**Minutes of the meeting of FoSB AGM Mon 6th March 2023 at Harbour Club BN43 5HG  7-9pm**

**Welcome** from acting chair Julia Watts

**Apologies** – Jacky Woolcock, Stella Filmer,

**Committee present** – John Charlish, Julia Watts, Beth Osmond, Laura Brook, Tony Benton, Helena Lewis, Barry Ward, Jan Newnham, Chris Bohea, Craig Ifield

Over 30 people attended the AGM and new members joined

**Minutes from last years AGM** agreed

Proposer - John Charlish    Seconder- Helena Lewis

**Chairman’s report**

Julia thanks:

* Shoreham Harbour Arm for £200 donation used for our Family Exploration Day to pay our marine zoologist
* The Harbour Club for providing the venue tonight
* Friends of Shoreham Fort for their support and keeping their café open for our events especially on cold windy days
* Joss Loader, beach councillor for her support
* Support from FoSB members, Pollinator café, and FoSB committee.

**Flower walk** with John Charlish, Sue Denness and Jacky Woolcock and Laura Brook

**Family event**  with Chris Bohea , Helena Lewis and Steve Savage.

Shoreham Beach was again awarded **Green Flag status** which shows highest environmental standards and best maintenance.

Laura Brook **walked the beach** with an Environmental Agency representative prior to the shingle transfers so that lorries would not destroy the shingle plants

**Beach cleans** were popular and effective

**Removal of invasive species** sessions with volunteers

**Plans for this year** include:

* Beach cleans including one on Mar 25th 11am at the Fort entrance
* Flower walk on May 21st
* Marlipins museum exhibition of FoSB activities and information on the Local Nature Reserve
* Family exploration day in August
* Updating notice boards
* Removal of invasive species programme starting soon –volunteers welcome.

**Treasurers report**- Barry Ward

almost same as last year

Donation of £200 from Shoreham Harbour Arm Community Organisation.  FoSB members now = 92

Balance of £2,248.90

Accounts Agreed

Proposer - Jim Marshall  Seconder - Tony Benton

**Management report** from Laura Brook (in place of Jacky Woolcock)

Thanks to:

* volunteers who attended 6 sessions clearing 3 cornered garlic, 2 sessions for Silver ragwort and cotoneaster and making it fun
* EA volunteers who removed silver ragwort South of the boardwalk
* Craig Ifield who takes ton sacs to Council green recycling depot and for working alone once removing three cornered garlic
* Councillors Joss Loader and Julia Watts
* Gary and Sharon at the fort for their support

Only one yellow horned poppy plant survived from many I grew and transplanted but sea kale and Vipers Bugloss are expanding well.

Childing Pink at Silver Sands has come under the protection of Species recovery Trust and some FoSB members can work there under licence.

We worked to improve the Planters near the Beach Huts and the entrance to the beach at Ferry Road.  We have seeded these areas with Vipers Bugloss and Yellow Horned Poppy Seeds and removed a lot of Bindweed  and other invasives from the Ferry Road entrance. We plan to transplant some Sea Campion from a FoSB member's garden to these areas when the weather is warmer.

. Starry clover was mapped as usual with smaller number of locations but a new one discovered in a garden.

Our speaker tonight Chris Corrigan undertook 2 moth surveys and found 16 moths

Plans – regular clearing sessions, drone survey and continuation of fixed point survey as well as EA volunteers return to clear Silver Ragwort.

New volunteers are always welcome so please email: **hello@fosbeach.com**

**Election of officers**

**Chair – Julia Watts** proposer Laura Brook Seconder –Garry Bates

**Secretary – Beth Osmond** proposer Sharon Penfold   Seconder Grace Hilson

**Treasurer – Barry Ward** proposer Jim Marshall  seconder Sharon Penfold

**Rest of committee** agree to remain so voted on together

Proposer Julia Watts seconder Sonia Fox

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| **Committee    Positions** | **Name** |
| Chair | Acting chair Julia Watts |
| Secretary | Beth Osmond |
| Treasurer & Membership Secretary | Barry Ward |
| Comm member LNR nature coordinator | Jacky Woolcock |
| Comm member Beach Cleans /Communications | John Charlish |
| Comm Member ornithology | Tony Benton |
| Comm Member Marine activities | Chris Bohea |
| Comm Member Displays | Jan Newnham |
| Comm Member Publicity | Helena Lewis |

**AOB/**questions

* Jacky Thomas asked what could be done about broken off fishing hooks on the beach which end up in dogs, mouths, paws and possibly children’s feet. There is Angling Club on pier but increased number of casual fishing from the beach and although not intended to cause damage, is difficult to monitor as no bylaws forbidding it. Committee will think how to publicise this problem.
* Grace Hilson asked what could be done about BBQ’s and fires on the beach which is not allowed but again difficult to monitor. Adur CC plan to have more beach patrols in high summer
* Grace also mentioned the slippery ramp by the Pollinator Café which involved discussion between Environmental Agency and Port Authority?

**Speaker – Chris Corrigan, CEO Sussex Wildlife Trust** gave an excellent talk on the Trust –its aims, nature reserves, education and how it is also involved in the marine environment. He thanked everyone who are members of Sussex Wildlife Trust and also the members of FoSB who take care of Shoreham Beach a rare vegetated shingle habitat. He encouraged anyone with a garden on the beach to allow a moth trap to be placed there on 2 nights in summer as it will show interesting moth species. Many thanks to Chris for an entertaining talk.

**Meeting ended at 8.30**