

## 1931 - 1932

A MEETING of the CONSERVATORS of ASHDOWN FOREST duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> March, 1931 at 2-30 p.m.

### PRESENT

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy (Chairman)  
Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B. (Vice Chairman)  
Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington.  
Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P.  
Mr. James Card.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.  
Mr. William Mitchell.  
Mr. J.R. Owen.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
and Mr. J. Brunskill representing Earl de la Warr.

1. **Death of Major Dunning.** The Chairman expressed the great loss which the Board has sustained by the sudden death of Major Dunning and referred to his valuable service rendered to the Board.
2. **Minutes.** The Minutes of the last Meeting were read confirmed and signed.
3. **Apologies for absence.** An apology was received from Lieut. Col. G.R. Miller.
4. **Matters arising out of Minutes:-**
  - (a) **Quarrying of Stone.** A letter was read from the Clerk to the County Council applying for permission to dig 1000 yards of gravel during the next year at Cherry Orchard. After consideration it was Resolved that the Clerk write to the County Council asking them if they could see their way to dig the stone in some other part of the Forest as they had previously agreed to do.
  - (b) **Road near Ashdown Place.** The Clerk read a further letter from Mr. G. Simpson. It was stated by Mr. Card that that [sic] metalling of the road had been removed by the Ladies Golf Club when turfing over the road. It was Resolved that the Clerk write to Miss Burns and enquire if any metalling was removed during the course of alterations.  
  
Further that in the event of a negative answer then the Board adhere to their previous decision or alternatively if removal has taken place then the material must be reinstated and the road returned to the satisfaction of the Forest Row Committee.
  - (c) **Recommendation of Audit Committee as to telephones**  
A letter was read form the Local Manager of the Post Office Telephones pointing out the difficulties and expenses of disconnection and renewals of subscriptions and it was resolved that no further action be taken.
  - (d) **Road improvement at Friars Gate.** A letter was read from the County Surveyor acknowledging the approval of the Board and adding that the work would be carried out by the East Grinstead Rural District Council.
  - (e) **The Roebuck, Wych Cross.** The undertaking given by Major T.S. Inglis was read and the Clerk reported that a License was granted on condition that only residents or those partaking of food should be served with intoxicating liquor.
  - (f) **Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club – Protection of Greens.**  
The Clerk reported that the Lord had given his consent to the shallow trenches being dug and that this would be done under the Rangers supervision.

**(g) Application from the Weald Electricity Company.**

The Clerk reported that he has received a statutory notice of this Company's intention to open ground as shewn on deposited plan. A letter was read from the Company refusing to accept the Board's conditions. It was Resolved that the Clerk send in a Formal Notice of Objection in order that terms may be negotiated by the Clerk with power to act.

**5. Rangers Reports.**

Ranger Kirby reported that:-

Sir Henry Cowan's Gardener has been cutting a fire cordon around the Crown's Nest – that the Post Office has renewed the cable to the Beacon, Fairwarp and left the ground unsatisfactory – that he has allowed a caravan to stay on the Forest for a few days because of illness - that he had put out five fires since March 7<sup>th</sup> burning about 2 acres – that he had seen Mr. Watson about an encroachment at Horney Common.

Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

He had moved 15 Caravans and Carts off the Forest – that he has cautioned the Bus drivers about cutting the edge of the Forest when turning at Chelwood Gate – he had inspected and found safe the foundations of the Bridge at Water Farm – he had made enquiries about the Hoop Yard – the Rural District Council had been widening the road between Plawhatch Hall and The Goat by taking Forest land – he had put out a small fire at Chelwood Gate.

**6. Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club License.**

The Clerk reported the document was now ready for execution. It was resolved that he be authorized to complete the License on behalf of the Board.

**7. Application from Messrs. Culpin & Bowers.**

A letter was read from this Firm in regard to a proposal for starting a permanent camping ground near The Crows Nest Fairwarp but full particulars had not yet been received.

**8. Telephone Cable at Duddleswell.**

The Clerk reported that he has given Post Office Engineering Department permission to renew an underground cable at Duddleswell. Approved.

**9. Deposit of Building Materials. J. Miller & Son.**

The Clerk reported that he has given permission to Messrs. J. Miller & Son to lay material on the Forest at Duddleswell on the usual terms of consent.

**10. Finances. Rate required.**

The Clerk reported that the Rate made on the 28<sup>th</sup> April last will be exhausted by the next Meeting, and it was Resolved that notice be given on the agenda for the next Meeting of the Board to make a new Rate and that the Clerk prepare the necessary documents for the purpose.

The Clerk produced the Bank Pass Books which shewed balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	85.19.10.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger Fund	100.16.3.
Protection & Improvement Fund	97.4.11.

**Cheques**

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

Kirby, Herbert Ranger	6 weeks	
Salary as Ranger to 16 <sup>th</sup> inst		
@ £2. 10. 0.		15.0.0.
Ditto 6 weeks rent @ 5/-		
to ditto		1.10.0.
Ditto Employers' Insurances		0.8.6.
		16.18.6.
<u>Hatchet, J.W.</u>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger.	
6 weeks salary @ £2 per		
week to 16 <sup>th</sup> inst.		12.0.0.
Ditto Employers Insurances		0.8.6.
Ditto 11 weeks House rent @		

12/- to 30<sup>th</sup> inst.

6.12.0.  
19.0.6.

### **Protection and Improvement Fund**

Also that the following sums be drawn from the Protection and Improvement Fund:-

#### **Ridley F.T.**

New sprockets & Chains for Kirby's  
Motor cycle 2.15.6.

#### **Martin, C.E.**

Petrol etc. for Hatchett's Motor Cycle. 0.8.7.

### **11. Manoeuvres**

The Clerk read a letter from Major Gordon of the Lancing College C.T.C. applying for permission to have a field day on the Forest near Camp Hill on the 27<sup>th</sup> March.

It was Resolved that permission be granted on the usual terms.

### **12. Application from Mrs. Whitfield.**

A letter was received asking for the permission of the Board to cut a bank and lay a small drain outside her property "The Links" Forest Row.

Resolved that consent be given on condition that the work is completed to the satisfaction of Ranger Hatchett.

## **IN COMMITTEE**

### **The Hoop Yard**

The Clerk reported that he had made a full investigation into the history of this matter and read extracts from the Minutes of the Board in the year 1898. He also referred to the provisions of the Award and Regulation Act as well as the Commons Act 1876 and the Law of Property Act 1925 from which in his opinion it was clear that Mr. Waters had no rights to enclose nor claim further rights than Lord De la Warr could convey over the regulated Common.

It was Resolved that, having regard to the Award and the above statutory provisions the Clerk write to Messrs. Whitley-Hughes & Luscombe with a request that the encroachment be removed by their Client and the rights of the Board over the part within the regulated Common be admitted.

[signed] H R Hardy  
Chairman.

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## **A MEETING of the FIRE COMMITTEE duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 1931 at 4 p.m.**

### **Present**

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy in the Chair.  
Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville G.C.B.  
Major the Hon. Rupert E.S. Barrington.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.

The Committee having discussed the precautions to be taken in was Resolved

- (a) That the Ranges should look out men willing to cut lines through the furze and others to act as volunteers in the detection and control of fires on the same terms as last year.
- (b) That the Rangers should inspect their sides of the Forest and should note places where furze has become dangerous.
- (c) That the Committee should make an inspection on the spot of places noted by the Rangers as dangerous and decide what further precautions must be taken.

[signed] H.R. Hardy  
Chairman

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**A MEETING of the CONSERVATORS of ASHDOWN FOREST duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1931 at 2-30 p.m.**

**PRESENT**

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy (Chairman)  
Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B. (Vice Chairman)  
Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O.  
Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P.  
Mr. James Card.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
and Mr. C.H.N. Adams representing Earl de la Warr.

**1. Minutes.**

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read confirmed and signed.

**2. Apologies for absence.**

An apology was received from Mr. J.R. Owen and it was resolved that a letter expressing the sympathy of the Board be sent to Mr. Owen.

**3. Matters arising out of the Minutes:-**

**(a) Quarrying of Stone.**

The Clerk reported that the County Council has attempted to take further stone from Cherry Orchard Quarry but that this had been stopped on complaint being made. A letter was read from the Surveyor explaining the matter. The Council's application to dig stone was again considered but the Council were willing to limit their diggings to 600 yards. Having regard to the Surveyors statement that he would not dig more stone at Cherry Orchard it was resolved that this letter should be acknowledged and the contents noted and the matter be left as it now stands.

**(b) Road near Ashdown Place.**

The Clerk reported that the metalling had been removed from the road and that on requiring them to do so, the Ladies Club had replaced the metalling to the satisfaction of the Forest Row Committee.

**(c) The Weald Electricity Co., Mains and Transformers.**

The Clerk reported that this Company was now willing to pay an acknowledgement [~~in view of their statutory powers but would pay an acknowledgement~~] at the rate of 1/- a 100 yards for underground cables and mains at Forest Row as shown on the last deposited plan; and also that after negotiations and on the instructions of the Chairman who stated that a large transformer kiosk should not be permitted on the Forest the promoters had made arrangements for a station on private property. It was resolved that the Chairman's action be approved.

**(d) R.A.F. Golf Club License and Application.**

The Clerk reported that the License has been duly completed and that an application had been made by the Club to move the position of the seventh green. This application had been approved by the Forest Row Committee and by the Lord. The work was now in hand. It was resolved that the action of the Forest Row Committee be approved.

**(e) Application from Mrs. Whitfield.**

The Clerk reported that he had received complaints from the Reverend H.H. Lowe that Mrs. Whitfield had opened up a way for cars across his frontage by cutting down the bank outside "The Links" Forest Row. The ranger on the instructions of the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee had made a small bank which would satisfy both parties.

**(f) The Hoop Yard.**

The Clerk reported that this dispute had been settled in an amicable manner and that he attended at Forest Row with Major Barrington on the 19<sup>th</sup> June and in company with Messrs. H. & E. Waters and a representative of Messrs. Whitley Hughes & Lanscombe they set out the correct boundary as shown on the Award Map. Ranger

Hatchett has since reported that the fencing has been placed in the new position. It was resolved that Major Barrington be thanked for his trouble in the matter and that a letter be written to Messrs. Waters expressing the Boards appreciation of the amicable spirit in which they had dealt with the negotiations.

#### **4. Forest Row Committee Report.**

Water Main Applications from Lord Kilbracken and The Hon. Hugh Godley. Application had been made to lay mains under the Forest to Lord Kilbracken and the Hon. Hugh Godley's houses at Colemans Hatch. It was resolved that the Licenses be granted at an acknowledgment of 5/- per house a year.

#### **5. Maresfield Committee Report.**

(a) Encroachment. Horney Common.

Ranger Kirby reported that Mr. Henry Waters had encroached on the Forest at Horney Common and it was resolved that close observation should be kept on this land.

(b) Application. Grubbs Farm.

An application was received from Messrs. Bennett to open the Forest Road leading to Grubbs Farm Mardens Hill for the purpose of connecting the drains of that property with the Council's Sewer. On the instructions of the Chairman consent has been given in the terms protective of the Commoners interests. It was resolved that this action be confirmed.

#### **6. Rangers Reports.**

Ranger Kirby reported that:-

He has had nine fires on his part of the Forest which have burned approximately Fifty acres. Two men assisted him in cutting Lanes for two weeks and three men as helpers for nine weeks; that he has moved 8 caravans and carts off the Forest; that 47 Fir trees have been planted round and in the stone pit facing Holly Hill under his supervision; that Mr. Margary has made excavations at Camp Hill and Greenwood Gate; that he informed Mr. Steer the Divisional Surveyor that he must have permission to widen the road at Kingstanding which has since been given; that he has posted up Bye-law bills on the Forest; that Dr. Ormond has completed his road to his satisfaction; that the G.P.O. moved a telephone pole on to the Forest at Grubbs Farm Withyham; that 19 empty tar barrels had been left on the Forest at Kingstanding. These have now been removed; that he has spent 6 days clearing up paper and rubbish and that he has spent some days dealing with picnic parties; that he has repaired the Forest gate at Forest Bank and the bridge at Millbrook; that Mr. Henry Waters has encroached on the Forest at Horney Common.

Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

He had had 6 men cutting lanes for three weeks and 4 watchers for nine weeks; that he summoned three gypsies who refused to leave the Forest; that they were fined 10/- each; that he has had 17 fires burning 170 acres on his part of the Forest; that he has moved 15 caravans and vans off the Forest; that Mr. Cleverly of Lavender Platt while helping at a fire had his coat ruined; that he has collected the fire set used at Coldharbour; that he has burnt the cut heather; that he has an accident on his Motor Cycle while attending several fires and that the machine was damaged, the Insurance Co., have since met the claim; that he accompanied a tramp arrested by P.C. Taylor of Colemans Hatch for having a fire on the Forest, to East Grinstead but that the Inspector released the man; that he stopped removal of stone from Cherry Orchard Quarry; that the R.D. Council are laying water mains at Colemans Hatch and are to open the Forest; that he has received a complaint from Mr. Lowe of Forest Row as regards the ground outside Mrs. Whitfield's garage; that Mr. Kingston has pursuant to a temporary license authorized by the Chairman enclosed saplings at Tompsetts Bank with wire netting to protect them; that he has warned the R.D.C. not to take any more water from the pond at the Goat; that he has spent 5 days clearing up litter; that he has had his motor cycle fully repaired; that he has thrown up a bank as required at Forest Row by the Reverend H.H. Lowe; that the South Eastern Engineering Co., left an engine and van on the Forest at Plaw Hatch; that Messrs. Waters are re-fencing the Old Hoop Yard; that the Golf Club have started to make the new 7<sup>th</sup> Green;

The reply from the South Eastern Engineering Co., was read apologizing for the occurrence. It was resolved that no action be taken against the Company in view of their ample apology.

#### **7. Fire Committee.**

The Minutes of the last meeting were read confirmed and signed. The Rangers special fire reports were read and it was resolved that claims for clothing destroyed in

fires amounting to £2. 17. 0 be refunded and payment made out of the Fire Prevention Fund. Mr. Adams was asked if, during big fires it would be permissible to bough up trees in order to save them. Mr. Adams replied that the Lord would approve of this.

#### **8. Hartfield Water Supply. Application by East Grinstead R.D.C.**

The Clerk reported that this Council had under their statutory powers applied for permission to lay underground mains at Hartfield and that with the consent of the Lord and by direction of the Chairman this had been agreed to on payment of an acknowledgement of 2/- per 100 yards equally divisible between the Lord and the Conservators. The mains to be laid as shown on the plan. It was resolved that the Chairman's action be approved and that no revocable License be required in the special circumstances.

#### **9. Road at Quabrook. Report by Chairman.**

The Chairman reported that he had inspected this road and was of opinion that the Conservators should get the correct acknowledgment under the new scale and see that the road is kept up under private arrangement. It was resolved that the acknowledgements remain as before and that the liability to repair should be under private arrangement between the parties independent of the Board.

Scale of Acknowledgements. Supplementing the Boards previous decision for the making and maintaining as well as the repair of Forest Roads. It was resolved that a charge of 5/- each to the Lord and Conservators be made for each 100 yards or any part thereof over 400 yards in addition to the charges already settled by the Board up to that distance.

#### **10. Applications from P.O. Telephone Department.**

The Clerk reported that an application had been made to lay a cable from the main road at Nutley to Ardens and that with the Lords consent this had been granted; and that a pole had been shifted on to the Forest at Mardens Hill, Crowborough for which the Department now asked consent. It was resolved that this be approved. The Clerk also reported that he has suggested to the Department that acknowledgements should be at the rate of 1/- per 100 yards instead of 1/- irrespective of distance. It was resolved that the Board support this view and the Clerk be instructed to inform the Department accordingly.

#### **11. Licenses to Miss Cooper-Willis and Mr. S.J. Marsh.**

The Clerk read the correspondence from the Licensees and explained that under a misapprehension he had informed Mr. Marsh that Miss Cooper-Willis was equally responsible for the costs of repair which was not in accordance with the terms of the License. It was resolved that both Licenses be revoked and new ones granted if desired providing for liability to repairs by private arrangement between the parties independent of the Board but upon the same yearly acknowledgements.

#### **12. Forest Gate. Letter from Mr. Card.**

The Clerk read a letter from Mr. Card complaining of the gates being left open and it was resolved that the forest gates be painted on both sides with the words "Please shut the gate".

#### **13. Application from Mr. C.B. Kingston.**

The Clerk reported that Mr. C.B. Kingston had applied for permission to erect a temporary fence outside his house in Forest Row and that after consulting the Chairman consent had been given at an acknowledgment of 2/6 as a temporary measure and it was resolved that this action be approved.

#### **14. Scale of acknowledgement for pipes and mains.**

It was resolved that the matter be referred to a special sub-committee consisting of the Vice-Chairman and the Chairman of the District Committees and with power to settle the scale.

#### **15. New Rate.**

The Clerk reported that the funds of the Conservancy were now exhausted and having produced an estimate of the expenditure for the ensuing year amounting to £328. 0. 0. it was proposed by Mr. G.M. Maryon-Wilson and duly seconded and unanimously resolved that a rate be made for defraying the expenses of the Conservators in the execution of their duties under the Award made under the Provisions of the Inclosure Act 1845-1878 and the Commons Regulation (Ashdown Forest) Provisional Order Confirmation Act 1885 to be levied upon the respective Owners of the rights of Common upon the Forest at the rate of Six pence per acre in respect of the acreage of their

respective lands to which such rights attach which Owners and their respective acreages and the respective sums payable by them are set out in the Rate Book produced by the Clerk and signed by the Chairman.

## 16. Finances.

The Clerk produced the Bank Pass Books which showed balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	£90.1.10.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger Fund	£83.17.9.
Protection and Improvement Fund	£120.11.10.
Fire Prevention Fund	£25.5.11.

### Cheques

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

#### General Account.

Kirby, Herbert	Ranger	
15 weeks Salary as Ranger to 29 <sup>th</sup> June		
@ £2. 10. 0.		37.10.0
Ditto 15 weeks rent @ 5/-		3.15.0
Ditto Employers Insurances		<u>1.1.3.</u>
		42.6.3.
Fovargue R.W. Clerk		
Half years Salary to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 1931		<u>75.0.0.</u>
		75.0.0.

#### Hatchett, J.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger

15 weeks Salary as Ranger to 29 <sup>th</sup> June		
@ £2		30.0.0.
Ditto Employers Insurances		1.1.3.
Ditto 13 weeks rent @ 12/- to 29 <sup>th</sup> June		<u>7.16.0</u>
		38.17.3

#### Martin, C.E.

Petrol etc. for Hatchetts Motor Cycle		1.8.3
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#### Protection and Improvement Fund

Also that the following sums be drawn from this fund:-

#### Ridley, F.T.

Petrol etc. for Kirby's Motor Cycle		1.7.5
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#### P.O. Telephones

¼ years Rent & Calls. Ranger Kirby		
to 31/3/31		1.17.5
Ditto to 30/6/31		1.17.0.
Ditto Ranger Hatchett to 31/3/31		1.18.11
Ditto to 30/6/31		2. 1.11.

#### Fire Prevention Fund.

<u>The Clerk.</u> Wages for cutters of sides		45.11.7
Wages for 7 fire helpers, 9 weeks @ 5/-		15.15.0

#### Sun Insurance Office Ltd.

Premium Workmens Compensation Policy re. cutters		2.8.9
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### **Motor cycle expenses.**

It was resolved that as from 1<sup>st</sup> January last all expenses incurred for Ranger Hatchetts motor cycle be paid out of the Second Ranger Fund.

### **Forest Bye Laws**

It was proposed by Admiral Colville that certain persons should be given authority, and provided with a certain badge, to assist the Board in seeing that the Forest Bye-Laws and complied with. It was suggested that boy scouts would also be suitable for this work. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman to make arrangements as to the badge.

[signed] H.R. Hardy  
Chairman

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## **A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> October 1931 at 2-30 p.m.**

### **Present**

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy (Chairman)  
Admiral the Honble. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B. (Vice Chairman)  
Colonel G.R. Miller, D.S.O.  
Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P.  
Mr. James Card.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.  
Mr. William Mitchell.  
Mr. J.R. Owen.  
Mr. John Rowe.

**1. Minutes.** The Minutes of the last Meeting were read confirmed and signed.

**2. Apologies for absence.** Apologies for absence were received from Major the Honble R.E.S. Barrington, D.S.O. and Mr. C.H.N. Adams.

### **3. Matters arising out of Minutes**

#### **(a) Weald Electricity Co. License**

The Clerk reported that the form of the license had been settled with the Company and he was expecting to complete matters shortly. The Clerk submitted a further application from the Company to erect four lamp standards on the Forest at Forest Row. It was RESOLVED subject to the consent of the Lord that permission be given upon payment of an acknowledgement of 1/- per lamp per annum (divisible between the Board and the Lord) on the terms of a Revocable license in a form approved by the Clerk.

#### **(b) Hartfield Water Supply.**

The Clerk reported that he has settled the terms with the Company and that the first acknowledgment had been paid.

#### **(c) Scale of Acknowledgement for pipes and mains. Report of the Special Sub Committee**

The Sub Committee present the following report:-

The Sub Committee Meeting on "Existing Licenses for Mains" was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 1931. Present:- Admiral Colville (in the Chair) Mr. Barrington and Mr. Haslam. With reference to attached and the Sections marked A. B. and C. the following amount of acknowledgements was decided on for the approval of the Board.

"A" – 1/- each to Lord and Coms. for first 100 yards or less and 6d for every 50 yards or part over the first 100.

"B" - £1. 1. 0. to be charged to any person drawing water by piping from Forest springs or ponds up to 100 yards – Existing licenses under that head not to be altered: - Note. Any water pipes not drawing water from Forest springs or pools would come under table A.

"C". Present scale remains in force understanding that in future "Statutory undertakers" pay 1/- per hundred yards or part.

Existing Licenses for Mains.

Date of Licence/Name/Acknowledgements (Cons. Lord)/Nature approx.distance where available

**“A”**

3.8.00 Hon. Hugh Godley 5/- -  
Water pipe to South Hartfield House  
190 yards

31.12.09 Mr. A. M. McNeil 1/- 1/-  
Drain Greenhall to public sewer  
184 yards

31.12.30. Mrs. A. Musgrave 10/- 10/-  
Water, gas, electric mains to Broadstone Warren  
290 yds

2.8.12. R.A.F. Golf Club 2/- 2/-  
Gas and water pipes to Club House  
320 yds

6.6.08 Ditto 1/- 1/-  
Drain from Club House  
440 yds

26.6.23 A.S. Tawell Esq. 5/- 5/-  
Water pipe to Yew Tree Hall  
440 yds

19.1.27 Ditto 10/- 10/-  
Gas pipe to ditto  
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**“B” Licenses for pipes from springs or pools**

13.8.30 Miss I Cooper Willis 1/- 1/-  
Water supply to Little Birches  
60 yds

13.8.30 S. J. Marsh Esq. 1/- 1/-  
Water pipe to Ardens  
20 yds

16.7.99 Mr. W. Osborne 1/-  
Water pipe  
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27.7.98 The Misses Sturdy & Saville 1/-  
Ditto to Shepherds Gate  
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19.7.01 E. Huntley Esq. 1/-  
Water pipe  
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11.11.02 Maj. L. Darwin R.E. 10/- 10/-  
Ditto

70 yds

20.6.11. East Grinstead Gas & Water Company 2/- 2/-

Forest Row

6.12.12 Ditto 10/- 5/-

Water service

6.8.08 Ditto 1/- 1/-

Gas main at Tompsetts Bank

These all relate to long length of underground mains. In future statutory undertakers are to pay 1/- each per 100 yards.

After consideration it was RESOLVED that the report be approved and the recommendations adopted.

(d) New Rate.

The Clerk reported that the Rate had been duly confirmed by the Minister of Agriculture and that collection had commenced.

#### **4. Rangers Reports.**

Ranger Kirby reported that:-

1. The fence over the bridge at Nutley Bank had been broken
2. The road at Kingstanding had been widened two feet
3. He had moved three Caravans off the Forest and 6 tents
4. He has spent 8 days on picnic parties and 4 on clearing up litter.
5. He has taken his holiday from 17<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August and had been ill from 10<sup>th</sup> September to 7<sup>th</sup> October.
- 6.

Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

1. Mrs. Musgrave's road at Broadstone had been completed
2. He has authorized Mr. Baker to leave his broken van on the Forest at Rushy Bottom until arrangements could be made for its removal.
3. He cautioned the tenants of Toll Gate Cottage about leaving rubbish on the Forest.
4. He authorized W. Smith to stay on the New Road owing to horse being unfit to work.
5. Major Darwin has opened the Forest to repair pipes with permission.
6. Met the Anti Litter League to dispose of Litter at High Toll.
7. He has inspected the footpath at Coleman's Hatch on receipt of a complaint and found it in good condition.
8. Mrs. Godwin King still has six Refuse tips on the Forest.
9. He spent many hours clearing up litter and removed 30 Caravans and various tents from the Forest.
10. There was a small fire at Hollies Down.
11. He cautioned various Motorists as to litter.
12. He started his Training on the 12<sup>th</sup> inst., by Major Barrington's permission.

#### **5. Pond At The Goat**

The Clerk reported that he has been in communication with the Lord's Agent and Surveyor and it has been decided to leave the Pond in its present condition.

#### **6. Forest Row Committee Report**

An application was received from the Secretary Royal Ashdown Forest Ladies Golf Club to take down the rail on the bridge at the first green. The Chairman of the Forest Row Committee reported that after inspection he recommended the placing of four stones painted in luminous white paint at the four corners and widening the bridge 9 inches.

It was RESOLVED that the application be approved in accordance with the Chairman's recommendations.

#### **7. Telephone Pole – Hartfield**

The Clerk reported that he had given the Post Office Engineering Department permission to move the telephone pole 4 yards at Hartfield. APPROVED

#### 8. Forest Trees. Letter From Mr. Alfred Blackie.

The Board considered Mr. Blackie's various suggestions as to Forest trees and the protection of the hollies at Mardens Hill, Crowborough.

It was RESOLVED that subject to the Lords permission the Rangers should when time permitted clear the gorse near the various dumps of holly trees. IT WAS RESOLVED that Mr. Blackie be informed that the matter was receiving attention.

#### 9. Report From Mr. Margary.

The Clerk submitted a Report from Mr. Margary on his archaeological investigations and it was RESOLVED that he be thanked for his very interesting Report.

#### 10. Cars On Forest.

Letters were read from Messrs. Sussex & Preston apologising for having driven their Cars on to the Forest at Gills Lap on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 1931 for which they had been reported by Miss Roffe. It was RESOLVED that in view of the apologies no action be taken on this occasion and the informant thanked for her assistance on the matter.

#### 11. APPLICATION From MRS. MUSGRAVE.

An application was received from Mrs. Musgrave asking permission to take loam from the Forest near Wych Warren. It was RESOLVED that permission be not granted.

#### 12. Finances.

The Clerk produced the Bank Pass Books which showed balanced in hand as follows:-

General Account	£119.2.1.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger Fund	£170.12.6.
Protection & Improvement Fund	£124.0.8.
Fire Prevention Fund	£7.2.2.

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

Account No. 1.

<u>Kirby, Herbert, Ranger</u>	15 weeks	
Salary as Ranger to 12 <sup>th</sup> inst		
@ £2. 10. 0.		£37.10.0.
Ditto 15 weeks rent @ 5/-	3.15.0.	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>1.1.5.</u>	
		42.6.5.

Account No. 2.

<u>Hatchett, J.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger.</u>		
15 weeks salary @ £2 to 12 <sup>th</sup> inst.,	30.0.0.	
Ditto Employers Insurances	1.1.5.	
Ditto 13 weeks rent @ 12/-		
to 28 <sup>th</sup> September.	<u>7.16.0.</u>	
		38.17.5.

The Clerk. Repayment to  
Protection and Improvement Fund

Expenses of Ranger Hatchetts Motor Cycle		
From commencement of year.	3.19.0.	
Ditto Insurance on		
Ranger Hatchetts Motor Cycle	<u>9.7.2.</u>	
		13.6.2.

Martin, C.E.

Petrol etc. for Hatchetts Motor Cycle.

### Fire Prevention Fund

The Clerk. Claims for damaged clothing

Wm. Cleverly	0.15.0.	
Ranger Hatchett	1.2.0.	
Mr. Taylor	<u>1.0.0.</u>	
		2.17.0.

### Protection & Improvement Fund.

Also that the following sums be drawn from this Fund.

Ridley F. T. Petrol &c for Kirby's Motor Cycle		0.14.3.
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The Clerk. Insurance of Ranger

Kirby's Motor Cycle	9.7.1.	
Costs re Hoop Yard	12.12.0.	

### P. O. Telephones

¼ years Rent & Calls. Ranger Kirby to 30/9/31		1.16.10.
Ditto Ditto Ranger Hatchett to 30/9/31		1.18.0.

### **13. Commoners Meeting**

It was RESOLVED that the Commoners Meeting be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> December at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

### **14. Licenses To Miss Cooper Willis And Mr. Marsh**

The Clerk read a letter from Miss Cooper Willis in which she declined to take up a License on the new terms and it was RESOLVED that the Licenses be left as before and the Notices of revocation be rescinded. Further that Mr. Marsh be informed that this is due to Miss Cooper Willis' action.

### **15. Spring Gardens. License To Messrs. Waters.**

The Chairman informed the Board that Messrs. Waters had seen him with regard to the proposed License applied for some years ago which they had not then accepted owing to the high acknowledgement suggested by the Board. It was RESOLVED that the matter be left with the Maresfield Committee with power to act.

### **16. The Hoop Yard.**

The Clerk submitted a Bill of Costs which he considered as a matter outside the ordinary scope of his duties. It was RESOLVED that the application be granted and the amount to be paid be referred to the Chairman with power to act., and discharged out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

### **17. Litter**

The Chairman reported that the Chief Constable was prepared to prosecute in the event of any offences as regards litter.

### **18. Subscriptions**

The question of subscribing to the East Sussex Anti-Litter League was considered. It was RESOLVED that the donation of 10/6 be renewed. It was further RESOLVED that the subscription to the Council for the Preservation of Rural England be reduced to £1. 1. 0. in view of the necessity for economy, the above sums to be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

### **19. Right Of Way – Cripps Corner.**

A letter was read from Major Leonard Darwin asking if the Board were willing to cut back bushes overgrowing the public right of way near his property. It was RESOLVED that he be informed the Board regret they cannot see their way to accept responsibility.

### **20. Hour Of Meeting.**

It was RESOLVED that in the Winter months the Meetings of the Board be held at 2 p.m. and in the Summer months at 3 p.m.

[signed] H. R. Hardy  
Chairman

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The ANNUAL MEETING of the COMMONERS interested in ASHDOWN FOREST duly convened by the Clerk by notices on the principal door of each of the Churches of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts to which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood to wit The Sussex Express and The Sussex Daily News and by notice sent by post to each Commoner more than 14 days from this date and held at The Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday the 16th day of December, 1931, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

**Present:-**

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy.  
Miss E. Barchard.  
Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington, D.S.O.,  
Mr. James Card.  
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B.,  
Major T.L. Cunningham, D.S.O.,  
Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield, J.P.,  
Mr. S. Gibbs.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.  
Col. G.R. Miller, D.S.O.,  
Mr. William Mitchell.  
Mr. Thomas Osborne.  
Mr. J.R. Owen.  
Mr. Albert Ridley.  
Mr. F.T. Ridley.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
Mr. A. Russell Smith.  
Mr. John Taylor.  
Mrs. Wilson.  
and Mr. C.H.N. Adams representing the Lord.

It was proposed by Mr. Haslam seconded by Major Barrington and unanimously Resolved that Mr. H.R. Hardy take the Chair.

**1. Minutes.**

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

**2. Election Of Conservators.**

It was proposed by Major Barrington and seconded by Mr. Owen and unanimously Resolved that Mr. James Card, Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B., Mr. George Maryon-Wilson, J.P., and Mr. John Rowe be re-elected Conservators for the ensuing three years to the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1934.

It was proposed by Mr. Haslam and seconded by Admiral Colville and unanimously Resolved that Rear Admiral Tufton Percy Hamilton Beamish C.B., R.N., be elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. James Dunning until the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1933.

3. The following matters were mentioned by the Commoners.

Nutley-Duddleswell Road. A letter was read from Mr. Jesse Ridley complaining of the state of this road and it was resolved that the matter be referred to the Board for their consideration.

Litter. The Chairman stated that there had been an improvement as regards litter.

Replanting of Clumps. The Chairman informed the Meeting that this matter was to be considered by the Board and that some method of protecting the young trees would have to be employed.

Dinner. Mr. Albert Ridley suggested that another dinner might be held for the Commoners who could all pay their share. It was agreed that the sum per head should not be more than 3/6. Mr. Taylor suggested that lectures might be given on the history and antiquities of the Forest. It was Resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Chairman.

Town Planning. Mr. D.W. Freshfield drew the attention of the Board to the Report of the Northern Area Town Planning Committee and the Chairman assured the Meeting that the matter had already and would continue to receive the Boards serious consideration.

Fir Trees between Hindleap and Press Ridge Warren. Mr. Freshfield informed the Meeting that the fir trees on this spot had been growing very fast and that something should be done to avoid encroachment on pasturage and danger to neighbouring property. Mr. C.H.N. Adams representing the Lord said that this would be attended to.

Fencing at Ladies Golf Course. Mr. Freshfield pointed out that the fencing had been badly done and was a danger to sheep. Mr. Adams informed the Meeting that the matter would be looked into.

Condition of Forest. Mr. Albert Ridley said the Forest was becoming very overgrown.

It was proposed by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. F.T. Ridley and unanimously Resolved that a hearty vote of thanks be given the Chairman for his able conduct of the Meeting.

[signed] H.R. Hardy  
Chairman

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**A MEETING of the CONSERVATORS of ASHDOWN FOREST duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, at mid-day.**

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy (Chairman)  
Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B., Vice Chairman.  
Lt. Col. G.R. Miller, D.S.O.  
Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O.  
Mr. James Card.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.  
Mr. William Mitchell.  
Mr. Thos. Osborne.  
Mr. J.R. Owen.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
Mr. C.H.N. Adams, representing Earl de la Warr.

(An apology for absence was received from Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P.)

**1. Minutes.** The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed and signed.

**2. Election Of Conservators.** The Clerk reported that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners took place this morning and read the following Certificate signed by the Chairman which it was resolved to enter on the Minutes:-  
To Mr. R.W. Fovargue,

Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest.

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners duly convened and held this day at the Shelley Arms Hotel, at Nutley for the purpose of electing five Conservators in the place of those who retire from office by rotation on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, instant and Mr. James Dunning deceased, I hereby certify that at the said Meeting the following four gentlemen were elected to fill the vacancies caused by those who retire from office by rotation, namely, Mr. James Card, Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B., Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson, J.P., and Mr. John Rowe, to serve for the ensuing three years and that Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B., R.N., was elected to take the place of Mr. James Dunning deceased for the ensuing two years.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1931

Signed. H.R. Hardy.  
Chairman.

**3. Application From Mrs. Musgrave.** Major Barrington informed the Board that Mrs. Musgrave has asked him if the Board would reconsider her application to take rubbish in the heap near her entrance. It was RESOLVED that the Board's previous resolution be rescinded and that Mrs. Musgrave and the Ladies Golf Club be permitted to take the rubbish with the consent of the Lord.

**4. Replanting Of Clumps.** It was RESOLVED that the details connected with the replanting of the clumps be left to the Lord with the help of a sub-committee consisting of Major Barrington and Mr. Mitchell.

**5. Complaint From Major Darwin.** A letter was read from Major Darwin complaining of a certain person named "Larry". Mr. Adams informed the Board that he would bring the matter to the Lord's notice.

**6. Matters Arising Out Of The Minutes.**

(a) Weald Electricity Co. Licenses. The Clerk reported he had settled the Licenses and executed them on behalf of the Board. APPROVED.

(b) New Rate. The Clerk reported that the new rate had been coming in satisfactorily.

(c) Licenses to Miss Cooper Willis and Mr. Marsh. The Clerk read a letter he had received from Messrs. Collisson Prichard and Barnes, Mr. Marsh's Solicitors stating that their Client desired to be relieved from any direct responsibility for the repair of the track and be placed on the same terms as Miss Cooper Willis with whom he could negotiate when repairs were necessary.

It was RESOLVED that this be accepted and the consequential alteration made in the License granted to Mr. Marsh.

(d) The Hoop Yard. Costs. The Chairman reported that he had passed this bill of costs at a figure of £12. 12. 0.

**7. Maresfield Committee Report** on application from the Post Office Telephone Department for consent to erect Telephone poles on the Forest.

The Maresfield Committee consisting of Mr. Haslam and Mr. Osborne met on the 15<sup>th</sup> December, 1931, to consider above application. The telephone wires are intended to supply "Little Birches", Nutley, the property of Miss Cooper Willis, and if consent was granted, it would mean that seven poles would be erected actually on the Forest, several of them being in very prominent positions on the skyline. It was decided not to recommend granting the application, but to follow the practice the Board has adopted for some years now of putting the cables underground.

An underground cable was granted to Mr. Marsh of Ardens, Nutley, last year, and that property adjoins "Little Birches". The Committee suggests that another cable be inserted in the same trench as that containing Mr. Marsh's cable and an extension taken to "Little Birches", a distance of approximately 130 yards.

Signed. G.D. Haslam.

Chairman Maresfield Committee.

It was Resolved that the report be approved and adopted.

**8. Rangers Reports.**

(a) Ranger Kirby reported that:-

- (i) A small fire occurred at St. John's Church, burning half an acre.
- (ii) He spent several days collecting rates and cutting hollies at Mardens Hill.
- (iii) He moved 5 vans off the Forest.

(b) Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

- (i) A small fire occurred at Hollies Down, burning three quarters of an acre.
- (ii) He spent several days collecting rates.
- (iii) He spent several days cutting and trimming the hollies at Martins Hill.
- (iv) He moved 16 vans off the Forest.
- (v) He has found various cars on the Forest without lights on at night.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk make a full enquiry into the position of the Board in regard to the last item and the matter be referred to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Forest Row Committee.

### 9. Audit Committee

It was RESOLVED that Lt. Col. G.R. Miller and Mr. John R. Owen be appointed to audit the accounts.

### 10. Applications To Camp. Central Committee On Camping Legislation.

The Clerk reported that he had had correspondence with this body and that they desired the Board to consider a general form of agreement to be used for camping on the Forest. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk inform the Committee that the agreement cannot be entertained by the Board who must adhere to their usual practice of deciding as to permission on each application as it arises.

**11. North London Scouts.** An application was received from the Campbourne Group to camp on the Forest in August 1932 and it was RESOLVED that permission be given on the usual conditions.

**12. Regional Town Planning Report.** The Clerk reported that he had received the Report and it was RESOLVED that it be referred to the Special Committee appointed to deal with Town Planning with the addition of the Vice-Chairman.

### 13. Correspondence From Council For The Preservation Of Rural England.

The Clerk read a letter asking the Board to give their support to the Town and Country Planning Bill, 1930 and it was RESOLVED that the Board support the suggested Resolution proposed by the above Council.

**14. FINANCES.** The Clerk produced the Bank Pass Books which show balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	£139.5.2
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger Fund	92.9.1
Protection and Improvement Fund	92.16.10
Fire Prevention Fund	4.5.2
£100 on deposit	

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

#### No. 1 Account

<u>Kirby, Herbert, Ranger</u> 11 weeks	
salary as Ranger to 28 <sup>th</sup> inst.,	
@ £2. 10. 0.	27.10.0
Ditto 11 weeks rent @ 5/-	2.15.0
Ditto Employers Insurance	0.13.2
Ditto Postages and Petty	
Disbursements for the year	<u>1.3.2.</u>
	£32.1.4.

The Clerk.

Half years salary to	
31 <sup>st</sup> December 1931.	75.0.0
Hire of Room and	
other petty payments	10.2.7
Postages and receipt stamps	
for the year	8.17.2
Travelling expenses and	
Telephones	<u>12.2.2</u>
	106.1.4
Banister Ernest, Printing.	
6.12.6	

#### No. 2 Account

<u>Hatchett, J.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger.</u>	
11 weeks salary @ £2 to 28 <sup>th</sup> inst.,	22.0.0.
Ditto Employers Insurances	0.17.5.
Ditto Postages and Petty	

Disbursements for the year 1.10.0. 24.7.5  
Ditto 13 weeks rent to 25<sup>th</sup> Decr. 7.16.0

The Clerk.

Workmens Insurance for Ranger 1.0.3  
Martin, C.E. Petrol &c., for Hatchetts cycle 2.19.4  
Banister, Ernest. Printing. 2.4.0

Protection and Improvement Fund

Also that the following sums be drawn from the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Ridley, F.T. Petrol &c. for Kirby's Motor Cycle. 0.17.1  
Commons & Footpaths Preservation Society. Annual Subscription. 1.1.0  
East Sussex Anti Litter League. Donation. 0.10.6  
Council for the Preservation of Rural England. Annual Subscription 1.1.0

**IN COMMITTEE.** Mr. Kenward's Rates. Correspondence with Messrs. Blaker, Son & Young, Solicitors for Mr. J.H. Kenward of Moons Farm, Piltown, was read enquiring inter alia if their client could sell or lease his commonable rights. The Clerk reported that he has replied that Mr. Kenward could not do so as he held by common appurtenant and the rights were not in respect of a fixed number of cattle.

**16. NEXT MEETING.** It was RESOLVED that the next meeting be held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1932, at 2.0 p.m.

[signed] H.R. Hardy  
Chairman

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**A MEETING of the FIRE COMMITTEE duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1931, at 1.30 o'clock in the afternoon.**

**Present:-**

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy. Chairman.  
Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O.,  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.

The Meeting considered the precautions to be taken and it was RESOLVED that (a) the rides cut last Spring should be kept open (b) the extra look-outs should be employed as before and at the same season of the year as last year and (c) Scouts should be employed as voluntary helpers at weekends, Major Barrington having offered a camping site at the Isle of Thorns.

[signed] H.R. Hardy  
Chairman.

**Town Planning Sub-Committee.**

**A MEETING of the Sub-Committee duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, on Monday, the 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1932, at 12.0 a.m.**

**Present:-**

Mr. H. R. Hardy, Chairman.  
Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B.,  
Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O.,  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.

The Committee considered the report prepared by the North Sussex Regional Town Planning Committee, and make the following recommendations to the Board.

1. They confirm their agreement that open spaces round the Forest should be extended.
2. That the Board should be represented at any future conference. (It was noted however that Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson had already represented the interests of the Board on the Regional Committee).
3. That the Board require that the Forest not be touched until the plans of road widening are previously approved and there are many cases where if widening is carried out the amenities of the Forest would be disturbed. Further that in the opinion of this Committee in no case should the metalling of any main road exceed 40 feet and in other cases no alteration of the width should be entertained having regard (inter alia) to the grazing rights of the Commoners.
4. This Committee is definitely opposed to the proposed Bye-pass scheme via East Grinstead to Legsheath and think that the road should not be made. On the other hand the Nutley Bye-pass scheme between Nutley and Shortbridge, Piltown, should be approved.
5. That powers should be given for the prohibition of the making of any refuse tips on or near the Forest.
6. That the Board should have a representative on the Town Planning Committee of each Local Authority and that no alterations be made affecting the Forest without proper notice and approval by the Board.

Chairman.

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**A MEETING of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1932 at 2.0 o'clock in the afternoon.**

**Present.**

Mr. H. Ronald Hardy (Chairman)  
Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B.  
Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O.,  
Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B.,  
Mr. G.D. Haslam,  
Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P.  
Lt. Col. G.R. Miller,  
Mr. J.R. Owen.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
and Mr. C.H.N. Adams representing the Lord.

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair.

**1. Election Of Chairman.** It was proposed by Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville and duly seconded and unanimously Resolved that Mr. H. Ronald Hardy be elected the Chairman for the ensuing year.

**2. Election Of Vice Chairman.** It was proposed, duly seconded and unanimously Resolved that Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. It was further Resolved that the thanks of this Board be tendered to Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville for his past services.

**3. Admiral Beamish.** The Chairman welcomed Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish on his return as a member of the Board.

**4. Election Of Committees.** The following Committees were appointed for the current year.

The Maresfield Committee. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board ex officio, Lt. Col. G.R. Miller, Mr. G.D. Haslam, Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, Mr. Thomas Osborne and Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish. (The Committee later appointed Mr. Haslam their Chairman.)

The Forest Row Committee. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board (ex officio) Mr. James Card, Mr. William Mitchell, Mr. John Rowe, Major Barrington and Mr. J.R. Owen. (Major Barrington was later appointed Chairman)

The Fire Committee. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the District Committees.

**5. Apologies For Absence.** A letter was read from Mr. James Card expressing his inability to attend owing to ill health.

**6. Matters Arising Out Of Minutes.**

(a) Unlit Cars. The Clerk reported that he has been in communication with the Chief Constable and that the Police now had instructions to deal with any offenders and the Rangers directed to obtain numbers of any such cars.

(b) Replanting of Clumps. Major Barrington reported that he and Mr. William Mitchell had met the Lords Agent, Mr. Pusey, who had offered to provide the necessary trees for the replanting of the various clumps if the Board would undertake the fencing. It was resolved that the Board concentrate their efforts on replanting the clump at Kings Standing only. That no fencing be erected to protect the trees but that a notice Board be erected asking the public to co-operate in the protection of the Clump.

(c) Regional Town Planning. Report of Sub-Committee. The Committee presented the report of their meeting held today and it was Resolved that the report be approved and adopted.

(d) Complaint from Major Darwin. Mr. Adams reported that the Lord had withdrawn his protection of the man Larry.

**7. Audit Committee Report.** The Committee consisting of Lt. Col. G.R. Miller and Mr. J.R. Owen present the following report which is read. We have carried out the Audit of the Accounts of the Conservancy. We have today examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account and (3) The Account of the Protection and Improvement Fund and of the Fire Fund, each for the year 1931. We have checked the balances brought forward from last year and the various receipts and have compared the payments charged to each account with the Vouchers for same, and have checked the casting of the accounts and find them all correct.

The balance of each account stood on the 31<sup>st</sup> December last as follows:-

Account No. 1 in hand	£14.13.6	
Ditto No. 2 ditto	80.1.8	
Protection and Improvement Fund in hand	114.19.2	
Fire Fund		109.8.4

The sum of £159.15.4 Consols and £150 5% War Stock 1929/47 represent the investments held on account of the Protection and Improvement Fund and £100 is held on Deposit for the Fire Prevention Fund. We found the accounts well kept and correct.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 1932.

G.R. Miller  
J.R. Owen.

**8. Forest Row Committee Report.**

(a) Direction Post to White Plats. On the direction of the Chairman permission was given to Colonel Loftus to erect a direction post to White Plats and the License had been forwarded. It was resolved that the action of the Chairman be approved.

(b) Mr. John Rowe applied on behalf of the Ashdown Forest Golf Club for permission to erect two direction posts, one at Church Lane and the other at Greenhall. Resolved that this be referred to the Forest Row Committee with power to act.

(c) Mr. Russell Smith. Fencing. A letter from Mr. James Card complaining of the erection of a barbed wire fence by Mr. Russell Smith had been dealt with by the Ranger and the fencing removed. Approved.

**9. Maresfield Committee Report.** Wrens Warren. An application for the widening from the County Council had been approved by the Chairman of the Maresfield Committee subject to the Consent of the Lord and the work being completed to the satisfaction of the Committee and the turves being relaid uppermost, It was Resolved that the action of the Chairman be approved.

**10. Fire Committee.** The Report of the Committee on their meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December was read. It was Resolved that the acts and proceedings be approved and adopted. It was further Resolved that the Committee be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding £50 in the forthcoming season in such preventative measures as they shall think fit.

**11. Rangers Reports.** Ranger Kirby reported that:-  
He had moved 5 vans off the Forest.

Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

1. He had moved 15 vans off the Forest.

2. He was attacked by Rose Jones a gipsy on Tuesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> and that he has issued a summons against her. The East Grinstead Bench have since ordered the issue of a Warrant.

3. He found three unlit cars on the Forest and that he has taken the numbers. The Clerk reported that he was obtaining particulars of the various owners which he could communicate to the Chairman.

Rangers Motor Cycles. Applications were made by both of the Rangers for the overhaul of their Motor Cycles. It was Resolved that Estimates be obtained and submitted to the Chairman of the District Committee for their approval with power to act.

The desirability of the Rangers reporting to the Chairman of their District Committees was considered and it was Resolved that as an experiment this be tried for a period of six months and that the Rangers call on their respective Chairmen each week and that a programme of work be settled with him.

**12. Finances.** The Clerk produced the Bank Pass Books which show the balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	£15.13.5
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger Fund	83.4.3
Protection and Improvement Fund	131.9.10
Fire Prevention Fund	4.5.2
And £100 on Deposit	

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

No. 1 Account

Kirby Herbert Ranger. 4 weeks salary	
As Ranger to 25 <sup>th</sup> inst @ £2. 10. 0	10.0.0
Ditto 4 weeks rent @ 5/- to 25 <sup>th</sup> inst. 1.0.0	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>0.6.4</u>
	11.6.4

No. 2 Account.

Hatchett, J.W. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger. 4 weeks salary	
@ £2 to 25 <sup>th</sup> inst.	8.0.0
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>0.6.4</u>

Martin, C.E. Petrol &c. for Ranger Hatchetts Motor Cycle  
1.6.6

Protection and Improvement Fund.

Also that cheques be drawn from this Fund.

Ridley, F.T.. Petrol &c. for Kirby's Motor Cycle  
0.6.10

The Clerk.

P.O. Telephones.

¼ years rent and calls. Ranger Kirby  
to 31/1/32. 1.17.6

Ditto Ditto Ranger Hatchett 1.17.11

Excise License for Kirby's Motor Cycle 3.0.0  
Ditto Hatchetts Ditto 3.0.0

**13. Bye-Laws.** The Clerk was instructed to prepare a summary of the Bye-laws for publication and to obtain Estimates for their printing on durable paper which could be varnished, as the existing Bye-laws Boards were in need of repainting.

**14. Wardens Badges.** The badges had been prepared and circulated by the Chairman and it was Resolved that the hearty thanks of the Board be conveyed to him for his trouble in the matter.

**15. Forest Gates. Quabrook Gate.** A letter was read from Mr. James Card stating that the proper notice asking those people using this gate to close it after use had not been dealt with and it was Resolved that it be referred to the Lord.

**16. CHELWOOD GATE RECREATION GROUND.** Admiral Beamish enquired as to who was the Superintendent of this ground and as there was a vacancy it was Resolved that he be elected to the office. He also called attention to the tins which are being deposited in this locality.

**17. Meetings.** It was Resolved that the meetings of the Board during the remainder of the year be held as follows:-  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30 p.m. 13<sup>th</sup> July at 3.0 p.m. 5<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30 p.m. and the Annual meeting of the Commoners on the 14<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30 a.m.

[signed] R.E.S. Barrington 6.4.32.

Chairman

**A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1932 at 2.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington, D.S.O. Vice-Chairman  
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B. in the Chair  
Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B.,  
Lt. Col. G.R. Miller, D.S.O.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam,  
Mr. Thomas Osborne.  
Mr. J.R. Owen.  
Mr. John Rowe.

and Mr. C.H.N. Adams representing the Lord.

**1. Death of Mr. Card..** The Chairman expressed the loss which the Board had sustained by the death of Mr. James Card and referred to his valuable services during the past twenty years. Admiral Colville as the senior member of the Forest Row Committee associated himself with the Chairman's remarks.

**2. Minutes.** The Minutes of the last meeting were read confirmed and signed.

**3. Apologies.** An apology for absence was received from Mr. H.R. Hardy.

**4.. Matters arising out of Minutes.**

(a) Superintendents of Recreation Grounds.

The Clerk reported that at the request of Admiral Beamish he had looked into the position of the Superintendent. He found that the present Superintendents were:- Fairwarp, Lt. Col. A. Barchard. Fords Green, Lt. Col. St. John Loftus. Forest Row, J.F. Gordon.

(b) Unlit Cars on the Forest. The Clerk reported that he had written to the three offenders and that they had replied expressing their regrets. Resolved that no further action be taken on this occasion.

(c) Spark arrestors on Steam Vehicles. The Clerk reported that on the instructions of the Vice-Chairman of the Board he had written to various users of steam vehicles over the Forest emphasizing the necessity for efficient spark arrestors. Various replies had been received assuring the Board that efficient spark arrestors were provided.

(d) Rangers Motor Cycles. Estimates for overhauls. The Chairmen of the District Committees had (pursuant to authority conferred by the Board) approved estimates in the case of Range Kirby at a sum of £7. 13. 0 to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund and in the case of Ranger Hatchett at a sum of £15. 0. 0 payable out of the Second Ranger Fund. NOTED.

(e) Town Planning. Representation. The Clerk reported that the East Grinstead District Council Town Planning Committee had agreed to the nomination of Mr. J.R. Owen to represent the Board at meetings of the Town Planning Committee when any project affecting the Forest is under consideration, and that the Uckfield Rural District Council had agreed to like representation by Lt. Col. G.R. Miller. Resolved that the authorities be thanked for their action.

(f) Bye-laws. Estimates for printing and posting. The Clerk submitted estimates amounting to £1. 0. 0 for printing and posting the summaries of the Bye-laws. The attention of the Board was called to the requirements of the Award. It was Resolved that the printing of the Summary be proceeded with and that they be posted on the front of the Bye-Laws Board with a full copy of the Bye-Laws on the reverse side.

**5.** Report of Forest Row Committee. The Chairman reported that troops of Rovers had been coming to the Isle of Thorns to help with the detection and extinguishment of fires and that this arrangement was to be continued.

**6. Report of Maresfield Committee**

**29<sup>th</sup> March 1932.**

The above Committee consisting of Admiral Beamish, Col. Miller and Mr. Osborne and myself, accompanied by Ranger Kirby, met today at Millbrook to consider an application from Mr. Spencer Ridley, of Millbrook Farm, Nutley.

(1) To erect a Direction Board to his farm, also a "No Parking" notice. The Committee recommend that the application be granted, on the understanding that the name of his farm and the words "No Parking" be incorporated on the same Board, and that the annual acknowledgement be 2/6. The post and Board to conform to the regulation dimensions, which Kirby will explain to the applicant.

(2) Permission to repair the old road across the Forest leading to some cottages belonging to the applicant. The length of this old road is approximately 117 yards. The committee recommend that this be granted at an annual acknowledgement of 30/, divisible equally between the Lord and the Board.

G.D. Haslam.  
Chairman.

Resolved that the action of the Committee as reported be approved and adopted.

The Chairman also reported that the young trees had been planted at Kingstanding and the notice board erected at a cost of £1. 18. 0. It was Resolved that this be defrayed out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

## **7. Rangers Reports. Fires.**

Ranger Kirby reported that:-

- (1) There had been 17 fires burning approximately 66 acres in his area.
- (2) He had spent some days cutting hollies at Mardens Hill and lanes at Crows Nest.
- (3) He had moved 14 vans off the Forest.
- (4) The East Sussex County Council had left two tar tank trailers at Kingstanding some months.
- (5) That he had planted the new Notice Board at Kingstanding

Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

- (1) There had been 28 fires burning approximately 627½ acres in his area.
- (2) He had spent some days cutting rides at Press Ridge and Wych Cross.
- (3). He had moved 21 vans off the Forest.
- (4) He had reported various cars parked unlighted on Forest Roads.

It was Resolved that Mr. Stuart be thanked for the frequent loan of his telephone when fires occurred and that Dr. Walker be thanked for the good work done by the Rovers in dealing with the fires. It was further resolved that Mr. Buckman be paid an extra 5/- for special services in the week previous to his regular engagement and that he be reimbursed for the loss of a suit of clothes during a fire.

**8. Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club. Application to Park cars on the Forest.** The clerk read a letter from the Secretary to the Golf Club asking permission to park cars on the Forest as a temporary measure during the County Golf Meeting starting 18<sup>th</sup> April, 1932. It was resolved that permission be granted.

**9. Miss Guggenheim's License.** The Clerk reported on correspondence from Messrs. Wood & Walford with regard to the liability of the Board to pay or allow Income Tax on the annual acknowledgements. It was resolved that the Clerk inform Messrs. Wood & Walford that their letter raises a new question of principle and enquiring whether their Client attaches serious importance to the matter.

**10. Camping on Forest.** The Clerk reported that permission had been given by the Vice-Chairman to the London Hospital, Whitechapel, and the 67<sup>th</sup> North London Scouts to camp on the Forest upon the usual conditions. Approved.

**11. Dead Gorse. Correspondence with Surveyor to East Grinstead Rural District Council.** The Clerk reported that he has drawn the attention of the Surveyor to some dead gorse on the Forest which had since been removed.

**12. Proposed Commoners Dinner.** A letter was read from Mr. Ridley on this matter in reply to a request for information by the Chairman. As the writer seemed disinclined to pursue the matter before the next Annual Commoners meeting it was Resolved that no further action be taken.

**13. Mr. Marsh's License. "Ardens" Nutley.** The Clerk reported that this License had been finally settled. Approved.

**14. Finances.** The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show the balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	£64.18.1
Second Ranger Fund	174.2.4

Protection and Improvement Fund	137.7.7
Fire Prevention Fund	4.5.2
And £100 on Deposit	

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

No. 1 Account

Kirby Herbert Ranger. 10 weeks salary		
As Ranger to 4 <sup>th</sup> inst @ £2. 10. 0	25.0.0	
Ditto 10 weeks rent @ 5/- to ditto	2.10.0	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>0.15.10</u>	
		28.5.10

The Clerk.  
Stanford Edward Ltd., Ordnance Sheets. 0.19.10

No. 2 Account.

Hatchett, J.W. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger. 10 weeks salary		
@ £2 to 4 <sup>th</sup> inst.	20.0.0	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>0.15.10</u>	
		20.15.10

13 weeks rent @ 12/- to 28<sup>th</sup> march 7.16.0

Martin, C.E. Petrol &c. for Ranger Hatchetts Motor Cycle  
0.17.8

The Clerk.

Insurance on Ranger Hatchetts Motor Cycle 10.7.10

Protection and Improvement Fund.

Also that cheques be drawn from this Fund.

Ridley, F.T.. Petrol &c. for Kirby's Motor Cycle  
0.13.2

The Clerk.

St. Dominics Press. Wardens Badges. 3.0.0  
Insurance on Ranger Kirby's Motor Cycle 9.9.5

In Committee.

Fires.

The Clerk reported that a summons had been issued against Edward Edwards of Colemans Hatch for setting fire to the Forest near "The Rough" and that the Magistrates dismissed the case owing to a lack of sufficient evidence. It was Resolved that Mr. James Sherborne, the prosecutor and witness of the alleged offence be awarded £5 in recognition of his services.

[signed] R.E.S. Barrington

**A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> July, 1932 at 3.0 p.m.**

**Present.**

Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O. Vice-Chairman  
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B. (in the Chair)  
Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B.,

Lt. Col. G.R. Miller, D.S.O.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.  
Mr. William Mitchell  
Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P.  
Mr. Thos. Osborne.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
and Mr. C.H.N. Adams representing the Lord.

**1. Minutes.** The Minutes of the last meeting were read confirmed and signed.

**2. Apologies For Absence** were received from the Chairman and Mr. J.R. Owen..

**3. Matters Arising Out Of Minutes.**

(a) Bye-laws. The Vice Chairman informed the Board that after certain amendments had been made by the Chairman and himself in the form of the revised Bye-laws they has now been printed and posted.

(b) Miss Guggenheim's License. The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Miss Guggenheim's agents Messrs. Wood & Walford in which on her behalf they waived any further claim for deduction of Income Tax without waiving her right to it. Resolved that a letter be written to Messrs. Wood & Walford thanking Miss Guggenheim for the attitude she had taken.

**4. Rangers Reports.** Ranger Kirby reported that

- (1) He had moved 12 caravans off the Forest
- (2) He had put out 3 fires
- (3) He had spend some days clearing up litter and dealing with picnic parties
- (4) Two young trees had been damaged at Kingstanding
- (5) He had an accident on his motor cycle when he rode into a swarm of bees.

Ranger Hatchett reported that

- (1) He had moved 18 caravans and one camper off the Forest.
- (2) He has put out 6 fires with assistance
- (3) one fire burning 4 acres was started by a spark from an East Sussex County Council tractor according to a witness
- (4) He has spent some days clearing up litter and cleaning undergrowth
- (5) Greenhall Toll quarry had been well fenced and he had made good the entrance to Cherry Orchard Quarry.
- (6) He has complaints from various people with notice boards on the Nutley Road of interference by the East Sussex County Council with regard to these boards.
- (7) He has been undergoing X Ray treatment at Brompton Hospital and had been absent by leave of the Vice-Chairman for this purpose on various occasions.

**5. Military Training Over The Forest.**

The Clerk reported that an application for permission to manoeuvre on the Forest in August had been received from the O.C. the 2<sup>nd</sup> Batt. Gloucester Regiment and consent granted with the Chairman's authority. Approved.

**6. Weald Electricity Company.**

The Clerk reported that he had received an application from the Weald Electricity Company for the extension of their underground ,mains at Highgate to Green Hall and Ashdown Place. The application was granted after reference to the Chairman and a memorandum drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the original License to this Company. Approved.

**7. "Shalesbrook" Forest Row.**

The Clerk reported that permission has been given to Mr. L. Smith to cart materials over and deposit them on Forest land at "Shalesbrook" on the usual terms. A License had also been granted on the instructions of the Vice-Chairman to Mrs. Bond to make and maintain a short road across the Forest at Shalesbrook at an annual acknowledgement of Seven shillings and sixpence. Approved.

**8. The Uckfield Gas & Electricity Company.** An application had been received from this company for permission to lay mains under the Forest at Nutley in accordance with their statutory powers and to erect a pole and stay on Forest land at Fords Green, Nutley. The matter having been reported to the Chairman and the Agent

to the Lord and consent granted on terms similar to those in operation with the Weald Electricity Company. The Clerk stated that the necessary License has been entered into. Resolved that the Chairman's action be approved.

**9. Applications To Erect "For Sale" Notice Boards.** Applications had been received and permission given by the Chairman of the Maresfield Committee for the erection of "for sale" notice boards at "Bankside", Fairwarp, "Little Gassons" Duddleswell and of a "to let" board at "The Crows Nest". It was Resolved that notice be given for these boards to be removed by the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1932 and that in future no further permission be given for advertisement boards to be erected.

**10. Oldlands Hall. License For Notice Board.** The Clerk reported that a License had been granted to Sir Bernard Eckstein upon the usual terms and payment of an annual acknowledgement of [blank] for the erection of a Direction Board at "Oldlands Hall". Approved.

**11. P.O. Engineering Department.** The Clerk reported that THE P.O. Engineering Department had asked for consent to erect a pole on the Forest opposite Shepherds Cottage, Hartfield. After consideration by the Forest Row Committee consent was refused. Resolved that the action of the Committee as reported be approved.

## 12. New Rate

The Clerk reported that the funds of the Conservancy were now exhausted and having produced an estimate of the expenditure for the ensuing year amounting to £320 it was proposed by Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, seconded and unanimously resolved that a rate be made for defraying the expenses of the Conservators in the execution of their duties under the Award made under the provisions of the Inclosure Acts 1845-78 and the Commons Regulations (Ashdown Forest) Provisional Order Confirmation Act 1885 to be levied upon the respective owners of the rights of Common upon the Forest at the rate of Sixpence per acre in respect of the acreage of their respective lands to which such rights attach which owners and their respective acreages and the respective sums payable by them are set out in the Rate Book produced by the Clerk and signed by the Vice-Chairman.

**13. Finances.** The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show the balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	58.4.11
Second Ranger Fund	161.1.2
Protection and Improvement Fund	153.6.5
Fire Prevention Fund	5.6.2
And £100 on Deposit	

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

### No. 1 Account

Kirby Herbert Ranger. 15 weeks salary as Ranger to 18 <sup>th</sup> inst @ £2. 10. 0	37.10.0	
Ditto 15 weeks rent @ 5/- to ditto	3.15.0	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>1.3.9</u>	42.8.9

### The Clerk.

S. Bishop. Print for Bye-law boards	0.8.0	
Half years salary to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 1932	<u>75.0.0</u>	75.8.0

### No. 2 Account.

Hatchett, J.W. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger. 15 weeks salary @ £2 to 18 <sup>th</sup> inst.	30.0.0	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>1.3.9</u>	31.3.9
13 weeks rent @ 12/- to 27 <sup>th</sup> June	7.16.0	

Martin, C.E. Petrol &c. for Rangers Motor Cycle.	1.2.2	
Ditto. Repairs and overhaul Ditto	<u>16.2.6</u>	17.4.8

The Clerk.

Drs. Lapage & Thornton. Certificate. Hatchett v Jones  
0.10.6

Protection and Improvement Fund.

Also that cheques be drawn from this Fund.  
Ridley, F.T.. Petrol &c. for Kirby's Motor Cycle  
0.17.1

The Clerk.

Ridley F.T. Repairs, overhaul &c. of	7.13.0	
H.J. Pusey. Repairs &c. to Notice Board at Kingstanding.		1.18.0

P.O. Telephones.

¼ years rent and called. Rangers Kirby to 31/3/32	1.17.3	
Ditto 30/7/32	1.17.10	
Ditto Ranger Hatchett To 31/3/32	2.4.4	
Ditto 30/7/32	<u>1.19.7</u>	17.10.5

Fire Prevention Fund.

Also that cheques be drawn from this fund.  
A.& C. Bridgland Ltd. Armllets for Fire Helpers  
1.10.0

The Clerk.

Sherman Fire Helper	5.0.0	
Ridley, Clifford. 9 weeks salary as Fire Helper	2.5.0	
Clark, Henry Ditto	2.5.0	
Pursglove, Herbert Ditto	2.5.0.	
Buckman, Chas. Ditto	2.5.0.	
Ditto Loss of Jacket	1.0.0	
Sherborne James 8 weeks salary as Fire Helper	2.0.0	
Budgen, Benj. Ditto	<u>2.0.0</u>	19.0.0

**14. Boundary Fences. Pippingford Park.**

The Clerk reported that he had received applications from Mr. Hayley Morris in regard to a new boundary fence to be created around Pippingford Park. It was resolved that he be informed that he is only permitted to enclose to a distance not exceeding three feet from the stem of the hedge.

**15. Alleged Encroachment. The Burn, Chuck Hatch.**

Ranger Hatchett reported that there appeared to be an encroachment in the boundary fences of this property. It was Resolved that the Clerk view the same in company with him and if necessary write Mr. Barolet the owner for his explanation.

## **16. Fire Committee.**

The advisability of the Board providing poles and brooms for the extinguishment of fires at selected places around the Forest was considered and referred to the Fire Committee.

[signed] H.R. Hardy  
Chairman.

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## **A MEETING of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Friday, 23rd September, 1932 at 3.0 p.m.**

H.R. Hardy, Esq., Chairman.  
Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B., &c.  
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B.  
Lt. Col. G.R. Miller, D.S.O.  
Mr. William Mitchell  
Mr. William [Thomas] Osborne.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
and Mr. C.H.N. Adams representing the Lord.

(Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P., Messrs. G.D. Haslam, J.R. Owen and Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O.)

### **1. Minutes.**

The Minutes of the last meeting were read, approved and signed.

### **2. Encroachment, The Burn.**

The Clerk reported that he wrote Mr. Barolet who explained that in accordance with the Conservators wishes some nine years ago he had altered the boundary fence. On reference to the Minutes it was found that the matter had then been settled by Ranger Brown on Mr. Freshfield's instructions. The Chairman of the Forest Row Committee had now instructed Ranger Hackett in view of these facts to get in touch with the Ex-Ranger to ascertain what action had been taken. The Clerk was also instructed to enquire at the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries as to whether the existing 6" map as attached to the Award could be supplanted by one of 25" scale.

### **3. Spark Arresters.**

A letter from the County Surveyor addressed to the Chairman of the Board was read regretting the inefficiency of the spark arrester which caused a fire in July last and stating that definite instructions had been given with a view to minimising the risk of any such further occurrence.

### **4. Posthorn Lane Bridge.**

A letter was read from the Agent of the Lord stating that the necessary repairs had been carried out.

### **5. Rate.**

The Clerk reported that the Rate had been confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 1932 and the collection was now in progress.

### **6. Maresfield Committee Report.**

The Maresfield Committee presented the following report of their meeting.

“The committee held a meeting on September, 21<sup>st</sup> to consider the following matters:-

- (1) The liability or otherwise of the new purchaser of “Little Gassons” Fairwarp for the License of £3. 3. 0.
- (2) Sir Bernard Eckstein's gate on Oldlands Hall estate.
- (3) Removal of turves by the County Council on the road from Old Lodge to Chuck Hatch and from Kidds Hill Road to Chuck Hatch.

The following members of the Committee were present:-

Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B., Messrs. Wm. Osborne and G.D. Haslam.

With regard to the Liability for License No. 1. This seems to the Committee or be purely a legal question. Does the Conveyance of the property from Mr. Jarvis to Mrs. Cannon contain a clause about the purchaser taking over all liabilities of a known character? If so then the Committee considers Mrs. Cannon is responsible for the £3.0.0. for the current years License.

With regard to No. 2 and Messrs. Wood & Walford's letter &c., re the gate which stands at the head of the lane leading down to the Home Farm at Fairwarp. The Committee discovered that the gate is not on Forest Land. The existing gate was erected by the Board some 12-15 years ago either in error or by an act of grace. The Commoners round about very much appreciate the usefulness of the gate, as it prevents cattle wandering away on to other roads, and they hope that the existing gate may be allowed to remain, or a new one erected in its place. The Committee think that the Rural District Council of Uckfield should be informed that the gate has nothing to do with the Conservators and it is not on Forest land.

The Committee then considered Ranger Hatchett's report about removal of turves by the County Council and used for banking the sides of the road. It was found that in many places grass turves varying in thickness from 3-8 inches had been removed. The roots of the grass have of course been removed with the turves. Ranger Hatchett estimates roughly that about three quarters of an acre has been removed. The Committee recommends that the County Council should be instructed to make good by sowing grass seeds in all such places and also that the Lord of the Manor should be informed what has taken place and ask him to re-inforce the recommendations of the Committee"

G.D. Haslam.  
Chairman.

It was Resolved that the acts and proceedings of the Committee as reported be approved and adopted. It was further Resolved that (a) the Rangers Report on any future encroachment by the County Council (b) the County Council be informed that the Board regret that any such occurrences as the present instance have been allowed and requesting their explanation as the Board feel that they have exceeding their authority and in particular object to the covering of the turf with bracken and requesting them to rake over and sow with grass seeds the parts from which the turves have been removed. The Clerk stated that he was making further enquiries into the matter of the License and would bring it before the Maresfield Committee again later.

Arising out of this discussion Admiral Colville called attention to the work in progress at Kidds Hill and it was arranged that the Chairman discuss this and the matter of the encroachment by the Road Authority with Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson with a view to some action being taken with the County Authority.

### **7. Destruction By Deer, Horncastle**

Complaint having been received from Mr. W.H. Shelford that deer had entered his property, Mr. Adams stated that he had been in communication with him and explained his legal rights. No action was necessary by the Board.

### **8. Electric Cables, Fairwarp**

A letter from Mr. Arnold T. Willett was read enquiring as to the likelihood of the Board agreeing to overhead lines from the Vicarage, Fairwarp to Mr. Willetts property "Arnolds".

The Clerk stated that he had replied to the effect that the Board were most unlikely to grant any overhead facilities. Approved.

### **9. R.A.F. Golf Club**

A letter was read from the Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club, stating that the Chairman has given permission as a temporary measure to the Club to park cars on the Forest Row Cricket ground upon the Board receiving 6d. for each car and that consent has also been given for the erection of temporary telephone posts, both of which applications were in connection with the English Ladies Golf Championship Meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September. It was Resolved that the action of the Chairman be approved.

### **10. Rangers Reports.** Ranger Kirby reported that:-

- (1) He had spent much time clearing up litter and dealing with picnic parties.
- (2) He had painted various Bye-Laws Boards

- (3) He had moved 6 caravans off the Forest
- (4) He has asked Mr. Marsh of "Ardens" Nutley to move his bee hives off the Forest which he had done.
- (5) Mr. Hayley Morris had erected his new fence to his satisfaction.

Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

- (1) He has spent much time clearing up, litter and dealing with motorists.
- (2) He had moved 8 vans off the Forest.
- (3) He had painted various Bye-Laws Boards
- (4) 20 seedling trees had died at Kingstanding but that the remainder were doing well.
- (5) The East Sussex County Council had deposited road materials on the Forest at Cherry Orchard, Honeywells and the Depot.
- (6) The East Sussex County Council had cut turf at Old Lodge and Chuck Hatch.
- (7) The gate on the road leading from the high road to Water Farm had been repaired.

**11. Finances.** The Clerk produced the Bank Pass Books which showed the balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	56.5.2
Second Ranger Fund	111.16.9
Protection and Improvement Fund	137.6.5
Fire Prevention Fund	4.16.2
£80 on Deposit	

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

No. 1 Account

Kirby Herbert Ranger. 9 weeks salary as Ranger to 19 <sup>th</sup> inst @ £2. 10. 0	22.10.0	
Ditto 9 weeks rent @ 5/- to ditto	2.5.0	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>0.14.3</u>	25.9.3
Shaw & Sons Ltd., Envelopes.	0.17.0	

No. 2 Account.

Hatchett, J.W. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger. 9 weeks salary @ £2 to 19 <sup>th</sup> inst.	18.0.0	
Ditto Employers Insurance	<u>0.14.3</u>	18.14.3
Ditto 12 weeks rent @ 12/- to 19 <sup>th</sup> inst.	7.4.0	

Protection and Improvement Fund.

Also that cheques be drawn from this Fund.  
The Clerk. Costs re Ted Edwards prosecution  
8.19.8

The Board then went into Committee.

**12. Highgate-Wych Cross Road.**

A letter was read from the County Surveyor applying for consent of the Board to the widening of this road on the east side together with a new footpath for a considerable portion of the distance between Highgate, Forest Row and Wych Cross. The matter was very fully discussed and letters from Mr. D.W. Freshfield were considered. In the course of the discussion it was realized that the Board fully recognize that Hindleap Warren was private property and that the beauty of the road would be affected if the trees were cut down, on the other hand it was felt that the growing traffic and the general public interest demanded careful consideration. It was proposed by Admiral Sir

Stanley Colville and duly seconded that the Board feel that on giving their consent as Conservators of the Forest it is their duty to ask that the County Council concur in the following safeguarding conditions and that the application be approved on the following terms viz.,

- (1) The detailed proposals for the alteration of the main road between Highgate and Wych Cross be settled between representatives of the Board and the County Council on the site.
- (2) That the County Council take all steps to protect the amenities of the Forest by cutting down and damaging as few trees as possible.
- (3) That the footpath should be diverted round the trees where necessary.
- (4) That the County Council accept these conditions before any work is put in hand.

On being put to the vote this resolution was carried by seven in favour and none against.

Chairman.

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**The ANNUAL MEETING of the COMMONERS of Ashdown Forest duly convened by the Clerk by notices on the principal door of each of the Churches of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts to which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood to wit The Sussex Express and The Sussex Daily News and by notice sent by post to each Commoner more than 14 days from this date and held at The Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday the 14th day of December, 1932, at 10.30 o'clock in the forenoon.**

C.H.N. Adams, Esq.,  
Miss Barchard.  
Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington.  
Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B.  
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B.,  
Mr. G.D. Haslam, Esq.,  
H.R. Hardy, Esq.,  
Col. Charles Needham.  
Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, Esq., J.P.  
Lt. Col. G.R. Miller, D.S.O.,  
Mr. William Mitchell.  
Mr. Thomas Osborne.  
James. R. Owen, Esq.,  
Mr. Jesse Ridley.  
Mr. John Rowe.  
Mr. H.J. Waters.  
Miss Wilson.

### **1. Chairman.**

It was Resolved that Mr. H.R. Hardy be appointed Chairman of this Meeting.

### **2. Minutes.**

The Minutes of the last meeting were read confirmed and signed.

### **3. Matters Arising From The Minutes.**

(a) Nutley-Duddleswell Road. Mr. Jesse Ridley informed the Meeting that nothing had been done to this road which was in a dangerous condition to horse traffic and it was resolved that a further complaint be made to the East Sussex County Council.

### **(b) Lectures.**

It was Resolved that the matter be given further consideration.

(c) Town Planning.

The Chairman reported that an arrangement had been reached whereby the Board were represented on the East Grinstead and Uckfield Rural District Council Town Planning Committees by Mr. J.R. Owen and Col. G. R. Miller respectively.

**4. Fencing.**

It was suggested by Mr. Jesse Ridley that the main roads traversing the Forest might be enclosed by fencing for the protection of the stock and it was Resolved that the Clerk enquire into the legal aspect and report to the Board and that Mr. Ridley be informed as to the result.

**5. Election Of Conservators.**

It was proposed by Admiral Beamish seconded by Mr. Maryon-Wilson and resolved that Mr. William Mitchell, Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington, D.S.O. Mr. G.D. Haslam and Mr. James R. Owen be elected Conservators for the ensuing three years to the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1935. It was proposed by Mr. Jesse Ridley but not seconded that Miss Frances Rose Ridley be elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. James Card. It was proposed by Major Barrington seconded by Admiral Colville and resolved that Mr. Henry James Waters be elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. James Card and to hold office until 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1934.

**6. Vote Of Thanks**

It was proposed by Admiral Colville, seconded by Major Barrington and unanimously Resolved that a hearty vote of thanks be given the Chairman for his able conduct of the Meeting.

[signed] R.E.S. Barrington

Chairman

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**A MEETING of the CONSERVATORS of ASHDOWN FOREST duly convened and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1932, immediately following the Annual Meeting..**

H. R. Hardy, Esq., Chairman.

Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O. Vice Chairman.

Rear Admiral T.P.H. Beamish, C.B., R.N.,

Admiral the Hon. Sir Stanley Colville, G.C.B.,

Mr. G.D. Haslam.

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, J.P.

Lt. Col. G.R. Miller, D.S.O.

Mr. William Mitchell.

Mr. William [Thomas?] Osborne.

Mr. J.R. Owen.

Mr. John Rowe.

Mr. H.J. Waters

and Mr. C.H.N. Adams, representing Lord de la Warr.

**1. Minutes.** The Minutes of the last Meeting were read confirmed and signed.

**2. Election Of Conservators.** The Clerk reported that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners took place this morning and read the following Certificate signed by the Chairman which it was Resolved to enter on the Minutes:-

To Mr. R.W. Fovargue,

Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest.

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners duly convened and held this day at the Shelley Arms Hotel, at Nutley for the purposes of electing five Conservators in the place of those who retire from office by rotation on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December, instant and Mr. James Card deceased, I hereby certify that at the said Meeting the following four gentlemen were elected to fill the vacancies caused by those who retire from office by rotation, namely, Mr. William Mitchell, Major The Hon. R.E.S. Barrington, D.S.O., Mr. G.D. Haslam and Mr. James R. Owen to serve for the ensuing three years and that Mr. Henry James Waters be elected to take the place of Mr. James Card deceased for the ensuing two years.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 1932.  
H.R. Hardy. Chairman.

### **3. Matters Arising Out Of The Minutes**

(a) Award Map.

The Clerk read a letter from the Ministry of Agriculture & fisheries informing the Board that the Ministry has no authority to supplant by another map, the map attached to the Award.

(b) Little Gassons. License.

The Clerk reported that he had been in further correspondence with the Solicitors to the Purchasers of Little Gassons and that they refused on behalf of their Clients to pay any arrears of acknowledgment incurred by the late owner owing to their ignorance of the debt at the time of the transfer of the property. It was Resolved that the Clerk be instructed to take proceedings against Mr. Bradford Jarvis to recover the arrears. Further that a new License be granted to the present owners of "Little Gassons" on the same terms as the previous one and on payment of an annual acknowledgement of 30/- divisible between the Lord and the Board and on payment of the Clerks proper charges for the Licenses.

(c) Destruction by Deer, Horncastle.

Mr. Adams informed the Board that following further enquiries the Lord wished that Mr. Shelford should be allowed to take any reasonable steps to deal with this matter subject to the consent of the Board. It was Resolved that Mr. Shelford be given consent to take all reasonable steps to protect his property from the deer.

(d) Highgate-Wych Cross Road.

The Chairman reported that the East Sussex County Council had accepted the conditions laid down by the Board at their last Meeting and the work was proceeding satisfactorily on that basis.

### **4. Report Of Maresfield Committee**

The Committee consisting of the Chairman and Admiral Beamish met on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst to consider an application from the County Council to:-

- (i) Widen the Fairwarp to Duddleswell road from 16 feet to 18 feet
- (ii) Open a back ditch by the side of the road from Kingstanding to Old Lodge for drainage purposes.

The Committee recommend that the widening of the road be approved with the usual proviso as to grass margins. The Committee would like to point out the urgency of approaching the Postal Authorities to take such steps as will keep the telegraph poles at least three feet from the edge of the hard core. At present many of the poles are within eight inches of the edge of the road, and are thus a real menace to motorists, especially when the road surface is in a skiddy condition.

The Committee think that the County Council should be requested to inform the Board of the reply as received from the Postal Authorities.

The Committee recommend that the application to open a back ditch by the side of the road from Kingstanding to Old Lodge be approved.

G.D. Haslam.  
Chairman Maresfield Committee.

It was Resolved that the report of the proceedings of the Committee be approved subject to the County Council being informed that no further road widening will be permitted on the Forest without provision being made for the placing of all telegraph poles at a distance of not less than three feet from the edge of the road.

### **5. Rangers Reports.**

(a) Ranger Kirby reported that:-

- (1) He moved 27 vans off the Forest.
- (2) Lady Cowan and Miss Morris have moved their advertisement boards
- (3) He has cut and cleared round young trees at Kingstanding.
- (4) He has repaired fence on bridge at Nutley Bank.
- (5) He took over Ranger Hatchetts area during his illness.

(6) The County Council have sown grass seed at Wrens Warren.

(7) He informed Mr. Steer that he should communicate with the Clerk as to road widening from Fairwarp to Duddleswell.

He also presented the following statement as to fires during the past three years, on the Maresfield Committee part of the Forest

1930. Three fires occurred burning 27 acres.

1931. Fourteen fires occurred burning 52 acres.

1930. Twenty two fires occurred burning 66 acres.

(b) Ranger Hatchett reported that:-

(1) He spent some time at the R.A.F. Golf Club seeing that cars were parked in allotted places, and that placards, litter, etc., were not placed on the Forest.

(2) Mrs. Johns of "High Cottage" Chuck Hatch has tarred the road into her property.

(3) Digging of soil had taken place at Kidds Hill.

(4) He met the Chairman and Committee and marked trees to be cut between Wych Cross and Cherry Orchard.

(5) He cautioned woodcutters at Legsheath against blasting without warning neighbouring residences.

(6) He went into hospital on the 19<sup>th</sup> October.

(7) He had requested Dr. Walter of Fir Tree Cottage, Forest Row, to remove stones placed into the metalling of the road and that the same had now been removed to a distance within three feet of the hedge of that property.

He informed the Board that he would be fit enough to take over his whole area on Monday.

It was Resolved that the attention of the County Surveyor be drawn to various road dumps on the Forest.

## 6. Building Lines

The Clerk read a letter from the Clerk to the County Council informing the Board that it was proposed to prescribe a building line over part of the Forest on the Wych Cross-Lewes-Newhaven Road and that it was suggested that in future no such building lines be prescribed over Forest land. It was Resolved that formal objection to the proposed building line should be made.

## 7. Annual Subscription To The C.P.R.E. And The Commons Footpaths Etc., Society

The Clerk reported that he has received requests for renewal of these contributions which were now due and it was Resolved that the same contributions be made as for the previous year.

## 8. License, Shepherds Well

A letter was read from Mrs. Osborne requesting a refund of 7/6 which was paid during the last three years as an acknowledgment at the rate of 2/6 per annum for a notice board which was taken down three years ago. It was Resolved that a refund of 7/6 be made to Mrs. Osborne out of the Protection and Improvement Fund with the apologies of the Board for the error.

## 9. Appointment Of Audit Committee

It was proposed by Mr. Maryon Wilson and seconded by Major Barrington and unanimously Resolved that Colonel G.R. Miller and Mr. J. R. Owen be appointed to audit the accounts and that they be thanked for their previous services on this Committee.

**10. Finances.** The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show balances in hand as follows:-

General Account	£99.14.5
2 <sup>nd</sup> Ranger Fund	86.10.6
Protection and Improvement Fund	150.15.10
Fire Prevention Fund	4.16.2
£80 on deposit	

Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:-

<u>Kirby, Herbert, Ranger</u>	14 weeks
salary as Ranger to 26 <sup>th</sup> inst.,	
@ £2. 10. 0.	35.0.0
Ditto 14 weeks rent @ 5/- to DO.	3.10.0

Do. Employers Insurances	1.2.2	
Ditto Postages and Petty disbursements for the year	<u>1.11.9.</u>	£41.3.11.
Banister, Ernest. Printing.	6.7.0.	

The Clerk.

Half years salary to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 1932.	75.0.0	
Hire of Room and other Petty Payments	5.0.5	
Postages and Receipt Stamps for the year	7.15.6	
Travelling expenses and telephones	10.13.9	
Southern Publishing Co. Advertising Commoners Meeting	<u>2.2.0</u>	
		100.11.8

No. 2 Account

<u>Hatchett, J.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ranger.</u>		
14 weeks salary @ £2 to 26 <sup>th</sup> inst.,	28.0.0.	
Do. Employers Insurances	1.2.2.	
Do. Postages and Petty Disbursements.		<u>1.4.10.</u>
		30.7.0

Hatchett, J.W. 14 weeks rent @ 12/- to 26 <sup>th</sup> inst.	8.8.0	
Banister, Ernest. Printing.	0.18.0.	

The Clerk

Martin, C.E. Petrol &c., for Hatchetts motor cycle	2.9.5	
Workmens Insurance for Ranger	<u>1.0.3</u>	3.9.8

Fire Prevention Fund.

Banister, Ernest. Printing.	0.3.0	
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Protection and Improvement Fund

Also that the following amounts be drawn from this Fund.

The Clerk.

Commons & Footpaths Preservation Society. Sub.	1.1.0.	
East Sussex Anti Litter League. Donation	0.10.6.	
Council for the Preservation of Rural England	1.1.0.	
Ridley, F.T. Petrol &c. for Kirby's Motor Cycle.	1.17.8.	
P.O. Telephones 1/4 years rent & Calls to 30/10/32		
Ranger Kirby.	1.17.10.	
Do. Ranger Hatchett.	<u>1.18.10.</u>	

8.6.10

### **11. Contribution To Anti Litter League.**

It was Resolved that a Donation of 10/6 be made as in the previous year and that further that the Rural District Councils of Uckfield and East Grinstead be asked whether they would empty the rubbish bins on the Forest as the Rangers areas are so extensive.

### **12. Ranger Hatchett's Illness.**

It was Resolved, in view of the expense to which Ranger Hatchett had been put by his operation that he should retain a sum of £5. 2. 6. recovered by him from the National Health insurance.

### **13. Application From Mrs. Bond**

The Clerk reported the receipt of a letter from Mrs. Bond applying to the Board as to the exchange of a small piece of forest land to which he had replied that no such proposal could be entertained by the Board. Approved.

### **14. Appointment Of Rangers As Lords Reeves.**

It was Resolved that the appointment of the Rangers as Reeves to the Lord be renewed for a further year.

### **15. Fire Prevention. Assistance Of Rover Scouts.**

The Vice Chairman reminded the Board of the good work done by the Rover Scouts in fire prevention during the resent year and it was Resolved that Dr. Walker be written a letter of thanks and informed the Board would be glad of such assistance in the coming Fire Season.

### **16. Application By Mrs. Walls. Commoners Rights.**

The Clerk reported that Mrs. Walls of Forest Edge, Nutley had applied to him to prove her rights as a Commoner. It was Resolved that a Committee consisting of the Chairman and Chairmen of Local Committees be appointed to hear her evidence and with power to act.

### **17. Next Meeting.**

It was Resolved that the next meeting be held on Wednesday 22nd February, 1933, at 2.0 p.m.

[signed] R.E.S. Barrington  
Chairman

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**A MEETING of the SPECIAL COMMITTEE appointed to consider a claim by Mrs. Walls in respect of "Forest Edge" Nutley, and held at the Shelley Arms Hotel, Nutley, on Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1932, immediately following the Meeting of the Board.**

Mr. H. R. Hardy, Chairman.  
Major the Hon. R.E.S. Barrington. D.S.O.  
Mr. G.D. Haslam.

The Committee had before them a claim by Mrs. Geraldine Nora Walls of "Forest Edge", Nutley to Forest rights in respect of that property containing approximately three acres. Mrs. Walls produced in respect of her claim.

Mr. George Bedwell of Nutley. He stated that he was 83 years of age, had lived on the Forest all his life, and had always known the property in question, sometimes known as "Forest Edge" "Forest Bank" or "Nutley Bank". That there has been consistent exercise of rights, the occupiers keeping two or thee cows on the Forest and gathering litter as long as he could remember.

Mr. Jesse Ridley informed the Committee that he was 60 years of age and was born at "Forest Edge" and in his recollection rights over the Forest had always been exercised by the occupiers.

The Committee having considered the evidence resolved that the claim be admitted and the name of Mrs. Walls be entered on the Schedule of Commoners.

The Meeting terminated at 1 p.m.