

## Trees for Heckington

### Initial Meeting Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 in the Show Office

Present: Tim Grigg, Sue Tucker, Andy Mallet Brown, Mary Cummins, Karen Hill, Pat Line, Jacki Wright, John Kasperczyk, Ian Farmer, Shirley Garlick, Pat Line, Claire Clayton, Lesley Pinchbeck.

Apologies for absence: Veronica Marris, Carolyn Goodwin, Marilyn Scholefield.

Tim Grigg opened the meeting, which he had called. He explained, he wanted to see a community wood in Heckington and wondered if with others this could be achieved. This idea was in the context of the worldwide environmental threats and at the other extreme planting more individual trees around the village.

Tim invited everyone to introduce themselves and it quickly became obvious that there was a valuable pool of interests and experience around the table. There were many ideas for acquiring and managing woodland all of which were noted for later on. There was also an outline of the history of tree planting in Heckington since 1973, which could be built upon.

### Setting up of Steering Group

It was agreed that a Group to work to these aims should be set up. Everyone present agreed to be part of the Group. It was unanimously agreed that Tim Grigg be asked to lead the Group and he said he would.

Lesley Pinchbeck was asked to take notes and she agreed. After discussion it was agreed the name of the Group be Trees for Heckington

### The Way Forward

- i) Contacting and involving the whole community is a high priority: The forthcoming addition of the Village Magazine contains a feature article
- ii) Facebook will be actively used to get involvement
- ii) M-B will set up a web page linked to the Magazine TG will provide the content
- iii) A Public meeting will be held early in the New Year.
- iv) A first planting will be organised for this season
- iv) Pat Line will bring to the next meeting The Village Tree Survey he carried out in 2002 as a record and to use to get people involved in bringing the map up to date and showing us where there are gaps.

### Useful Connections to Other Organisations:

- i) Village Magazine: ST, AM-B
- ii) Boston Woods Project:
- iii) Forestry Commission: through (ii)
- iv) Woodland Trust: KH

### Preparation for a Public Meeting

It was agreed:

Venue – Village Hall ST to check for possible dates

Speakers/advice: IF to ask Aidan Isaccs leader of Boston Woodland Trust, KH Woodland Trust

Possibility two or three brief speakers ie from Forestry Commission, Woodland Trust and these organisations could be asked if they would like to bring display stands.

Display of Past Planting in Heckington: LP to contact Pat Banister (who holds Village Trust photo archive).

Collect ideas from people at meeting

Announce Planting and invite anyone to take part.

Announce future Plan to continue planting trees and ultimately to establish a community wood

### **A First Token Planting in the New Year**

The Site: after discussion it was decided that the most appropriate was adjacent to Laxton Close. TG to speak to the Chairman of the Parish Council, to get Parish Council support. Part of the discussion to ensure that the actual placing of trees would not hinder the practicalities of mowing.

The Trees there was discussion on the varieties to be planted. It was decided to go for native species. Some mentioned as possibility appropriate for the site were Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Rowan Field Maple, crab Apple, Hazel.

IF offered to speak to the owner of Bay Tree about the possibility of a bundle.

TG closed the Meeting thanking everyone for coming and saying he would make contact to arrange another meeting in a few weeks.

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