

BWRPFG Minutes from AGM – 11/2/2026

Apologies from KS, CJ, CM and JM

Present – NG, BM, MB, DH, LM, JB, KG, and OH.

1 JB asked for confirmation that last years meeting minutes were accepted by the group.

2 JB then read the chairpersons report.

-Litter picks continue twice a week where volunteers change the bags in the wood, clear litter in Rayner park and check for any issues which need reporting.

-Precinct work continues. Low Hall volunteers do the Monday session and BWRPFG volunteers do Thursday. Funding is shared. Breakdown is worked out by BM.

-The DW nature walks were well received again.

-DH also did some history walks which were well attended.

-JGs bat walk was also well attended.

-Volunteers had a morning clearing Borsdane Brook of rubbish behind Bowen Rocks, near Platt Lane.

-Castle Hill pupils did two days of balsam bashing in Borsdane wood.

- Year two pupils had a day litter picking in Rayner Park. MD joined us and told the children about the history of the Park.

- JS our local MP and his team also joined us for a litter pick.

-River Fly sampling was completed in Borsdane Wood.

- The group had a stall at Low Halls August event. Money raised was shared between Hindley Hedgehog rescue, Low Hall and Borsdane Wood groups. A donation was given to the Friends of Hindley Cemetery for the loan of their gazebo.

-Two groups worked together to clear an area in Hindley Cemetery for the proposed shared container.

-NG attended this years Wigan in Bloom awards ceremony. Rayner Park had level 4 - Thriving. Borsdane Wood had level 5 Outstanding.

-OH has set up a new gmail account for photos from future events. Details available on request.

-We hope the Queens canopy plaque will be situated on the railway bridge once permission has been granted by Network Rail.

- An application has been made for funds for outdoor education with local schools, nurseries and families. We await the Trusts response to the application.

3 A summary of the financial report was read by BM. Details available on request. At the moment there are two accounts. One for Rayner Park and one for Borsdane Wood Friends.

Both accounts incur a service charge. The group will ask CJ if one account can be closed to save funds. So the two accounts can be merged which ties in with the two Friends groups now being merged.

4 JB then thanked the group as retiring chair person for all the volunteers do for our green spaces. The group thanked KG and JB for taking the roles last year.

Re election of Roles

NG was then nominated and voted to be the new Chairperson. CJ was nominated and voted to continue as Treasurer and BM was nominated and voted to continue as secretary.

AOB

-JG is booked to do a bat walk on Friday 24th April. There will be 20 places, places can be booked via the groups email.

He also offered a bird walk. The group will request an early evening walk in Spring.

- DH is doing three History walks. These are advertised on the poster he kindly made for the group.

- Volunteer hours will now be logged by BM and put on Facebook and on the website.

- OH is updating the website for the group. He is moving existing images and breaking down the text. He is including a BLOG to engage new members. Pictures can be renewed as seasons change. He suggests the group could use the Merlin App sometimes to record bird species present. This information could be shared in the BLOG.

- DH asked if the text on the volunteer poster which is on the notice boards could be made darker.

Next meeting - Wednesday 11th March in Tesco's community room, Hindley.