Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 04 October 2025

**Time:** 10:05hrs

**Venue:** Stables Education Block, Llanymynech Limeworks



### Members Present:

Bob Cotter (**BC**)  
Martyn Young (**MY**)  
Heather Dawson (**HD**)  
David Hurst (**DH**)

### 1. Nomination of Chair for this Meeting

**BC** nominated as Chair for the meeting by those attending.

### 2. Apologies:

Kevin Young, Nick Thursfield

### 3. Minutes of the last meeting

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

Actions outstanding from the minutes of 24 May 2025:

- **HD** to provide a costing for squirrel proof feeders.
- **NY** to provide costs for replacing the car park notice board.
- **KY** to provide costs for two new batteries.

### 4. Treasurers Report

The statement of accounts for year 01 April 2025 to date was distributed to all present. The balance for our current account is £69.53 and for the Business Reserve account is £5,490.43. Total funds are £5,559.96

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

The treasurer explained that our funds are healthy, with a reduction in the monies to be paid for our web site to be explained under item 5 below.

### 5. Web Site Update

For some time now the Treasurer has been concerned about the continued increase in the costs from our web host, Ionos. In July of this year charges per month were again increased, this time from £14.40 to £16.60. This equates to an annual fee of £199.20.

Discussions with Ionos resulted in the two web sites run by the Treasurer, The Armourers' Association and Llanylime being merged from separate contracts into one. Splitting the cost of one contract between the two and thus halving our outlay. The cost of merging the two resulted in a one-off admin fee totalling £112.74, for which we paid £56.37.

Going forward we will pay a yearly fee of approximately £99.60 per annum. The true cost will not be known until the contract is renewed mid-October 2025. Also, Ionos has indicated that we could receive a 60% discount for the coming year as a loyalty reward.

## **6. Heritage Area Report**

**MY** reported that regular maintenance of the area was being carried out, including the following:

- Strimming, mowing the fields and blowing the pathways.
- Car park tidy-up around the entrance sculpture
- New LED lights installed in the stables block by Shropshire council
- New lock installed on the lady's toilet door
- Two new hand-built benches installed in the middle meadow
- Picnic benches; tops reversed and sanded
- A new picnic table installed by Shropshire Council
- The bench outside the stables block refurbished
- A new bench installed near the "Office" looking towards Rock Cottage in memory of Martyn and Kevin's parents

A tree has collapsed in the English tramway, behind the stables block and is still to be dealt with.

Vandalism has occurred to one of the grills in the Hoffmann kiln and the round picnic table has had seats damaged and ripped off. Repairs are in hand.

All present gave a vote of thanks to Terry Turnbull for his donation of the oak timbers to repair the seat outside of the stables block, and to Martyn and Kevin Young for their donation of their parents' memorial bench.

Volunteers at the Wharf Visitor Centre have asked if we will assist with clearing the area around the entrance sculpture when the Parish Council has the trees removed. Agreed that assistance will be given.

## **7. Benches**

**HD** discussed the need for benches and their placement with locals who regularly use the Limeworks. A plan was formed for the number of benches and locations around the Limeworks and presented to the Parish Council, who have agreed to fund new benches to the cost of approximately £1,900.00.

The benches will be composite with wood grain effect and require little to no maintenance and can be left outside year-round. They are heavy and will require a team effort to move them to their final location.

The method of securing them in place needs to be addressed once we know what type of benches we will receive.

All present agreed a vote of thanks to Heather Dawson for her hard work to secure the funding for the benches.

## **8. Pond**

**HD** has liaised with relevant authorities to establish the guidelines for us to rescue Gill's Pond. The key time to do the work has been identified as

November. This is for us to avoid paying for a licence and the high costs associated with its supervision.

**MY** raised legitimate concerns over the potential damage that could be caused by heavy machinery moving over what could be very boggy ground. A compromise was suggested in that we do the work by hand. This would require a large team and perhaps the bird and plant survey team could be asked to assist as a one-off work party.

It was agreed that we would assess the situation on the last Saturday of October, with the aim of completing the work on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

**Action: HD** to notify ecologist of the potential date

**Action: MY** to book digger once a date is finalised

## **9. Plant and Bird Survey**

HD has recruited a team of willing local volunteers to carry out surveys of the plants and birds within the Limeworks Local Nature Reserve area. The last survey of its kind was carried out in 1999, and the results of this survey are very positive. More birds have been found in the area; this is down to two factors; the methods used and the available technology.

A point to note is that we have Owl's nesting in the trees to the front of the stables block. We should try to limit the maintenance work in this area between March and September.

Volunteers were worried about their plant knowledge, so HD produced a small booklet to assist the volunteers with identifying the various species to be found in the area.

A detailed review of the surveys is to be presented on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October in the stables block.

## **10. Future Activities**

**HD** stated that two volunteers were helping with the family activities, which would continue to be run once a month on Sundays to avoid a clash between the families and the ongoing maintenance activities.

**BC** asked if everyone had received the email from Keystone Heritage regarding the survey about small local museums and if anyone was willing to respond. HD stated that she would look into it for us.

**HD and MY** discussed the possibility of us linking with the Snailbeach volunteers and perhaps including Ed Andrews.

## **11. Ed Andrews Request for Meeting**

Ed Andrews the Parks and Countryside Sites Manager for Shropshire Council has requested a meeting with the LLIMEYS, suggesting a date of Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

After discussion it was found that this date is not suitable for most of the volunteers due to other commitments and so a date of 4<sup>th</sup> November onwards was suggested.

## **12. AOB**

**MY** discussed a visit by Shropshire councils park ranger and web site manager with a view to understanding our site better and thus promoting it for tourism.

**MY and HD** discussed planting of trees and management of the meadows to allow maximum growth of our native plant life. It was agreed that we would need a long-term plan to understand best what is needed.

**Action:** **MY** and **HD** to look at a long-term plan for plant life management.

**HD** requested funding for bird feed and brushes and pans. **Agreed**

**Date of Next Meeting:** 25 Oct 2025 to discuss date for work on the Pond

The meeting closed at 11:30hrs