

1913 – 1923

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 19th December 1913, at noon.

Present

Mr. Geo. M Maryon-Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Colonel Charles Needham
Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. J Hubert Husey-Hunt
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. L.L. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

The minutes of the last Ordinary Meeting held on the 17th October last are read and confirmed.

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on the 22nd November last are also read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books showing the balance standing to the credit of the several accounts as follows:-

General account	£109.14.3
Second Ranger account	£62.0.7
Protection & Improvement Fund	£76.6.5

Election of Conservators

The Clerk produces and reads the following certificate and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes.

To Mr. William Augustus Raper

Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the meeting of Commoners duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, for the purpose of electing four Conservators I hereby intimate to you that at such meeting Mr. James Card, Mr. Robert Kenward, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson and Mr. Albert Turner who retire by rotation on the 31st instant were re-elected as Conservators for the ensuring three years.

Dated the 19th December 1913

H.B. Portman

Chairman

Removal of house refuse, Forest Row

The Clerk reports that he wrote to the East Grinstead Rural District Council as directed at the last Ordinary Meeting and received a reply from the Clerk stating this Council had decided to refer the matter to the Forest Row Parish Council for an expression of their opinion as to the need for the Rural Council undertaking to the work suggested by this Board, and are not yet in a position to communicate the result.

W. Izzard claim to rights

The Clerk reports that pursuant to the Resolution passed at the last ordinary meeting he wrote Mr. Izzard pointing out that his property was until 1902 held of the Lord of the Manor on a tenancy at will, and that no rights of common can consequently attach to the property. On 27th October he received a reply from Mr. Izzard stating he understood the Lord of the Manor gives his tenant a right and that he has got as much right as other tenants, that he knows of other places that have been sold, and that have their right with it, and he wished his letter laid before

the Board. Also that Mr. Turner told him that if he would come to the meeting of the Conservators he could have a right. The Clerk replied that his letter should be laid before the Board, who would no doubt see him if he came to the meeting and that he must have misunderstood what Mr. Turner told him. The Clerk added that it is quite clear Mr. Izzard cannot establish a right of common, and that Lord De La Warr had no power to grant such right, and that if he wants litter he must apply to the Ranger for a licence

Barchard Misses claim to rights

A letter received by the Chairman from the Misses S.E. & E.A. Barchard claiming rights in respect of their cottage and land called Campfield Rough at Fairwarp is read and it is Resolved that it be referred to the Clerk to investigate and report thereon.

Calf Charles encroachment

Ranger Kirby reports that, in accordance with the instructions given to him at the last Ordinary Meeting held on 27th October last removed the fences put up by Charles Calf.

Motor cycling deposits

The Clerk reports that he wrote to "Motor Cycling" with regard to the deposits on the Forest, as directed at the last ordinary meeting and reads a reply dated 23rd October last from "Motor Cycling" regretting that the picnickers were so untidy, stating they were unaware that picnickers were forbidden, and giving an assurance that they will not organise another picnic in the District.

Road materials

The County Council of East Sussex, having applied for permission to take road materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March 1915 namely:-

Point from which it is proposed to obtain material	Description of Material	Quantity
Central Road district (Mr. A.G. Tucker, Surveyor)		
Gravel pit near Pippingford Nutley	Hardstone and sandstone (from Nutley to Wych Cross)	20
Gravel pits in the neighbourhood of Kingstanding	Forest gravel (from Chuck Hatch to Kingstanding)	40
ditto	Forest gravel (Withyham to Friars Gate)	40
"Fox" gravel pit near Duddleswell	Sandstone (kerbing and repairing channelling at Crowborough and for Hartfield)	50

Being the same quantities as were granted for the current year.

It is Resolved that a licence be granted to the County Council to take the above materials subject to the same terms and conditions as the licence granted to the road authorities on 16th December 1899. All digging to be confined to existing pits and no new pit to be opened without the consent in writing of the Board first obtained under the hand of their Clerk.

Fires

Ranger Kirby reports that on the 28th November last at 9 p.m. a fire occurred near Pound Gate School, burning about 6 rods, which he extinguished, and he thinks it was started by school children.

The Clerk reads a letter dated 5th inst. from Mr. Alfred Hoath of Withyham mentioning that a fire occurred about 12 months ago at Church Hill caused by Arnold's tractor engine hauling stone for the roads which consumed about 3 acres and which, if it had not promptly been put out by William Heasman, Edward Taylor and Obed Avis, might have burned a considerable part of the Forest, and suggesting they should be paid 2/6 each out of the Rates, also that he, Mr. Hoath, Taylor and a lad named Weeding, stopped another fire caused by sawing tackle taken up

Church Hill, and that he and Avis stopped a third fire on Church Hill, and pointing and that he was not claiming any remuneration for himself.

The Clerk replied that he would lay his letter before the Board but that there is this danger about paying persons for extinguishing fires, that if such a practice became known ne'er-do-wells might start fires in order to be paid.

It is Resolved that under the circumstances the three men named be paid 2/6 each out of the Protection & Improvement fund, but such payment is not to be treated as a precedent for the future.

Sylvanus Ridley deposit

Ranger Kirby reports that a temporary deposit of building materials by Sylvanus Ridley outside his cottages at Dodds Bottom, sanctioned by the Clerk on 1st October last, has been removed and the surface of the Forest properly restored.

Boring Wheel road repair

Mr. H. Jesse Ridley attends, and in consequence of some statement made at the meeting of Commoners this morning explains that the only cash contributions he received towards the repair of the Forest road at Boring Wheel Mill in 1908 was the subscription of the Conservators £5, and subscriptions from 2 other parties amounting to £1.3.0.

The Chairman informed him that if those interested in the road will approach the Board and state what they are prepared to do the Board will consider how far they can help in the matter.

The contemplated work of this road in 1908, having been stopped by Mr. E.A. Nicholson, Mr. Husey-Hunt undertakes to view the road and see whether the Lord's sanction can be given to its repair.

It is Resolved that subject to the Lord's approval being obtained the Maresfield Committee be authorised to contribute or spend a sum not exceeding £20 on the repair of this road.

H. Miles deposit

The Clerk reports that H. Miles of New Cottage, Hartfield having applied for permission to deposit fence poles and bats on the Forest for convenience of making up loads for removal he granted him permission, subject to the usual conditions.

Chapman & Co. deposit

Ranger Brown reported that on 11th November last he found a quantity of building materials deposited on the Forest outside Hartfield Grove (now known as South Hartfield) that concrete was being made on the spot and a gap had been made in the hedge for carrying materials in. The Clerk wrote to Messrs. Chapman Lowry & Puttock Ltd of Grayshott, Hants, the contractors employed drawing their attention to the breach of the Bye-Laws, and had received from them an apology, a contribution of 5/- to the Protection & Improvement Fund by way of compensation, and undertaking to make good the surface.

Dr. Waldstein peat

Dr. L. Waldstein, a Commoner of Possingford, Hartfield, having applied for permission to take a load of peat from the Forest for the purpose of scientific experiments, the Clerk reports that he wrote to him pointing out that Commoners are not entitled to take peat from the Forest, but as it was required for scientific experiments, the Board would not object to one load being taken provided he obtained the Lord's sanction and the Clerk wrote to the Lord's Reeve to that effect.

It is Resolved that the action of the Clerk in relation to the above three matters be approved and confirmed.

School site near the Ridge

A letter from Mr. J.H. Husey-Hunt on behalf of the Lord dated 5th inst. is read, from which it appears that the managers of the Ashdown Park Memorial Voluntary School have received notice from the owner to determine their tenancy on 31st March 1914 and that as the Education Committee have to obtain a site for a new Council

School in the District of Ashdown Park it is proposed that the Lord, with the consent of the Conservators and Commoners should grant about an acre of the Forest situate a little to the south west of the Ridge at Hartfield, for the purpose, and a plan of the proposed site which accompanied the letter is put before the Board. The Clerk states that he has pointed out to Mr. Husey-Hunt that Sec. 36 of the Commons Act 1876 enacts that where a Provisional Order for Regulation of a Common has been confirmed by Parliament then subject to and without prejudice to the Provisions of that Order no part of the Common shall be enclosed without the sanction of Parliament subsequently obtained; also that the Provisional Order contains no provision authorising the granting of any part of the Common for a school site, and he is unable to find any Act of Parliament passed subsequent to the Confirmation Act which permits any part of the Forest being enclosed for the purpose. Mr. Husey-Hunt states that the Clerk to the County Council is making enquiry whether any Statute overrides the Provisions of the above Section and it is Resolved that the considerations of the matter stand over to await the result of the County Council Clerk's enquiries.

Telephone lines at Forest Row

The Clerk reports that, after the last ordinary meeting he wrote to Mrs. Beach, as directed by the Board, and she replied on the 24th October last that the suggestion of carrying the telephone wires underground would not meet the case, as she particularly referred to the Automobile Association wires which cross the common at a totally different angle, and suggesting that in view of the rapid development of the telephone the Conservators should consider the advisability of locating the system on the lowest road.

Mr. Martin states that on the return of Mr. Freshfield from Japan in a few days the Forest Row Committee will go into the whole question of the telephone poles and wires on the Forest at Forest Row with the Post Office Authorities, and will make a report to the Board.

Mrs. Henley fence

The Clerk reads a reply dated the 27th October last from Mrs. Henley stating that as there are rails at the top and bottom of her fence she fails to see what objection there can be to a third rail in the middle but that as her lease terminates next year it does not concern her very much as the roads on the Forest to her house are so bad she does not think it possible she can continue there, but that she will preserve the Clerk's letter in case a bad accident occurs at Querndon.

Ladies Golf Club

An application is read from the Ladies Golf Club of Forest Row desiring permission to alter their links as regards 3 holes. It is Resolved that the application be referred to the Forest Row Committee with power to act.

East Grinstead Gas Co. extension of gas main

The Clerk reports that he has received notice from the East Grinstead Gas & Water Co. of their intention to extend their gas mains and service pipes at Forest Row in accordance with the licence granted to them.

Mrs. Emma Reed driving over Forest

A letter dated 4th inst from the Secretary of R.A.F. Golf Club is read complaining of fresh tracks being made by Mr. Reed on the Forest at the 5th hole, and that Mr. Reed recently deliberately drove over the golf balls belonging to 2 of their members which were lying in the road, and that he has also been seen driving down the path to the 2nd hole near the edge bounding Shalesbrook, that these tracks are a great inconvenience to the members, and the Committee would be glad if the Conservators would take steps to stop Mr. Reed.

Mr. Martin explains that Reed is making new tracks over the golf course leading to the 5th green, and thereby doing very great damage to the course at this point.

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be requested to investigate the matter and report to the Board with a view to legal proceedings being taken if necessary.

Audit Committee report

The Audit Committee appointed at the last meeting present the following report, which is read, and it is Resolved that it be received and entered on the minutes viz:-

To the Conservators of Ashdown Forest:-

We have examined (1) The General Account (2) the Second Ranger account, and (3) the Accounts of the Protection and Improvement Fund each for the year 1913. 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 the same, and the costing of the accounts, and find them all correct and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the accounts for the year viz:-

Account No.1. The Clerk – ½ years salary to 31st December inst.

£50-0-0

Do Disbursements on General Accounts during year

£18-13-7

Do Kirby H. 10 Weeks Salary & House Rent
to 29th inst. & insurance

£12-12-06

Account no.2 The Clerk disbursements on 2nd Ranger account

£1-11-1

Do Brown Wm. 10 Weeks Salary as 2nd Ranger
to 29th inst & insurance

£10-2-8

The balances standing today to the credit of the several accounts after the above mentioned cheques have been paid will be as follows. The General Account £28.8.2. The 2nd Ranger Account £50.7.0, and the Protection & Improvement Fund £76.6.5. and the sum of £159.15.4, Consols represents the investment of part of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

The half years acknowledgement due from the R.A.F. Golf Club on the 25 inst., amounting to £31.5.0, has been paid in advance, and about £224.13.6 remains to be received on account of the rate made on 17th October last.

Dated this 16th day of December 1913

Henry B. Portman

Mark Sandford

It is Resolved that the Report be approved and adopted and the accounts be signed by the Chairman and that cheques be drawn as recommended, also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to the Committee for the admirable manner in which they have discharged their duties.

Ranger Browns Bicycle repair

It is Resolved that the sum of 19/9 expended by Ranger Brown for the repairs of his bicycle be repaid to him.

Ranger Kirby Bicycle repair

Also that the Maresfield Committee be authorised to provide two new tyres and one tube for Ranger Kirby's bicycle.

Protection & Improvement Fund drain pipes for repairs

Also that bill of Mr. Job Luxford's for 1/6 for drain Pipes be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

The Board next considers the following matter in Committee

Boring near Kidds Hill

The Board next resumes the consideration of the application of Sir Geo. Riddell and others to proceed with the proposed boring for oil near Kidds Hill. The Clerk reports that since the Special Meeting he has received from Sir George a copy of the lease granted by Lord De La Warr and he explains the principal provisions thereof. Mr.

Martin in supporting his motion made at the recent Special Meeting of the Board submits that in view of the Provisions of the Order for Regulation especially clause I (a) (b) and (c) the Conservators have no power to consent to the boring, and that if the concessionaires proceed notwithstanding, the Board will have to consider what action they must take, and must not allow their decision to be affected by the possibility of having to enforce it by legal proceedings.

Mr. Midgley states that probably other Conservators have, like himself, received a letter urging him to support the application, but that he adheres to his view that the Board cannot give consent.

At the request of Mr. Portman the Clerk reads the 1st paragraph of the opinion given by Mr., now Mr. Justice Lush on 1st April 1908.

Mr. Turner questions how far the boring in a gravel pit in which he understands the plant has been placed will prejudice the Commoners.

The Chairman and Mr. Martin both state they have viewed the spot, and that it is not a gravel pit.

Mr. Portman states that he must support the motion, because it is the duty of the Conservators to carry out the duties imposed on them by the Regulation Order. In dealing with the application they stand at a critical juncture and on slippery ground, and if they consent they face the danger of introducing the thin edge of wedge and weaken their position for the future.

Mr. Ridley expresses the opinion that the minerals were placed there for the good of man and that the Conservators ought not to prevent their being worked.

Mr. Sandford states that if he had any doubt before it was removed by hearing the provisions of the Lease, and he must therefore support the motion.

Mr. W. Carr states that it is the duty of the Board to stand by the law and he will support the motion.

The motion is then put and upon it the voting was as follows:-

For the motion - the Chairman, and Messrs. Carr, Martin, Midgley, Needham, Portman, and Sandford.

Against it - Mr. Ridley

Not voting – Messrs. Card, Kenward and Turner

The Chairman then declared the motion carried and the Clerk was directed to communicate the Board's decision to Mr. Le Bas.

A.G. Innes drain

Ranger Kirby reports that the drain in front of Mr. A.G. Innes' house having been repeatedly stopped up and diverted the water to his premises, Mr. Innes removed the stones. Ranger Kirby required him to take them back whereupon he repaired and made the drain larger. Mr. Innes informed him that if the drain got stopped again and the water came on to his premises he should place the matter in the hands of his solicitors. Ranger Kirby believes that the drain is obstructed by neighbours for the purpose of annoying Mr. Innes.

Cheques

The following cheques were then signed pursuant to the recommendation of the Audit Committee, namely:-

The Clerk	Salary account No.1	£50-0-0
The Clerk	Disbursements No.1	£18-13-7
The Clerk	Disbursements No.2	£1-11-1
H. Kirby	Salary No.1	£12-12-6
W. Brown	Salary No.2	£10-2-6

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 6th February next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other date as the Chairman may consider necessary.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for the care and impartiality with which he has conducted the business of the Board during the past year.

The meeting terminated at 3.35 p.m.

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 30th January 1914 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. Geo. M Maryon-Wilson in the chair

The Honble H.B. Portman

Colonel Charles Needham

Mr. James Card

Mr. William Carr

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Ll. Midgley

Mr. Joseph Ridley

Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Albert Turner

On the proposition of Mr. Turner seconded by Mr. Sandford it is Resolved that the Honble H.B. Portman do take the chair.

Chairman election on

Mr. Freshfield states that Mr. Maryon-Wilson has occupied the onerous position of Chairman of the Board for so long and has gained so much experience of the duties of the office, that he is the most eligible gentleman to occupy the position, and he has much pleasure in proposing his re-election for the current year. Mr. Martin having seconded the Resolution is carried unanimously.

Mr. Maryon-Wilson having taken the chair tenders his sincere thanks to the Board for re-electing him to the position of Chairman for the 15th year and states that he accepts it as an expression of their confidence; that he has done his best during the last 14 years to discharge the duties of Chairman in the best interest not only of the Board, but also of the Commoners. He felt that he must refer to an incident that took place at the Commoners' Meeting in December last when he was accused of not replying to a letter written to him by one of the Commoners, Mr. S. Ridley, with reference to soldiers camping on the Forest and as the neglect to answer letters was a serious fault in the Chairman of any public body he wished to repeat that he had never received Mr. Ridley's letter or it would have been answered at once, as he always made a rule of replying to all letters either the same or next day. He would like to add that he cannot properly discharge the duties of Chairman unless he has the unqualified support of the members of the Board, and he asks them for a renewal of that support which he has always received from them in the past.

The Chairman explains that in consequence of the receipt by the Clerk of a letter from Earl De La Warr's solicitors which will be dealt with later in the meeting, he deemed it advisable to convene this meeting of the Board a week earlier than was arranged.

The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show balances standing to the credit of the several accounts as follows:-

General Account
Second Ranger Account
Protection & Improvement Fund

£77-13-3
£54-10-0
£65-2-4

Balance Sheet

The Clerk lays on the table a print of the Balance sheet of the General Account and the Protection & Improvement Fund for the year ending 31st December last, and reports that copies thereof have been sent by post every Commoner.

Forest Row Committee

It is Resolved that Messrs, Freshfield, Martin and Midgley and Colonel Needham be the Committee for the Forest Row District for the current year.

Maresfield Committee

Also that the Honble H.B. Portman and Messrs. Carr, Kenward, Sandford & Turner be the Committee for the Maresfield District for the current year.

Fire Committee

Also that the Chairman, Mr. Freshfield and Mr. Portman be the Committee to deal with matters relating to the protection of the Forest from fires for the current year.

Forest Row house refuse

The Clerk reads a reply he has received from the Clerk to the East Grinstead R.D.C. dated 29th December last, stating that a Resolution has been passed by the Forest Row Parish Council that “the Parish Council do not consider the collection of house refuse at Forest Row necessary” and stating that the R.D.C. approved and adopt the opinion expressed in that Resolution.

On the proposition of Mr. Freshfield seconded by Colonel Needham it is Resolved that the R.D.C. be informed that unless they can see their way to reconsider their decision and inform this Board thereof within two months, the Conservators will feel compelled to bring the matter before the Local Government Board.

Barchard Misses claim to rights

With regard to the claim of the Misses Barchard to Forest rights which was referred at the last meeting to the Clerk to investigate he reports that on 22nd December last he wrote to them for information with regard to title and evidence of user, and has, as yet received no reply.

Fires

A letter dated 22nd ulto from Mr. Alfred Hoath is read, thanking the Board for forwarding the money, which he had paid to the men, who assisted in extinguishing the fire referred to at the last meeting and stating that they were well pleased at the Board having recognised their services.

School site near the Ridge

With regard to the subject of inclosing a site for an Elementary School near the Ridge at Colemans Hatch the Clerk reads a letter from Mr. Husey-Hunt stating that the Board of Education have referred the Clerk to the County Council to the Board of Agriculture, who he thinks may find some way out of the difficulty, as the Board of Education know of no precedent.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read, and it is Resolved that it be received and entered on the minutes namely:

Forest Row Committee of the Board of Conservators held at Wych Cross Place on January 17th 1914.
Present. The Chairman, Mr. D. Freshfield, Colonel Needham, Mr. Ll. Midgley and Mr. E. Martin.

Lord Bryce road to his house

The Chairman told the Committee he had the authorisation of the Chairman of the Board for them to consider and report on Lord Bryce's application for a new entrance to his property at Hindleap and as to the question of telephone poles at Tompsetts Bank. The Committee subsequently viewed both sites and report as follows:- They are of opinion that as Lord Bryce is obliged in order to reach his house from Forest Row to drive round through Mr. Freshfield's field involving two sharp and dangerous turnings it would be reasonable to grant him an access at the point he desires. It would involve a road only 35 to 40 yards long across Forest land. Lord Bryce's application appended.

Telephone lines at Tompsetts Bank

With regard to the telephone posts Mr. Freshfield informed the Committee that he had come to an arrangement with the Post Office and the residents affected which he understood would be acceptable to all concerned. The P.O. authorities were willing to lay the wires underground from near to present post on Mr. Waters' land opposite Mr. Frost's to a post to be placed at the S.E. corner of Mrs. Walsham's garden and on her land.

For this purpose they applied for licence to carry an underground wire up the lane leading from the corner of Mr. Walters, past Mrs. Beech's in the direction of Ashdown Place and a branch wire from this down to the post in Mrs. Walsham's fence

Ashdown Place water pipes

Colonel Lawrence applied through Colonel Needham for leave to carry water pipes up to Ashdown Place, the Committee consider leave should be granted him.

High gorse cutting

The Committee authorised the cutting of high gorse outside Mr. Bryce's on an ***** leave had already been obtained from the Lord's Reeve Mr. Hudson. Mr. J. Luxford has undertaken to bury the gorse.

They suggest they should be empowered to empowered to lower the banks on either side of the road from the Goat at the Wych Cross crossroads. It is at present a dangerous corner.

Ladies Golf Club suggested extension

They inspected the ground near the old butts with a view to an informal application as to a possible extension of the Ladies Golf Links. They were of opinion that it would be unadvisable to grant any extension which would involve diminution of the ground for litter cutting in this locality.

D.W. Freshfield
Chairman

Lord Bryce Roadway

It is Resolved that a licence be granted to Viscount Bryce to make and maintain a road not exceeding 15 feet in width in the position recommended by the Committee, Lord Bryce to pay an acknowledgement of 5/- per annum each to the Lord and the Conservators and the expense of the preparation of the licence.

Telephone lines at Tompsetts Bank

Also that their proposals with regard to the telephone wires be approved and the Clerk be authorised to arrange the necessary licence with the Post Master General.

Also that the other paragraphs of the report be approved and adopted

Ladies Golf Club proposed extension

A letter is read, dated the 29th inst, from the Hon. Sec. of the Ladies Golf Club, asking the permission of the Board to the Club making a new 4th green on a spot where there is not much litter.

It is Resolved that the application be referred to the Forest Row Committee for consideration with power to act.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which to read, and it is Resolved that it be received and entered on the minutes viz:-

A meeting of the Committee was held on the Forest near the Boring Wheel Mill on Friday January 16th at 1.30 p.m. Present: The Hon Mr. H.B. Portman, Messrs W. Carr, R. Kenward and M. Sandford. .

Boring Wheel Mill improvement of road

Mr. Jesse Ridley attended and brought a list of owners of Common rights who had promised to help to make good the Forest track by the Boring Wheel Mill, 7 of whom promised to supply one day manual labour each and 21 promising to find each one day's work with horse and cart when asked to do so. Mr. Sylvanus Ridley also promising one pound in cash. The Honble H.B. Portman also promised to give £10 towards the work. It was arranged that the work should be superintended by Ranger Kirby under the direction of Messrs. A. Turner and Wm. Carr.

The Committee report that 50 old railway sleepers have been purchased to make up the road each side of the Boring Wheel Forest Gate and that they have been carried to the spot by the kindness of Prince Munster's agent Mr. A. Findlay. Thus the work of making up the track is now fairly started. Mr. Findlay has been added to the executive Committee to help carry out this scheme.

The Chairman reports that he has had a promise of £10 from Prince Munster in addition to cartage assistance on condition the road is completed in a thorough practical manner.

The Committee apply for a further grant of £15 from the Protection and Improvement Fund.

H.B. Portman.
Chairman

It is Resolved that the Report be approved and adopted and that a further sum not exceeding £15 be granted out of Protection and Improvement Fund towards the improvement of the Forest track at Boring Wheel Mill.

The Chairman then reads a letter he has received from Mr. Sylvanus Ridley on the same matter, and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes viz:-

Summerhill Villas
Horney Common

January 1914

Dear Sir,

Please return Mr. Sandford's letter as the Maresfield Committee have met at Boring Wheel Mill Road and I believe everything will be done satisfactorily now after 8 years agitation.

Mr. Portman promised £10 and I believe prince Munster is giving £10 and we shall all be thankful to the end of our days.

Truthfully yours
S. Ridley

R.A.F. Golf Club drain from Club House

An application is considered from the R.A.F. Golf Club for the consent of the Board to altering the route by which the drain is to be laid for connecting the Club House with the public sewer in Post Horn lane, from the route for which a licence was granted in June 1908 and not acted on. It is Resolved that the consent of the Board be given to the proposed alteration.

St. John's Common cricket

The Clerk reports that on applying for the annual acknowledgement of 1/- paid by the St. John's Cricket Club for the use of the cricket ground on the Forest at St. John's Common Mr. Frank Humphreys informed him the club had been dissolved and that they only persons using the cricket ground are children attending St. John's School, and stating that as he is interested in the Schools, if the Conservators will grant permission for these children to use the cricket ground he will continue to pay a yearly acknowledgment of 1/- and will endeavour to exercise supervision over the use of the Ground by them.

It is Resolved that the Clerk be authorised to give the requisite consent.

Harry Walter digging gravel

Ranger Kirby reports that on the 15th inst. he found Harry Walter of the Windmill, Nutley, digging for gravel on Stone Hill, he stated he had not a licence to dig and did not require one, but that if he found gravel he should write to the Lord's Reeve. Ranger Kirby explained that Walter was opening a fresh hole and no other excavation was nearer than 100 yards and that Walter had turned over about 1 rod of ground 2 ft deep and had got out about 5 or 6 yds of soil ready for sifting.

The Clerk reported the matter to Messrs. Hunt Currey & Co., who had placed the Lord's Reeve in communication with the Clerk, and the Lord's Reeve stated that he had given no permission to dig. The Clerk asks for the instructions of the Board.

It is Resolved that as the gravel is the property of the Lord the Clerk write to Messrs Hunt expressing the hope that the Lord will prosecute and stating that Ranger Kirby is authorised to give evidence and render any other assistance in the matter.

Miss Dodge fence

A letter is read from Mr. W.W.S. Follett asking on behalf of Miss Dodge, the owner of the property opposite to the Crow and Gate Inn, whether the Board see any objection when she replaces the present decayed fence outside the pond to her putting it on top of the bank instead of at the bottom next the water, being a distance of about 3 ft. As the land proposed to be inclosed does not appear to be within the Forest pale it is Resolved that Mr. Follett be informed that the Board will have no objection.

R.A.F. Golf Club Reed driving

Mr. Martin states that he has been asked by Mr. Whitley-Hughes the Adviser of the R.A.F. Golf Club to enquire whether the Board can see their way to apply to the Home Secretary to alter Bye Law by striking out the word "unauthorised".

It is Resolved that Mr. Whitley-Hughes be informed by Mr. Martin that the Board regret that they cannot see their way to make the application.

Boring for oil etc.

The Clerk reads the following letter, which he received on the 21st inst, from Lord De La Warr's Solicitors viz:-

Lord De La Warr
Ashdown Forest Minerals

Dear Sirs,

We think it right to give you notice that Lord De La Warr now intends personally to bore for minerals and other purposes on Ashdown Forest.

As we have already informed you, Lord De La Warr claims all the mineral rights of the Forest and in boring will take every precaution against damaging or interfering with the rights of the Commoners, and in any event he will be prepared to give them reasonable compensation.

He will also take precautions to fence in and protect the bore holes which he will make, and work will be commenced within one month from this date.

Yours faithfully
Bennett & Ferris

W. Aug. Raper Esq.

After a long discussion in Committee it is Resolved on the proposition of Mr. Portman that the Clerk make the following reply:-

“Your letter of the 20th inst. has been considered by the Board of Conservators, and I am directed to inform you that in the event of Earl De La Warr taking steps to bore on Ashdown Forest, as stated in your letter, the Board will take such legal proceedings as they may be advised.”

This Resolution was carried nem. con. voting for it, Colonel Needham and Messrs Carr, Freshfield, Martin, Midgley and Portman.

It is unanimously Resolved that the Chairman and Clerk be and are hereby requested and authorised forthwith to take such further advice and preparatory action in the matter as they may deem necessary or advisable.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn namely:-

Ranger Kirby 5 weeks salary as Ranger and House rent to 2nd prox.	£6-5-0
Ranger Brown 5 weeks Salary as 2nd Ranger to 2nd prox.	£5-0-0
Lloyd & Son for repairs to Ranger Kirby Bicycle	£1-11-9

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 13th March next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other date as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The meeting terminated at 4.50 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 13th March 1914, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. Geo. M Maryon-Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Colonel Charles Needham
Mr. James Card
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books, which show balances standing to the credit of the several accounts as follows:-

General Account	£104:17:10
2nd Ranger Account	£49:8:9
Protection and Improvement Fund	£65:2:4

Forest Row house refuse

The Clerk reports that immediately after the last meeting he wrote to the Clerk to the East Grinstead R.D.C. with regard to the removal of house refuse at Forest Row in accordance with the Resolution passed at that Meeting and as yet has merely received an acknowledgment of his letter

The Chairman points out that from the newspaper report of a meeting of the East Grinstead R.D.C. held since the last letter written by the Clerk to the Conservators it would appear that the Council has resolved not to alter their decision.

Mr. Freshfield states that the Conservators are constantly receiving complaints from Commoners of the defacement of the Forest by the deposit of refuse which the Conservator's Officers have to remove and that in some parts of their District he believes the Council undertake the scavenging.

It is Resolved that in the event of a satisfactory reply not being received within the two months mentioned in the Clerk's letter, the matter be brought before the Local Government Board the communication to that Board to be first approved by the Forest Row Committee.

School site near the Ridge

The Clerk reports that since the last meeting Mr. Husey-Hunt has forwarded him a copy of a letter dated 30th January last which he received from the Clerk to the County Council, who stated that he had communicated with the Board of Education, who referred him to the Board of Agriculture, who replied to the Clerk of the County Council as follows:-

"Regard being had to Section 36 of the Commons Act 1876 the only mode of acquiring a part of the regulated Common to which you refer would appear to be by Special Act of Parliament or under Section 20 of the Elementary Education Act 1870, by the procedure laid down in Sections 99-107 of the Land Clauses Consolidation Act 1845, which I am to point out involves the purchase of the rights of common as well as the Lord's rights in the soil."

The Clerk to the County Council adds that the procedure under the Elementary Act 1870 requires a Provisional Order confirmed by Act of Parliament, which means the giving of notices in October and November.

Ladies Golf Club proposed extension

The Clerk reports that on the 26th February last he received an application on behalf of the Ladies Golf Club for permission to make (1) a new Tee below and behind the present ones to the 4th hole; (2) a new 5th Green towards the present 6th Tees; giving up the present green in front of Mr. Frost's, (3) a new Tee in the rough ground nearer the Cricket ground for a short shot on the 6th Green (4) a new green from the 7th above and beyond the present green keeping the latter for putting competitions and (5) a new Tee to the 9th to the right of the present tees, the last being the least important, though it would be a better drive on Medal days.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be received and entered on the Minutes namely:-

The Committee refer to Ranger Brown's reports as to furze cutting and Reed's case.

They have to point out that a very considerable area has been protected from fires by lane cutting at a relatively small probable cost to the Board.

They would call attention to the danger caused by the road authorities leaving loose cut gorse mixed with the growing gorse.

They some weeks since instructed Ranger Brown to warn Reed against leaving the accustomed tracks on the Forest and driving over it anywhere he chooses. Ranger Brown has by their instructions watched in the vicinity and on several occasions seen Reed off the tracks with his cart. They suggest that the Board should prosecute Reed.

They have to ask the instructions of the Board as to the principle on which they should deal with an application from the Ladies Golf Club for an extension of their course.

They have carried out the work needful in lowering the banks on each side of the road from the Goat where it meets the Lewes Road at Wych Cross. The lowering of the bank at 2 corners was carried out by Mr. Freshfield's men and horses at a cost of about £2.17.10 of which he proposes to charge the Board £2 and he lowered a third corner at his own cost

D.W. Freshfield
Chairman

Protection and Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that the report be approved and that the sum of £2 be paid to the Committee out of the Protection and Improvement Fund. Also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to Mr. Freshfield for his valuable assistance and liberality in the matter.

Gorse deposited by road men

Also that the Clerk write to the County Surveyor drawing his attention to the danger of fire caused by the depositing of roadside trimmings of gorse on the adjacent Forest

Ladies Golf Club alteration of course

Also that the application of the Ladies' Golf Club be referred to the Forest Row Committee for consideration with power to act and report the alteration to the Board.

Mr. Freshfield states that the Committee will deal at the same time with the application from the Ladies Golf Club to make a new 4th green, which was referred to them at the last Meeting.

Reed driving prosecute

It is also Resolved that the Clerk take the necessary steps to prosecute Reed for unlawful driving over the Forest

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be received and entered on the Minutes viz:-

28th February 1914

Present. Messrs. Sandford, Turner and W. Carr and Ranger Kirby

Francis Reed report of road at Fairwarp

The Committee this day inspected the road at Fairwarp referred to in Mr. Francis Reed's letter to the Clerk dated February 22nd, 1914. They found the road in question in good repair excepting a few yards on the Fairwarp and marked A on the rough plan sent by Mr. Reed where a small length marked B on the plan requires repair. The sides should be cut out and thrown into the middle and then stoned.

The Committee recommend that Mr. Reed have permission to do the necessary work to the satisfaction of Ranger Kirby who was present with the Committee when they viewed the road

Boring Wheel Mill track repair of

The Committee inspected the stone dug for the repair of the Boring Wheel Mill Forest track which they found to be very good. They also pointed out to Ranger Kirby the track on the South side of the Fairwarp Recreation Ground which Mrs. Townsend is about [to] repair to enable her motor car to reach her house there and which is to be done to the Rangers satisfaction.

Off road ditch each side

H.B. Portman, Chairman

It is Resolved that the report be approved and acted upon.

W. Arnold & Co. steam traction contractors, Trespass

The Committee also report that Messrs. W. Arnold & Co. of Branbridge, East Peckham, Kent, who are carrying out work for Countess Norbury at Greenwood Gate, have a van placed on the Forest there in which 4 men sleep.

Also that the same firm, who are carrying out road work for the County Council, have on several occasions left their Steam Rollers and vans at night drawn up on the Forest adjoining the road.

It is Resolved that the Clerk draw the attention of Messrs. Arnold to the breaches of the Bye Laws thus committed.

Catt access to water

Mr. C. Catt the tenant of Nutley Inn Farm which is entitled to rights, attends before the Board and states that he waters his cattle at the stream on the Forest which is about six yards from the boundary of his holding and he desires to erect a double row of hurdles across the intervening Forest land so that his cattle can go backwards and forwards between his holding and the stream when they want to drink.

It is Resolved that the application be granted provided Mr. Catt signs an undertaking to remove the hurdles whenever required by the Conservators and agrees to pay an acknowledgement of 1/- per annum while the hurdles are allowed to remain.

R.E. Training

The Clerk reports that he received an application from the Officer Commanding the Royal Engineer Companies from Woolwich District, for permission to use part of the Forest in the neighbourhood of Crowborough on which to carry out some training and stating that the number of men and horses would not be more than 200 and 50 respectively, the duration of the training would be about three weeks commencing about 25th May next and that permission was desired to construct entrenchments and possibly to cut some brushwood.

It is Resolved that subject to the consent of the Lord being obtained permission be granted on terms and conditions similar to those on which leave was granted to the R. Engineers to hold a camp and training on the Forest in 1912 subject to the supervision of the Maresfield Committee, except that beyond cutting the undergrowth so far as may be necessary for forming the camp, permission be not granted to cut brushwood which the Board consider can be obtained from private property and also subject to a condition that the manure made by the horses be left on the Forest and spread over the damaged surface.

Misses Barchard claim to rights

The Clerk reports that the Misses Barchard have produced to him a Title Deed of the property in respect of which they claim rights of Common, from which it appears that, as far back as 1843 the property was held as Freehold and was described as 0a.1r.32p of land with a cottage and buildings thereon situate in Maresfield abutting to Campfield Rough otherwise The Great Wood on the East and to the Forest on all other sides being the property nos. 658 and 659 on the Ordnance Map XXVII – 4 Edition of 1910 and containing about 1a.0r.15p.

The Board having examined Matthew Tester of Fairwarp aged 82 who attended personally before them and whose evidence as to user extended back over 60 years.

It is Resolved that the Misses Barchard claim be admitted and that they be entered in the Schedule of Commoners in respect of the said property namely Ada E. Barchard & Eleanor E. Barchard.

R.A.F. Golf Club repair footpath

It is Resolved that permission be granted to the R.A.F. Golf Club to repair the footpath on & skirting the Forest from the south side of Mr. Barron's property towards Broadstone Farm.

In Committee

Boring for oil

The Chairman refers to the authority given to him at the last meeting in conjunction with the Clerk, to take such further advice and preparatory action in connection with Lord De La Warr's announced intention to bore for minerals and other purposes on the Forest and states that having given most careful consideration to the matter, he had come to the conclusion that having regard to its importance it was not desirable that he should make any statement to the Board at present moment beyond this, that he will not take any step which will involve the Board in any legal proceedings or considerable cost, without first consulting the Board.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn viz:-

Ranger Kirby 6 weeks salary as Ranger
and house rent to 16th inst.

£7:10:0

Insurance, 6 weeks

£0:1:6

£7:11:6

Ranger Brown 6 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger,
to the 16th inst.

£6:0:0

Insurance 6 weeks

£0:1:6

£6:1:6

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 22nd May next, at 2:30 p.m. or on such other date as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 3.55 p.m.

Douglas W. Freshfield Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 22nd May 1914, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. D.W. Freshfield in the chair

The Honble H.B. Portman

Mr. James Card

Mr. William Carr

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. L.L. Midgley

Mr. Joseph Ridley

Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Albert Turner

Chairman

A letter is read from the Chairman regretting that his absence in Wales prevents his being present at this Meeting.

On the proposition of Mr. Portman seconded by Mr. Turner it is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield do take the chair.

Mr. Sandford states he has received a letter from Mr. R. Kenward regretting that the indisposition which prevented his attending the last Meeting also prevents his being present today.

Mr. Kenward indisposition

It is Resolved that the Clerk convey to Mr. Kenward the regret of the Board at his continued indisposition and their earnest hope that his health will be speedily re-established.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£160:19:10
2nd Ranger Account	£43:7:3
Protection and Improvement Fund	£70:17:9

Forest Row house refuse

The Clerk reports that no reply has been received from the East Grinstead R.D.C. to his letter of the 2nd February last with regard to the removal of house refuse at Forest Row.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Local Government Board laying the facts before them - his letter to be approved by the Forest Row Committee

School Site near the Ridge

Mr. Freshfield states that since the last Meeting arrangements have been made which will, at any rate for the present, relieve the Education Authority from the necessity of providing a new School House near Colemans Hatch.

Harry Walters taking gravel

Referring to the case of Harry Walters, reported at the Meeting of 30th January last (p 18), the Clerk reports that Messrs. Hunt and Co. have informed him that Harry Walters has agreed to pay 2/6 for damage and has given a written promise not to dig gravel again upon the Forest without permission.

Licences Annual Return

The Rangers returns of Licences granted by them during the past year are laid on the table.

Fires

The Rangers report that the following fires have occurred on the Forest since the last Meeting:-

Northern Area

Apr 15	4 p.m.	Between the Gate & Chelwood Gate	Abt 15 rods
Apr 17	7.15 p.m.	West side road Wych Cross to Chelwood, opposite stone pits near Wych Cross	Abt ¼ acre
Apr 17	8 p.m.	Other side same road and opposite	1 rod
Apr 18	noon	West side road from Wych Cross to Twyford, near Suttons Farm	30 rods
Apr 18	5 to 7.30 p.m.	In Pippingford	7 acres
Apr 22	noon	East side road Chuck Hatch to Old Lodge 300 yards, from Top of Kidds Hill	1 rod
Apr 22	7 p.m.	100 yards on North side of Wych Cross to Colemans Hatch	10 rods
Apr 25	4.30 to 7 p.m.	West side Lone Oak Hall Farm	1 ½ acres
Apr 25	4.30 to 7 p.m.	East side same Farm	2 acres
Apr 26	10 p.m.	opposite Birch Grove Lodge	3 rods
Apr 29	12.30 p.m.	East side and Top of site of Thorns Farm	50 rods
Apr 29	10.30 p.m.	East side road to Golf Club House between Club House and Bank Farm	1 rod

Mr. Freshfield states that this year the fires occurring in the Northern area have mostly arisen from accident and have not been caused by incendiaries

Mr. Martin mentions that the last above mentioned fire was extinguished by the prompt action of Charles and Frank Mitchell.

and it is Resolved that the Clerk convey to them the thanks of this Board for their timely services

Southern Area

Apr 1	7 p.m.	At Kingstanding	Abt 1 acre
Apr 12	12.30 p.m.	Near Marl pits, Nutley	Abt 10 rods
Apr 18		Near Millbrook	Abt 15 rod
Apr 19	7 a.m.	Near Pippingford	Abt 1 ½ acres
Apr 19	1 p.m.	At Duddleswell	Abt 5 acres
Apr 19	6 p.m.	On Paines Hill	Abt ¼ acre
Apr 20	1 p.m.	Near Pound Gate School	Abt 6 acres
Apr 20	6 p.m.	Near Boring Wheel Mill	30 rods
Apr 21	8.45 p.m.	Vetchery	Abt 2 acres
Apr 21	9 p.m.	Adjoining Millbrook Hill	Abt 15 rods
Apr 23	7.30 a.m.	Near Vetchery	Abt 10 rods
Apr 23	11 a.m.	Millbrook Hill	Abt ½ acre
Apr 23	11 a.m.	At Nutley Bank	Abt 8 rods
Apr 24	8 p.m.	Near Old Lodge	Abt 2 acres
Apr 24	9 p.m.	At Nutley Bank	Abt 10 rods
Apr 24	10.30 to midnight	5 fires between Pippingford & Vetchery	Abt 1 ½ acres
Apr 25	11 a.m.	Near Duddleswell	Abt ¼ acre
Apr 25	9.30 p.m.	On Paines Hill	Abt 6 rods
Apr 26	11 a.m.	Near Stone Hill	Abt 5 rods
Apr 28	10 a.m.	Adjoining Vetchery	Abt 2 acres
Apr 28	9 p.m.	Near Vetchery	Abt ¼ acre
Apr 29	9 p.m.	2 fires near Windmill	Abt ¼ acre
May 2	9 p.m.	On Stone Hill	Abt 1 ½ acres
May 2	10.30 p.m.	Near Marl pits, Nutley	Abt ½ acre
May 3	7 a.m. to noon	3 fires near Vetchery	Abt 6 acres
May 3	4 p.m.	At Browns Brook	Abt rod
May 3	6 p.m.	Near Boring Wheel Mill	2 rods
May 3	9 p.m.	Near Lisburn	1 ½ acres
May 15	9 p.m.	Stone Hill	1 acre
May 17	8.30 a.m.	Near Marl pits, Nutley	½ acre
May 17	3 p.m.	At Browns Brook	35 rods
May 17	8 p.m.	At Paines Hill	1 rod
May 19	3 p.m.	At Fords Green	10 rods

In reply to questions Ranger Kirby states that good assistance was rendered by the Constables at Nutley and Fairwarp in extinguishing fires during the earlier part of the time but later they were prevented from doing so by point duty. That a body of police were sent up to the Forest for weekends on 2 occasions, namely, about the end of April and about the 9th instant, namely about 5 to Crowborough 5 to Uckfield and 6 to Forest Row, but that they arrived so openly that everyone round the Forest knew of their arrival before he himself was aware of it.

Road materials

The following applications from Road Authorities for permission to take road materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March next are laid before the Board namely:—

The East Grinstead Rural District Council
near Kingstanding

130 yds gravel

Being the same quantity as last year

The Uckfield Rural District Council
near Kingstanding

130 yds gravel

Being the same quantity as last year

Ranger Brown reports that both Councils have properly preserved and re-spread the top spit.

It is Resolved that Licences be granted to them to take the same subject to the same terms and conditions as the Licences granted to them last year.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and It is Resolved that it be received approved and entered on the minutes viz:-

At a Meeting of the Forest Row Committee held on the 1st of May 1914 an application from the Ladies Golf Club contained in a letter from Miss Andrews of the 24th of February for alterations on their course was considered.

With regard to the 1st proposed alteration the Committee would not object to a new tee being made below and behind the present ones to the 4th hole.

As to the 2nd proposed alteration i.e., a new 5th green towards the present 6th tees, it seemed to the Committee that the present 5th green is in a dangerous place and that the proposed new green would be in a much more dangerous place.

As to the 3rd alteration i.e. a new tee in the rough nearer the Cricket ground, the Committee thought this would not be wanted unless the second alteration was allowed. They however, would not object to this alteration being made.

As to the 4th alteration i.e. a new green for the 7th hole above and beyond the present green. The Committee considered that having regard to the proximity of a footpath running parallel with the fence on the South side of the Cricket Ground and which footpath is much used, that play through the course to such a hole would be most dangerous

As to the 5th alteration i.e. a new tee to the right of the present ones, the Committee also considered such an alteration would make the hole a very dangerous one, having regard to the line of the road leading up to Chapel Lane.

The Committee therefore as regards alterations 2, 4 & 5 for the above and other reasons do not see their way to advise the Board of Conservators to allow them to be made. They would however do so as to alterations 1 and 3.

Having regard to their views as expressed above, it occurred to the Committee that the Club might not care to make alterations 1 & 3.

The Committee are most wishful to help the Ladies Club and if the Club think fit to renew their previous application the Committee will reconsider their former decision with a view to seeing if they can advise the Board to allow the alterations mentioned in that application or at any rate some of them.

The Committee also report that they have expended for works of cutting for protection from fire
£3:0:0

And for removal of rubbish and other necessary work £1:8:6

£4:8:6

Against which they have received for materials sold ~~£1:0:6~~
leaving a balance due to them of £3:8:0

Protection and Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that the above amount be refunded to the Committee out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Ladies Golf Club alteration of links

The Clerk reports that, by direction of the Committee, he wrote to the Secretary of the Golf Club in the terms of the above report.

Bridge near Water Farm repair of

Mr. Martin states that the bridge across the Quabrook near Water Farm requires some repairs and that the hole made by the water in the bed of the stream on the lower side of the bridge requires filling up. It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to carry out the necessary work, the cost thereof to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

R.A.F. Golf Club alteration of 3rd Green

Mr. Midgley applies on behalf of the Captain of the R.A.F. Golf Club for permission to extend the 3rd green about 60 yards towards Mr. Snelgrove's new house in the Rist Wood being slightly beyond the limits fixed by their licence and that Mr. Claude Johnstone, in whom the Lord's rights over this area are vested has given his consent.

It is Resolved that the application be referred to the Forest Row Committee with power to act and report their action.

Telephone line Tompsetts Bank

The Clerk reports that, pursuant to the Resolution passed by the Board on 30th January last (p 16), he has completed the Licence to the Postmaster General to lay and maintain an underground telephone line at Highgate and he produces the Counterpart Licence.

J.S. Snelgrove application to make footbridge

A letter is read dated 19th April last from Mr. J.S. Snelgrove, the owner of a house on the Rist Wood Estate applying for permission from the Conservators to lay a footbridge of planks across the stream from his boundary to the Forest.

It is Resolved that the consent of the Board be granted and that if the Clerk, on inquiry, find that Mr. Snelgrove's property is not entitled to rights, such consent take the form of a licence subject to the usual terms and conditions and the payment of an annual acknowledgement of 1/-.

R.A.F. Golf Club water and drain pipes

The Clerk reports that, by direction of the Forest Row Committee he granted consent to the Trustees of the R.A.F. Golf Club to alter the route along which the pipe to supply water to the watercourse is to be laid, being a change of the route for which a licence was granted on 2nd August 1912; Also that he informed the Trustees that the Conservators see no objection to the route by which the sewer draining the Club House is to be laid by the Local Sanitary Authority who will be responsible for any accident which may happen, the Conservators trusting that all necessary precautions will be taken to protect the Commoners and their cattle from accident.

W.C. Bond Licence for water pipe to Aegen Gill

An application is received from W.C. Bond the owner of Aegen Gill at Shalesbrook for permission to lay a branch water pipe in to his property from the pipe which is being laid by the R.A.F. Golf Club from Post Horn Lane to their Club House.

It is Resolved that a Licence be granted to him for the purpose upon the same terms and conditions as similar licences and subject to the payment of an acknowledgement of [blank] per annum each, to the Lord and the Conservators, he paying the cost of such licence.

C. Catt access to water

The Clerk reports that Mr. C. Catt has given the Committee the undertaking required by the Board at the last Meeting (page 25) and has paid the first acknowledgement of 1/-

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be approved and adopted and entered on the minutes viz:-

R.E. Camp

As to the encampment of Royal Engineers on the Forest near Pippingford, Captain Dobbie met Mr. Turner on the spot on April 29th and arranged with Mr. Turner who represented the Committee as where the encampment should be made.

Captain Dobbie asked for permission to dig trenches between Nutley and Duddleswell. He, with Mr. Turner and Ranger Kirby then inspected the ground and Mr. Turner pointed out where digging operations might be carried out, all being under the immediate supervision of Ranger Kirby.

Boring Wheel Mill track repairs; Francis Reed - road

Ranger Kirby's report as follows:- Mr. Goff has now completed his contract at Boring Wheel Mill track. All the faggots are now laid and ditches opened and it is now ready for the stone to be laid on. The road is now practically made to the Beacon unless Mr. Townsend requires more stone on it. As regards the road which leads from Fairwarp Vicarage to the village, nothing has been done yet to repair this road by Francis Reed Esq.

Ranger Kirby repair of bicycle

The Maresfield Committee also report that the free wheel and chain of Ranger Kirby's bicycle, having broken, they authorised him to get it repaired by Mr. F.T. Ridley of Nutley at a cost of 9/-.

It is Resolved that the action of the Committee be approved and the cost paid out of the General Account

Scout Camp

An application from the Secretary of the Brighton Y.M.C.A. Holiday Home for permission for the 4th Brighton (Y.M.C.A.) Troop of Boy Scouts to encamp on the Forest in the same locality, near Hindleap Warren, as the Camp of the Westminster Scouts held last year, for about 6 weeks in July and August next. It is Resolved that permission be granted subject to the usual terms and conditions and the approval of the Forest Row Committee.

Sylvanus Ridley deposit of building materials; charge for such Licences suggested; charge non-Commoners cattle turned out suggested

A letter is read from Mr. Sylvanus Ridley of Horney Common asking permission to deposit building materials on the Forest for the repair of his cottages at Dodds Bottom. Also suggesting that the Board should charge 1/- each for such licences and should also charge a trifle per head in respect of cattle turned on to the Forest by persons not having rights of common.

It is Resolved that the Clerk grant permission to Mr. S. Ridley to deposit building materials subject to the usual terms and condition and that his suggestion of charging 1/- each for such licences be adopted. Also that Mr. Ridley be informed that, if he will supply particulars of cattle turned out by persons not having rights of common, with the names and addresses of the owners, the Board will take his suggestion into consideration.

Fords Green bowling green

Mr. Albert Turner notifies the Board that, as Superintendent of the Fords Green Recreation Ground, that under the provisions of Byelaw 17 he is about to set apart and fence off a portion of the Recreation Ground for a bowling green

In Committee

Boring for oil

Ranger Brown reports that no attempt has yet been made to proceed with the proposed boring for oil near the top of Kidds Hill.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be approved and entered on the Minutes namely:-

At a Meeting of the Forest Row Committee held on the 1st of May 1914.

Reed driving over Forest

The Committee consider complain to from the Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club as to Reed driving his pony cart over the Forest, where there are no authorised tracks, on his way to get to the gate on the Hartfield road near the Quabrook. The Board at their last Meeting had empowered the Committee to take legal proceedings against Reed for driving where there are no tracks. The Committee however had not taken proceedings, as in a letter from the Secretary of the Club dated the 19th of April 1914, the Committee of the Club expressed a wish that for the present proceedings should not taken.

Mr. Freshfield stated that he was in communication with Colonel Lawrence the Captain of the Golf Club with a view to see if some agreement could be come to between the Conservators and the Golf Club and Reed and the purchasers of property from him to make up a track over some part of the Forest which would induce Reed in the future to drive over it, instead of driving where there are no tracks. Further consideration of the matter was then adjourned.

D.W. Freshfield

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn namely:-

Ranger Kirby – 10 weeks salary as Ranger & House Rent to 25th instant	£12.10.0
Insurance 10 weeks	<u>£0.2.6</u>
	£12.12.6
Ranger Brown - 10 weeks salary as Second Ranger to 25th inst.	£10.0.0
Insurance – 10 weeks	<u>£0.2.6</u>
	£10.2.6

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 7th August next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other date as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 7th August 1914, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. Geo. M Maryon-Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. William Carr
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Mr. Martin states that he has been requested by Colonel Needham to explain that absence abroad prevents his being present and Mr. Sandford reads a letter from Mr. Robert Kenward thanking the Board for the kind wishes for his recovery expressed at the last Meeting and regretting that continued ill-health prevents his attendance today.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books, which show balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£ 163:19:10
2nd Ranger Account	£55:19:9
Protection and Improvement Fund	£84:1:2

Fires

The Rangers report that the following fires have occurred on the Forest since the last Meeting

Northern Area

June 14 11 p.m.	Rushey Bottom	Abt ¼ acre
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Southern Area

June 5 8 p.m.	at Mill Brook	abt 30 rods
July 27 1.15 p.m.	near Old Lodge	abt 6 rods

Forest Row House refuse

The Clerk lays before the Meeting a copy of the letter he addressed to the Local Government Board on the 3rd June last with reference to the removal of house refuse at Forest Row pursuant to instructions given at the last Meeting and reports that the receipt of his letter was acknowledged by the L.G. Board but that as yet he had heard nothing further.

It is Resolved that a letter be written to the Local Government Board enquiring whether the Board is now in a position to reply to the Clerk's letter of 3rd June last.

Bond W.C. application

The Clerk reports that he received a letter dated 7th ulto from Mr. W.C. Bond the new owner of Aegen Gill asking permission (in addition to his application laid before the last Meeting) (1) to put dams in the stream passing through his property in order to raise the level of the stream and divert it through a water garden he proposes to construct and (2) to carry the overflow from a spring on the Forest on the North West Side of his property by a pipe into his garden; and that he (the Clerk) forwarded the application to the Forest Row Committee.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes viz:-

The Committee met on the 27th of July 1914 at Forest Row.

Present. Mr. Freshfield and Mr. Martin. Colonel Needham and Mr. Midgley were unable to be present by reason of absence from home.

Bond W.C. damming Stream

A letter dated the 7th inst from Mr. Bond was read and the plan therein referred to considered. The Committee proceeded to look at the stream mentioned in the letter and at that part where it flows from the Golf Club cottages to Aegen Gill.

It appeared from Mr. Bond's letter that, if he carried out the scheme proposed the result would be to increase the depth of the water in the stream from when it enters Aegen Gill to, as far as the first footbridge above the property and probably to as far as the second footbridge.

It therefore seemed to the Committee that to allow this might be a cause of some inconvenience and complaint.

Further, it is obvious that whenever the stream is in flood it would be more liable to overflow to banks than hitherto and that this might be attended with some danger both to persons and cattle crossing the stream. It is to be remembered that some years ago a fatal accident did happen about this particular spot. For these reasons the Committee were unable to advise the Board to consent to any work being carried out by Mr. Bond which would result in increasing the depth of water in the stream.

To take water by pipe from the stream

As to the alternative proposal contained in the last paragraph but one of Mr. Bond's letter namely, to put a pipe up the stream so as to tap the water at somewhere about the spot marked with a small red cross, on the above mentioned plan, the Committee saw no objection. They however, thought that any licence granted for this purpose should be on terms similar to those contained in the licence granted to the late Miss Hutchinson of Water Farm for tapping the stream above her property.

To take water from spring

As regards the spring mentioned in paragraph 4 of Mr. Bond's letter and shown on the plan, it appeared to the Committee that the Rural District Council of East Grinstead having regard to the notice Board put up by them adjoining the spring, seemed to consider that they have some rights with respect to it. As to how the Council came to claim any rights the Committee are unaware. They suggest that Mr. Raper should ascertain whether the Council have any rights and if so, what they are. The Committee consider that, so far as the Board are concerned no objection need be raised to Mr. Bond's request that he should be allowed to take the overflow water from the spring through a small pipe to his proposed pond. In their opinion it should be seen that the pipe be put in at such a height in the well that water should only pass through it which would otherwise flow on to the Forest. This they considered of importance as throughout the year water is fetched from the spring for drinking purposes and particularly during a drought in the summer months.

Repair of bridge near Water Farm

The Committee instructed Ranger Brown to ask Mr. Luxford to give an estimate for some repairs to the Bridge put up by the Board over the Quabrook Stream and near to Water Farm and to send the same to Mr. Freshfield.

R.A.F. Golf Club application to make new green

The Committee further considered an application from the Golf Club Committee to make a new green on the Forest near the Rist Wood Estate. Having regard to the interference with the litter grounds which would be caused by the making of such a green and the approaches to it and the scarcity of litter at this part of the Forest they regret that they cannot recommend the Board to assent to the application.

Douglas W. Freshfield

Ranger Brown bicycle repair

The Committee also report that Ranger Brown's bicycle has been repaired at a cost of 11/5.

R.A.F. Golf Club proposed new green, Bridge at Water Farm Repair

It is Resolved that the reports be approved and acted upon (except the paragraph relating to the application of the R.A.F. Golf Club to make a new green which, at the request of Mr. Midgley the Committee agree to take back for further consideration) and that the Committee be authorised to carry out the necessary repairs to the above mentioned Bridge at a cost of from £5 to £7 to be paid out of Protection and Improvement Fund.

The following report of Ranger Brown is read and It is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely –

Gentlemen,

I beg to report the District Councils men who put in the sewer up to the Golf Club House at Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row, have left it in a very rough state. They have not covered over the iron plate of the two manholes, namely, one opposite the Golf Club house. Also at this place they spread the earth they had left after filling in the drain which they did not *** and it covers a distance of 9 yards square and about 4 inches deep and near the manhole at the top part of Aegens Gill west side they also put a quantity of earth at a distance of about 15 yards by

5 yards and about 2 inches deep. Also near this spot they have put a quantity of earth in two places at the side of the stream. The turf opposite the Golf Club house is put down in a very rough manner.

I am Gentlemen

Your obedient servant

Wm. Brown

R.A.F. Golf Club drainage

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Surveyor of the East Grinstead Rural District Council reminding him that the surface of the Forest has not been properly levelled and the sods have not been properly re-laid and state that the Board will be much obliged if he will have these matters attended to and cause the surplus soil which has been laid on the Forest to be deposited in the sand pit near Mr. Faber's in a spot to be approved by the Committee.

Also that Ranger Brown do what he can to cover up the stones over the manholes, which are now exposed.

Weir C.B. cut litter

A letter dated the 19th May last from Mr. C.B. Weir of Duckings Withyham to Ranger Brown is read, in which Mr. Weir states he understands he is allowed to cut litter on the Forest on payment of 6d per load and enclosing 1/- for 2 loads cut.

The Clerk reports that the effect of the correspondence which he had with Mr. Weir to the effect that his property is not entitled to rights of common and states that Mr. Weir is evidently referring to cases where consent has been given for heath and furze to large for litter to be cut on payment of 6d per load

It is Resolved that the Clerk reply to Mr. Weir's letter explaining the matter.

Trollope P.A. application for camp

A letter is read dated 13th ulto, from Mr. P.A. Trollope of 151 Latham Road, East Ham, asking permission for himself and a friend to erect a tent and camp on the Forest for a week in August.

It is Resolved that Mr. Trollope be informed that the Board cannot grant the request.

Mr. Somerton Bye-Law Board

A letter is read from Mr. Somerton asking the Conservators to erect a Bye Law board on St. John's Common with a view to stopping abuses.

George Innes application to improve track

The Clerk reports that he received a letter from Mr. George Innes of Mount Pleasant Farm. Fairwarp asking permission to metal and make up a short length of the road leading from Mr. Lovell's road to his (Mr. Innes) yard gate and that he referred it to the Maresfield Committee

Sylvanus Ridley Forest track blocked

A letter is read dated the 31st ulto, from Mr. Sylvanus Ridley complaining that the exit of a Forest Road on to the highroad from Toll farm to Fairwarp has been blocked by deposit of road materials by the Uckfield Rural District Council and that the Council have declined to take any action.

Mr. Ridley attends before the Board and explains the matter and is informed that the Board will consider it.

The Maresfield Committee present the following reports which are read and it is Resolved that they be received and entered on the Minutes namely:-

R.E. Camp near Pippingford

Messrs Turner and Sandford inspected the site of the Engineers camp on Ashdown Forest near Pippingford Park on Saturday July 11th 1914. They found the site in first class condition. Everything had been cleared up very satisfactorily. In fact, the surface of the Forest was very much improved. Thirty shillings will be paid by the War Office to purchase grass seeds to be sown at the proper time next spring on the few bare spots which will be then

found. The manure made by the horses was left on the Forest and has been carefully spread by direction of Ranger Kirby and will certainly much improve the herbage in the future. The carting and spreading the same will be paid for out of the Two pound ten shillings to be paid by the War Office as rent.

Boring Wheel Mill track

As to the Boring Wheel Mill track which has not yet been completed the Committee ask the Board to have a cheque drawn paid to Mr. Turner for the amount £15 voted for the work at the last January Meeting of the Board as the money in Mr. Turner's hands will be exhausted before all the costs of the work are paid.

Mr. Somerton's application

As to Mr. Somerton's letter the Committee ' recommend that the Bye Law board which Mr. Somerton asks for be erected on a suitable site to St. John's Common if Mr. Somerton agrees to pay the cost which will be £1.

R.E. Camp spreading manure

The Committee present a bill handed in by Ranger Kirby for £1.8.0. due to Laban Turk for carting manure on the Forest from the Pippingford Camp.

Sylvanus Ridley complaint of R.D.C. blocking Forest track

As to S. Ridley's letter complaining that the District Surveyor had blocked up a Forest track. The Committee having viewed the spot suggest that no action be taken.

Mr. Inn's application

As to Mr. Innes application to make up the old track the Committee recommend that he be granted permission under the supervision of Ranger Kirby as marked red on the accompanying plan

H.B. Portman

Chairman

A Maresfield Committee Meeting was called 4.30 p.m. June 20th 1914 to consider a letter from Officer Commanding Royal Engineers Pippingford Camp dated 17th June inviting a grant to about 60 men who turned out to extinguish fires on the Forest which letter was referred to the Committee by the Chairman of the Board. There were present owing to very short notice Mr. Turner and Mr. Portman.

R.E. claim for extinguishing fires

The Committee on hearing the Ranger's report and local information on the matter came to the conclusion that the night fire on 14th June (Sunday) was in all probability caused by visitors to the camp and friends of the military returning home to Chelwood Gate after the close of canteen 10 – 10.40 p.m. Sunday and considering the lateness of the season that probably a lighted match or end of a cigar cigarette or pipe carelessly thrown away was the cause.

Your Committee with the Chairman of the Board than visited the officer on duty at the camp and ascertained that only 2 & 3 uniforms were discoloured by burnt sap and burnt wood stains and the Committee understood a claim might be made to government as being done in execution of duty.

It was further ascertained that the privates' canteen shut nominally at 10 p.m., and the N.C.O.'s from 10.30-11 p.m., that 60 men were turned out for this particular fire, where 15 men could have done the work efficiently, some of whom wore canvas clothes and not uniform.

Both Rangers were presumably in bed at 11 p.m. Sunday at outbreak of fire and could not summon the military.

On the question of compensation for damage to the soldiers' uniforms caused in putting out these fires and for their personal assistance which is put forward as a claim against the Board for their consideration in the letter of the O.C. 17th June, the Committee are of opinion that it would be most unwise to introduce the precedent of compensation of this character having regard especially to future camps if it can possibly be avoided and in the present case they do not consider that the evidence sufficiently supports such a claim and they cannot recommend any payment being made under this head.

As regards the suggestion in the letter that the agreement is somewhat vague as to the obligation of the soldiers to assist to put these fires, the Committee are satisfied that clause 3 clearly makes them liable to do this as one of the conditions of their encampments in the case of all fires within a reasonable distance of their camp and this they pointed out to the officer at the conduction of their interview.

H.B. Portman
Chairman

It is Resolved that the reports be approved and acted on, except as regards Mr. Sylvanus Ridley's complaint, and that the bill of Mr. Laban Turk for £1-8-0, for spreading the manure on the site of the R. E. Camp and £15 towards the outlay on the Boring Wheel Mill be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

That as regards Mr Sylvanus Ridley's complaint the Clerk write to the surveyor of the Uckfield Rural District Council expressing the hope that the heap of flints referred to will shortly be removed, and that the Board will be obliged if in future, he will arrange so that road materials are not deposited in positions where they will cause an destruction to the tracks used by Commoners, for carting litter off the Forest and other purposes connected with their rights.

It is Resolved that, insomuch as all the Military Authorities are fully occupied in war preparations, the Clerk do not reply to the application of the Officer commanding the R.E. Camp unless a further communication is received.

Forest Row Rifle range application re open

A letter is read dated the 6th inst. from the War Emergency Committee for the Petty Sessional Division of East Grinstead asking the Board to allow the Rifle Range at Forest Row to be temporarily re-opened for use if the necessity arises by properly authorised persons only.

It is Resolved that the Clerk reply pointing out that the Range was closed in consequence of its being condemned by the military authorities as very dangerous and that it will be for the Committee to consider whether, under these circumstances, they will be justified in using it. But that as far as the Conservators are concerned, and having regard to the present state of war they will raise no objection to its use, provided every possible precaution is taken by the exhibition of red flags, and all other proper methods of warning to prevent the possibility of accidents occurring from its use.

A letter is read dated the 5th ulto from Dr. Edgar Millett Chairman of the Roads and Bridges Committee of the East Grinstead Rural District Council pointing out that the South West corner at the point where the East Grinstead to Lewes road crosses the West Hoathly to Colemans Hatch Road is dangerous, and asking permission for the Rural Council to throw it into the road.

On Mr. Freshfield's suggestion it is Resolved that the Clerk inform Dr. Willett that the matter has been referred to Mr. Freshfield, in whom the soil of that part of the Forest is vested and that he will no doubt deal with the matter himself.

Wm. Izzard claim to rights admitted.

The question of Wm. Izzard's claim to rights of common is then reconsidered, and It is Resolved that his claim be admitted subject to his paying the Forest Rate.

War – use of Forest to be granted

It is Resolved that, having regard to the war, in case any application is received from the War Office to use the Forest for camping or other military purposes, the Clerk be and is hereby authorised to place the Forest at the disposal of the War Office for the purpose, and the District Committees be requested and empowered to make all necessary arrangements with the Military Authorities.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn, namely:-

Ranger Kirby. 11 weeks salary as Ranger &
House rent to 10th inst. £13.15.0

Insurance 11 weeks	£ 0.2.9	£13.17.9
Ranger Brown. 11 weeks salary as Second Ranger & House rent to 10th inst.	£11.0.0	
Insurance 11 weeks	£ 0.2.9	£11.2.9
The Clerk ½ yr's salary to 30th June last	£50.0.0	
Messrs Dyson & Co. Parliamentary costs re Crowborough Gas & Electricity Bill.	£2.12.6	

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday , the 9th October next at 2.30 p.m., or on such other date as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The meeting terminated at 4.45 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 9th October 1914, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. Geo. M Maryon-Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. James Card
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

A letter is read from Colonel Needham regretting that important business prevents his attending this meeting.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books, which show balances standing to the credit of the several accounts as follows:-

General Account	£97.9.7
2nd Ranger Fund	£67.0.6
Protection & Improvement Fund	£75.16.8

Fires

The Rangers report that the following fires have occurred on the Forest since the meeting

Northern area

August 14	1 p.m.	At Cripps Corner	Abt 5 rods
August 20	3 p.m.	Spirit lamp by Miss Hamington & Miss Meager; near Rushey Bottom by Army Traction Engine	Abt 10 rods
August 24	3 p.m.	Between Shepherds Well and Footbridge Gate by	Abt 3 rods

		Chas. Miles age 9 and Arthur Passage 8	
August 25	1 p.m.	near Black Pit between Colemans Hatch & Wych Cross believed to have been caused by Arnold's Steam Rollers	Abt 10 rods
August 24		East side road between top of Kidds Hill & Old Lodge cause unknown	1 acre

Southern area

August 14	9 p.m.	Near the old Fox, Fairwarp	Abt 15 rods
September 4	7 p.m.	At Duddleswell	Abt 10 rods
September 29	8.30 p.m.	Near Fairwarp Recreation Ground	Abt ½ acre
October 2	3 p.m.	Near the Beacon, Fairwarp	Abt 10 rods
October 7	11.30 a.m.	Adjoining the camp at Kingstanding burnt by troops to clear ground for football	

Bond W.C. licence to take overflow of spring

The Clerk reports that he has failed as yet to obtain a reply from the Forest Row Parish Council whether they claim any right, and if so what, in connection with the spring near Aegen Gill, and consequently he has been unable to proceed with the licence to Mr. W.C. Bond.

The Clerk advising that the Parish Council can have no property in the spring. It is Resolved that a licence to granted to Mr. Bond to take the overflow from the spring known as Have-a-Care Well, subject to the details being approved by the Forest Row Committee.

Forest Row House refuse

The Clerk reports that he wrote to the Local Government Board on the 12th August, asking for a reply with reference to the removal of house refuse at Forest Row, and on 1st September he received a reply enclosing a copy of the report which the Medical Officer of Health of the East Grinstead Rural District made to the Rural District Council and of correspondence that had passed with the Clerk of that Authority stating that the Local Government Board are communicating further with the Council on the matter.

East Grinstead R.D.C. removal of soil from drainage work

The Forest Row Committee report that the surplus soil from the laying of the drain to the R.A.F. Golf Club house has been cleared up to the satisfaction of their representative.

Repair of bridge near Water Farm

Mr. Freshfield reports that as the estimate obtained for repairing the bridge near Water Farm was larger than appeared reasonable he had the work carried out by his own men at a much smaller cost, viz. £4.3.0. It is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield be thanked for his valuable services and that the cost of the work be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Underground telegraph line Aegen Gill

An application is considered from the Postmaster General for permission to lay and maintain an underground telephone line to Aegen Gill from the private road coming out of the Stone House Estate to the north west of it, and it is Resolved that the application be approved and that the Clerk be and is herein authorised to sign the licence.

Forest tract blocked

with regard to Mr. Sylvanus Ridley's complaint at the last meeting of a Forest track being blocked, the Clerk reports that on 13th August last he wrote to the Surveyor of the Uckfield R.D.C. on the matter and received a reply from him dated 15th August last, stating that the deposit of flints complained of was an error on the roadman's part, that on discovering it he gave instructions to make a more convenient road and would endeavour to have the flints

removed as early as possible and that instructions have been given to the men to be more careful in future as to where material is deposited.

Mr. Joseph Ridley reports that the flints have now been removed.

Camps

The Clerk reports that Regulations have been issued under the Defence of the Realm Acts 1914 empowering the naval or military authority by order to authorise the use of land within such limits as may be specified in the order for the training of any part of H.M.'s naval or military forces and may confer such rights of user of the land and the temporary supervision of rights or way, as are conferred under the Military Manoeuvres Acts 1897 & 1911. That on the 16th September the War Department Land Agent 2nd Army Central Force at Tunbridge Wells wrote to Mr. Martin stating that a Division of that Army had camped at Camp Hill and St. John's Common and that he had only just ascertained to whom to apply on the subject.

The Clerk replied that the Board had directed him to facilitate such camping of troops on the Forest as the exigencies of the War might render desirable, and that the stipulations which the Conservators make are:

1. When a camp terminates all excavations be properly filled in and levelled and the surface restored.
2. That the manure made by the horses be left and spread.
3. That the surface be seeded down.
4. That the utmost precautions be taken to prevent fire and in case of fire the military see to its prompt extinction.
5. Referring him to Mr. A Turner for any information and assistance.

The Clerk also reports that a second large camp has been established at Kingstanding, and that a third camp is established in Kidbrook Park and the Troops encamped here are using the Forest.

Timber & undergrowth caution to Command Officers

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Officers commanding each camp, pointing out that the timber and undergrowth upon the Forest is the property of the respective Lords of the Manor and give them information to whom any application relating to same must be addressed. Also that in writing to the officer commanding the Camp at Kidbrooke Park the Clerk forward him a copy of the letter sent to Mr. Whitley-Hughes with reference to the use of the Forest Row Rifle Range.

Ladies Golf Club fence greens

Mr. Martin made application on behalf of The Ladies Golf Club for permission to fence their greens during the military occupation. It is Resolved that under the circumstances the Board make no objection to such fencing and that the Club be recommended to apply to the Military Authority on the subject.

Y.M.C.A. tents at camps

The Clerk reports that having received application from the Young Men's Christian Association to erect tents in connection with the camps at St. John's Common and Camp Hill he wrote the Secretary granting permission on the condition that every possible precaution be taken to prevent firing the Forest and that when they remove, all rubbish be cleared up and the surface be restored, and referring them to Mr. Turner in case any further conveniences are required. It is resolved that the Clerks action be confirmed.

The Maresfield Committee report as follows:-

Somerton Bye Law Board

As regards the Bye Law Board proposed to be erected at St John's Common, the Committee have deferred erecting it pending the Military occupation.

Geo. Innes cart road

Mr. George Innes has not yet metalled the piece of road authorised at the last meeting.

Boring Wheel Mill track

That the repair of the Boring Wheel Mill track has been completed to their satisfaction and an account of the expenditure thereon will be submitted shortly.

Albert Wood trespass

Ranger Brown reports that on 7th September having found grass and rushes had been cut on the Forest on the East side of Isle of Thorns, he watched and on the following evening Albert Wood of Chelwood came with a barrow, loaded up the material, and cut more. On being tackled by Ranger Brown he admitted cutting at the same spot this year and last and removing the cuttings by night. The Clerk reports he wrote to Wood requiring payment of 5/- and a written promise not to cut again without a licence, and after some correspondence Wood complied with both requirements.

Turner & Son licence for deposit

The Clerk reports that on 8th September last he granted a Licence to A. Turner & Son of Nutley to deposit larch poles on the Forest near New Bridge pending removal by traction engine.

Duckworth G.H. claim to rights

The Clerk submits a claim by Mr. G.H. Duckworth of Dalingridge Place to rights of common in respect of his property. It is Resolved that the Clerk investigate the same and report.

Aegen Gill application to alter road

Mr. Martin states that Mr. Bond of Aegen Gill has applied for permission to alter the road from Aegen Gill. It is Resolved that the application be referred to the Forest Row Committee with power to act

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that the Honble H.B. Portman and Messrs. Sandford and Turner be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts for the year ending 31st December next.

Mr. Joseph Ridley enquired what steps the Board, having at the last meeting admitted Mr. Wm. Izzard's claim to rights, propose to take with regard to other small occupiers on the Forest who applied in 1906. It is Resolved that the Clerk bring the matter before the next meeting.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn namely:

Ranger Kirby 9 weeks salary as Ranger

and house rent to 12th inst.

£11.5.0

Insurance 9 weeks

£0.2.3

£11.7.3

Ranger Brown 9 weeks salary as Second Ranger

to 12th inst.

£9.0.0

Insurance 9 weeks

£0.2.3

£9.2.3

It is resolved that the next annual meeting of the Commoners be convened for Friday the 18th December next at 11 a.m. and that the next meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoners meeting or on such other date as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The meeting terminated at 4 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in Ashdown Forest duly convened by the Clerk by notice on the principal door of the church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends by advertisement in two of the newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit

“The Sussex Express”, and “The Sussex Daily News” at least 14 days before this date, and by notice sent by post to every Commoner, and held at the Nutley Inn. Nutley on Friday the 18th day of December 1914, at 11 o’clock in the forenoon

Present

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bt.
The Revd. C. Neill
Mr. Wm. Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Sylvanus Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. A. Turner

Chairman

On the proposition of Mr. Sandford , seconded by Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson is chosen Chairman and he having taken the chair, the Clerk reads the notice convening the meeting and reports the due publication thereof as above mentioned.

The minutes of the last meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st inst are Messrs. Wm. Carr, Llewellyn Midgley, Col. Chas. Needham and Mr. Mark Sandford.

It is proposed by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Sandford that Mr. Wm. Carr be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Turner and seconded by Mr. Follett that Mr. Llewellyn Midgley be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Sandford and seconded by Mr. Midgley that Colonel Charles Needham be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Kenward and seconded by Mr. Martin that Mr. Mark Sandford be re-elected a Conservator.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley protests against the manner in which the election of Conservators is carried out, stating that it is a disgrace to the country and it ought to be one man one vote.

No other nomination being made the Chairman declares the above named 4 Commoners duly elected as Conservators for the ensuing 3 years.

Mr. Wm. Carr in thanking the Commoners for re-electing him stakes that the Forest is in a very much better condition than when he was first elected a Conservator.

Mr. Llewellyn Midgley thanks the Commoners for renewing their confidence in him after 20 years service and states that he shall continue to do his best for the good of the Commoners and the preservation of the Forest.

Mr. Sandford in thanking the Commoners reminds them that he has served the office continuously since the year 1887. He mentions that the Boring Wheel Mill track has now been put into a good state of repair, and he hopes that the work has given satisfaction to the Commoners.

Military Camps

The Chairman states that as the present position of the Military camp at Forest Row has caused a good deal of dissatisfaction to some of the Commoners in the neighbourhood he wishes to make it clear to the Commoners that the Board are in no way responsible for the position in which the camp has now been placed which is entirely different from the plan originally submitted by the Military Authorities to the Forest Row Committee whom they consulted and whose recommendations they accepted at the time, and he requested Mr. Freshfield, as Chairman of the Forest Row Committee, to state what had taken place

Mr. Freshfield explains that the position which the military camp at Forest Row now occupies is not that originally agreed upon by the Military Authorities in consultation with the Forest Row Committee on behalf of the Board, and that the Military Authorities are solely responsible for the alteration of the site, and the change from the position originally agreed upon.

Boring Wheel Mill track thanks of Commoners

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley states that he wishes to thank the Board of Conservators, on behalf of all the Commoners in the vicinity of the Boring Wheel Mill, for what has been done to the road there, and all who so generously helped especially Mr. Portman, Prince Munster and Mr. Findlay, as it is a great benefit to all who use the road.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley claim to rights

Mr. Ridley then states that he is the owner of a little property called Chestnut Cottage, situate on the Forest, being part of a property which was granted to Richard Turner about 1846, that it was subsequently divided into two parts, one part was owned formerly by Mr. Albert Turner, and the Board recognised that rights of common on the Forest attached to that portion, the other portion now belongs to him (Mr. Ridley) and he wishes to [know] why no rights of common are acknowledged to belong to this portion.

Forest track interference with

Mr. Ridley also complains that the Uckfield Rural District Council have cut a road drain across the Forest track which comes out on the Boring Wheel to Fairwarp Road causing inconvenience to Commoners using the track.

Forest track improvement

He also states that it is desirable a drain should be put in at the cart track by the Spring Gardens Wood to take off the road water.

The Chairman promises that the matter Mr. Ridley has referred to shall be brought to the notice of the Conservators.

On the proposition of Mr. Sandford, seconded by Mr. Turner, a hearty vote of thanks is passed to the Chairman for the admirable manner in which he has conducted the business of the meeting.

The Chairman, on returning thanks, states that he has now occupied the position of Chairman of the Board of Conservators for some 15 years, and has tried to carry out his duties to the satisfaction of all concerned, and though the Board have been the subject of criticisms sometimes perhaps not altogether fair, they have to take the one with the other, and he can assure the Commoners that in the coming year the Board will continue to look after the interests of the Commoners to the very best of its ability without partiality or favour.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 18th December 1914 at noon.

Present

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

The Honble H.B. Portman

Mr. Wm. Carr

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show balances standing to the credit of the several accounts as follows:-

General Account	£133.7.10
2nd Ranger Fund	£67.7.3
Protection & Improvement Fund	£42.17.0

Conservators election of

The Clerk produces and reads the following certificate, and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes namely:-

To Mr. Wm. Augustus Raper
Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the meeting of Commoners duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, for the purpose of electing four Conservators I hereby intimate to you that at such meeting Mr. Wm. Carr, Mr. Llewellyn Midgley, Colonel Charles Needham and Mr. Mark Sandford, who retire by rotation on the 31st instant we re-elected as Conservators.

Dated this 18th December 1914

George M. Maryon-Wilson
Chairman

Fires

Ranger Kirby reports that on the 19th October last fires occurred at 9 p.m. near the Beacon, Fairwarp, burning $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre and at 10.45 p.m. near Fairwarp Church burning about a rod cause unknown, that on 18th November last two small fires occurred about 12 noon and 1 p.m. near the Toll Road Fairwarp, burning about 2 rods and 3 rods respectively; and on 23rd November last fires occurred, one at 6 a.m. between Camp rough and the main road burning about 10 rods, thought to have been caused by a careless smoker and one at 8.30 p.m. on Paines Hill burning about $\frac{1}{4}$ acre – cause unknown.

Alfred Moon, Roy Ridley Fires.

As regards the 2 fires on 18th November, P.C. Terry of Fairwarp reported that he was about 20 yards from the fire when it started and he saw Alfred Moon aged 9, the son of Frank Moon of Fairwarp, and Roy Ridley aged 9, the son of Albert Ridley of Old Forge, Horney Common coming towards him, and he heard Roy Ridley ask Moon how many more matches he had, and Moon replied “not many more, only 2 or 3” and he afterwards saw both boys stoop together and Alfred Moon light the second fire, and he then took the matches away from him. The Clerk wrote to the father of each boy stating that, having regard to his boy’s age, the Conservators are unwilling to prosecute, if he would caution his boy and obtain a promise from him not to set fire to the Forest again and report such promise to the Clerk. Ridley’s father replied that he is opposed to firing the Forest and that his boy denies having lit any fire.

On the 14th inst. the Clerk received a letter which appears to have been written by the boy Alfred Moon saying “I am sorry that I set the Forest alight, and I won’t play with matches any more.”

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr. Moon, insisting on an assurance from him that he will use his influence with his boy not to set fire to the Forest again, and to the father of each boy warning him that should the boys repeat the offence after this warning, the Board will feel bound to prosecute them.

Forest Row house refuse

The Clerk reports that having heard nothing further from the Local Government Board as to the removal of house refuse at Forest Row, he wrote again on the 9th inst. enquiring whether their further communications with the E. Grinstead Rural District Council have been completed, and whether steps will now be taken to ensure the collection of the house refuse at Forest Row, and he this morning received a reply, stating that the Board are informed that the Rural District Council are considering the question of the adoption of Bye-Laws with respect to the removal of house refuse etc. in Forest Row, and that the Board are communicating further with them in regard to the matter.

Tents for refreshments for soldiers

The Chairman reports that Mr. George Levick of Primrose Farm, Uckfield, having applied on behalf of a Local Committee to Mr. Portman to erect a tent on the Forest near Pound Gate School, to supply the soldiers encamped on the Forest with tea, coffee and other light refreshments he (the Chairman) granted the required permission.

It is Resolved that the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

Road materials

The County Council of East Sussex having written to the Clerk applying for permission to take road materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March 1916, namely:-

Central Road District (Mr. A.G. Tucker, Surveyor)

Point from which it is proposed to obtain material	Description of material	Quantity cubic yards
Gravel Pit near Pippingford	Hardstone & sandstone from Nutley to Wych Cross	20
Ditto in neighbourhood of Kingstanding	Forest Gravel (from Chuck Hatch to Kingstanding)	60
Ditto in neighbourhood of Kingstanding	Forest Gravel (Withyham to Friars Gate)	60
Fox Gravel Pit near Duddleswell	Sandstone (kerbing & repairing channelling at Crowborough and for Hartfield)	120

The Clerk wrote to the County Council pointing out that the application is for altogether 260 yards, whereas the quantities applied for in recent years were, for 1910-11 250 yds, 1911-12 210 yds, 1912-13 190 yds, 1913-14 150 yds and 1914-15 150 yds, and that some years ago at a Conference an informal understanding was arrived at that the quantity should be gradually reduced and enquiring why the present application was for so large an increase and he received a reply that the increase is due to the military traffic on the roads.

It is Resolved that a licence be granted to the Country Council to take the above materials subject to the same terms and conditions as the licence granted to the Council in 15th December 1899, all digging to be confined to the existing pits, and no new pit to be opened without the consent in writing of the Board first obtained under the hand of their Clerk.

Camps

Ranger Kirby reports that all the Troops encamped at Kingstanding had left by the 12th November last, but had not then cleared everything away.

Also that all the Troops encamped on St John's Common had left by the 30th November last, but had not then cleared everything away.

The Clerk reports that the Brigade Major Headquarters wrote on 20th October last that it had been decided not to use the Forest Row Rifle Range.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes viz:-

The Committee met at Wych Cross Place on Wednesday 9th December. Present. The Chairman, Mr. Ll. Midgley and Mr. Martin.

Golf Link extension

The proposed extension of the Golf Links by a new green near Rist Wood was again discussed.

It was alleged on the one hand that were the request acceded to, the alteration would improve the course, would involve no appreciable limitation of the litter grounds as the Golf Club had already the right to cut nearly as far as would be needed, and that it would to some extent lessen the driving across the road, leading to various houses on the Forest.

On the contrary it was argued that there was a litter ground practically uncut by the Club and used by the Commoners which would be interfered with, that, to put a green so close to the Rist Wood boundary, might interfere with the access to the Forest of residents on that estate, and generally that it was undesirable to enlarge the limits of the ground given up to golf in this part of the Forest

In the absence of Colonel Needham, and opinion being divided it was Resolved to leave the matter to the decision of the Board, without making any addition to the former recommendation of the Committee.

Camp near Forest Row

In order to remove any possible misapprehension as to the action of the Board of Conservators in this matter it may be desirable to make the following statement with regard to the location of the camp near Forest Row.

Under the Act of Parliament passed in August last the Military Authority has, during the continuance of the present war, absolute power to deal with any property, public or private, as it may think fit, for the purpose of the National Defence. The final and full responsibility for anything done on the Forest, therefore, must rest solely with the War Office and its agents. At the close of the War the power to interfere with rights, public and private given by the act referred to ceases.

The officer charged with selecting a site for a camp at Forest Row courteously explained to the representative of the Board (the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee of the Board, myself) the plan originally proposed for the camp.

This plan indicated a few huts immediately below High Firs, and close to the limit of Broadstone Warren while the main portion of the hut-camp lay along and under the crow extending from Mr. Walsham's north towards and beyond the Recreation Ground. In reply to a suggestion that it would be a pity to cover the Recreation Ground, it was stated by the officer that the Chairman of the Local Cricket and Football Club had agreed to this being done.

It was, further, pointed out to the officer in charge with regard to the upper ground, that the hill below the Firs was in parts marshy, except in times of drought such as last autumn, when I went over it with him (as is obvious to anyone who has camped) that a steep slopes causes many inconveniences.

Subject to these reservations no remonstrance was urged on behalf of the Board against the scheme which seemed reasonable, if, as we were assured, it was essential that the Camp should be connected with the Forest Row water and drainage systems, and therefore, not from the village. This arrangement was brought before and approved by the Board at its last meeting.

It is with great surprise that the Forest Row Committee has found that the Camp constructed (for the time being as I understand, in part abandoned owing to the mud) in no way corresponds with that indicated to the Board in the first instance. The bulk of the huts have been concentrated on the boggy slope round and above Ashdown Place, and between it and the high road, so as to completely encircle that property, while none have been put on the open ridge stretching out between Mr. Walsham's property and the Recreation Ground.

The laying out of the camp as at present constituted indicates in the opinion of experts, some both of local topographical knowledge and practical experience, a steep slope, full of winter springs and bogs must always be a bad place for a town of huts, and, on the Forest soil as we all know in default of the timely provision of metalled tracks, the huts now erected were, in such a situation, bound to become, as they have, inaccessible to heavy traffic.

The troops quartered in the Camp have, it is to be feared, suffered considerably from the local conditions and the want of foresight in meeting them, nor can it be altogether overlooked – though this aspect of the matter lies, except in the case of properties with Forest rights, outside the immediate scope of the Board – that serious and needless injury has been done to the local residents whose grounds have been encircled with stables and latrines placed without any attempt at discrimination or consideration, as the War Office plan submitted herewith sufficiently shows.

In time of war no one would wish to complain of inconvenience for which any reasonable necessity could be shown but in this case there was obviously no such necessity.

It seems therefore, desirable that it should be publicly stated, and clearly understood, that the Board has no responsibility whatever with regard to the action of the War Office on the Forest, and that in so far as the Board has been referred to, its recommendations have not been followed out.

Your Committee would further suggest that, in view of the extensive damage being done to the surface of the Forest, the Board should represent to the War Office, that, on the legal expiration of its temporary power, the Board will have to call on it to restore the surface, as far as may be possible to its original state with the least possible delay. It would appear that some of the officers employed locally are unaware of this liability.

R.A.F. Golf Club proposed new no. 3. green

Mr. Midgley stated that he and Colonel Needham (who is at present abroad) would not have brought the application to make a new Green adjacent to Rist Wood before the Board, if they thought it would be detrimental to the Commoners. The spot where it is proposed to make the new Green is at the foot of a slope, is rushy and very wet, and litter does not grow on it. And an old Commoner assured him that litter has not been cut on it for, at any rate, many years: that if the ground is drained and the green is constructed the present No.3 Green will be given up, and other alterations will be made in the Golf course which will do away with the driving across ground that people pass.

On the proposition of Mr. Portman seconded by Mr. Kenward it is Resolved that permission be granted to the R.A.F. Golf Club to make a new green on the site proposed on condition that it does not exceed in size the present no 3 green, and that the present no. 3 green is given up.

Camp at Forest Row

Mr. Freshfield, having dealt further with the location of the Camp at Forest Row, and the unnecessary interference with the comfort of certain of the residents, and with the access to some of the houses. Mr. Martin states that accompanied by Mr. Waters and Captain Palmer, he inspected the Camp and its surroundings, and, as far as he was able to ascertain at present, he came to the conclusion that the drainage, which has not been connected with the public sewer, is not likely to contaminate the springs, which are used for the supply of drinking water.

After further discussion it is Resolved that representations on the whole subject of this Camp to be settled by the Chairman and Mr. Freshfield to be made to (1) The War Office, (2) The General Officer commanding the 2nd Army Central Force, and (3) The Officer in command at the Forest Row Camp.

Forest Row camp sanitation

Also that the Clerk write the East Grinstead R.D.C. enquiring whether the drainage and sanitary arrangements of the camp at Forest Row have been investigated by their Sanitary Officer, whether he has made any report to the Council on the subject, whether the Council will be good enough to favour the Board with a copy of his report, and whether, in his opinion, there is any danger of any of the local springs, which supply many of the inhabitants with drinking water, being contaminated by the drainage or surface washings from the camp.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes namely:-

Road Boring Wheel Mill accounts.

The Committee report that they have examined and found correct the accounts of the expenditure incurred, in improving the Forest track near the Boring Wheel Mill.

Two sums of £20 & £15 respectively were contributed by the Ashdown Forest Conservators from the Protection & Improvement Fund. £10 was kindly subscribed by the Honble H.B. Portman and £1 by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley making £46 in all. The Maresfield Park Estate helped by doing much carting, as did several resident neighbours, and several others did a considerable amount of manual labour gratuitously.

The Committee have taken great interest in the work and hope it will give satisfaction to the Commoners & feel that thanks are due Mr. A Turner and H. Kirby Ranger for their able assistance.

Inn's flood water

This has been supervised and Mr. Inn's latest complaint will be seen to by the Committee.

H.B. Portman
Chairman

Boring Wheel Mill track repair

Mr. Portman adds that he has inspected the repair of the Boring Wheel Mill track which is a most excellent piece of work admirably carried out, that many of the neighbours contributed in money, cartage and labour and that much of the success of the work is due to the energy, tact and economy exercised by Mr. Turner, to whom the other members of the Committee desire to render their sincere thanks; and the Committee are very much pleased with the manner in which Ranger Kirby has worked, and on his motion it was Resolved that the thanks of the Board be tendered to Mr. Turner and Ranger Kirby for their services, Mr. Turner states he is very glad to have assisted in the improvement of the Boring Wheel Mill track.

Mr. Inn's flooding

With regard to Mr. Inn's complaint, Mr. Portman states that the Forest land slopes down to his house and that the drainage must run in that direction and flood his premises unless he cuts a deep ditch in front to intercept it, but that the real trouble arises from the overflow of the ditch above, which runs from near Mr. Markwick's, passing though a small pond opposite Mr. Inn's house, where the water is generally dammed; that the Ranger has instructions to remove this dam whenever storm water comes along, so as to prevent overflow. It has been suggested that this pond should be removed further down, and this suggestion will be considered by the Committee.

It is Resolved that the thanks of the Board be offered to the Maresfield Committee for their valuable services.

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee appointed at the last meeting present their report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes namely:-

To the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

We have examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account and (3) The Account of the Protection & Improvement Fund each for the year 1914. 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 the casting of the accounts, and find them all correct; and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the accounts for the year, viz.

Account no. 1. The Clerk 1/2 year's salary
to 31st Decr. inst. £50.0.0
Do Do Disbursements on General Accounts

during year	£21.13.0
Do Do Kirby H. 11 weeks salary & house rent to 28th inst. and insurance	£13.17.9

Do No. 2. The Clerk – Disbursements on 2nd Ranger accounts	£3.5.9
Do Do Brown Wm. 11 weeks salary as Second Ranger to 28th inst & insurance	£11.2.9

The balances standing today to the credit of the several accounts after the above mentioned cheques have been paid will be as follows: The General Account £47.17.1, The Second Ranger Account £52.18.9, and The Protection & Improvement Fund, £42.18.0 & the sum of £159.15.4 Consols representing the investment of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Dated this 15th December 1914.

H.B. Portman

A. Turner

Mark Sandford

It is Resolved that the Report be approved and adopted, that the accounts be signed by the Chairman, and that cheques be drawn as recommended.

Also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to the Committee for the admirable manner in which they have discharged their duties.

Mr. Syl. Ridley claim to rights and compliments as to Forest tracks.

The Clerk was instructed to look into and report to the Board on the question raised by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley at the Commoners meeting today as to common rights attaching to his property known as Chestnut Cottage.

Also that the Maresfield Committee be requested to enquire into the other matters which Mr. Sylvanus Ridley mentioned at the Commoners meeting.

Cheques

The following cheques are then signed pursuant to the recommendation of the Committee

The Clerk Salary Account no.1	£50.0.0
Do Disbursements Account no.1	£21.13.0
Do Do Account no. 2	£3.5.9
H. Kirby Salary etc. Account no.1	£13.17.9
W. Brown Do Account no. 2	£11.2.09

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 26th July next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other date as the Chairman may consider necessary.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for the able and impartial manner in which he has conducted the business of the Board during the past year

The meeting terminated at 1.30 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, on Friday the 26th February 1915 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. G.M. Maryon Wilson, in the chair
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Llewellyn Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Sandford states that Mr. Turner is unable to be present in consequence of indisposition.

On the proposition of Mr. Sandford seconded by Mr. Midgley, it is Resolved that Mr. D.W. Freshfield do take the chair.

Election of Chairman for year

Mr. Sandford then proposes that Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson be re-elected Chairman of the Board for the current year. Mr. Martin having seconded the motion it is put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Maryon Wilson having the chair thanks the Board for re-electing him to the position of their Chairman for the 15th year in succession, he asks them to extend to him during the current year the same confidence and support as they have given him in the past, and assures them that he will give to the work all the care and attention that he has done in the past. In reviewing the work of the past year, he refers with satisfaction to the improvement made in the road at Boring Wheel Mill, which will be of great benefit to the Commoners.

Mr. Joseph Ridley confirms the Chairman's statement with regard to the Boring Wheel road and states that everybody in the neighbourhood is satisfied and very pleased with the way in which the work has been carried out.

The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

Balance Sheet

The Clerk lays on the table a print of the Balance Sheet of the General Account and the Protection & Improvement Fund for the year ending 31st December last, and reports that a copy thereof has been sent by post to each Commoner.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books, which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£64.1.7
2nd Ranger Fund	£55.0.9
Protection & Improvement Fund	£71.15.5

Forest Row Committee

It is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield (Chairman, Martin, Midgley and Colonel Needham be the Committee for the current year

Maresfield Committee

Also that the Honble H.B. Portman (Chairman) and Messrs Carr, Kenward, Sandford & Turner be the Committee for the Maresfield District for the current year.

Bye Law Boards repair of

It is Resolved that it be an instruction to each of these Committee s to keep the Bye Law Boards within their respective Districts in proper repair.

Fire Committee

Also that the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Freshfield and Mr. Portman be the Committee to deal with all matters relating to the protection of the Forest from fire for the current year.

Forest Row house refuse

The Clerk reports that he this morning received a letter from the Local Government Board, enclosing a copy of a letter which they addressed to the East Grinstead Rural District Council on the 28th January last expressing regret that the Council had not decided to adopt bye laws with regard to the removal of house refuse and the cleansing of earth closets, ash pits etc. in the Parish of Forest Row, and pointing out that as the accumulation of refuse in the vicinity of dwellings tends to produce conditions that are detrimental to the public health, the Board consider it a matter of considerable importance that the removal and disposal of refuse should be carefully regulated, that at the present time the removal and disposal of refuse at Forest Row is not apparently, in any way controlled or regulated by Local Authority, and urging the Council to re-consider their decision with regard to the adoption of bye-laws and to inform the Board of the results. The Local Government Board in their covering letter to the Clerk pointed out they have no power to compel the Council to adopt Bye Laws on the subject.

Camp at Forest Row creation of

The Clerk reports that in pursuance of the Resolution passed at the last meeting, the Chairman and Mr. Freshfield drew up a memorandum with reference to the location of the huts, latrines etc. at the Forest Row Camp, which the Clerk reads, and he reports that a copy of the memorandum was on the 15th January last forwarded by him with a covering letter to each of the following, namely; (1) The Secretary for War (2) The general commanding the 2nd Army Central Force at Tunbridge Wells, and (3) The Officer commanding the Military Camp at Forest Row.

The Clerk further reports that he received a letter dated 3rd instant from the General Officer commanding the 2nd Army Central Force acknowledging receipts of the memorandum and stating that a copy of it had also been forwarded to him by the War Office and that his report will accordingly reach the Clerk through the same channel.

Mr. Freshfield supplements the memorandum with a very clear statement as to the position.

It is Resolved that the Board do approve the memorandum and tender their thanks to the Chairman and Mr. Freshfield for the great care and trouble they have taken in drawing it up.

Forest Row camp sanitation

The Clerk reports that as directed at the last meeting, he wrote to the East Grinstead Rural District Council with regard to the sanitation of the Camp at Forest Row, and received a reply from the Clerk of the Council dated 23rd January last stating that the sanitary arrangements were under the control of the Military Authorities, who were receiving assistance from the officials of the Council, but they were not in a position to report thereon at present, and later he received a letter from the Clerk to the Council dated the 19th inst. stating that the sanitary arrangements of Military Camps are outside the jurisdiction of the Council. But that, in this particular instance the military authorities are working most harmoniously with the Inspector of the Council.

Forest Row Committee report

Telephone Cable

The Forest Row Committee report that they have considered an application from the Post Master General accompanied by a plan for the assent of the Board to the laying of two lengths of underground telephone cable (1) from a point near the Ashdown Forest Hotel at Highgate and (2) from the existing underground cable there to Greenhall and for the erection of one telegraph pole at the South East corner of Mr. Walsham's property, and offering to pay a yearly acknowledgement of 1/- for each; and the Committee recommend that consent be given.

It is Resolved that the Board approve the recommendation and that the Clerk be and is hereby authorised to sign the necessary consent on behalf of the Board.

R.A.F. Golf Club application to reduce contribution

A letter is read dated 10th February instant from the Acting Captain of the R.A.F. Golf Club, stating that owing to the War the Club is now being run at a considerable loss, asking the Board to favourably consider an appeal for some reduction in their contribution towards the Forest expenses.

After consideration, on the motion of Mr. Freshfield seconded by Mr. Sandford it is Resolved that the Clerk reply that the Board have considered the application very carefully and that as they are unable to reduce the expenditure of the Conservancy in any direction they regret very much that they cannot see their way to comply with the request of the club for a reduction in their contribution.

Phillip Poore licence to deposit poles

The Clerk reports that since the last meeting Mr. Phillip Poore of 8 Old Jewry. London, who is cutting pit props in the Pippingford Estate, applied for permission to deposit the props on the Forest adjacent to Kidds Hill, that after communicating with the Forest Row Committee, he granted permission on the usual conditions.

Earl De La Warr sale of fir trees

Ranger Brown on 7th January last, reported to the Clerk that Earl De La Warr has sold a large number of fir trees on the Forest near Gills Lap, Wrens Warren & Brabies Hatch, the Clerk communicated with the Chairman and pointed out that the Board do not appear to have any authority to interfere in the matter.

Ranger Brown reports that two engines and saw benches apparently employed by Messrs Box & Turner of Ardingly, the purchasers of the trees, have been placed on the Forest, near Brabies Hatch and are being employed there in cutting up the trees.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Messrs Box & Turner and any other persons concerned pointing out they are committing a grave breach of the Bye Laws and requiring them to remove the saw benches and engines from the Forest at once, failing which the Clerk do summon them for breaches of the Bye Laws.

Gillham James bill, Bye-Law boards

The Maresfield Committee present a bill from Mr. James Gillham of Nutley amounting to £1.1.6, and incurred by the Committee in 1911, but not rendered until now and recommend that it be paid.

Ranger Kirby's bicycle repairs

They also report that certain repairs are required to Ranger Kirby bicycle.

It is Resolved that Mr. Gillham's account be paid out of the General Account and that the Committee be authorised to have the necessary repairs done to Ranger Kirby's bicycle.

Sylvanus Ridley claim to rights

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley attends with reference to his claim to rights of common in respect of his property known as Chestnut Cottage but as he does not produce the title deeds to the property, in accordance with notice from the Clerk it is Resolved that it be referred to the Clerk to obtain production of the deeds and report to the next meeting.

Road Materials applications for licences

The following authorities having applied for permission to take materials for road repairs from the Forest during the year ending 25th March 1916 namely:-

From the East Grinstead R.D.C. to dig 130 yds of road material from the Forest near Kingstanding and from the Uckfield R.D.C. to take 130 yds of hard gravel from the Forest (the particular locality not stated). It is Resolved that licences be granted to them to take the same subject to the same terms and conditions as the licences granted to them last year.

Rate

The Clerk reports that the rate made 17th October 1913 will be practically exhausted by the next meeting. On the motion of Mr. Midgley, seconded by Mr. Ridley, it is 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.

**** investigation as to rights

The Clerk dates that in consequence of the Ashdown House Estate and other properties, parts of which are entitled to rights of common on the Forest, having been sold in various lots, he is unable without laborious inquiries to ascertain which portions of the several lots are entitled to rights and who are the present owners of such lots and that it is necessary the matters be cleared up as far as possible before the next rate is made.

Mr. Sandford states that these questions require clearing up and that he has discussed the matter with Mr. Turner and they consider that so difficult and laborious a research is outside the ordinary duties of the Clerk and they are of opinion that he should be instructed to make the necessary identification and should be remunerated for the work.

It is Resolved that it be an instruction to the Clerk to proceed with the work at once and render an account of his charges and disbursements to the Board in due course.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed, namely:-

H. Kirby 9 weeks salary as Ranger &

House Kent to 1st prox.

Insurance, 9 weeks

£11.5.0
£0.2.3

£11.7.3

Wm. Brown 9 weeks salary as Second

Ranger to 1st prox

Insurance 9 weeks

£9.0.0
£0.2.3

£9.2.3

Gillham James, Repairs to Bye Law Boards

£1.1.6

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 30th day April next 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider expedient.

The meeting terminated at 4 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 30th April, 1915, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M Maryon-Wilson in the chair.

The Honble H.B. Portman.

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Ll. Midgley

Mr. Joseph Ridley

Mr. Mark Sandford.

The Clerk reminds the Board that Colonel Needham is engaged in Military service.

Mr. Sandford states that Mr. Turner and Mr. Wilson are prevented by illness from attending this meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting are then read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account

£51-12-10

2nd Ranger Fund

£45-18-3

Licences Annual return

The Rangers returns of Licences granted by them during the past year are laid on the table.

Fires

The Rangers report that the following fires have occurred on the Forest since the last meeting.

Northern Area

Apr 1	1.15 p.m.	Nr. Chuck Hatch West side of road to Gills Lap caused by soldiers who lit a fire to cook dinner. Cautioned	About 4 rods
Apr 2	2 p.m.	Between Cherry Orchard & Ashdown Place, near the Camp, lighted in 3 places. Supposed to have been caused by soldiers. Both fires extinguished by soldiers.	About 3 acres
Apr 18	12.30 p.m.	Mount Hill North of Gills Lap Ranger Brown afterwards found on this spot 2 tins containing rags saturated with paraffin & a piece of candle, showing that the fire was a deliberate act.	About ¾ acres
Apr 19	2.45 p.m.	West side of and close to the Vetchery Road caused by a lady lighting a fire to boil a kettle, viz. Mrs. Stanger, Kilmore, Dormans Park, E. Grinstead.	About ¼ acre

With reference to the fire caused by Mrs. Stanger it is Resolved that the Clerk take the necessary steps to enforce payment by her of a penalty. Also that it be an instruction to the Clerk in cases of fires caused accidentally by persons who have been identified that he at once take steps to secure payment from them of such a penalty not being less in any case than £1 as the circumstances of the case demand.

Southern Area

Mar 28	9.15 p.m.	Mr. Old Fox, Fairwarp	About 6 rods
Mar 28	5 p.m.	Adjoining new road at Boring Wheel mill	About ¼ acre
Mar 28	5 p.m.	Near Spring Gardens	About 30 rods
Mar 28	10 p.m.	At Marl pits, Nutley. The fires today were lit in 2 or 3 places burning into one. Believed to be wilful	About 15 rods
Apr 18	10.30 a.m.	Adjoining Campfield Rough	About 3 acres in total [for day]
Apr 18	10.30 a.m.	Another at Browns Brook	
Apr 18	2 p.m.	Another adjoining the 1 st	
Apr 18	7 p.m.	5 fires at one time on Paines Hill. An officer arrived about 9 p.m. from Crowborough Camp who said he would send men out on guard next evening as he would not have these fires after dark.	
Apr 14	4 p.m.	Between Fairwarp School and Mr. Inn's property	About 6 rods
Apr 15	10.30 a.m.	Adjoining main road at Duddleswell thought to have been caused about by soldiers passing in large numbers	About 12 rods
Apr 15	9 p.m.	At Nutley Bank	About 4 rods
Apr 17	9.45 p.m.	Nr. the old Fox Duddleswell	About 4 rods
Apr 22	8 p.m.	At Marl pits, Nutley	About ¼ acre
Apr 22	8 p.m.	Between Fairwarp and Spring Gardens	About 30 rods

Apr 22	8 p.m.	Adjoining Oldlands	About 20 rods
Apr 23	8 p.m.	Bottom of Cackle Street	About 12 rods
Apr 24	9 p.m.	Nr. Lisburn	About 15 rods
Apr 24	10 p.m.	Adjoining Millbrook Hill	About ¼ acre
Apr 24	midnight	Near windmill	About 1 rod
Apr 26	8.30 p.m.	At Marlpits, Nutley	About 10 rods
Apr 26	9 p.m.	At Stone Hill	About 30 rods
Apr 26	9.30 p.m.	Nr. Spring Garden Farm	About ½ acre
Apr 28	9 p.m.	Nr. Toll Farm	About 6 rods
Apr 29	6.45 p.m.	At Chelwood Corner	About 30 rods
Apr 29	9 p.m.	Nr. Fords Green	About 3 rods

Forest Row house refuse

The Clerk reports that on 5th March last the Local Government Board forwarded him a further letter received from the E. Grinstead Rural District Council dated the 24th February dating that Council were of opinion that the adoption of Bye Laws would not give them greater powers of dealing with nuisances arising from house refuse than they already possessed, and had found no difficulty in dealing with the matter.

Earl De La Warr sale of fir trees

With reference to engines and saw benches used on the Forest as reported at the last meeting, the Clerk wrote to Messrs Box & Turner as directed; and having received on 3rd March a letter from Mr. Nicholson dating that he had been to the Forest and was satisfied that the cutting up of the trees on the Forest and removal of the sawn wood would cause less damage to the surface than the removal of the trees themselves and suggesting that the Lord's right to cut necessarily covered anything incidental there to provided it were exercised with due regard to the interests of the Commoners, the Clerk referred this letter to the Chairman who at once visited the spots where the sawing is carried on and, having satisfied himself that the sawing and carting away of the wood would do far less damage than carting over the Forest an immense number of trees, some very large, he instructed the Clerk to withdraw the Conservators objection subject to the refuse being afterwards cleared away and the surface being restored.

It is Resolved that having regard to the circumstances the action of the Chairman be approved and confirmed and that the thanks of the Board be accorded to him for the trouble he has taken in the matter.

Sylvanus Ridley claim to rights admitted

With reference to Mr. Sylvanus Ridley's claim to rights of common in respect of Chestnut Cottage at Dodds Bank, for which he claims rights of common, the Clerk reports that he has examined the documents of title, that this property is part of Ord. No. 582 and contains altogether Oa 1r 35p that the cottage and Oa 1r 11p are part of a tenement granted as copyhold on 31st May 1844, and that if the Board are satisfied that rights of common have been exercised in respect of this latter portion continuously as of rights for 60 years last past, Mr. Ridley is entitled to have his claim admitted in respect thereof, but that the remaining 24 perches being the south east part of the property, was an encroachment No. 124 sold under the Regulation award and is by the conveyance expressly excluded from any rights of common.

The Board having heard evidence of user for the full period of 60 years last past it is Resolved that the Board are satisfied that Mr. Sylvanus Ridley has established his claim to rights of common of pasture brakes and litter in respect of the cottage and Oa 1r 11p of land and that he be entered in the schedule of Commoners in respect thereof

Sylvanus Ridley deposit

The Clerk reports that application having been made by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley to deposit building materials on the Forest in connection with some building he is about to carry out at Chestnut Cottage, he granted him a licence on the usual terms and conditions, and notified Ranger Kirby thereof.

Licences of deposit charge 1/-

He also reports that Mr. Ridley offered to pay 1/- acknowledgement for such licence and recommends that the Conservators should require a similar acknowledgement to be paid in the case of all licences granted to deposit temporarily building materials, poles, timber and other things upon the Forest. It is Resolved that it be an instruction to the Clerk to make a charge of 1/- in all such cases the amount to go to the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Rate

The Clerk reports he has been unable to complete the necessary inquiries for the purpose of preparing a new Rate, and it is Resolved that the making of a Rate be deferred till the next meeting.

Holly Cottages drainage

Ranger Brown reports that on the 20th inst. he found that at Holly Cottages (owners Messrs Jas. Card, Wm. Mitchell & Mr. Geo. Brett) adjoining Mrs. Reed's property, drain pipes on the North side of each of these properties (2 Cottages in each block) discharge into the ditch outside their boundary apparently sink water and soap suds a quantity of which are lying in the ditch. The Clerk directed him to draw the attention of the Sanitary Inspector to the matter.

Bye Law Boards repair of, Ranger Brown repair of bicycle

The Forest Row Committee present a claim of Mr. Job Luxford amounting to £3.8.0 for repairs done by him to 7 Bye Law Boards by their instruction, and for repairs to Ranger Brown's bicycle 11/5 and recommend that the same be paid. It is Resolved that the first named claim be paid out of the General Fund and the second out of the 2nd Rangers account.

Maresfield Committee

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes, viz:

The Committee report that Ranger Kirby's bicycle has been repaired at a cost of £1.7.6 and ask for cheque in payment.

They report that Ranger Kirby received from Messrs Wood & Son the grass seed paid for by the War Office and sowed the same on the camping ground near Pippingford on the 27th March.

The Ranger made good the dangerous hole by Mr. Gorrings's property at Fairwarp.

The Committee inspected Mr. Lovell's encroachment at Fairwarp and recommend that his new fence be allowed remain, as he gives to the road adjoining as much at each end of the fence as he takes in the middle, only about one foot.

The Committee inspected the notice boards at each end of the new road by the Boring Wheel Mill and considered them satisfactory, the cost of which they suggest should be paid from the Protection and Improvement Fund.

The Committee made a satisfactory arrangement with Mr. Innes as to his water drain, which he has complained about.

The Committee inspected Mr. Lovell's footpath 96 yards long, 3-5 feet wide, from his house to Fairwarp-Duddleswell Road and agreed that it was no injury to the Forest and that it should be permitted in its present state (grass track) on his signing the usual undertaking and licence and on annual payment to Board of 1/- (1/2 to Lord of Manor) the cost of the undertaking and licence to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

The Committee have received an application from Ranger Kirby for some compensation in respect of damage to his clothes and several pairs of boots in extinguishing fires. Ranger Kirby is a very zealous servant and they recommend that he be granted the sum of five pounds out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

H.B. Portman.

Chairman

It is Resolved that the proceedings and recommendations of the Committee be approved and adopted.

Central London Regiment application to camp

An application having been received from the 4th Battalion 'Architects' Central London Regiment Volunteers for permission for about 200 men or less to camp on the Forest at Whitsuntide from Friday 21st May to Tuesday 25th May. It is Resolved that subject to the applicants obtaining the consent of General Fry commanding at Crowborough the Board will have no objection to the encampment subject to the usual conditions, at St. John's Common or near the Isle of Thorns, the spot to be approved in the former case by Ranger Kirby or in the latter case by Ranger Brown.

In Committee

The Clerk reports with reference to the representations made to the War Office on 15th January last with reference to the Military Camp at Forest Row he received a letter from the War Office on 12th March last enclosing for the information of the Conservators a lengthy report furnished to the Army Council by the Military Authorities and ***** of letters.

Mr. Freshfield states that having regard to the circumstances of the time and the necessarily great pressure on the War Office, it is not desirable to continue in the matter of the site and character of the camp erected on the Forest near Forest Row, and he find a further reason for taking this course in the fact that any such communication would necessarily, more or less, of a controversial character, inasmuch as on the information in the possession of the Board it is impossible to accept as accurate many of the statements as to local and topographical facts on the one hand, and as to communications that have taken place between its representatives and those of the Military Authorities on the other, put forward in the correspondence that accompanied the War Office letter of the 11th March last.

It is Resolved that the Clerk reply to the War Office in terms to be settled by the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the two District Committees.

The Clerk also reports that Mr. H. Percy Harris. M.P. having written to him on 29th March enquiring what action the Board had taken with regard to the Camp, he lent Mr. Harris a copy of the Memorandum which the Board laid before the War Office, and Mr. Harris in returning it wrote for further information.

It is Resolved that the Clerk communicate to him a copy of the communication received from the War Office and of Mr. Freshfield's remarks thereon.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed viz:-

H. Kirby 9 weeks salary as Ranger & house
rent to 1st prox.

£11.5.0

Insurance 9 weeks

£0.2.3

£11.7.3

W. Brown 9 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger to
1st prox.

£9.0.0

Insurance 9 weeks

£0.2.3

£9.2.3

Do repair of bicycle

£0.11.5

Ridley F.J. repair of Ranger Kirby's bicycle	£1.7.6
Luxford Mr. Job repairs to 7 Bye Law Boards as above authorised	£3.8.0

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 9th day of July next at 2.30 p.m. or a such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider expedient.
The meeting terminated at 4.40 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 30th July 1915 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. James Card
Mr. D.W Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Chairman explains that in consequence of the Clerk having to attend an Adjourned Court of the Commissioners of Pevensey Levels on the 9th instant and there being practically no business to transact on that date, he, on the application of the Clerk, postponed the meeting of the Board till today.

The minutes of the last meeting are then read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account £51.6.7
2nd Ranger Fund £65.3.4
Protection & Improvement Fund £99.7.4

The Clerk reports that he prepared the Balance sheet of the 2nd Ranger Fund for the year ending 17th June last, and sent a copy to each subscriber and lays a copy of it on the table. With the balance sheet he sent out a letter to the subscribers requesting a renewal of their subscriptions for the current year, and so far has received £29 19 6, but the R.A.F. Golf Club have written that the Club having suffered greatly financially owing to the War, the Committee are unable this year to contribute and Mr. A.H. Wood has written that times are so bad that reductions have to be made, and while the troops are all over the Forest he does not see that a 2nd Ranger is required, and while sending this year's subscription of £1.00, he notifies that he shall discontinue his subscription in future. The Clerk states that he replied to Mr. Wood pointing out that the Conservators have done all in their power to reduce the inconvenience to the Commoners caused by the Military and that the 2nd Ranger has been actively engaged under the Committee in checking abuses and extinguishing fires many of which have been caused by the carelessness of the soldiers. Mr. J.W. Barron has reduced his subscription from £1 to 10/6 and Mr. Portman from £3 to £2, while two subscribers not in last year's list have given £1.1.0 and £1 respectively.

Fires

Northern Area

April 30	7.30 p.m.	Top of Millbrook Hill west side of high small road	small
May 5	6.30 a.m.	Near White Cottage	Abt ½ acre

May 5	6.30 a.m.	North side of high road above the birches These 2 fires supposed to have been caused by Walter Parish aged 18	Abt 30 rods
May 8	5 p.m.	South side of road from Chuck Hatch to Jumpers Town	Abt 5 acres
		2 fires opposite Hurstland Farm.	Abt 15 rods
		Another fire near above the last 3 alleged to have been lighted by Harry Weeding aged 15	Abt 3 rods
May 9	4.30 p.m.	West side of Hindleap Warren supposed carelessness of soldiers camping there	Abt 10 acre
May 27		West side of high road from Friars Gate to Duddleswell about ¼ mile from Fire Hundred Lodge, no doubt caused by soldiers cigarettes, of which many ends were lying about. Military applied to for help gave every assistance.	Abt 1 1/2 acres
May 27	9.15 p.m.	South side of Shepherds Gate. Cause unknown.	Abt 30 rods
June 1	8.20 p.m.	At Hollies Down south side of high road just above the large holly dump. Cause unknown	Abt 20 rods
June 5	7.30 a.m.	At Rushey Bottom opposite and about ¼ mile from Mr. Oakley's. Heavy fog at the time. Cause unknown	Abt 2 acres
June 6	9 p.m.	West side of Withyham Road opposite Lady Norbury's Gate. Extinguished with help of soldiers. Cause unknown	Abt 10 rods
June 7	11.30 a.m.	At Rushey Bottom west site of fire on 5th inst. Cause unknown. Extinguished by both Rangers with help of Mr. Freshfield's man.	Abt 3 acres
June 9	10.30 a.m.	West side of Vetchery. Cause unknown	Abt 20 rods

Southern Area

May 1	9.15 p.m.	Near Pippingford Lodge	Abt 1 acre
May 1	9.15 p.m.	Between Windmill and Pippingford	Abt 10 rods
May 3	5 p.m.	On Stone Hill adjoining road, caused by spark from passing traction engine. Owner not traced.	Abt ¼ acre
May 3	9 p.m.	At Bottom of Mill Brook Hill, cause unknown	Abt 30 rods
May 6	5.30	Between Duddleswell and Old Fox. cause unknown	Abt 30 rods
May 8	8 p.m.	Near Duddleswell cause unknown	Abt 12 rods
May 9	9 a.m.	At Nutley Bank	Abt 15 rods
May 9	9 a.m.	Near Crows Nest. Cause unknown.	Abt ½ acre
May 24	8 p.m.	At Millbrook. Cause unknown.	Abt ¼ acre
May 25	3 p.m.	At Millbrook. Cause unknown.	Abt ¼ acre
May 25	5 p.m.	On Hone hill. Cause unknown.	Abt 30 rods
May 25	5 p.m.	At Burnt Oak. Cause unknown.	Abt 5 acre
May 25	5 p.m.	Ditto. Cause unknown.	Abt 1 acre
May 25	5 p.m.	At Duddleswell. All caused by sparks from page overtones engine	Abt 12 acre
May 25	9 p.m.	Adjoining Pippingford. Cause unknown.	Abt ¼ acre

May 29	9 p.m.	On Stonehill cause unknown.	Abt 35 rods
June 5	2.30 p.m.	Adjoining road on Stone Hill a gentleman stated the occupant of a motor car which had just passed lit his pipe and threw the match on the bank, causing the fire. Number of car not noted.	***
June 6		Fire opposite Lady Norbury's Gate reported by Ranger Brown.	
June 7	7.30 p.m.	Near Old Lodge.	¼ acre
June 7	7.30 p.m.	Another close by both no doubt caused by soldiers.	Abt 30 rods

The Clerk reports that on the 11th June last, by the direction of Mr. Freshfield, he wrote to the officers commanding the camps at Forest Row and Crowborough drawing attention to the frequent fires on the Forest, many of which were caused by soldiers thoughtlessly throwing lighted matches and burning cigarette ends into the underground and begging that steps be taken (1) to caution the men against this dangerous practice and (2) to give some general directions for the extinction of fires and thanking the military for their past services and that he received satisfactory replies from both commands.

Mrs. Stanger fire

The Clerk also reports that after the last meeting he wrote to Mr. Stanger in connection with the fire caused on the 19th April last referring her to the Bye-Laws and giving her the choice of payment of £1 penalty or of being summoned for a breach of the Bye-Laws, and he reads a reply from Mr. A. Grant, K.C. giving explanations and enclosing a cheque for £1, which he suggested the Conservators under the circumstances should return to burn.

It is Resolved that the Board do not see their way to return the amount.

Harry Weeding prosecution for fire

The Clerk reports that with regard to 3 fires near Hurstland Farm on the 8th May last, which Ranger Brown reported to have been lit by Harry Weeding aged 15, the case was also reported to him (the Clerk) by the Chief Constable, and after submitting the evidence to the Chairman, a summons was issued against Harry Weeding, which was heard in the Children's Court at East Grinstead on the 21st June last, when Frederick Miles aged 9, gave positive evidence that he saw defendant light all three fires, and then run away, but Wm. Weeding a younger brother of defendant, refused to repeat the evidence he gave to P.C. Lusted, and the Justices declined to permit the Clerk to cross examine him as a hostile witness. They dismissed the summons but the Chairman told defendant the Bench had no doubt he lit the fires and warned him that if he should be brought before them again on a similar charge, he would be severely punished.

Sylvanus Ridley deposit

Ranger Kirby reports that Mr. Sylvanus Ridley has completed his building operations at Chestnut Cottage and has satisfactorily restored the surface of the Forest on which leave was given to him to deposit materials.

Central London Regt. camp

The Clerk reports that the 4th Battalion Architects Central London Regt. were unable to avail themselves of the camping facilities referred to at the last meeting.

2nd Home Vols. camp

The Forest Row Committee report that in May last permission was given to the "F" company of the 2nd Home Battn. Volunteer Training Corps (Burgess Hill) to camp on the Forest during the Whitsun Holiday.

Highgate Green deposit on

Also that for some time past 7 lumps of road materials and a cart have been deposited on Highgate Green, that Mr. Martin saw Mr. Waters (who is responsible for the deposits) on the subject today. That Mr. Waters explained that the materials were brought there for the purpose of mending the road across the Green but that he had been

delayed by Military work and weather in carrying out the repairs, and he promised that he will do the work and remove all the materials in a very short time.

At the request of the Board Mr. Martin under takes to keep observation on the spot and report to the next meeting whether Mr. Waters has carried out his promises.

Military telephone Tompsetts Bank

The Committee also report that early in June last an application was received from the Post Master General for the consent of the Board to the erection of three telephone posts on the Forest at Tompsetts Bank which were urgently required for the use of the Military, and by their direction the Clerk signed the consent and wrote to the Sectional Engineer pointing out that on the strong representations of the Conservators the lines across the Forest are carried underground, but that as it was understood that the proposed line was a matter of military exigency, not likely to be required when peace is restored, he was authorised to give a consent.

It is Resolved that the action of the Forest Row Committee be approved and confirmed.

R.A.F. Golf Club motor road into premises

A letter is read dated the 22nd June last from the R.A.F. Golf Club asking permission to extend the existing private road to the Club House to the south west boundary of the Club premises, so that motors cars might be driven in, instead of waiting on the Forest. Also a further letter dated the 27th instant from Mr. Ewan Frazer enclosing a plan of the proposed extension.

The Board having considered the application and plan it is Resolved that they be referred to the Forest Row Committee with power to act and in the event of their approving the proposed, or any modification thereof that the Clerk be authorised to sign a revocable licence on the usual terms and providing for the payment of a yearly acknowledgement of 10/- the cost of the licence to be borne by the Club.

Holly Cottages drainage

The Forest Row Committee report that since the last meeting the Rural District Council arranged with the owners of Holly Cottages to lay a drain to connect their properties with the public sewer, the owners contributing one third of the cost, (this is confirmed by Mr. James Card) but that, owing to the war, provision cannot at present be made for the expenditure and the work has, therefore, to stand over. Meanwhile the ditch has been cleaned out.

It is Resolved that until such time as the drainage is carried out, Ranger Brown do see that the ditch is kept properly cleansed.

Luxford, Mr. Job application to cart materials

A letter is read dated the 28th last from Mr. Job Luxford stating that Mr. Samuel White of Stonehouse Farm, who has purchased a plot of land from Mrs. Reed adjoining the Holly Cottages, has instructed him to erect a cottage thereon and applying for permission (1) to cart building materials to the land from Post Horn Lane over the cart track used for carting materials for the erection of Holly Cottages and shown on a plan which accompanied his letter, and (2) to take the empty carts back by an old disused track marked 'a' on the plan to Quabrook Gate, now used by the Military. The Forest Row Committee recommend that the application be granted on condition that Mr. Luxford undertakes, after the work is finished to fill up the ruts and restore the surface of the first mentioned cart to the satisfaction of the Forest Ranger and that he use the old track marked 'a' for empty carts only and that only in dry weather.

It is Resolved that the recommendations of the Committee be approved and the Clerk inform Mr. Luxford thereof, and obtain an undertaking from him to comply with the conditions laid down.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes namely:-

The Committee met at Fairwarp on July 6th 1915.

Present. The Honble H.B. Portman and Mr. M. Sandford.

They called on Mr. Innes to discuss business, but he was unable to go with them on the forest.

They visited the Rook at Fairwarp and saw the owner Mr. Shannon in reference to his complaint that his water supply had been cut off by his neighbour Mr. Wilson. The Committee are of the opinion that Mr. Wilson had not in any way interfered with the water supply, and further, that the former owner of the Rook had no right to have put in the pipe to the said supply.

The Committee instructed Ranger Kirby to have the Notice Boards on the Forest which are under the special control of the Maresfield Committee, properly repaired, painted, sized and varnished after new notices have been placed on the same.

They gave permission to Mr. B. Tompsett to erect across the stream at Dodds Bottom a sleeper bridge to carry carts over the stream on the understanding that Mr. Tompsett funds sleepers and does the work himself under the supervision of the Ranger.

The Committee authorised the Ranger to give a licence to Mr. Stephen Smith to erect three clothes posts on the Forest at Mardens Hill near his cottage, he paying sixpence each post per annum. Also to give a licence to Mr. Inns of Fairwarp (he being a Commoner of Ashdown Forest) for two posts paying two pence for each post per annum.

The position of Mr. Inns' new fence at Fairwarp was inspected and approved.

The Boring Wheel Mill Road was inspected and found to be in very good order.

The Board is asked to pay small bill of 4/- owing to Henry Walter for repairing the gate near the Boring Wheel Mill road, also a bill of Mr. [space] for 13/- for repairing the Forest gate near Woodlands nursery, and £ 4.2.6 for repairing notice boards on the Forest.

H.B. Portman
Chairman

It is Resolved that the proceedings and recommendations of the Committee be approved and confirmed subject to the following stipulations, namely, that the licences granted to Mr. Smith and Mr. Inns for the erection of use of clothes posts be not continued after the expiration of a year from the 25th June last, for which they have paid acknowledgements and that the Ranger inform the licencees thereof. That Mr. Henry Walters bill for £4.2.6 for repair of the Byelaw boards be paid out of the General Fund and his bill for 4/- for repair of the gate near Boring Wheel Mill and Mr. Burgess' bill for 13/- for upon of the Forest gate near Woodlands nursery be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Mr. Shannon complaint of interference with water

Also that the Clerk inform Mr. Shannon of the conclusions arrived at by the Committee with reference to his complaint.

Clothes posts future applications

After full consideration of the question of permitting the erection of clothes posts on the Forest, it is Resolved that in future no application for the purpose be entertained by the Board.

Wm. Follett cutting safety zone

The Clerk reports that Mr. W.B. Follett, having written to him stating that he had ordered the gorse to be cut for three rods from Lady Norbury's boundary along the road, as a protection against fire, he (the Clerk) replied pointing out that when it is desired to cut a safety zone application must be made to Messrs. Hunt & Co. of Lewes to grant a licence for the purpose.

Forest rate

The Clerk reports that he has been unable as yet to complete his enquiries in connection with properties that have changed hands and it is Resolved the making of the Rate be adjourned to the next meeting.

Boring for oil abandoned

Ranger Brown reports that on 7th inst. he found the oil boring tackle near Gills Lap taken down and nearly all removed and some of the diggings had been filled in, that since that date the hut, and the whole of the plant and materials have been removed, the shaft and boring have been filled up and the surface of the Forest has been restored to its former condition.

Military bridges

Ranger Kirby reports that Military Authorities at the Crowborough Camp have built several bridges across the river and bogs on the Forest leading from the Camp to Camp Hill.

In Committee

Fencing against sheep

A letter is read dated the 21st June last from Mr. John Dyer of Mardens Hill enquiring whether owners or occupiers of inclosures adjoining the Forest are bound to fence against sheep on the Forest and enclosing a letter he had received from his Solicitor Mr. J. Allen Hardwicke of Crowborough Cross on the subject.

It is Resolved that the Clerk inform Mr. Dyer that he has laid the letters before the Board as promised, but that the Board do not consider that Mr. Dyer's letter calls for any reply from them.

Forest Row camp rumoured new road making

A letter is read dated the 27th instant from Mr. H. Percy Harris M.P. stating that it is rumoured that the Military Authorities contemplate making new roads in connection with the Forest Row camp and asking the Board to obtain information as to what is proposed with a view to limiting the damage to the Forest. Mr. Freshfield stated that before Mr. Harris' letter was received he communicated with the Authorities, who informed him they are unaware that any new roads are contemplated at the present time.

It is Resolved that the Clerk inform Mr. Harris thereof.

Ditto negotiation with Military authority

The Clerk reports that in compliance with the Resolution passed at the last Meeting, he wrote to the Secretary for War a letter settled by the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the District Committees in the following terms. And it is Resolved that a copy of the letter be entered on the minutes, viz:-

11th May 1915

Sir,

I am instructed by the Conservators of Ashdown Forest to acknowledge the receipt of the communication from the War Office of the 11th March last which was laid before the Board on 30th April last.

The Board, having regard to the circumstances of the time and the necessarily great pressure on the War Office, proposes to refrain from continuing, at the present moment, any further correspondence in the matter of the site and character of the camp erected on the Forest near Forest Row. It finds a further reason for taking this course in the fact that any such communication would necessarily be, more or less, of a controversial character, insomuch as on the information in its possession, it is unable to accept as accurate many of the statements as to local and topographical facts on the one hand, and as to the communications that have taken place between its representatives and those of the Military Authority on the other, put forward in the correspondence that accompanied your letter of the 11th March last.

I am Sir, your obedient servant
W. Aug. Raper
Clerk

The Secretary
War Office, London

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely

H. Kirby 13 weeks salary as Ranger and

house rent to 20th prox.

£16.5.0

Insurance 13 weeks

£0.3.3

£16.8.3

W. Brown 13 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger

to 20th prox.

£13.0.0

Insurance 13 weeks

£0.3.3

£13.3.3

Harry Walter Renewal of Bye Law Board

(Southern Area)

£4.2.6

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 15th day of October next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider expedient.

The Meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 15th October, 1915 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson, in the Chair

The Honble H.B. Portman

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Edward Martin

Mr. Lt. Midgley

Mr. Joseph Ridley

Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Albert Turner

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books, which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account

£31:15:10

2nd Ranger Fund

£69:14:7

Protection and Improvement Fund

£101:2:9

Fires

Ranger Kirby reports the following fires occurred on the Forest since the last Meeting:-

Sept. 19th – 9.15 p.m. Nr. Spring Gardens, burning about 10 acres.

Holly Cottages drainage

Ranger Brown reports that the ditch in front of the Holly Cottages is kept cleaned out up the present time.

Luxford Mr. Job Licence for carting materials

The Clerk reports that shortly after the last Meeting, Mr. Job Luxford gave a written undertaking to comply with the conditions laid down by the Board at the last Meeting, in regard to the permission to cart building materials for the erection of Mr. Samuel White's cottages on land late Mrs. Emma Reed's.

Forest Row Committee Report

The Forest Row Committee present the following Report, which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely:-

The Committee met at the Clump near Broadstone Warren on September 15th.

Present. The Chairman and Mr. Martin. Mr. Midgley wrote apologising for his unavoidable absence.

The Chairman reported that he had remonstrated strongly on the injury done to the fir trees by the soldiers cutting rings in their bark to tether horses, and had received assurance that no further damage should be done. This was inspected and it was noted that attempts had been made, by plastering and tarring the rings cut, to mitigate its consequences.

The ditch outside Broadstone Warren was found to be in an offensive condition, likely to lead to the pollution of the stream with which it was connected. The Ranger next called attention to the practice of the troops now camped on the Forest of burying tins and rubbish in shallow trenches and it was recognised that this was being done to an extent which must result in permanent injury to the surface and its growths.

The Contractor employed by the Military and some of the camp officers were seen and strong remonstrance made on both points – to which serious attention was promised.

The Forest Row Committee met on August 27th (Present – The Chairman, Mr. E. Martin, Mr. L. Midgley) and viewed the site of the proposed road on the south side of the Golf house, with a plan submitted on behalf of the Golf Club.

They requested the club to modify their plan by making the road start from a point 31 feet above the Golf Club gatepost (on the lower side of the road, 41 feet on the upper) they indicated by marks the approved course of the road and decided its width, except at the sharp bends, where it might be moderately increased should be 10 ft. Subject to these specifications being followed they authorised the Club to make the road.

The Chairman submitted correspondence between himself and the officer commanding the Forest Row camp, dealing with the closing of footpaths by the Military, the assemblage of youths who lit fires for cooking on the Forest in the vicinity of the Camp, unauthorised shooting by soldiers, etc.

Mr. Martin reported that Messrs. Waters had failed to clear the green at Highgate, according to their promise and that he had warned them the matter would be dealt with seriously by the Board, should they not comply with his previous communication.

Camp

Mr. Freshfield explains the difficulties the Forest Row Committee have experienced in dealing with matters in connection with the camp at Forest Row. He is sure the officers are anxious to remedy mistakes and defects, but they are new to the work and do not understand the position as regards the Forest.

Some of the trees in the Greenhall lump, which is specially protected by the Order for Regulation, have been damaged as mentioned in the report, but the Brigade Major had given an assurance that no further damage shall be done to the trees. The stream near Aegen Gill had been polluted and 24 trout had been poisoned. As regards the burying of empty tins and other Camp refuse, the Military Authorities have promised that, in future, the refuse shall be incinerated before being buried and the sod shall be replaced.

As regards drainage, he (Mr. Freshfield) has offered, if the Military will submit to him reasonable plans for dealing with the drainage, he may be disposed to allow it to be carried into Broadstone Warren, but this matter is at present

in abeyance, and in the meantime the ditch which carries the drainage is still offensive. Mr. Freshfield finally stated that the Committee have spared no pains in trying to protect the rights of the Commoners and to alleviate the annoyances to which the residents are subjected and will continue to do so.

Mr. Martin states that the Authorities acknowledge their responsibility for the drainage, but are expecting an additional 500 horses at the Camp and propose on their arrival, to deal with the whole matter comprehensively.

Highgate Green deposit

Also he has this morning received a letter from Messrs. H and E Waters, stating that they are now making up the road across Highgate Green and are using the materials upon it.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write Messrs. Waters that, relying on their promise to remove the deposits being carried out at once, the Board will postpone any action in the matter for 14 days from their receipt of the Clerk's letter and at the same time, point out to them that it is contrary to the Forest Bye Laws that any cart, or other vehicles, should be left on the Green, and that the Board must call on them to discontinue placing any such thereon.

R.A.F. Golf Club application for Motor Road in

Mr. Midgley states that the R.A.F. Golf Club have desired him to express their appreciation of and satisfaction with the proposals of the Forest Row Committee with regard to the proposals of the Forest Row Committee with regard to the proposed motor road into the Club premises, but that they find that to carry out the work will involve greater expense than they anticipated and having regard to the War, they will be glad if the matter may be left over for them to act upon later. To this the Board assented.

Repair of Bridge at Tompsetts Bank

The Forest Row Committee report that no work has as yet been done to the Bridge at Tompsetts Bank as it is impossible to obtain any sleepers at present.

Military riding over footpath

Mr. Martin reports that the Military some time ago took to riding along the Church footpath near Shepherds Gate, but that he expostulated, with them, and they have not ridden along it since.

Countess Norbury telephone line

The Clerk reports that Ranger Brown having reported to him on the 12th September last that 13 telephone poles had been erected on the Forest, from the junction of the 2 high roads near Kingstanding, 12 going north on the west side of the road towards Fryar's Gate and one on the opposite side of the road, carrying a telephone line into Greenwood Gate, the Clerk at once wrote to the Sectional Engineer, enquiring whether these poles had been erected by the Post Office Telegraph Authority and pointing out that, in that case, no application had been made to the Board and that the erection of poles on the Forest, (except for the temporary use of the Military) is contrary to the understanding arrived at between the Postmaster General and the Board. The Sectional Engineer replied on the 19th September that he was under the impression that the posts were erected on the road and not in the Forest. Ranger Brown reports that he has measured the position of the poles, and that they are erected on the Forest land at distances varying from 8 feet to 3 feet 6 inches from the edge of the high road.

The Clerk reports that he forwarded the correspondence to the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee and reminded him of the understanding arrived at with the Postmaster General that, for the preservation of the amenities of the Forest, he would in future put his lines underground.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Telephone Authorities, pointing out that the poles are clearly on Forest Land and not on the roadside land and suggest that, as the telephone line is for the service of a house inside the Crowborough Warren property the line should be carried underground from the junction of the high roads inside the south west Corner of Kingstanding Farm, and thence by poles under the boundary of the property.

Rate

The Clerk, having reported that the funds in hand will be exhausted by payment of the current liabilities and having produced an estimate of the annual expenses, it is proposed by Mr. Albert Turner, seconded by the Honble H.B. Portman 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 – 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 hereafter set out, namely:-

Name	Address	Acreage	Amount £	s	d
Abbey & Sons	Kemp Town Brewery, Seymour Street, Brighton	15	0	7	6
Adams, Mr. Albert Alfred	Burgess Hill, Sussex	2 ½	0	1	6
Amps, James William Esq.	Ashdown House, Danehill, Uckfield	65:2:24	1	13	0
Andrews, Miss & others	6 Linden Park Tunbridge Wells	½	0	0	6
Appleby Mr. Horace	Nutley Uckfield	½	0	0	6
Arbuthnot W.R. Esq. Decd. The Repres, of	C/o James McFarlane Esq., Great Bentley, Cuckfield	200	5	0	0
Ashdown, Mr. Thomas	Ivy Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham	1 ½	0	1	0
Avis, Mrs Sarah A.	The Hollies, Fryars Gate Withyham	1 ½	0	1	0
Baker Mr. Matthias	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Baker Mr. William	Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Ballard & Co. Messrs.	Brewers, Lewes	2 ½	0	1	6
Barchard, Misses. A.E. & E.E..	Campfield Rough. Fairwarp, Uckfield (admitted 13 March 1914)	1:0:15	0	1	0
Barron, J.W. Esq.	Yew Tree Hall, Forest Row, Sussex	4 ½	0	2	6
Bashford, Mr. John	Forest Row, Sussex	15	0	7	6
Bailey, Sir Abe, K.C.M.G.	C/o A.E.N. Ward Esq., 65 London Wall, London E.C.	180	4	10	0
Bedwell, Mr. Charles	Nutley, Uckfield	9:0:24	0	5	0
Begbie, Harold Esq.	Spyways Hartfield, Sussex (late Clough)	5	0	2	6
Bellairs, A.E. Esq.	Stone House, Forest Row	37	0	18	6
Bellingham, Mrs. Elizabeth	Salisbury House, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	5:2:37	0	3	0
Bennett, Mr. J.	Furners Green, Dane Hill, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Bennett, Mr. George	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:4	0	0	6
Birch, Fredk. Peregrine	8 ½ Angel Court, Throgmorton Street, London SE	3:3:12	0	2	0
Birch, Francis J.P. Esq.	Old End, Forest Row, Sussex	46	1	3	0
Box Mr. Richard	Rozell Lodge, 329 Hainault Road, Leytonstone, London	3	0	1	6
Brassey, The Hon. Earl	C/o Messrs. Bird & Potter, 28 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.	11-1-23	0	6	0
Brassey, The Rt.	C/o W.W.S. Follett Esq., New University	95:2:14	2	8	0

Countess	Club, St. James St., London				
Browning Mr. William	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	9½	0	5	0
Budd Budd Fred.	Restlands West Hoathly East Grinstead	145	3	12	6
Burns, L.B. Esq.	Chuck Hatch, Hartfield, Sussex	12	0	6	0
Burns, Mrs. Clementina	Andrews Bank, Colemans Hatch (late L.B. Burns)	3	0	1	6
Card, Mr. A.	Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row (late Goard)	2 ¾	0	1	6
Card, Mr. James	Broadstone Farm, Colemans Hatch, Sussex	4:0:30 0:1:10	0	2	6
Carr. Mr. William	Nutley, Uckfield	27:3:31	0	14	0
Carter, George C.	34 Clarence Street, Kingston on Thames (late *****)	4	0	2	0
Champneys, Sir F.H. Bart	Littlemead, Nutley, Uckfield	7 ¾	0	4	0
Clarke Stephenson, Mrs.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	133:3:13	3	7	0
Clarke, Lt. Col Stephenson R	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	56:2:0	1	8	6
Clarke, Chas Bridges Orme Esq.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London (late Du Croz)	62:2:7	1	11	6
Clough, A.H. Esq.	Castletop, Burnley, Ringwood, Hants	434:1:24	10	17	6
Cohen, Nathaniel L. Esq.	11 Hyde Park Terrace, London (late Du Croz)				
Colchester The Rt. Hon. Lord	c/o E.P. Whitley & Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	213	5	6	6
Constable, Mrs. Lucy	Fords Bank, Horney Common, Uckfield	2:2:28	0	1	6
Cook Misses Bessie & Fanny	The Hall Nutley Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Cooper, Ernest Esq.	C/o Turner Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	140	3	10	0
Corbett, Chas. Henry Esq.	Woodgate, Dane Hill Park Uckfield	248:1:24	6	4	6
Cowan, W.H.	Crows Nest, Fairwarp, Uckfield	6:2:20	0	3	6
Dadswell, Mr. Alfred repres.	C/o Miss Fullegar & H. Watson, Ballards Hill, Goudhurst, Kent	1	0	0	6
Darwin, Major Leonard R.E.	Cripps Corner, Forest Row, Sussex	33 ½	0	17	0
De La Warr, The Rt. Hon. Muriel Countess	C/o W.W.S. Follett Esq., New University Club, St. James St., London	9:0:4	0	5	0
Denham, Captain Harold A.	The Crossways, Hartfield, Sussex (late Clough)	5:3:32	0	3	0
Dodge, Mrs. Mary Hoadley	C/o Messrs. Blount, Lynch & Petre, 48 Albermarle Street, London W.	11:1:30	0	6	0
De Lutteshaw, Miss Celina and Meyers, Miss Katherine	Solvane, Birch Grove, East Grinstead	6:3:1	0	3	6
Dowson, Hugh Emerson, Esq.	Landhurst Wood, Hartfield, Sussex (late Clough)	14:3:16	0	7	6
Du Croz, Charles Grant Esq.	Court Lands West Hoathly E. Grinstead				
Eason, Edward Henry Physick Esq.	192 Bishopsgate London E.C.	1:1:8	0	1	0

Ellis, The Hon. Mrs. Evelyn	35 Portland Place, London W	3	0	1	6
Faber, Alfred Esq.	Offerton, Forest Row, East Grinstead)	3:0:16	0	2	0
Fyfe, Miss	Homesdale, Grove Park, Lee S.E.	5	0	2	6
Follett, W.W.S. Esq.	New University Club, St. James St., London	5	0	2	6
Freeland, Mr. P.H.	Nutley, Uckfield	1 ¾	0	1	0
Freshfield, Douglas, W. Esq.	Wyck Cross House, Forest Ro	259:1:17	6	10	0
Fuller Miss Millicent	Vaughans Fletching Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Gardiner. Mrs. M.	2 Hydethorpe Road, Balham, London SW	2	0	1	0
Gasson Mr. Humphrey	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	3 ½	0	2	0
Gasson, Mr. Thomas	Chelwood Gate, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:32	0	0	6
Godley, The Rt. Hon. Hugh John	29 Chester Street, London SW Ditto (late Darling)	61:2:20 4	1 0	11 2	0 0
Goldsmiths' Company	Goldsmith's Hall London E.C.	117:3:10	2	19	0
Gordon, Mrs. Louisa M.E. and Marley, Hugh Esq.	C/o Messrs. Gordon & Marley, Broad Street House, New Broad Street, London	5 ½	0	3	0
Gordon, John F.	Domaha, Forest Row East Grinstead	5:1:36	0	3	0
Goslett, G.A.D.	Chelworth, Chelworth Gate, Uckfield	7	0	3	6
Hale The Misses	c/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner. East Grinstead	69	1	14	6
Hardy, Guy C. Trustees of Will	C/o A Bridge Esq., 2 Victoria Cottages, Horsted Keynes	256:3:35	6	8	0
Head, F.H.	Goldstrow, Piltdown, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Heath, Mr. Joseph Benjamin	Hamilton Terrace, Forest Row	1	0	0	6
Heasman Mr. William	Furnace Farm, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Heasman William Heasman Birch and Heasman, Mrs. Isabella	C/o Mr. Wm. Heasman, Kelly Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham	2 ½	0	1	6
Hewitt, H.B.	Perrymans Hill, Furners Green, Uckfield	8:0:36	0	4	6
Hillhouse J.	***brose, Hillfield Park, Muswell Hill, N	1	0	0	6
Hoare, Alfred	37 Fleet St. London E.C	101	2	10	6
Hoath, Mrs. Lydia	C/o Mr. Alfred Hoath, Fryars Gate Withyham Tunbridge Wells	4	0	2	0
Hoath, Mr. Amos	Temple Cottage, St. John's, Crowborough	3	0	1	6
Hobbs, Mr. Henry	Fairwarp, Uckfield	0:1:8	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. W.	Forest Row	0:0:16	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. J.	Sillwood Place, Forest Row	0:0:11	0	0	6
Hope, James F. Esq. M.P.	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes	520 ¼	13	0	6
Hounsom Wm. Allin Esq.	41 New Church Road, Brighton	28	0	13	0
Hutchinson, Horace G. Esq.	67 Cadogan Square, London SW	5 ¼	0	3	0
Hyde, Mrs. R.	Pixton Hill Forest Row East Grinstead	127	3	3	6

Inns, Mr. Alfred George	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp, Uckfield	4	0	2	0
Izzard, Mr. William	Paines Hill, Fairwarp, Uckfield (admitted 7 Aug 1914)	1	0	0	6
Johnson, W. Claud Esq.	Broadstone, Colemans Hatch Ditto late Spencer	21 41:0:24	0 1	10 1	6 0
Johnson, The Revd. Geo. W.	The Vicarage, Fairwarp, Uckfield (late Munster)	1	0	0	6
Kekewich, Lewis P. Esq.	Kidbrook Park, Forest Row	81:0:37	2	1	0
Kenward, Mr. Robert	Fletching, Uckfield	74	1	17	0
Kenward, Mr. Hercules	Budletts, Maresfield, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Killick Mr. Richard Spencer	Old Town, Groombridge, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:0	0	0	6
Knight, Mr. J.	Railway Inn, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:2	0	0	6
Lawrence, Col. The Hon H.A.	Ashdown Place, Forest Row, Sussex (late D.W. Freshfield)	8:1:28			
Lambert, G.N. Esq.	44 E****by Place, Fulham, London	[blank]			
Langridge, Mr. Enoch	Dane Hill, Uckfield	1 ½	0	1	0
Larnach, Jas. Walker Esq.	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	500	12	10	0
Laver Miss Elizabeth Fielder	Greystones, Crowborough (late Baines)	5 ½	0	3	0
Longley, Mr. C.	Oakhurst, Chapel Lane, Forest Row	0:1:1	0	0	6
Longley, Mr. C. J.	Ruthcote, Crawley, Sussex (late Du Croz)	[blank]			
Luxford, Job	Forest Row, Sussex (late Spencer)	33:1:12	0	17	0
MacMeikan, Mrs. J.K.	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead	2:1:26	0	1	6
Macmillan, Maurice Esq.	Birch Grove House, nr. East Grinstead	13	0	6	6
Macmillan, Mrs. Helen Artie	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead	44:1:11	1	2	6
Mc Leod, Addison Esq.	C/o F. Coverdale Esq., High Street, Brentwood, Essex	8	0	4	0
Manners, Mr. James Thomas	Bankside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
May & Rowden, Messrs.	27 Maddox St, London, W (late Spencer)	79:2:3	2	0	0
Marchant, Mr. Thomas	Cackle Street, Maresfield, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Maresfield, The Rector of	The Rectory, Maresfield	100	2	10	0
Marriott, Mr & Miss Cordelia Isabella.	c/o Messrs. Hasties, 65 Lincolns Inn Field, W.C	57 ½	1	9	0
Marsden, James.	Hurst Wood House, Hurst Wood, Buxted	3 ½	0	2	0
Martin, Edward	Woodcote, Forest Row	1:1:28	0	1	0
Martin, Mr. William	Coach & Horses, Dane Hill, Uckfield	7 ½	0	4	0
May, Mr. Frank Elias	Dane Hill, Uckfield	15:3:26	0	8	0
McAndrew, John Esq. J.P.	Holly Hill, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells Ditto (late Spencer pt. Harte) Ditto (ditto pt. Parrock)	196 85:0:11	7	11	6

		19:3:28			
Messel, Harold George, Esq.	Danehurst, Uckfield (late Hardy)	44:2:35	1	2	6
Methuen, David Esq.	Holly Croft, Forest Row	3 ¾	0	4	4
Meyrick, The Rev. Arthur	Ashdowns, Hartfield, Sussex	5:0:15	0	3	0
Midgley, Llewellyn Esq.	Chelwood Corner, Nutley, Uckfield	9 ¼	0	5	0
Misa, W. Pablo Esq.	Old Lands, Buxted, Uckfield (late Larking)	285	7	2	6
Moore, Edward Esq.	“The Cot”, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7:2:16	0	4	0
Mitchell, Mr. William & Eliza Brett	Nutley Road, Nutley (late E. Reed))	3 ¼ 0:1:10	0	2	0
Morris, Miss J.V.	Oldenburg House, Mount Ephraim Rd., Tunbridge Wells	5	0	2	6
Munster, His Highness Prince	Maresfield Park, Uckfield	2401:3:23	60	1	0
Meyers Miss, see Miss De Luttershaw	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead Ditto (late Wickens)	4:1:0 3	0	4	0
Neatby, Dr.	82 Wimpole St., London W (late Clough)	3	0	1	6
Needham, Colonel	Tylehurst, Forest Row	58	1	9	0
Neill, The Revd. Chas. M.A.	The Vicarage, Nutley, Uckfield	4	0	2	0
Norman, Mr. Henry The Repres. of	Fairwarp, Maresfield, Uckfield	6	0	3	0
Norris, The Revd. G.R.G.	The Vicarage, Wedmore, Somerset	100	2	10	
Osborne, Mr. Albert	Horse & Groom, Rushlake Green, Warbleton	0:3:15	0	0	6
Osborne. Mr. George	Annwood Farm, Fletching, Uckfield	2 ½	0	1	6
Osborne, Miss S.	8 Norfolk Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey	4	0	2	0
Osborne, Mrs. Mahala	Sandhill Farm, Bodle St., nr. Hailsham	4:0:11	0	2	6
Osborne, Mr. William and Elizabeth his wife	Foresters Arms, Fairwarp, Uckfield, late Jas Bennett	14:2:0	0	7	6
Osborne, Mr. William	Ditto	15:2:18	0	8	0
Osborne, Mr. Thomas and Harriet his wife	Misbourne Farm, Nutley, Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Osborne, Mr. Thomas	Ditto	7	0	3	6
Page, Messrs. Thomas & James	Old Workhouse, Fairwarp, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Peckham, George	Sunnyside, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:16	0	2	0
Penfold, Berrick Esq.	Summerford Farm, Fairwarp, Uckfield Ditto (late Albert Turner)	21:0:24 2:1:8	0	12	0
Philcox, Mr. George	Newbridge, Maresfield, Tunbridge Wells	2 ½	0	1	6
Phillips, Mrs. Gertrude	Glenelg, Crowborough, Sussex	2 ½	0	1	6
Plevins, G.S. Esq.	Broadstone, Forest Row, Sussex	3:3:30	0	2	0

Portman, the Hon. Henry Oakeley	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes (l	173:1:31	4	7	0
Porter, Mr. John decd. Repres.	Park House, Ringmer, Lewes	27	0	13	6
Reed, Mrs Emma	Bank Cottage, Forest Row	4:0:37	0	2	6
Ridley, Mr. Spencer	Millbrook, Nutley, Uckfield	12 ½	0	6	6
Ridley, Mr. Joseph	Horney Common, Nutley, Uckfield	14	0	7	6
Ridley, Mr. Sylvanus	Nutley, Uckfield Ditto (late Turner)	29:0:0 0:1:11	0	15	0
Ridley, Mrs. Lucy Rose (H.J.)	Whitehouse Farm, Horney Common, Maresfield	19:2:26	0	10	0
Ridley, Mr. Henry	The Hollies (late Jas. Whitewood)	0:1:32	0	0	6
Salzmann, Louis Francis Esq.	Hope Park, Bromley, Kent	3:3:20	0	2	0
Samuel, Sir Stuart M. Bart. M.P.	12 Hill St., Mayfair, London W	5:1:29	0	3	0
Sandford, Mark	“Martin”, Newick, Lewes	1 ¼	0	1	0
Sargeant, John Esq.	11 Vincent Square, Westminster, London SW	7	0	3	6
Sayers, Mr. Frederic	Post Office, Forest Row, East Grinstead	¼	0	0	1 ½
Sclater, Rev. J.S.	C/o W.F. Ingram Esq., Sussex	69:0:14	1	15	0
Scott, Mrs. Hannah	Duddleswell, Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Seymour, Mr. Mark	Post Horn Lane, Forest Row	¼	0	0	6
Soames, Arthur Gilstrap Esq.	Sheffield Park, Fletching, Uckfield	950:0:10	23	15	6
Shoebridge, Mr. Thomas	Nutley, Uckfield	11:0:37	0	6	0
Shoebridge, Mr. Owen	East Croft, Nutley	2	0	1	0
Southdown & East Grinstead Breweries Ltd.	Lewes	4:2:30	0	2	6
Spencer, The Honble Mrs.	C/o C.J. Parris Esq. 67 High Street, Tunbridge Wells	646:1:17	16	3	6
Stenning, J.C. Esq.	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	5:1:4	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mrs. Mary Ann	Collingford, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5 ½	0	3	0
Streatfeild, R.J. Esq.	c/o Messrs. Powell & Co. Lewes	240	6	0	0
Sydenham, Dr. Geo. Mervyn	Chelwood Common, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Tamplin & Sons Brewery Brighton Ltd	Phoenix Brewery, Brighton	½	0	0	6
Taylor, The Devises of J.S. Esq. Decd.	C/o W.B. Bond Esq., Aegen Gill, Forest Row (late Ogle)	3:2:26	0	2	0
Taylor Mr. William	Darvell Beech Farm, Battle	2	0	1	0
Taylor, Mr. James	Barnfield, Hoadley Lane, Crowborough (late Greenfield)	0:1:16	0	0	6

Thomas, Augustus A. Esq.	Fairwarp, Uckfield	11:3:20	0	6	0
Tomsett, Mr. Jesse	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Turner Albert Esq.	The Limes, Nutley, Uckfield Ditto (late Sylvanus Ridley)	75:3:17 2:1:12	1	19	6
Thomas, G.H. Esq.	Oakcroft, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	1:1:20			
Thomas, Mrs. Lilian Sophia	Spatham Farm, Ditching, Hassocks, Sussex (late Hickmott)	1:0:8	0	0	6
Turner Mr. James	Hugletts Pit Farm, Maresfield	2	0	1	0
Tyler Mr. Enoch	Horney Common, Uckfield	5 ³ / ₄	0	3	0
Tyler, Mr. Allen	Horney Common, Uckfield	4 ¹ / ₂	0	2	6
Villeneuve-Smith, F. Esq.	Forest Lodge, Maresfield, Uckfield	16:1:5	0	8	6
Waldstein, Dr. L.	Posingford, Hartfield, Sussex	28:1:8	0	14	6
Wallace Mrs Reginald.	Blacksmith, Rotherfield	2	0	1	0
Walsham, Mrs.	Warrenside, Forest Row	2	0	1	0
Walter, Mr. Alfred	Marlpits, Fairwarp, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Waters, Messrs. H. & E.	Forest Row, Sussex (late Spencer)	23:3:11	0	12	0
Waters, Mr. Henry J.	Shepherds Well, Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	1 ³ / ₄	0	1	0
Waters Mr. James	Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:8	0	0	6
Welfare Mr. William	Post Office, Withyham	3	0	1	6
Wheatley Mr. Joseph	Colemans Hatch, Hartfield. Tunbridge	4	0	2	0
Wheatley, Mr. Abraham	Prospect Cottages, Ashurst Wood, East Grinstead	0:0:31	0	0	6
Wheeler Mr. Charles	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
White, W. Leeland	Atherton, East Grinstead	0:1:15	0	0	6
Whitewood, Mr. Percy	Nutley, Uckfield (late Barralet)	0:3:0	0	0	6
Whitewood, Mrs. Clara Sophia	Nutley, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
White, Mrs.	Norlington Villa, London Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex (late David Thomas)	0:0:11	0	0	6
Whitfield, J.S. Esq.	The Roebuck, Wych Cross, Forest Row	3	0	1	6
White, Mr. Samuel	Stonehouse Farm, Forest Row (late Reed)	0:1:0	0	0	6
Wickens Mr. J. H. Mortgagees	C/o W.E. Nicholson Esq., Lewes	11	0	5	6
Wickens Mr. Simeon	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	64 ¹ / ₂	1	12	6
Wickens Mr. Spencer Snr. Exors.	C/o Mr. Chas. J. Gasson. Hillside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	15	0	7	6
Wickham, Mrs. Philly	Forest Bank, Nutley, Uckfield	4:1:25	0	2	6
Willett, Arnold J. Esq.	6 Oxford Square, London	5 ¹ / ₂	0	3	0
Wilson Mr. Edward	Mount Pleasant, Oldlands, Maresfield. Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Wilson Geo. M. Maryon Esq.	Searles, Fletching, Uckfield Ditto Woodland (late Albert Turner)	1660 2	41	11	0
Wood, Mr. Jesse	Forest Row Green, East Grinstead	11 ¹ / ₂	0	6	0

Wood, Mr. Ephraim	Duddleswell, Uckfield	0:0:39 9:3:1	0	5	6
Wood John Edgar	2 Belmont Villas, West Malling, Kent	4	0	2	0
Wood, Mr. Thomas Daynes	The Hollies, Bennett Park, Blackheath, Kent	30 ³ / ₄	0	15	6
Wood, Wm & Son Ltd.	C/o A, Turner Esq., The Limes, Nutley	12	0	6	0
Wood, Arthur H. Esq.	Duddleswell House, Fairwarp, Uckfield	12	0	6	0
Young Mr. William	Fincham, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	23	0	11	6

Obligation to fence against Commoner's cattle

The Clerk reports that, on the 7th instant, he received a communication from Messrs. Bretherton of Tunbridge Wells, Solicitors acting for Mr. W.H. Cowan, M.P. of Crows Nest, stating that cattle he had as a Commoner turned out from Crows Nest, to graze on the Forest, strayed into a field on the Crowborough Warren Estate, adjoining the Forest and let to a Mr. Matthews; that Mr. Matthews had brought an action against Mr. Cowan for damages which action was set down for hearing in the County Court at Tunbridge Wells, on the 12th instant, and that they felt they ought to inform the Clerk, as Mr. Cowan might have to make a claim upon the Conservators for not keeping the fence against the Forest in repair. The Clerk explained that the Conservators are under no liability in the matter, having jurisdiction only over the Forest and no property on it. Messrs. Bretherton then asked the Clerk for information and the Clerk investigated the records and found that the land in question formed part of one of the inclosures allotted by the Judgement of 1693 to the proprietors of the Forest, to be inclosed and improved by them, from which it would appear that the obligation to maintain the fences against Commoners cattle was on the owners of the land so allotted. The Clerk was subpoenaed to give evidence and produce documents, which he accordingly did and Judge Parry, after hearing the case fully, borrowed the Clerk's copy of the Decree of 1693 and reserved his Judgement until the next Court.

Office Copy Decree of 1693 to be obtained

The Clerk points out that this case affects all the fences of lands inclosed on the Forest, that he had only a plain copy of the Decree of 1693, which is not evidence and that it is desirable he should have an Office Copy of it, which can be used as evidence in any Court.

It is Resolved that he be authorised to obtain an Office Copy to be paid for out of the Protection and Improvement Fund

Lambs turned out on Forest by James Taylor

Ranger Kirby reports that, on the 9th September last, he found 20 Kent lambs belonging to Mr. Barling of Wareborne, Ashford, pasturing on St. John's Common, and being unable to learn who was keeping them, he wrote to Mr. Barling. On learning that they were put out to keep with Mr. James Taylor of St. Johns, who had turned them on the Forest, he, on 13th September, saw Mr. Taylor and required him to take them off the Forest, which Mr. Taylor did while he was present.

Thos. Shannon licence for faggot stack

Ranger Kirby reports that, on 22nd September last he issued a licence to Mr. Thos. Shannon of the Nook, Fairwarp, to stand a stack of faggots 12 ft x 9 ft on the Forest, on the East side of his holding.

It is Resolved that his action in granting the licence be confirmed

F.H. Fawkes footpath

He also reports that Mr. F.H. Fawkes of Toll Farm, Fairwarp, to whom a licence was granted to lay down sleepers on the Forest for a footpath from his house to the road, has given up the house and has removed the sleepers and restored the surface of the Forest.

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that the Honble H.B. Portman and Messrs. Sandford and Turner be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts for the year ending 31st December next.

Clothes posts

Mr. Portman gives notice that, at the next meeting of the Board, he will move the recession of the Resolution passed at the last Meeting, that in future no applications for the erection of clothes posts on the Forest be entertained.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed, namely:-

The Clerk - ½ years Salary to 30th June last	£50.0.0	
H. Kirby - 11 weeks Salary as Ranger		
and House Rent to 18th inst.	£13.50.0	
Insurance – 11 weeks	<u>£0.2.9</u>	£13.17.9
W. Brown - 13 weeks Salary as 2nd		
Ranger to 18th inst.	£11.0.0	
Insurance – 11 weeks	<u>£0.2.9</u>	£11.2.9

Annual Meeting

It is Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners be held on Friday, the 17th day of December next at 11 a.m. and that the next Meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoners Meeting, or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.15 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson
Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners, interested in Ashdown Forest, duly convened by the Clerk, by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two of the newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, "The Sussex Express" and "The Sussex Daily News" at least 14 days before this date and by notice sent by post to every Commoner and held at the Nutley, on Friday, the 17th day of December, 1915, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson, in the Chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Job Luxford
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Lt. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

Chairman

On the Proposition of Mr. Sandford, Seconded by Mr. Midgley, Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson is chosen Chairman and he having taken the Chair, the Clerk reads the Notice convening the Meeting and reports the publication thereof as above mentioned.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st instant are Messrs. D.W. Freshfield, Edward Martin, The Honble. H.B. Portman and Mr. Joseph Ridley.

It is proposed by Mr. A. Turner and seconded by Mr. Joseph Ridley, that Mr. D.W. Freshfield be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Mark Sandford and seconded by Mr. Portman, that Mr. Edward Martin be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. A. Turner and seconded by Mr. Sandford, that the Honble. H.B. Portman be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. W. Carr and seconded by Mr. Portman, that Mr. Joseph Ridley be re-elected a Conservator.

No other nominations being made, the Chairman declares the above named four Commoners duly elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

In thanking the Meeting for re-electing him, Mr. Freshfield states that, in re-electing the four retiring Conservators, the Board are justified in assuming that they have given general satisfaction to the Commoners during the past year. It had been a particularly anxious one for them, particularly as regard the Forest Row district, owing to the Camp there, and he feels he may claim for the Board that their efforts have prevented more damage to the Forest than would otherwise have been done.

Mr. Martin thanks the Commoners for re-electing him. During the years he has been a member of the Board, he has striven to do his best for the preservation of the Forest, and the protection of the Commoners, and shall continue to do so.

Mr. Portman thanks the Commoners for re-electing him, and states it has always been his object and desire to work for the good of the Forest, and chose to live round it.

Mr. Ridley, in returning thanks stated that some people think the Conservators might bring more pressure to bear on our Military visitors, but that we must make up our minds to exercise forbearance.

H. Jesse Ridley suggestion

The Chairman reads a letter addressed to him by Mr. H. Jesse Ridley, suggesting that the Military might be employed in improving the Forest roads, and especially in filling up the hollows where the gradients are very steep, by which the time and labour in carting would be largely reduced, and that, if the labour were given, all that would be required would be a few pipes for draining. Also pointing out that a large amount of litter will want cutting next year, before it gets too coarse.

On the motion of Mr. Freshfield, the letter was referred to the Board of Conservators for consideration.

Rev. G. W. Johnson suggestion

The Rev. G.W. Johnson applies, on behalf of Mrs. Misa of Old Lands; that the high gorse in the angle of the roads, where marked red on a plan he handled in, may be cut down, to give a clear view at the corner, and that, if possible, the corner between these roads may be rounded.

He also applies, on behalf of the neighbouring inhabitants, that the upper portion coloured blue on the plan of the track leading from [blank] to [blank] be repaired, that, if possible, the user of this track be limited to pedestrians, or to light traffic, and that a notice to that effect be put up at each end of the road.

On the motion of Mr. Portman, these applications are referred to the Board of Conservators for consideration.

On the motion of Mr. Sandford, a hearty Vote of Thanks is accorded to the Chairman for presiding, and the Chairman in response, thanks the Meeting for having rendered his task so light and exceptionally pleasant.

H.B. Portman Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 17th December, 1915, at noon.

Present

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

The Honble H.B. Portman

Mr. William Carr

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. L.L. Midgley

Mr. Joseph Ridley

Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Albert Turner

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces and reads the following Certificate, and it was Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes; namely:

To Mr. W. A. Raper

Clerk to The Conservators of Ashdown Forest.

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners, duly convened and held at The Nutley Inn, Nutley, for the purpose of electing four Conservators in place of three who retire from Office by rotation on the 31st day of December instant, I hereby intimate to you that, at the said Meeting Mr. Douglas William Freshfield, Mr. Edward Martin, The Honble. Henry Berkeley Portman and Mr. Joseph Ridley were elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Dated this 17th day of December, 1915.

G. M. Maryon-Wilson

Chairman

The Clerk produces the Bank Books, which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account	£129.7.2
2nd Ranger Fund	£58.11.10
Protection & Improvement Fund	£90.0.2

Rate approved by Board of Agriculture

The Clerk reports that the Board of Agriculture & Fisheries, by Order dated the 21st October last, approved the Rate made at the last Meeting, and that he has already collected the amounts due from 174 Commoners up to to-day.

Matthews v. Cowan judgement

The Clerk reports that, as authorised at the last Meeting, he obtained an Office Copy of the Decree of 1693, and produced it to Judge Parry, who subsequently gave Judgement in favour of Mr. Cowan in the Case reported at the last Meeting, holding that the Owner or Occupiers of inclosures sanctioned by the Decree of 1693 are responsible for maintaining their fences against the Commoners' cattle.

Lady Norbury's telephone line

The Clerk reads a letter dated the 25th October last, which he wrote to the Postal Authorities, pursuant to the Resolution passed at the last Meeting, with reference to Lady Norbury's telephone line; that Mr. Eames, the Sectional Engineer of the South Eastern District at Tunbridge Wells, called upon him a few days afterwards, when the Clerk explained the views of the Board more fully to him, and he promised to see what could be done.

Mr. Freshfield states that Mr. Eames called on him yesterday, and was under the impression that the Board wanted him to carry the telephone line inside the Crowborough Warren Estate in a bee line from the South West corner to Lady Norbury's house, which would be very difficult, owing to the configuration of the ground, and to which Mr. Ramsbotham objects, and he (Mr. Freshfield) explained that the Board's suggestion was that the line should be carried from the corner along and just inside the Western boundary; and he, Mr. Eames, asked to be furnished with the exact date when the arrangement was come to with the Postmaster and they recommend that his application be granted on his undertaking to remove the fence, and fill up the post holes whenever required by the Board, or their Officer, and to pay an acknowledgement of 1/- on every 1st January while the rail fence is allowed to remain.

It is Resolved that the recommendation be approved and that the Clerk carry out the matter, that the Stamp Duty on the undertaking be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

County Council application for road materials

The County Council of East Sussex having applied for permission to take materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March next, namely:

Central District – Mr. A.G. Tucker Surveyor

Locality	Description of material	Quantity cubic yards
Gravel pit in the neighbourhood of Kingstanding	Forest gravel (from Chuck Hatch to Kingstanding)	60
Ditto	Ditto from Kingstanding to Friars Gate	60
“Fox” gravel pit near Duddleswell	Sandstone (kerbing & repairing channelling at Crowborough and Maresfield)	100

The Clerk reports that the quantities authorised 1914–15 were 150 yards, and in 1915–16, 260 yards. It is Resolved that a licence be granted on the same conditions as in recent years.

Clothes posts on the forest

The Hon H.B. Portman, pursuant to notice given at the last Meeting, moves that the Resolution passed by the Board on the 30th July last, namely, that in future, no application for permission to erect clothes posts on the Forest, be entertained, be and is hereby rescinded - in support of which he cites the case in which permission was granted to a cottager with a very small garden, to erect two clothes posts on the Forest, and he states that other cases exist in which such a privilege would be a great boon to the cottager, and that the Maresfield Committee feel that discretion should be given to the respective Committee s to allow occupiers of very small holdings to erect clothes posts on the Forest.

The Motion being seconded by Mr. Turner, who confirms Mr. Portman's statement is carried (nem. con).

On the Proposition of Mr. Portman, Seconded by Mr. Turner it is Resolved that discretionary power be given to each Committee, bearing in mind the general interests of the Forest, and having due regard to the particular

neighbourhood, to grant licences to the occupiers of small holdings on the Forest to erect and maintain clothes posts on the Forest adjacent to their holdings – such licences to be granted for a period not exceeding one year, but to be revocable at any time by notice in writing from the Clerk to the Conservators, and to be conditional on the clothes lines used being made of rope, or cord, and not of wire, and being removed when not actually in use, and the licence to pay to the Conservators by way of acknowledgement and sum per post as the Committee may fix.

Road improvement suggested by Mr. H. Jesse Ridley

The Board next consider the letter of suggestions from Mr. H. Jesse Ridley, which was referred by the Meeting of Commoners to this Board for consideration. Mr. Freshfield points out that it would be useless for the Board to attempt the improvement of the Forest roads while the Military continue to use the Forest, as it would be pure waste of money and labour, and on his motion it was Resolved that the Board confirm this view, and that the Clerk inform Mr. Ridley thereof, and that after the War, the Board will take the matter into consideration.

Also that Mr. Ridley's suggestion as to cutting litter be referred to the Maresfield Committee to consider and report thereon to the next Meeting.

Road at Fairwarp

The Board next consider the applications made by the Revd. G.W. Johnson to the Commoners' Meeting and referred by them to this Board, and on the motion of Mr. Martin, it was Resolved that applications be referred to the Maresfield Committee with power to have the gorse cut if they consider it advisable, and to enquire into the other matters, and report to the Board.

Research as To Rights

The Clerk presents the following Report, which is read, and it is Resolved that it be received and entered on the Minutes. It is as follows:

It may interest the Board to know that, whereas in 1888 the Rate was levied on 67 Commoners only, the last Rate was made on 219 Commoners; and from information that has reached me as to further subdivisions, this number will be further increased. This remarkable increase is due, largely to the splitting up of properties, and partly also to the admission of new Commoners by the Conservators, on proof of 60 years' continuous user as of right.

The work of tracing the changes of ownership for the purpose of making a Rate has gradually become extremely heavy, as also has the making out of the Rate, preparing and addressing the applications, making out the receipt books, sending out receipts and replying by letter to all sorts of questions that are raised.

Great difficulty arises where a property is divided up of which part only is entitled to rights, and where I have no records enabling me to identify the parts so entitled – the Ashdown House Estate is an example in point – it comprises 1500 acres, of which about 950 acres are entitled to Rights, and great part of it has been sold in various lots.

I have the tenements described in the Decree of 1689 that formed part of the Estate. But after a long research through the Conservators' records, I could find no information enabling me to identify the particular lands entitled. I have fortunately been able to obtain access to documents of title and old maps, and after laborious investigation, have been able to identify the exact lands comprising the 930 acres entitled to rights of common. I then ascertained who are the present owners, and have collected the back rates on some portions, am promised payment shortly of the greater part of the remainder, but in two similar cases have, as yet, received no reply. I have succeeded in identifying some other properties, but two that have been divided up, namely, the Bank Farm, Forest Row, and The Du Croz Estate have not yet been adjusted. In the former case I know the land, and shall shortly secure the necessary information; in the latter case, I can find no material among the Conservators' records which will enable me to identify the portions which have rights, and shall probably have to refer to Messrs Hunt & Co, who, as Stewards of some of the local Manors, may be able to furnish the required information.

It is Resolved that the Clerk be authorised to apply to Messrs Hunt & Co. for such information as he requires, and to take all other necessary steps to ascertain as far as possible, all lands entitled to rights of common that have not

yet been identified.

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee appointed at the last Meeting present their Report, which is read; and it is Resolved that it be entered in the Minutes, namely:

To the Conservators of Ashdown Forest.

We have examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account, and (3) The Account of the Protection & Improvement Fund, each for the year 1915. 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 the casting of the Accounts, and find them all correct; and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the Accounts for the year, viz:

Account No. 1

The Clerk ½ year's Salary to December instant	£50.0.0	
Do. Disbursements on General Account during year		£28.7.11
Do. Costs of Investigating Rights	<u>£14.14.8</u>	
		£93.2.7

Kirby H. - 10 weeks' Salary & House rent to 27th inst & Insurance

£12.12.6

Account No. 2

The Clerk Disbursements on Second Ranger's Account	£2.10.3
Brown Wm. 10 weeks' Salary to 27th inst & Insurance	£10.2.6

The balances standing to-day to the credit of the several Accounts, after the above mentioned cheques have been paid, will be as follows:

The General Account	£23.12.1
The Second Ranger Account	£45.19.1
The Protection & Improvement Fund	£90.0.2

and the sum of £159.15.4 Consols representing the investment of The Protection & Improvement Fund.

Dated this 13th December, 1915.

H.B. Portman
M. Sandford
A. Turner

It is Resolved that the Report be approved and entered on the Minutes, that the accounts be signed by the Chairman in token of approval, and that cheques be drawn as recommended.

Also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to the Committee for the very through manner in which they have carried out their labours.

The cheques recommended by the Committee are then signed.

It was Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday, the 25th February next, at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

A hearty Vote of Thanks is passed to the Chairman for the able and impartial manner in which he has conducted the business of the Board during the current year. The Chairman suitably acknowledges the compliment.

The Meeting terminated at 3 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 24th March, 1916, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George. M. Maryon-Wilson, in the Chair

The Honble H.B. Portman

Mr. Wm. Carr

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Ll. Midgley

Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Albert Turner

On the proposition of Mr. A. Turner, seconded by Mr. M. Sandford it was Resolved that The Honble H.B. Portman do take the chair.

Election of Chairman for year

Mr. A. Turner then proposes that Mr. George Maryon-Wilson be re-elected Chairman of the Board for the current year, stating that he has given great satisfaction in the past, and he is sure he will continue to do so. Mr. Edward Martin having Seconded the Motion and confirmed Mr. Turner's statement, it is put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Maryon-Wilson having taken the chair expresses his thanks to the Conservators for the compliment they have paid him in electing him to the Chair for the 17th consecutive year, he states that if he can claim any merit, it is that of regular attendance, and he has only missed two Meetings during the whole of that time, he asks all the Members of the Board to continue to him the support and confidence which they have given him during the past years, without which no Chairman can carry out the work satisfactorily; and he trusts that at the end of the year they may not only be able to point to a good years work will done, but may be able to congratulate themselves upon the conclusion of a terrible and devastating war.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are then read and confirmed.

Balance Sheet

The Clerk lays on the table a print of this balance sheet of the General Account and the Protection & Improvement Fund for the year ending 31st December last, and reports that a copy thereof was sent by post to each Commoner.

Balances

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account	£87.3.1
2nd Ranger Fund	£45.19.1
Protection & Improvement Fund	£118.11.0

Forest Row Committee

It is Resolved that Messrs Freshfield (Chairman), Martin, Midgley, Colonel Needham be the Committee for the Forest Row District for the current year.

Maresfield Committee

And that the Honble H.B. Portman (Chairman), and Messrs Carr, Kenward, Sandford, Turner be the Committee for the Maresfield District for the current year.

Fire Committee

Also that the Chairman of the Board with Mr. Freshfield & Mr. Portman be the Committee to deal with all matters relating to the protection of the Forest from fire for the current year.

W. Osborne licence for fence

The Clerk reports that Mr. W. Osborne has signed the undertaking with reference to the temporary fence sanctioned at the last Meeting and has paid the acknowledgement of 1/- in respect thereof.

Lady Norbury's telephone line

The Clerk reports that he has had further correspondence with the Post Office Authorities with reference to the overhead telephones wires to Lady Norbury's house, and received a letter that morning from the Superintending Engineer at Croydon, stating that he can find in the Records of the Department, no trace of the alleged understanding that wires should in future be carried across the Forest underground, and asking to be supplied with more precise information on the point.

It is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield be requested to settle with the Clerk the reply to be made thereto.

Forest Row camp drainage

Mr. Freshfield reports that subsequent to the last Meeting, the Military submitted to him a plan for dealing with the drainage, referred to at the last Meeting, which plan he accepted, and Ranger Brown reports that the work indicated in the plan has been carried out.

Mrs. Shute Water Farm road to

Mr. Freshfield states that Mrs. Shute has drawn his attention to the bad state of that portion of the road from Water Farm, for the user and maintenance of which she holds the Conservators' licence, which passes between the properties of Mr. Barron and Mr. Methuen and which is caused by the heavy Military traffic. It appears that the road is also used by Mr. W. Claude Johnson.

It is Resolved that while the Conservators are not responsible for the maintenance or condition of the road the Clerk be authorised to support, on behalf of the Board, any application which Mrs. Shute may make to the Military Authority to make good the damage.

Mr. Freshfield undertakes to convey this Resolution to Mrs. Shute.

Mrs. Park, Mr. Percy Harris M.P. temporary fencing

Mr. Freshfield states that Mrs. Park of Greenhill and Mr. H. Percy Harris, M.P. of Cherry Croft, have erected certain posts on the Forest outside their boundaries for the purpose of protecting their fences from damage by the Military. It is Resolved that the Board give their sanction thereto subject to the parties giving their written undertaking to remove the posts when required by the Board.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read, and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely:-

24th March, 1916

School children's path Dodds Bottom to Nutley School

Your Committee visited this path on March 17th owing to Ranger's report of its condition and found wet rough places in centre of its length where water stands owing to recent snow and rain. They recommend that these be restored at a cost of £1 from Protection & Improvement Fund.

Camp manure Poundgate

They report that no more manure has been deposited there for a week, the ground is been cleared up and smoothed by Mr. A. Findlay.

Jesse Ridley litter re. roads

They recommend that Commoners be allowed in 1916 to cut and carry litter from 1st September, one month earlier, while the roads are dry.

Burgess Fairwarp drain

As regards a drain from W. Burgess Blacksmith's house under the R.D.C. road to Village to a pond opposite, laid alongside the District Council's drain (surface drain). They recommend that the pipes be removed and letter written to the Sanitary Inspector to see that it is done or else the Ranger should act.

Furze at dangerous corner Fairwarp

This was cut at once after last Board Meeting in December and orders have recently been given to cut a few yards more on Bank of main road to free the view.

Your Committee are of opinion that owing to the telegraph post which cannot be removed, and fast motor traffic down the hill, it would be dangerous to form an island by rounding the corner behind the telegraph post.

Forest Track Fairwarp Church District Village Road 280 Yards

They recommend that this portion be restored for use of foot passengers, with water tables each side and pipes across Road in centre and that the holes and triangle in centre of road be filled in and that the cost estimated at £5 be paid from Protection Fund.

******* piece Forest track coloured blue. From District Road to village to Summervale approach**

They recommend that Trenches be cut by Ranger to drain off water and that no lasting repairs be done while Military are about. Estimated cost £25 to put in good order.

From Summervale approach to Fairwarp Vicarage

They recommend that water tables be cut on each side, stone be filled in holes here and there and gutters cut into Forest, and that the cost £2 be paid from Protection Fund.

Notice Board nr. Fairwarp Vicarage F. Reed

Your Committee think the Board erected by Mr. F. Reed of Summervale will not last long. They recommend that a letter be written by the Clerk to Reed to the effect that he has no power to close a Public right of way of 60 years user.

H.B. Portman

Chairman

Footpath Dodds Bottom to Nutley

It is Resolved that the Committee be authorised to expend out of the Protection & Improvement Fund £1 in repairing the footpath from Dodds Bottom to the Nutley School, and £5 for repairing the Forest track from Fairwarp Village to Fairwarp Church for the use of foot

Passengers, making out the water tables on each side, and carrying a drain pipe across the centre of the track.

Mr. Wm. Burgess sink drain to Pond

Also that the Clerk call on Mr. Wm. Burgess to remove the pipe he has laid from his premises to the above mentioned pond, and to discontinue the discharge of sink water or drainage into the pond, and that failing compliances the Clerk draw the attention of the Local Sanitary Authority to the matter, or, if necessary, authorise the Ranger to remove the pipes.

Track At Fairwarp from Vicarage to village repairs

Also that Ranger Kirby be instructed to cut trenches along the northern half of the Forest track running between Fairwarp Vicarage and the Village Street, as far as the approach to Summervale, and that as regards the remainder of this Trench, he make out the Water Tables on each side, and cut a gutter thence on to the Forest, and fill in holes with stones where necessary, at an outlay of £2 to be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund, but that the question of lasting repairs to this track be deferred while the Military continue to use the Forest.

Mr. Reed Notice Board

Also that the Clerk write to Mr. Reed who has put up a notice board at both ends of this track, stating that it is only for foot passengers, and pointing out that there is no power to close the road, which has been used as a cart track for 60 years and call on him to remove the notice boards at once.

Mrs. Misa application to improve approach to Fairwarp Village from Duddleswell main road

Mrs. Misa, having applied to the Board to improve and round the corner where the road from Fairwarp Village joins the Duddleswell main road or to make the track from Fairwarp School to the Village, into a carriage road. It is Resolved that Mrs. Misa be informed that the Board cannot see their way to round the corner having regard to the position of the telegraph post and the danger of forming an island round it, but they have decided to repair the track as a footpath.

W. Arnold & Co. traction engines crossing forest track

The Committee having reported that the track from Fairwarp School to the Village has been badly cut up by the traction engines of Messrs W. Arnold & Co of Branbridge, East Peckham. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to them pointing out that it is not a public carriage road, and call upon them to discontinue taking their traction engines over it.

Jas Longley & Son deposit

The Forest Row Committee report that building materials and plant belonging to Messrs Jas Longley & Son, Builders of Crawley, have been lying on the Forest between Shalesbrook and Aegen Gill for a considerable time. It is Resolved that the Clerk call on them to remove the same within 14 days.

Bye Law Boards repair of

It is Resolved that it be a standing instruction to the District Committee to repair the Bye Law Boards in their respective districts when required, the expense thereof to be charged to the General Account.

Road Materials application for licence

The East Grinstead Rural District Council, having application for permission to take during the year ending 25th March 1917, 130 yards of gravel from the Forest, near Kingstanding being the same quantity as granted last year. It was Resolved that a licence be granted to them to take the same, subject to the same terms and conditions as the licences granted to them last year.

Certain licences discontinued

The Clerk reports that the following licences have been discontinued.

Mrs. Hickmott for pathway to Parish room in Fairwarp Village, the building having been removed.

Mrs. Park, successor of Mr. F.R. Lucas at Greenhill, for a road outside her boundary to the stables, as she has ceased to use it, not keeping a horse or motor, and has garage if required within her boundary.

Mr. St. John Smith for a bridge near his property at Brown's Brook, as it has been destroyed by Mounted Military using it, and Mr. St. John Smith is not prepared to renew it.

Gypsies

The Rangers' reports are then examined and it appears that only one small fire has occurred on the Forest, since the last Meeting, namely, on the 13th January, on the north side of Spring Gardens, burning about $\frac{3}{4}$ acre, cause unknown, and that there has been a remarkable reduction in the number of gypsies camping on the Forest, only one case having been discovered since the last Meeting.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn namely:

H. Kirby. 13 weeks Salary & house

rent as Ranger to 27th inst.

£16.5.0

Insurance

£0.3.3

£16.8.3

£13.3.3

empowering the Late Right Honourable Gilbert George Reginald Earl De La Warr as Lord of the Manor of Duddleswell to nominate in writing a person to act on his behalf as Conservator of the Forest of Ashdown in the County of Sussex the said Gilbert George Reginald Earl De La Warr nominated and appointed James Hubert Husey Hunt of Lewes in the County of Sussex Solicitor to act as such Conservator as aforesaid on his behalf in succession to Bernard Husey Hunt and Edward Andrew Nicholson both since deceased And whereas the said Gilbert George Reginald Earl De La Warr has since died. Now we the undersigned Edward Duncombe Henry Buckley of New Hall Salisbury in the County of Wilts a Major in His Majesty's Royal Artillery The Right Honourable Muriel Agnes Countess De la Warr and William Webb Spencer Follett of No. 77 New Square Lincolns Inn in the County of London Barrister at Law as the present Trustees of the De la Warr Settled Estates and Manors and as such Lords of the said Manor of Duddleswell do hereby nominate and appoint the said James Hubert Husey Hunt as such Conservator and failing him in pursuance of our said powers we nominate and appoint William Edward Nicholson of Lewes aforesaid Solicitor to act as such Conservator as aforesaid on our behalf.

Dated this 6th day of April 1916

E.D.H. Buckley

M. De La Warr

W.W.S. Follett

Fires

Ranger Brown reports that since the last Meeting the following fires have occurred:

10th April – 11 a.m. At Jumpers Town – burning about $\frac{1}{4}$ acre. Cause unknown.
26th April – 10 a.m. west side of highroad from Hartfield to Old Lodge. Cause – traction engine or match carelessly thrown down - $\frac{1}{4}$ acre

Ranger Kirby reports the following fires:

9th April – 6 p.m. Adjoining Boring Wheel Mill Road. Cause unknown – burning about $\frac{1}{4}$ acre
15th April - 3 p.m. Ditto. Ditto. About 1 acre.
26th April - 2.30 p.m. Adjoining Road near Crows Nest. Soldiers assisted to extinguish (believed accidental. About 1 acre.
26th April - 9 p.m. At Pound Gate. Soldiers assisted to extinguish. About $\frac{1}{2}$ acre.
27th April - 9 a.m. At Barnsden, burning about $\frac{1}{2}$ acre.
29th April - 9 p.m. At Millbrook Hill, burning 20 rods.
5th May - 9 p.m. At Pound Gate, burning about 3 rods..
21st May - 9.30 p.m. On Stone Hill, burning about 15 rods.
23rd May - 7 p.m. Near Fairwarp Vicarage, burning about 20 rods.
28th May - 5 p.m. Near Barnsgate, burning about 30 rods.

Mrs. Park, H.P. Harris Esq. temporary fencing

The Clerk reported that Mrs. Park and Mr. H. Percy Harris M.P. have given the written undertakings required at the last Meeting, which he produces and thereupon he conveyed to them the consent of the Board to maintain the temporary fences outside their properties.

Overhead wires

The Clerk produces the papers lent him by the Commons and Footpaths Preservation Society setting out what took place when a deputation representing Epping Forest and other open spaces, discussed with the Postmaster General in 1905 the importance of not disfiguring Epping Forest and other open spaces with overhead telegraph & telephone lines and representations subsequently made to him from which it appeared that he gave no definite undertaking on the point though he expressed his sympathy with the objects of the deputation and appears to have generally given effect to their representations since.

Lady Norbury's telephone line

It is Resolved that the Board do take no further action in the matter of Lady Norbury's telephone line.

Overhead wires

Also that the Clerk do procure typed copies of the papers lent by the Commons & Preservation Society, including in particular the speech made by Lord Stanley, and send them to the Postmaster General, stating at the same time that the Board proposes to make no further objection to Lady Norbury's telephone line, on the understanding that her case is not taken in the sense of a precedent.

Water Farm repair of road

The Clerk reads a letter from the Officer Commanding R.E. at Maresfield, stating that he had received an application from Mrs. Shute of Water Farm to repair damage done to the road, between Yew Tree Hall and Holly Croft leading to her property by the guns of the East Lancs F.A. Brigade occupying Forest Row Camp, and that as he understands, the road is the property of the Conservators, a formal claim should be made by them, stating the amount asked for, which he will submit with a recommendation.

The Clerk states he saw Mrs. Shute today and viewed the road in question and obtained a copy of a report and estimate given by Mr. Job Luxford for making good the damage amounting to £ 2.8.0 and adding that the lane is in a bad condition and an additional £4 or £5 should be spent on hard clinkers, a copy of which Mrs. Shute forwarded with her application.

It is Resolved that the Board adopt and endorse the claim and that the Clerk inform the Military Authority that under the Agreement the Board have with Mrs. Shute, she is responsible for the repair of the road in question.

Wm. Arnold & Co. Ltd. traction engines

The Clerk reports that Messrs Wm. Arnold & Co. Ltd. to whom he wrote as directed at the last Meeting, have replied that they have cautioned their men against running their traction engines over the track at Fairwarp as reported at the last Meeting.

Longley & Son Deposit

Ranger Brown reports that Messrs. W. Longley & Son have cleared away all the building materials and plant between Shalesbrook and Aegen Gill.

Rates

The Clerk reports that Mrs. Emma Reed has paid her rates. Also that the Ashdown Estate has paid her back rates and promised to pay the current rate at Michaelmas, but that he has failed as yet to induce Mr. Kekewich to pay his arrears.

It is Resolved that the Clerk make further efforts to obtain payment.

Forest Row Camp Latrines, gardens

Ranger Brown reports that the Military have erected wooden latrines on the Forest nearly in front of Ashdown Place and only 9 yards distant from the boundary, and have laid on water and connected them with the sewer, and have put up canvas latrines with pails opposite and near to Green Hall Clump, and 38 yards only from the public footpath.

He also reports that on the 1st instant, he saw soldiers from Forest Row Camp levelling ground on the hill side between the Rifle Range & Shepherds Bank about 2 rods in width by 5 rods in length. On inquiry the soldiers informed him the ground was for gardens and that they were to make 7 others and that they were acting under orders from Major Allsopp 5 Battery R.F.A. He added that the work appeared to be rather for the purpose of a tennis lawn than a garden.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write a letter to the War Office, to be approved by Mr. Freshfield, pointing out that Parliament has imposed on the Conservators the duty of preserving the Forest in its natural condition and enquire for what Military purpose these areas are being levelled; and that he send a copy of the letter to the Officer Commanding the Military Camp at Forest Row.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read, and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes. It is as follows:

2nd June 1916

Road at Fairwarp

That the Road at Fairwarp from the Church to the District Road & Village is completed. It has been inspected and is in every way satisfactory.

Footpath at Dodds Bottom

That the Children's footpath from Dodds Bottom to London Road has not been put in order, owing to the inability to get Cartage.

Deposit of Manure

That the Manure from Crowborough camp had all been removed from spot at Poundgate, on Monday 29th May 1916, when inspected and none deposited there for the last two weeks.

Wm. Burgess drain

That Burgess' drain has not been taken out.

H.B. Portman
Chairman

Wm. Burgess drain

It is Resolved that the Clerk apply to the Sanitary Authority to remove Burgess' drain and in the event of their not doing so, that the Ranger do remove it.

Ranger Brown application for increase of pay

The Board then consider applications from Ranger Brown (1) for an increase of his pay consequent on the increased cost of living and (2) for compensation for damage to his book and clothing in extinguishing fires. After due consideration it is Resolved that the Board cannot see their way to increase his pay but that £5 be paid him out of the Protection & Improvement Fund as compensation for damage to his book and clothing and he is informed by the Chairman to that effect.

Bethnal Green Lads camp

Mr. Freshfield reports that on application having made for permission for a small party of boys from Bethnal Green to camp on the Forest for a few days in the Summer and permission having been given in former years with satisfactory results, he sanctioned the application on condition that the boys are under a responsible leader that their Camp is selected by the Ranger, and that they follow his instructions in all things.

It is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield's action in the matter be confirmed.

Lady Norbury notice board

Ranger Kirby having reported that a notice board inscribed Private Road to Greenwood Gate has been erected on the Forest about 4 feet from the authorised road into Greenwood Gate. It is Resolved that the Clerk write Lady Norbury that it is an infringement of the Bye Laws, and call upon her to remove it.

Ranger Kirby Military Services

The Clerk reports that he applied to the Uckfield Rural Local Tribunal to exempt Ranger Kirby from Military Service as long as he continues to act as Ranger, and he lay on the table, a copy of the reasons he sent in for the application. He attended to support the application before the Tribunal at Uckfield Workhouse on the 10th May last, but the Tribunal would only grant Kirby an extension of time till the 30th instant. He referred this decision to the Chairman, who authorised him to give notice of appeal, and he then applied to the Brigadier General Commanding the District, who wrote him a letter strongly supporting the appeal for exemption. The Clerk attended before the Appeal Tribunal at Eastbourne on the 25th May last and passed the grounds of the appeal and

read the Brigadier General's letter, but the Military Representative strongly opposed the application on the ground that a man over the Military age should be employed, and in the result the Appeal Tribunal granted an extension of time till the 31st July next. The Clerk further states that there is no prospect of obtaining exemption or any further extension.

It is Resolved that while Ranger Kirby is serving boundary, the Board will keep his place open for him, and will pay the rent of his Cottage, and allow his wife to occupy it, and will make up any difference there may be between his Government pay and allowances, and the Salary and rent allowance he is now receiving from the Board. The above arrangement is then communicated to Ranger Kirby by the Chairman.

It is also Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be authorised to employ a substitute if they find it necessary.

Return Of licences issued

The returns of licences issued by the Rangers during the year ending 31st March last are laid on the table.

Road Materials application for licence

The Uckfield Rural District Council having applied for permission to take from the Forest for repair of their Roads during the year ending 25th March next, 130 yards of hard gravel being the same quantity as granted last year. It is Resolved that a licence be granted to them to take same subject to the same terms and conditions as the licence granted to them last year.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely;

H. Kirby – 10 weeks salary & house rent to 5th inst.	£12.10.0	
Employers insurance	<u>£0.2.6</u>	£12.12.6
W. Brown – 10 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger to 5th inst.	£10.0.0	
Employers insurance	<u>£0.2.6</u>	£10.2.6
The Clerk – ½ years Salary due 30th inst.	£50.0.0	

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 18th day of August next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 6th October, 1916, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon – Wilson, in the Chair

The Honble H. B. Portman

Colonel Needham

Mr. William Carr

Mr. D. W. Freshfield

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Ll. Midgley

Mr. Mark Sandford

The Chairman explains that since the 2nd June last which was the last Meeting of the Board, when the 18th August was fixed for their next Meeting he ascertained from the Chairmen of the Committees that there was no important business to transact, he exercised the discretion given to him and postponed the Meeting until today.

Death of Major R.G. Raper

The Chairman stated that before proceeding with the business of the Meeting he felt that the Board would desire to express their appreciation of the loss sustained by the death of the Clerk's Son, Major R.G. Raper, and on his motion the following Resolution are passed.

The Conservators desire to record their appreciation of the loss they have sustained in the death of Major Robert George Raper, who was killed in France on 2nd July last, while leading his men in battle and offer to his Widow and Family and to his Father, their Clerk, their sincere sympathy in the irreparable loss they have sustained.

The Resolution having been communicated to the Clerk, he expressed to the Board his sincere thanks for the kind expression of their appreciation and sympathy: they could all realise what the loss was to him personally, and the Resolution would be greatly appreciated by his Son's Widow.

Balances

The Clerk produces the Bank books which show that the balances standing to the several accounts are as follows:

General Account	£66.4.10
End Ranger Fund	£62.12.3
Protection & Improvement Fund	£139.11.9

The Clerk reports that Mr. J.S. Snelgrove and Mr. W.C. Bond have each subscribed a guinea to the 2nd Ranger Fund.

Ranger Kirby

He also reports that Ranger Kirby was called up for Military Service on 19th August last and was a few days ago quartered at Belhus Park near Purfleet but expected to be moved about this time to Crowborough.

Rates

Also that after a long correspondence Mr. Kekewich has cleared up his arrears of Forest Rate and that the Agent to the Ashdown House Estate has promised to pay the balance of £17.4.0 on November next.

Also that he has not yet succeeded in obtaining payment of the last Rate from the Maresfield Park Estate now under the control of the Public Trustee.

Lady Norbury's Notice Board

The Clerk reports that on 26th June last Ranger Kirby reported that Lady Norbury had removed, on to her property, the notice board referred to at the last Meeting.

Defence of the Realm (Acquisition Of Land) Bill

The Clerk reports that at the end of last Session, the Government introduced the Defence of the Realm (Acquisition of Land) Bill, which contained provisions enabling the Government to purchase compulsorily any land in the possession of or occupied by any Department of State or any land on which the Government have erected buildings or carried out work. The powers proposed to be taken by the Bill were very wide, and would have enabled the Government to acquire important portions of the Forest. The Clerk communicated with the Commons Preservation Society and with several Members of Parliament, including in particular Mr. W.A. Cowan, and at his request the Clerk went to London to furnish him with information and advise on the position, and he attended the first Reading. A strong opposition was raised to this portion of the Bill led by Mr. Rawlinson K.C. M.P., Mr. Moltens M.P., Sir John Burner M.P. and others and the Government undertook to modify the provisions. The Clerk has not yet succeeded in obtaining a print of the Bill with the amended provisions, but he is informed that the amendments arranged will protect the Forest.

Overhead wires

The Clerk reports that as regards Post Office Telegraph & Telephone overhead wires those passing over open spaces are at present governed by the Telegraph (Construction) Act 1908, Clause 3 of which provides that no telegraphic line shall be constructed over any land dedicated to the recreation of the Public or any hedge or bank adjoining such land, without the consent of the person under whose control and management such land for the time being remains with a proviso that if such Consent is withheld or made subject to any condition to which the Post Master General objects the difference is to be decided by the County Court Judge with an appeal to the Railway Commissioners. Strictly speaking the Act does not apply to the Forest, because it has not in the words of the Act, been dedicated to the recreation of the Public, as the Public have only the right of access to certain points of *** by routes which can be fixed by Bye Laws.

As the Postmaster General introduced an amending Bill in the last Session, it afforded an opportunity for trying to get a Clause inserted which would extend the above provision to Commoners in the same position as the Forest. The Bill was brought in at the *ay end of the Session and there was only a day or two to consider the matter: the Clerk therefore prepared a Clause (copy produced) which he submitted to the Chairman and Mr. Freshfield and communicated with the Commoners Preservation Society and Members of Parliament, with a view to pressing for its insertion, but so many Members had left town that it was found impossible to do anything in the matter. Had the Bill not been rushed through at the last moment there was a strong probability that the Clause, or more modified form of it, would have been inserted.

With regard to the correspondence which has taken place with the Post Office with reference to Lady Norbury's overhead telephone line, the Clerk on 26th August last wrote to the Superintending Engineer a letter which is read and received a formal acknowledgement of its receipt, but has as yet, heard nothing further.

It is Resolved that the Board do approve the Clerk's action in the above mentioned matters.

The following report of the Forest Row Committee is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely:

Forest Row Committee met on the 27th September, 1916.

Church Path Shepherds Gate

The Chairman reported letters had been received from Miss Hoare asking that the remainder of a fund she understood to be in the hands of the Board for the repair of the Church path across the Forest at Colemans Hatch should now be expended for that object. He had forwarded her letters to the Clerk.

Drainage at Forest Row camp

Mr. Martin reported that he had had several communications with the Sanitary Inspector with regard to the drainage of the Forest Row Camp. He submitted the correspondence he had written to the Inspector.

Privy at Pavilion cricket ground

Mr. Martin was asked if the Ranger's letter was not attended to, to communicate with the Sanitary Inspector as to its bad condition.

Waste paper

Mr. Martin reported he had arranged with the Military to send a fatigue party from time to time to collect the waste paper about the Cricket Ground.

It was Resolved that the attention of the Golf Club Committee be called to the depositing of waste paper round the Club House

Footpath to Broadstone

Mr. Luxford had reported to the Chairman he had repaired, under instructions from the Military, this footpath between the camp and Cherry Orchard.

Privies near Ashdown Place

The Chairman reported he had protested to the Military Authorities through every possible channel against the construction of a row of privies against the hedge of Ashdown Place and opposite the front of the house. He had received a personal letter from the Under Secretary of State for War, Mr. Tennant, regretting his inability to order them to be moved.

In consequence of a further appeal on sanitary grounds made through the East Grinstead Rural District Council, the Local Government Board had sent down an Inspector, who had expressed himself to the Local Medical Military Authority in Mr. Freshfield's presence, in very strong terms on the utter want of consideration for Civilian interests and amenities shown in the placing of the powers, and his regret that he could not order their removal as a sanitary danger, now they had been put up.

Scouts camp

The Chairman reported that in reply to a request to allow Fulham Boy Scouts to camp for a fortnight on the Forest by the Clerk, the War Office replied they had no objection: but that ten days later, they withdrew their consent. On receipt, however, of a letter from the Chairman pointing out the inconvenience caused by their unreasonable action, they withdrew by telegram their objection.

The boys' visit went off with the greatest success and caused no sort of inconvenience to the troops, and gave much pleasure to the Wounded in Wych Cross Hospital.

Drain at south end Of Kidbrooke Park under high road

It was reported that owing to this having been broken by the Military, the water had rushed down and rendered wholly impossible the old cart – track across the Forest under the Park paling. It was Resolved to call the attention of the Contractor employed by the Military to the matter.

Footpath

The interference by the Military with a public footpath leading to Ashdown Place was reported, and the making of a new footpath in the same vicinity. It was decided to recommend these matters should for the present, be overlooked.

Cricket Ground railings

It was reported that these had been greatly damaged by the Military and that full particulars had been sent to the Clerk with a view to obtaining compensation.

It is suggested that the Board should keep a record of any injuries suffered on the Forest from Military use with a view to a claim for damages and costs of restoration at the end of the War.

Mrs. Shute's road

Discussion was postponed in the absence of correspondence on the subject which the Clerk had not yet forwarded.

Douglas W. Freshfield
Chairman

It is mentioned also that the Military have cut a ditch below Mrs. Walsham's property right down to the brook to carry drainage.

Church Path Shepherd's Gate

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to carry out such repairs as are necessary to the Church Path at Shepherd's Gate provided the local residents contribute two-thirds of the cost, the remaining one-third not exceeding £5 to be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Footpath near Ashdown Place

Also that Ranger Brown shall put a fence across the new footpath made by the Military from the Officers' Quarters to the Main Camp, the cost to be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Forest Row camp – drains

Mr. Martin hands to the Clerk letters he has received from the Sanitary Officer with regard to the Forest Row camp drains, showing that he has the matter under observation.

Waste paper

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Secretary of the Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club pointing out the disfigurement to the Forest caused by waste paper scattered about and explaining that a great deal of the Ranger's time is occupied in collecting it, and ask for the co-operation of the Club in cautioning caddies and others connected with the Club not to leave waste paper in the Forest.

Drainage at south end of Kidbrooke Park

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr. Ashworth, Clerk of the works at the Camp at Forest Row pointing out the damage done to the drain under the cart track mentioned in the report, and call on him to have the drain repaired.

Privies near Ashdown Place

It is Resolved that the thanks of the Board be offered to Mr. Freshfield for his efforts with regards to the privies erected near Ashdown Place and other matters referred to in the report.

Tompsetts Bank cricket ground railings

It is also Resolved that the Clerk forward to the proper authority particulars of the damage to the fencing round the Recreation Ground at Tompsetts Bank, and the evidence as to the damage having been caused by the Military and that he also call their attention to the condition of the privy on the Recreation Ground which is used without a pail, and call on the Military Authority to put it into a proper sanitary condition.

Mrs. Shute Road

Also that he call on the Military to repair the damage done by them to the road to Water Farm, pointing out that Mrs. Shute's obligation to repair does not cover Military traffic with heavy guns and traction engines.

Wm. Burgess drain

The Clerk reports that he has had a long correspondence on the subject of the drain which Wm. Burgess at Fairwarp laid into a pond on the Forest, which is thereby seriously polluted. On 7th June last, the Clerk wrote to the Sanitary Officer stating the facts and calling on him to have the drain disconnected and removed. On 1st August he received a reply enquiring whether the Conservators would have the pond cleaned out as to improve the state of the pond and assist him to trace the source of pollution. This reply was submitted to the Chairman and Mr. Portman and on 8th August the Clerk wrote to Messrs Hunt & Co. stating the facts, enquiring whether any permission was given to Burgess by or on behalf of the Lord, to lay the drain and asking them to require him to remove it. On 16th August, Messrs Hunt forwarded a letter from the wife of the Reeve who is on Military service stating she was almost certain her husband had "stopped any nuisance being caused by the drain". And Messrs Hunt suggested the matter should stand over for the present. On 31st August, Messrs Hunt forwarded a copy of a reply from the Reeve, who, Burgess having gone on Military Service, saw his wife and daughter, who stated the drain has been there for over 40 years (but he had subsequently ascertained it was put down about 4 years ago – Ranger Kirby stated it was made about the 7th May, 1913) that Burgess first put in the drain to drain the road water: afterwards he connected his sewage with it which blocked it and the roadman who opened it found it full of closet soil, Burgess then laid a separate drain for his sewage, by the side of it, which was discharging soap suds into the Pond when the Reeve visited it. On receipt of this letter, the Clerk wrote Messrs Hunt, requesting them to require Burgess to cut off the drain and failing compliance to authorise the Ranger to remove some of the pipes. On 2nd September they replied they were that day writing to Burgess "asking him to disconnect the drain forthwith."

The Clerk kept Mr. Portman fully advised of what took place.

Maresfield Committee Report

The Maresfield Committee present the following which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely:

Temporary Ranger

The Committee report that they have appointed Henry Walter of Dodds Bottom, Carpenter, as Temporary Ranger in place of Herbert Kirby, to devote two days a week to the work, and an evening a week when required at the salary of 12/- a week, the reasonable repairs to his bicycle to be defrayed by the Board. He served a week under Kirby and since 19th August last, has worked alone, and is quite satisfactory. It is necessary he should have a written Authority to act, which he can carry about with him, and the Committee recommend that such Authority should be provided and signed by the Clerk.

Sheds erected by Military

Two new Sheds have been created by the Military near Camps Hill Rifle Range 50 ft long x 20 ft and 7 ft high to eaves, completed on August 15th.

W. Burgess drain

Burgess' drain has not been disconnected from the Pond. The Sanitary Inspector has seen it with the Ranger and done nothing. Sewage still runs into the Pond. The Committee recommend that the Clerk write to the Sanitary Authority calling on them to take action and also to Messrs. Hunt & Co. informing them of the above, and that the Board are urging the Sanitary Authority to act.

Forest Spring at Dodds Bottom

Complaint has been made that the spring at Dodds Bottom is wasted by persons removing the bay or dam. There is enough water from natural overflow for washing, and could be carried away for the purpose in parts. A Mr. John Carr tenant of F. Pilbeam appears to be the offender. The Committee recommend that a letter be written by the Clerk to Mr. Pilbeam urging him to pacify the quarrel and prevent further interference with the dam of the spring.

Mrs. Fletcher Roseland Fairwarp

A letter dated the 29th ulto from Mrs. Fletcher of Roseland, Fairwarp asking for the clearance of growth that obstructs her view is considered and the Committee recommend that the Clerk reply explaining that Trees and Shrubs on the Forest are not under the jurisdiction of Conservators, but belong to the Lord of the Manor and that Mrs. Fletcher should apply to the Lord's Reeve, Mr. Hudson, for power to cut, or ask him to do so for her, but that if the Trees etc are on private property Mrs. Fletcher should arrange the matter with her neighbours.

It is resolved that the report be approved and adopted, and that the Clerk do provide the temporary Ranger with an authority and write the letters recommended in the Report.

Repair

The Maresfield Committee present a Bill of Tyhurst & Son for £2.1.5 for stoneware pipes used in carrying out the repair to the footpath from Fairwarp Village to Church authorised by the Board on the ** March last. It is Resolved that the Clerk do pay the amount out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Crowborough camp – complaint as to Commoners' cattle

The Clerk reports that in July last he received a letter from the Officer commanding the camp at Crowborough complaining that the cattle on the Forest strayed into the Camp causing great inconvenience and enquiring whether the Conservators could not keep them out. The Clerk replied on 10th July explaining the rights of the Commoners, and that the only remedy appeared to be for the Military under their powers to fence the Camp off.

F. Moon – cow injured

On 30th May the Officer commanding the camp at Maresfield forwarded to the Clerk a correspondence with Mr. F. Moon of Lower Buckyard Farm, Nutley, who had claimed compensation for his cow which fell into a trench a little to the north west of Whitehouse Farm and had to be killed. The Officer stated that no trench had been dug in that locality by the men under his command. The Clerk forwarded the papers to the Officer Commanding the Camp at Crowborough requesting him to enquire into the matter, and pointing out that trenches left open are a

constant source of danger to the Commoner's cattle, and should be filled in directly they cease to be required for Military purposes. The Clerk afterwards saw Mr. Moon and advised him to see the Commanding Officer at once, give him full particulars, and if possible arrange the compensation direct. As the Clerk has heard nothing further he concludes Mr. Moon adopted his advice.

Local Government Board Return

The Clerk lays on the table a Copy of the return made to the Local Government Board of the receipts and expenditure of the Conservators for the year 1915.

Mrs. Howard claim to rights

A few days ago Ranger Brown forwarded a letter from Mrs. Howard of Valley Holmes, Horsted Keynes, enquiring whether she was entitled to take litter from the Forest, or whether she could purchase it, and stating that she wrote to the Clerk on the subject 7 years ago, and received no reply. The Clerk can find no trace of such a letter, and it is contrary to his regular practice not to have acknowledged it when received. On 28th September last the Clerk wrote to Mrs. Howard explaining this and pointing out that only owners of property having Rights are entitled to turn out or take litter or brakes, that her name is not on the Schedule of Commoners, nor has she paid any rates, and he requested her to supply him with a plan and particulars of her property and if possible an old Abstract of Title, in order that he might see whether he can identify it with any of the lands mentioned in the Decree of 1693. The Decree only includes one small lot of land in Horsted Keynes, part of which pays rates, and the remainder it is almost impossible to identify. The Clerk pointed out to Mrs. Howard that an alternative method of establishing a claim is by showing user for 60 years and that if she could secure evidence to that effect from old people living in the neighbourhood, and would send the Clerk a plan of the property, and cause the witnesses to attend before the Conservators at 3.30 p.m. today, they would go fully into the matter, but so far he has heard nothing further from her, nor is anyone present on her behalf today.

F.E. Cockshott claims to rights

The Clerk also states he has received a somewhat similar application from Mr. F.E. Cockshott of Cookham's, West Hoathly, who seems to think that the matter can be cleared up in a day or two, but that it is one of those cases which requires an immense amount of research and the Clerk is doing his best to solve the question.

It is also Resolved that the Clerk see to the insurance of Acting Ranger Walter under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that the Honble H.B. Portman and Messrs Sandford and Turner be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts for the current year.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely:

H. Kirby	11 weeks salary as Ranger		
and house rent to 21st August last		£13.15.0	
Employers Insurance (11 weeks)		£0.2.9	
Also 7 weeks rent since he left		<u>£1.15.0</u>	
			£15.12.9
H. Walter	9 weeks salary as Acting Ranger		
at 12/- to 7th inst.		£5.8.0	
W. Brown	18 weeks salary as Ranger		
to 7th inst.		£18.0.0	
Employers Insurance (18 weeks)		<u>£0.4.6</u>	
			£18.4.6

Annual Meeting

It is Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners be held on Friday the 22nd December next at 11 a.m. and that the next Meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoners Meeting or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.45 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in Ashdown Forest, duly convened by the Clerk, by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two of the Newspaper circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, "The Sussex Express", and "The Sussex Daily News " at least 14 days before this date and by notice sent by post to every Commoner and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 22nd day of December, 1916, at Eleven o' clock in the forenoon.

Present

The Honble H.B. Portman in the Chair
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart
Colonel Needham
Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Thos. Osborne
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Sylvanus Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

Chairman

On the proposition of Mr. Freshfield seconded by Mr. Sandford, The Honble H.B. Portman is chosen Chairman and he, having taken the Chair the Clerk reads the notice convening the Meeting and reports the due publication thereof as above mentioned.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st instant are Messrs. James Card, Robert Kenward, George Maryon Maryon-Wilson and Albert Turner.

It is proposed by Mr. Joseph Ridley and seconded by Mr. Martin that Mr. James Card be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Sandford and seconded by Mr. William Carr that Mr. Robert Kenward be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Freshfield and seconded by Sir F.H. Champneys that Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Joseph Ridley and seconded by Mr. Kenward that Mr. Albert Turner be re-elected a Conservator.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley protested against the existing method of electing Conservators, that is, that each Commoner has a vote according to the extent of his rights of Common.

The Chairman having invited any other nominations and none being made, he declares the four Commoners who have been nominated duly elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Brakes appropriated by Military

Mr. Joseph Ridley moves that this Meeting of Commoners consent to relieve the Conservancy Board from holding Meetings the time the Military Authorities continue to make free use of the Forest and that the Commoners be relieved from paying Forest Rates until the Military cease to make free use of the Forest. Mr. Sylvanus Ridley seconds the motion on the ground that about the end of August last he spent 2 days in cutting brakes which were carried off by the Military and he had not received compensation for his labour.

The Clerk states it is a pity Mr. Ridley did not report the matter to him at the time as he would have taken action in the matter.

Mr. Freshfield states he thinks Mr. Ridley can scarcely realise that the only protection the Forest has had during the two years it has been occupied by the Military is what has been done by the Board and the Clerk, the trouble would have been far greater but for the exertions of the two Committees and the Clerk and that to stop the work of the Board at this time would be suicidal. As regards Mr. Sylvanus Ridley's point, had he informed the Clerk at the time there can be little doubt that the Military would have compensated him for the brakes.

The motion having been put there voted for it Mr. Joseph Ridley and Sylvanus Ridley and all the other Commoners present voted against it. The Chairman therefore declared the motion lost.

Estovers

Mr. Joseph Ridley states that when his son Mr. H. Jesse Ridley was recently cutting estovers of birch near Broadstone for use as fuel on the ancient hearth belonging to his son's wife, Ranger Brown informed his son that he was not entitled to cut birch of greater girth than 6 inches he (Mr. Ridley) contends that there is no custom limiting the girth of birch willow and alder which the Commoners may take for estovers. He further wishes the Conservators to take steps to re-establish the Commoners' ancient right to estovers.

Mr. Freshfield states there has been no difficulty as to estovers on his side of the Forest.

Mr. Joseph Ridley considers that their growth should be regulated so that each Commoner may have a fixed quantity.

The Clerk points out that if the Commoners, when cutting litter, instead of cutting everything that comes to the scythe, would spare the seedlings of birch, willow and alder, the supply would be materially increased and he adds that in the litigation of 1691 the Commoners claimed estovers for fuel only and can only claim such in respect of ancient hearths.

Mr. Freshfield states that if it had no been for the constant vigilance of the Committees and the action they have taken nearly all the estovers would have been cut down by the Military.

The Chairman undertakes on behalf of the Board that they will go into the whole matter.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley then moves and Mr. Joseph Ridley seconds that the Forest Rangers and Clerk be employed in breaking up and cultivating the Forest.

The Chairman rules that this proposal is outside the power of the Conservators to deal with.

Mr. James Card in thanking the Commoners for re-electing him expresses the opinion that considering the presence of the Military on the Forest the Commoners have no ground of complaint against the Board and that the supply of

estovers is so much better in the neighbourhood of Forest Row because the holdings of most of the small Commoners in that locality have been bought up by such people who have no occasion to exercise the right.

Mr. William Carr in thanking the Commoners for re-electing him states he believes the Lord claims estover woods when above 4½ or 5 inches in girth.

Mr. Kenward promises to continue to do his best in the interests of the Forest and he states that while in his experience the Commoners cattle thrive well on the Forest, the soil would not repay the labour of cultivating.

Mr. Wilson thanks the Commoners for the renewal of their confidence and promises that he will continue to do his best in their interests as he had done during the past 20 years.

On the motion of Mr. Sandford seconded by Mr. Freshfield a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for his conduct of the Meeting.

Mr. Portman in returning thanks for the compliments states he hopes they will always have free debate at these Meetings, but that it is rather difficult to regulate it when two or three gentlemen speak at the same time.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 22nd December, 1916, at Noon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Colonel Needham
Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Lt. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Sandford informs the Board that Mr. Turner's absence is due to his very serious illness and the Clerk is instructed to convey to him the great regret of the Conservators and their hope that he may be restored to health.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Conservators Election of

The Clerk produces and reads the following Certificate and It is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely:-

To Mr. W.A. Raper,
Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners, duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Inn, Nutley for the purpose of electing four Conservators in the place of those Conservators who retire from Office by rotation on the 31st December instant, I hereby intimate to you that at the said Meeting Mr. James Card, Mr. Robert Kenward, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson and Mr. Albert Turner were elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Dated this 22nd day of December 1916

H.B. Portman
Chairman

A letter is read from Mrs. Raper, the Widow of late Major R.G. Raper, thanking the Board of Conservators for the very kind expression of their sympathy with her in her bereavement.

Balances

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£164.0.1
2nd Ranger Fund	£46.9.4
Protection and Improvement Fund	£140.3.9

Defence of the Realm (Acquisition of Land) Bill.

The Clerk produces a print of the Defence of the Realm (Acquisition of Land) Bill as passed through the Commons Clause 13 of which excludes Commons from the operation of the Act.

Church path at Shepherds Gate

Mr. Freshfield reports that as the parties interested in the Church Path at Shepherds Gate have, so far, not responded to the invitation to contribute towards its repair, the Forest Row Committee have taken no action in the matter.

Privy at Pavilion Forest Row Recreation Ground

The Clerk reports that he wrote to Mr. Ashworth as directed at the last Meeting with regard to the privy on the Recreation Ground.

Drain at South end of Kidbrooke Park

The Clerk also wrote to Mr. Ashworth pointing out that the drain crossing the cart track on the South side of Kidbrooke Park had been destroyed by heavy Military traffic and that the flow of water thus blocked was rendering the cart road almost impassable and was causing other damage and requesting him to have the drain repaired and the damage made good. Mr. Ashworth replied that only led horses with no vehicles have occasionally used the track that the rough stone drain under it had become silted up with sand and used but as it was outside the boundary of the Camp, it is not considered to be work the Military should undertake. Ranger Brown states that the damage is due to the Military traffic as stated and It is Resolved that the Clerk write again to Mr. Ashworth to that effect and request him to have the stones replaced and the damage repaired.

Waste paper

The Clerk also wrote to the Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club inviting the co-operation of their Committee in inducing their Caddies and others to abstain from leaving waste paper on the Forest and received a reply that they will do all they can to stop the practice.

Military interference with pond near Greenhall

Mr. Martin states that the Military some time since polluted a pond on the Forest adjacent to Greenhall and recently cut the bank of the pond and drained off the whole of the water for the purpose of irrigating the lower part of the Camp, exposing the mud which gives off an offensive smell. It is Resolved that the matter may be referred to the Forest Row Committee to deal with, the Clerk to write to the Officer Commanding the Camp such a letter as shall be approved by the Committee, drawing his attention to the matter and requesting him to have the pond cleansed out and the Bank repaired.

Mrs. Shute's road

The Clerk reports that having failed to induce the Local Military Authorities to repair the road to Water Farm, which they asserted had not been used for heavy Military traffic, he attended at the Head quarters of the Southern Army in Pall Mall and explained the whole matter to them pointing out that the surface of the road between Mr. Barron and Mr. Methuen's properties had been squeezed into the side ditches by the passage of Military and of Military traction engines drawing hay etc. from Broadstones Farm and that the road thence to Mrs. Shute's house had been also cut up by heavy Military traffic and rendered unfit for vehicular traffic. The Officer promised to

enquire into the matter and the Clerk subsequently received a request from the War Department Land Agent for East Sussex to be supplied with a tracing from the 25 inch Ordnance Map showing the road which he has supplied. The whole difficulty appears to arise from the constant changing of the troops, so that one detachment does not know what its predecessors have done

R.A.F. Golf Club Appointment to reduce rent

A letter is read dated the 6th instant from Mr. E.P. Whitley Hughes, Chairman of the Committee of the R.A.F. Golf Club, applying for a reduction of the Annual amount payable by the Club to the Conservators, on the ground that very little golf is now played, that the Club was run at a loss during 1914 and 1915 and is likely to be run at a loss of £120 during the present year and stating that the De La Warr Trustees reduced the amount payable to them about 6 months ago. On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Freshfield, It is Resolved that having regard to the statements contained in Mr. Whitley Hughes' letter the payments due on the 25th inst. and on the 24th June next be reduced by one third part or £10:10:0 each, making a total reduction on the two payments of £21 and that the Clerk inform Mr. Whitley Hughes thereof.

Government Return

The Clerk reports that the Chairman forwarded him a Government Return to fill in, the object apparently being to obtain data in connection with food supply and as to what land can be utilised; and he produces a copy of the statement he furnished describing the extent of the Forest and the character of its surface and stating that practically all such portions as were capable of cultivation have long since been enclosed.

Syl. Ridley Application to alter boundary

An application from Sylvanus Ridley to straighten the boundary along the north front of a corner of Lower Spring Garden Wood and of the adjoining field, No. 770 on the Ordnance Map is considered and It is Resolved that the Clerk inform Mr. Ridley that the Board cannot sanction the alteration.

Spring at Dodd's Bottom repair of

The Maresfield Committee report that owing to the falling in of the adjacent soil it is desirable to put in a brick and concrete edge to the front of the Spring near Dodds Bottom, which was referred to at the last Meeting, the cost of which they estimate at about 30/-.

It is Resolved that they be authorised to carry out the work and that the expense thereof be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Burgess' drain

The Clerk reports that with regard to the pollution of the pond at Fairwarp by sewage discharged from Wm. Burgess' premises, he wrote on the 18th October last a letter approved by the Chairman, to the Clerk to the Uckfield Rural District Council setting out his previous communications with the Sanitary Authority and the evidence of their own road man and calling on them to take steps to stop the pollution and the consequent nuisance and danger to health and to the Commoners cattle. On the 9th instant he wrote again enquiring what action the Council is taking and received a reply that the Inspector of Nuisances has sent a notice for the nuisance to be abated. The Clerk points out that his first application to the Sanitary Authority on this matter was made on 7th June last.

Cutting of birch trees

Ranger Brown reports that between the 6th and 16th November last Mr. H. Jesse Ridley of Horney Common cut a number of pieces of birch on the Forest opposite the road into Broadstone Warren, varying from 8 to 13 inches in girth and amounting altogether in quantity to something under 2 cords. That on the 16th November he saw Mr. Ridley and drew his attention to a piece he had loaded on his van which measured fully 11 inches in girth and about 30 feet in length and informed him that he understood Commoners could not cut anything over 6 inches in girth. Mr. Ridley replied he should cut what he would and that it would save his having to buy so much coal. Ranger Brown states that Mr. Ridley resides with his wife in an ancient house on her property, which had rights on the Forest and Mr. Joseph Ridley states that the wood was cut for fuel to be used in that house.

The Clerk states there appears to be a tradition limiting the girth of estovers which the Commoners are entitled to cut, but that after long research he can find in document limiting the size and that in the proceedings in 1691 the Commoners appear to have claimed and been allowed estovers of birch, willow and alder only for fuel, the quantity taken by each Commoner to be limited to his ancient hearth. It is Resolved that the Clerk make enquiries whether there is any reputed limit to the girth and upon what authority it is based.

County Council application for road materials

The County Council of East Sussex having applied for the consent of the Conservators to take materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March 1918 namely:-

Central Road District – Mr. A.G. Tucker Surveyor.

Locality	Description of Material	Quantity cubic yds
Gravel pits in the neighbourhood of Kingstanding	Forest Gravel (from Chuck Hatch to Kingstanding)	100
Ditto	Forest Gravel (from Kingstanding to Friars Gate)	100
"Fox " Gravel pit near Duddleswell	Gravel (Crowborough and Maresfield Roads)	150

It is Resolved that consent be granted on the same condition as in previous years.

Proposed gate at Stone Gate

Mr. Joseph Ridley states that it would be a great convenience to the Commoners if a gate were erected at Stone Gate to prevent their Cattle straying off the Forest. It is Resolved that it be referred to the Maresfield Committee to enquire into the matter with power to act the cost if carried out to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Audit Committee Report

The Honble H.B. Portman, as Chairman of the Audit Committee, appointed at the last Meeting presents the report of the Committee which is read and It is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely:-

To The Conservators of Ashdown Forest:

We have examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account and (3) The Account of the Protection and Improvement Fund, each for the year 1916.

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 the casting of the Accounts and find them all correct and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the Accounts for the year viz:-

Account No. 1 General

The Clerk	½ years salary to 31st inst.	£50:0:0	
Do	Disbursements during year	<u>£25:17:10</u>	
			£75:17:10
Kirby Herbert	11 weeks house rent to 25th inst.	£2:15:0	
Walter Henry	11 weeks Salary as Acting Ranger to 25th inst. @ 12/-	£6:12:0	

Account No. 2. 2nd Ranger

Brown William	11 weeks Salary to 25th inst.	£11:0:0	
	11 weeks Employers insurance	<u>£0:2:9</u>	
			£11:2:9

The Clerk Disbursements during year £1:12:6

Protection and Improvement Fund

The Clerk	Sundry payments	
	Stamp Duty of W. Osborne's Licence	£0:2:6
	Brown Wm. compensation for damage to clothes etc.	£5:0:0
	Tyhurst & Son for pipes etc.	£2:7:5
	Waters H. & E. for erecting posts	£1:11:2
	Costs re Defence of Realm Bill	<u>£1:15:0</u>
		£16:18:1

Subject to adjustment of Messrs. H & E Waters account the balance standing to the credit to the credit of the several Accounts after the above mentioned cheques have been paid will be as follows:-

The General Account	£78:15:3
The Second Ranger Account	£33:14:1
The Protection and Improvement Fund	£123:5:8

and the sum of £159:15:4 Consols representing the investment of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

The Clerk reports that the following amounts of Forest Rate are outstanding:-

Appleby Mr. Horace	£0:1:6
Denham Captain Harold	£0:3:0
Hickmott Mrs.	<u>£0:0:6</u>
	£0:5:0

Dated this 19th December, 1916

H.B. Portman

Mark Sandford

It is Resolved that the report be approved that the accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Board in token of approval and that cheques be drawn as recommended. Also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to the Committee for the very thorough manner in which they have carried out their labours.

Cheques

The cheques recommended by the Committee to be drawn are then signed.

Ranger Brown bicycle repairs

Ranger Brown submits a bill for £1:9:5 for repairs to his bicycle and on the recommendation of the Forest Row Committee It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the 2nd Ranger Fund.

Ranger Walter bicycle repairs

Ranger Walter also submits a bill for 15/6 for repair of his bicycle and on the recommendation of the Maresfield Committee It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the General Fund.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday , the 23rd February next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 3.40 p.m.

Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 30th March, 1917 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Lt. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

On the proposition of Mr. Portman Seconded by Mr. Sandford It is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield do take the Chair.

Chairman – Election of for the year

Mr. Freshfield states he is sure that the members of the Board will agree with him that it is impossible to find a Chairman who can possibly show more interest in the work of the Conservancy or conduct the business in a more fair minded manner than Mr. Maryon-Wilson who is detained by public business elsewhere but will shortly be present and he had much pleasure in moving his re-election as Chairman of the Board for the current year. The motion having seconded is carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Kenward Seconded by Mr. Portman It is Resolved that a vote of thanks (which should have been moved at the last Meeting) be accorded to Mr. Maryon-Wilson for his able conduct of the business during the past year.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are then read and confirmed.

Committees

It is Resolved that Messrs. Freshfield, Martin and Midgley and Colonel Needham be the Committee for the Forest Row District for the current year.

Also that the Honble H.B. Portman and Messrs. Carr, Kenward, Sandford and Turner be the Committee for the Maresfield District for the current year.

Also that the Chairman of the Board Mr. Freshfield and Mr. Portman be the Committee to deal with all matters relating to the protection of the Forest from fire during the current year.

At this point Mr. Maryon Wilson joins the Meeting. Mr. Freshfield informs him of his re-election as Chairman and of the vote of thanks accorded to him and then vacates the Chair.

Mr. Maryon-Wilson having taken the Chair, apologises for his late appearance due to a meeting of the Executive Committee of the County War Agricultural Committee at Lewes and then tenders Mr. Freshfield and the other members of the Board his sincere thanks for the compliment they had paid him for re-electing him as Chairman for he believed the 18th year in succession. He would only appeal for the same support which the Board had given him in past years, when he felt sure that they would be able to show at the close of this year as good work accomplished as in previous years.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£89:3:3
2nd Ranger Account	£33:14:1
Protection and Improvement Fund	£148:0:6

Mr. A. Turner indisposition

A letter is read from Mr. Turner thanking the Board for the kind expression of their sympathy passed at the last Meeting.

Fires

Acting Ranger Walter reports that since the last Meeting the following fires have occurred on the Forest:

28 th January	6.30 p.m.	at Nutley Bank	about ¼ acre
30 th January	7.30 p.m.	between Duddleswell and Spring Gardens	About 20 rods
30 th January	10 p.m.	Near Misbourne Farm	About 10 rods
3 rd March	11 p.m.	Near Spring Gardens	About ½ acre
4 th March	10 a.m.	Several in different places a few rods each	
4 th March	10 a.m.	Between Barnsgate & Duddleswell	About 1 acre
4 th March	10 a.m.	On Whitehouse Hill	About 1 acre
4 th March	10 a.m.	At Fairwarp	About 1 acre
17 th March	10 a.m.	At Browns Brook	About 2 acres
18 th March	3 p.m.	Near Old Lodge	About 1 ½ acre
18 th March	5.30 p.m.	On Spring Garden Hill	About 1 acre
18 th March	10 p.m.	2 small fires near Putlands Farm	
24 th March	Noon	At Slaysham Hill	About 5 rods
25 th March	8 p.m.	Near Putlands Farm	About 10 rods
28 th March	2 p.m.	Near Spring Gardens	About ½ acre

Ranger Brown reports

17 th March	4 p.m.	between Nutley Windmill and Old Lodge	
28 th March	3 p.m.	opposite Rushey Bottom	About 1 rod
28 th March	4.45 p.m.	near road from Wych Cross to Chelwood Gate	About 1 rod

Fires origin of

The following report from Acting Ranger Walter is read namely:-

March 5th 1917

Hy Walter

To Mr. Raper

Forest Ranger

Dear Sir,

In answer to your letter February 14th In reference to the cause of fires on the Forest I am certain that at least 60 percent are started by children especially those that occur in the daytime and early evenings. I believe it might do some good if the school masters at Nutley and Fairwarp were asked to point out to the children the seriousness of the offence and I think it had ought to be unlawful for children to have matches in their possession under sixteen as I believe that is one of the greatest causes of fires throughout the country. There is no doubt that traction engines cause several fires that start by the roadsides and some are lit by persons to get the dead wood later on and some are started for wanton mischief. The majority of the people living about the Forest as much detest the fires as anyone and the wilful firing is all done I believe by a few incorrigibles that still have the idea that fires are the poor people's argument but that idea has died out. I am pleased to say considerably of late years. I hope the Conservators will allow me to use certain days and Sundays at my own discretion when weather and wind are favourable for fires instead of doing my usual rounds. I enclose Mr. Sylvanus Ridley & Co. letter for your perusal.

Yours truly

Hy Walter

School teachers to warn

The Chairman of the Maresfield Committee undertakes to communicate with the Head Teachers of the Nutley, Fairwarp and Pound Gate Schools with regard to the expediency of their warning the children against the offence of lighting fires on the Forest and the great danger caused thereby.

Mr. Freshfield undertakes to do the same as regards the Birch Grove School.

Mr. Portman states that he is glad to notice that the Police have given assistance to extinguish fires on 2 or 3 occasions and to note the valuable assistance rendered by the son of Mr. W.H. Cowan M.P. and other residents and he further states that Acting Ranger Walter has worked very strenuously in extinguishing fires and on one occasion was completely exhausted by his efforts.

It is Resolved that Acting Ranger Walter be authorised to carry out his suggestion to put in his time on the Forest on days he considers most favourable for fires.

Mr. Ridley states that in his opinion the coarse gorse and heather should be cut or else burnt in the day time and on his motion seconded by Mr. Portman it is Resolved that the Clerk do write to the Officer Commanding the Camp at Crowborough explaining the grave danger arising from fires on the Forest, especially the danger that such fires at night may attract hostile aircraft and apply to him for assistance in cutting the big gorse and heather for the prevention of fires and in extinguishing fires when they occur.

Defence of Realm (Acquisition of Land) Act

The Clerk reports that the Defence of the Realm (Acquisition of Land) Act received the Royal Assent last session including Clause 13 mentioned at the last Meeting.

Mrs. Shute's road

The Clerk reports that he has heard nothing since the last Meeting from the War Department Land Agent for East Sussex with reference to making good the damage to the road from Water Farm, but was recently informed by the War Department that the Road Board are the authority to deal with the matter. He thereupon called at the Road Board Offices and interviewed one of the principal Officials and was informed that if he will supply particulars of damage done, by whom and approximate dates with a Map indicating the Road, the matter shall receive the attention of the Board.

Forest Road Fairwarp Vicarage to Village

Acting Ranger Walter reported in January last that the Military at Maresfield Camp have been using the Forest Road between Fairwarp Vicarage and Village very much and that in places it is now impassable. He is therefore taking steps to put this case also before the Road Board.

R.A.F. Golf Club deduction of rent

The Clerk reads a letter dated 22nd January last from the Secretary to the R.A.F. Golf Club conveying to the Board from the Committee of the Club their cordial appreciation of the consideration shown to the Club by the Conservators in reducing their rent.

Road Authorities applications for road materials

Applications are read from the East Grinstead Rural District Council and from the Uckfield Rural District Council for permission to take from the Forest during the year ending 31st March 1918 the same quantity of road material as last year, namely, the former 130 yards of gravel near Kingstanding and the latter 130 yards of gravel

It is Resolved that licence be granted to them to take the same, subject to the same terms and conditions as the licences granted to them last year.

Military Acts

Mr. Freshfield on behalf of the Forest Row Committee gives a resume of the work done since the last Meeting in relation to damage and encroachments made by the Military on the Forest and states that the Clerk will report to the Meeting more fully on some of the matters.

Culvert under road adjoining Kidbrooke Park and adjoining Greenhall

The Clerk reports that no satisfactory reply having been obtained from the Military at Forest Row with regard to the restoration of the stone drain under the Forest track adjoining the pale of Kidbrooke Park or of the repair of the track which had been gullied out by the blocking of the storm water or of the annoyance caused by the draining of the Pond adjoining Greenhall, he, on the 10th instant interviewed Col. Sir John Jervis, the Commandant at the Camp and explained to him that the Conservators are appointed by Parliament to protect the Forest from trespasses and to preserve it in its natural condition and that their duty is to enforce the Bye Laws sanctioned by the Home Secretary Sir John stated that he was not previously aware of their legal position. After some discussion, Sir John promised to give instructions for the repair of the stone drain under the track and the restoration of the track itself. As regards the Pond adjoining Greenhall he stated that he constantly passed the spot and that whereas the Pond was previously foul the mud now gives off no offensive odour but that if when the warm weather returns it should become offensive he will see what can be done and that he will communicate with the Conservators with regard to any future work that may be required on the Forest. The Clerk has since received from Sir John Jervis an application to break up ground on the Forest for the production of vegetables and to take turf for making borders with regard to these applications he has referred Sir John to the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee, who arranged with the Clerk to deal with the applications and he reads the correspondence that has passed between himself and Sir John Jervis.

Ranger Brown reports that subsequent to these applications he visited the Camp at Forest Row and saw Q.M.S Bishop who acknowledged Sir John Jervis' promise to have the stone drain reinstated but so far the work had not been done. He also saw Major Groves and pointed out a spot on the Tompsetts Bank side of the highroad to Wych Cross opposite the top of Kidbrooke Park where the turf required for borders should be cut.

Mr. Freshfield states that he has received no application for additional land nor has Ranger Brown to whom he indicated some of his own land in the vicinity of a better quality than Forest Land which he was prepared to place at the disposal of the Military for growing vegetables. He concludes therefore that Sir John Jervis' application for land was really made for the purpose of obtaining the approval of the Board to the land already broken up.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Officer Commanding a letter to be approved by Mr. Freshfield stating that the Conservators assume the last application to break up land was intended to apply to the land already broken up informing him that Ranger Brown had been authorised to point out a spot from which the Board would not object to turf being cut for borders, again requesting that the stone drain be repaired and the track gullied but be filled up and made passable and informing that the Board have assented to the application next hereinafter mentioned understanding that it is in accordance with his wishes.

Y.M.C.A. marquee

The Secretary of the Y.M.C. Association having applied to the Clerk for permission to make provision for the accommodation of additional troops by erecting a marquee on the Forest near the existing Pavilion. After communicating with the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee, the Clerk informed the Secretary that no objection will be raised to the erection of the Marquee provided the Association first obtain the sanction of the Military Authority. It is Resolved that the action taken by the Clerk be approved and confirmed.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and It is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely:-

Maresfield Committee
Report March 30th 1917

Repairs Recommended March 1916

Dodds Bank school path

£1 granted by Board – now completed Water Table renewed. Drainage Gutters re-cut surface repaired with stone. Inspected on Completion by Messrs. Portman & Carr.

Cost £4:5:0

Spring above Pilbeam's

This work Recommended at Board December 1916 now completed. New Sill Brick and Cement. 5 Courses and rounded coping – A second spring which did damage by waste collected by Pipe into above. Overflow Pipe 2½ inch inspected by Messrs. Portman and Carr on completion.

Estimate 30/- Cost 23/7

The sum total £ 5:8:7 for above works apply for payment out of Protection and Improvement Fund

Forest Track Fairwarp Vicarage to village

This has been in a very bad state at Village and owing to Military use. The Committee are of opinion that it is useless to repair now and that the Military should be further pressed to repair.

Fires

Sunday March 18th about 7 fires 3 acres near Old Lodge, 3 or 4 small fires from south of Fairwarp School to Mr. S. Townsend's and Duddleswell, 2 fires from Lisburn to Duddleswell in Hollow and on Bank. Ranger out to at work from 3 p.m. till 11.30 p.m. and was worn out or would have caught 1 man.

Sat. Sun. March 24, 25 several fires.

March 30th a fire burning while Committee sitting. Police assistance was given on several occasions, also assistance from young Mr. Cowan – Crows Nest and from 3 Foresters.

Recommend Letter be written by Board to C.O. Crowborough Camp asking for assistance of Military in cases of Forest Fires.

H.B. Portman – Chairman
Maresfield Committee

It is Resolved that the acts and proceedings of the Committee as reported be approved and that the sum of £ 5:8:7 be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Sylvanus Ridley alteration of boundary

The Clerk reports that after the last Meeting he wrote to Mr. Sylvanus Ridley informing him that the Board cannot sanction the bringing out of his boundary along the north front of Lower Spring Garden Wood and the adjoining field and by his instruction Acting Ranger Walter took measurements at that point. On 4th March Walter reported that Mr. Ridley had began to take in his frontage on 1st instant and has now brought out his fence to within 6 ft of the edge of the road, Mr. Albert Turner informed the Clerk that the land and road in question are outside the jurisdiction of the Conservators and on the examining the Award Map in Mr. Turner's custody, the Clerk found that they are excluded from the boundary of the Forest as coloured on the Award Map.

William Burgess drain

The Clerk reports that the Uckfield Rural District Council at their Meeting on the 22nd January last considered a letter from Mr. Burgess stating that her husband is away on Military Service and it was difficult to make the alterations required by the Council to the drain. The Council, however, decided that the work must be carried out notwithstanding.

Acting Ranger Walter reports that up to the present nothing has been done to the drain.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write again to the Council urging them to see that the work is carried out without further delay on the ground that the danger to the Commoners' cattle still continues and warmer weather will increase the danger to the neighbours.

Proposed gate at Stone Gate

The Clerk reports that after the last Meeting he wrote to Messrs Hunt and Co. with reference to the proposal to re-erect a Gate on the Boundary of the Forest at Stone Gate and that on 1st January last Mr. Nicholson replied that he saw no reason why the Conservators should not renew this Gate provided any right of ***** commonage is not

interfered with and that he presumed the Gate would not be locked. The Clerk replied that there is no intention of locking the Gate it should be put up.

On the motion of Mr. Midgley seconded by Mr. Ridley It is Resolved that it be an instruction to the Maresfield Committee to erect a suitable gate and posts on the site of the ancient Gate, such Gate not to be locked and the cost to be defrayed out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Application to cut turf

The Head Gardener at Heron's Ghyll applied to the Clerk on 20 instant to sell him a few yards of turf for potting. The Clerk replied that there is no power to sell turf off the Forest, but that on the contrary it is the duty of the Conservators to prevent its being cut.

Complaint as * Sheep**

The Clerk reads a letter dated the 15th January last from Mr. A.E. Bellairs of Stone House, asking whether some remedy can be found to restrict owners of sheep from allowing their flocks to wander on the Forest at night as well as by day, as, for want of food on the Forest, they break through private hedges and have done considerable damage in vegetable gardens especially among the Cottagers and enquiring whether there is any law compelling Owners of sheep to pen their Cattle at night.

It is Resolved that the Clerk inform Mr. Bellairs that the obligation is on the owners and occupiers of land adjoining the Forest to maintain a sufficient fence against the Commoners stock and that the Conservators have no power to compel a Commoner to pen or otherwise restrain the stock he turns out on the Forest either in the day or during the night.

Acting Ranger Walter agreement

On the recommendation of the Maresfield Committee It is Resolved that an agreement be entered into with Acting Ranger Walter as from the 31st instant to carry out his duties and devote to them 2 days a week and 1 evening a week if and when required by the Committee, the days and evening to be fixed from time to time by the Committee the Board to pay him 12/- per week and at the rate of 7d per hour for overtime when authorised by them and for the reasonable repairs of his bicycle. The agreement to be approved by the Committee and to be signed by the Clerk for and on behalf of the Board.

A.B. Medhurst claim to rights

Mr. A.B. Medhurst, tenant of Castle Farm and Water Farm at Hartfield belonging to Earl De La Warr, having enquired of Ranger Brown whether he has the right to out litter on the Forest in respect of these Farms, Ranger Brown informed him that rights attach to Water Farm but not to the Castle Farm. It is Resolved that the Clerk look into the matter and report to the next Meeting.

Gate near Woodlands Nursery

A letter is read dated the 27th instant from Mr. Rentoul, Clerk to the Parish Council of Maresfield, pointing out that the Forest Gate near Woodlands Nursery is completely broken down and requires renewing in order to prevent Cattle straying off the Forest. Acting Ranger Walter reports that in September last the Military from Maresfield Park broke the Gate, took it off its hinges and threw it by the road side.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Officer Commanding at Maresfield Park inform him thereof and request him to have it repaired, failing which the Maresfield Committee be authorised to do what is necessary the cost, if not refunded by the Military, to be charged to the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Rate required

The Clerk reports that the rate made on 13th October 1915 will be practically exhausted by the next Meeting. On the motion of Mr. Kenward seconded by Mr. Portman It is 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 states that he has looked into the question of estover with reference to the case of Mr. Jesse Ridley reported at the last Meeting and is prepared with a verbal report. It is Resolved that he do put his report into writing and present it to the next Meeting for consideration.

Bill Protection and Improvement Fund

The Clerk submits a bill from Mr. Job Luxford for fencing near Ashdown Place amounting to £2:16:6. It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely:-

Walter Hy. 14 Weeks salary as Acting	
Ranger to 2nd prox. @ 12/-	£8:8:0
Brown Wm. ditto	£14:0:0
14 Weeks insurance	£0:3:6
	£14:3:6
Kirby H. 14 Weeks house rent	
to 2nd prox.	£3:10:0

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 11th May next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m.
G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 18th May, 1917, at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson, in the Chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books, which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account	£77.8.3
2nd Ranger Fund	£19.10.7
Protection & Improvement Fund	£139.2.5

Fires

The Clerk reports that since the last Meeting the following fires have occurred on the Forest:

Reported by Ranger Brown

30th March	7.30 p.m.	Between Whitehouse Farm & Jumpers Town	about ½ acre
8th April	5.30 p.m.	Top of Millbrook Hill	about ¼ acre
24 th April	6 p.m.	Top of Millbrook Hill	about ½ acre

24 th April	6 p.m.	Top of Millbrook Hill	about ½ acre
24 th April	7 p.m.	Opposite Mrs. Low's house	About ½ rod
27 th April	Between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.	Commencing near Chuck Hatch to Withyham Road & Greenwood Clump, burnt great part of Wrens Warren included. Supposed to have been caused by a Traction Engine, owner unknown. Police and Lord De La Warr's Reeve assisted, Crowborough Fire Brigade called by, Lady Norbury arrived just as fire got cut.	About 900 acres
28 th April	11.00 a.m.	At Hollies Down	about 1 ½ acres
28 th April	Between 9 p.m. and 12.30 a.m.	Between Wych Cross & Chelwood Gate Adjoining Blacksmith forge field	About 30 rods
		Near Isle of Thorns Farm.	About 30 rods
		Opposite the Gate Those 3 supposed to have been caused by 4 boys from Dane Hill	About 10 rods
		Opposite the Gate. Supposed to have been caused by 2 soldiers	About 5 rods
29 th April	3 p.m.	Near Sutton's Farm towards Twyford	About 1 ½ acres
30 th April	3 p.m.	At Rushey Bottom	About ¼ acre
	7 p.m.	By Chapel Cottages at Chelwood Gate. 2 boys seen running away by Edw. Billings who will not give the names.	About 5 rods
1 st May	5 p.m.	Near top of Kidds Hill	About 15 rods
3 rd May	5 p.m.	At Chuck Hatch	About ¼ acre
	9 a.m.	Large fire South side of top of Kidds Hill. This fire burnt into Old Lodge Park and Pippingford	Many acres
	2 p.m. to 8 p.m.	From Wrenn's Warren to New Lodge. Supposed to have been caused by Traction Engine, owner unknown. Assistance given by Military from Forest Row & Crowborough Camps	Many acres
	5 p.m.	Opposite Mrs. Low's Tompsetts Bank	About 1 rod
5 th May	7.15 p.m.	At Rushy Bottom	About 10 rods
12 th May	5 p.m.	Near Wych Cross road to Nutley	About 15 rods
13 th May	11 a.m.	At Jumpers Town	About 1 acre
13 th May	3 p.m.	Opposite entrance to Greenwood Gate. This supposed to have been caused by soldiers.	About ½ acre

Reported By Acting Ranger Walter

30 th March	3 p.m.	At Marl pits	About ½ acre
5 th April	5 p.m.	Ditto	About 30 rods
5 th April	11 a.m.	At Jumpers Town	About 1 acre
7 th April	3 p.m.	Nutley Bank 3 fires. Said to have been caused by children.	About ½ acre
8 th April	6.30 p.m.	Near Courtlands Gate. Supposed to have been caused by traction engine. Engine driver unknown.	About ¼ acre
8 th April	8.30 p.m.	Near Duddleswell	About 20 rods
15 th April	3 p.m.	At Spring Gardens	About 3 acres

17 th April	11 a.m.	Near Misbourne	
17 th April	7.30 p.m.	At Marl pits	
17 th April	8.30 p.m.	Two on Stone Hill	
20 th April	8.30 p.m.	Two on Stone Hill. Near caught to perpetrator	
21 st April		Furze bush near Fords Green started by Alfred Moon aged 12 and Edward Turner aged nine. Ranger took over 500 loose matches from Moon and took the boys to Mr. A. Turner.	
22 nd April	8 p.m.	Small fire near Putlands Farm	
23 rd April	4 p.m. 8.30 p.m.	Two fires near Misbourne Farm	About 3 acres
24 th April	4 p.m. 5 p.m. 8 p.m. 9.30 p.m.	At Fairwarp At Millbrook At Fairwarp At Marl pits	About 5 acres
25 th April	4 p.m.	At Crows Nest near Misbourne Farm. Wilfully lit by unknown person.	About ½ acre
28 th April		On Spring Garden Hill On Stone Hill. Both lit by children	About 1 acre About 1 acre
29 th April	3 p.m.	At Millbrook. 3 children seen to run away from spot by Policeman ¾ mile off.	About 2 acres
30 th April	1 p.m.	Near Old Lodge Thought to have been caused by soldiers carelessly throwing down matches or cigarette ends – strong wind.	About 10 acres
30 th April		Near Crows Nest	About 6 acres
1 st May		At Marl pits At Stone Hill	About ½ acre About ½ acre
2 nd May	7 p.m.	At Nutley Bank. Children playing near shortly before.	About ½ acre
3 rd May	6 a.m.	On Whitehouse Hill On Camphill At Millbrook Ranger believes two of these were wilfully started	About 200 acres About 50 acres About 1 ½ acres
3 rd May		Two fires at Mardens Hill. Caused it is believed by sparks from engines carting pit props from Crowborough Warren.	About 80 acres
4 th May	11.30 a.m.	On Whitehouse bottom. Put out by military from Maresfield Camp and others.	About 100 acres
4 th May	10 p.m.	On Vetchery Bank. Both these believed to be wilful.	About 5 acres
5 th May	11.30 a.m.	Near Nutley Bank	About 10 rods
6 th May	2.30 p.m.	At Marl pits. Also burnt 150 yards of hedge and shed and stack. Believed to be wilful.	About 3 acres
7 th May	10 a.m.	Near Misbourne	About 30 rods
8 th May	p.m.	On Lower Camp Field	About 2 acres
9 th May	10 a.m.	At Crows Nest	About 2 acres
9 th May	10 a.m.	Near Camp Field Rough	About 5 acres
10 th May	9 p.m.	Near Putlands Farm	About 10 rods
11 th May	9 p.m.	Near Spring Gardens. Last two believed lit by children.	About 10 rods
13 th May	noon	At Rough Ground	About 1 acre
13 th May	2 p.m.	At Greenwood Gate	About ¾ acre

13 th May	9 p.m.	Near Misbourne	About 5 rods
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Mr. Freshfield states that he believes that only one of the fires in the Forest Row District was the act of an incendiary.

Alfred Moon Prosecution

The Board then considered (in Committee) the case of Alfred Moon reported by Acting Ranger Walter to have set fire to gorse near Fords Green on the 21st April last, and it is Resolved that the Clerk give Ranger Walter instructions to prosecute Moon at the Uckfield Bench on Thursday next.

Traction engines sparks

It is Resolved that Ranger Brown do supply the Clerk with the names and addresses of all owners of traction engines which cross the Forest in his District and that the Clerk write to them calling on them to fix spark catches to their engines and warning them that they will be held responsible for any damage done to the Forest by sparks from their engines.

Warnings by school teachers

Mr. Portman reports that he communicated with the teachers at the four schools in his neighbourhood, and learnt that they have already impressed and will continue to impress on their scholars the danger and wickedness of lighting fires on the Forest, and the severe penalties imposed by the War Legislation.

On Mr. Kenward's suggestion it is Resolved that the Fire Committee do draw up a short notice on the subject to be printed for hanging up in the schools and circulating among the scholars.

Military assistance to extinguish fires and cut big gorse

The Forest Row Committee report that they have arranged with the Military at Forest Row camp to assist in extinguishing fires.

And the Clerk reports the Officer Commanding the camp at Crowborough promised similar assistance, and also assistance to cut gorse and coarse heather.

The following report of the Forest Row Committee is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes. It is as follows:

The Forest Row Committee met at Wych Cross Place on the 15th May – Present Mr. D. Freshfield, Mr. E. Martin, Mr. L.L. Midgley.

The Chairman reported that the Clerk to the Board had communicated a letter from the C.O. Forest Row camp undertaking to carry out the work needful to restore the drain & road on the Forest at the S.E. corner of the Kidbrooke Park paling & that the Ranger informed him this had been done.

It was further reported –

That a certain amount of dead furze had been cut by the soldiers & inhabitants near the camp at Highgate, that the soldiers had (in consequence of the complaints of a Commoner) been stopped from watering their horses at the pond near Goat Farm & had been directed by the Ranger to other springs available on the Forest.

That the soldiers in the Forest Row Camp had on several occasions assisted in putting out fires on the Forest & in private property.

That the Chairman had directed the Ranger to furnish the Clerk as far as possible with a list of the traction engines working on the Forest, & that he had himself written to the Army Timber Agent at Tunbridge Wells on the subject, & the latter had promised that all his engines should in future be provided with spark catchers.

The Committee considered the report of the Ranger with regard to the recent very extensive fires. While a certain proportion of them may be due to traction engines, many others are undoubtedly due either to children, or to wilful incendiarism on the part of youths who have so far escaped conscription.

The Committee submit that steps should be taken to check those fires which destroy the larger & more valuable growths on the Forest, the property of the Lord or the Commoners, and cause permanent disfigurement & loss to the district, as well as being a serious danger to all adjacent properties.

The only effectual method would seem to be to divide the Forest into blocks by cutting lanes through the gorse & heather & round the principal groups of trees & then burn blocks from time to time under proper control. To carry this out the Board would have to employ more labour & levy a larger rate on the Commoners. Bare borders should also be cut along the highroads used by traction engines. It would also be expedient to authorise owners of property lying in or adjacent to the Forest to cut a protection strip along their boundaries.

Cut & burn gorse

On the motion of Mr. Portman seconded by Mr. Kenward it is Resolved that the Fire Committee be authorised to carry out next Autumn the recommendation of the Committee as to cutting and burning the undergrowth, the cost to be defrayed out of the Protection & Improvement Fund and that the question of employing additional men to patrol the Forest during the fire season, proposed by the Chairman be taken into consideration by the Board at their first Meeting in 1918.

Foul water

The Forest Row Committee further report that foul water from washing the Military motors runs past the pond near Green Hall into the stream below and pollutes it.

It is Resolved that the Clerk draw the attention of the Local Sanitary Inspector to the nuisance and call on him to take immediate action, and refer him if necessary to Mr. Martin for any further information.

Military digging additional land

The Committee further report that Ranger Brown reported this morning that the Military at Forest Row have dug up an additional piece of land on the Forest and are beginning to fence it, that Mr. Freshfield wrote to the Officer Commanding drawing his attention to the assurance he recently gave that application would be made to the Board before any more ground was broken up, and that the Office Commanding had replied that the ground in question was badly cut up, and he proposes next year to lay it down and turn it into a parade ground. It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee do keep the matter under observation.

East Grinstead Gas & Water Co. claim to lay pipes to pavilion

The Clerk reports that on the 4th April last he received notice from the East Grinstead Gas & Water Co. of their intention to lay gas and water on to the Pavilion on the Forest Row Recreation Ground, to which he replied pointing out that an application should be made to the Board for their consent, accompanied by a plan showing the route. He received in reply a plan and a statement that the work was covered by existing licences. The Clerk then pointed out that the licence of 6th December, 1912 gives permission to lay a water pipe to the pavilion by a different route, but that no licence has been granted to lay a gas pipe to the Pavilion. After conferring with the Chairman the Clerk granted permission to lay both pipes in the same trench on condition that the Company properly ram the dirt and restore the surface after laying the pipes and after removing them.

It is Resolved that the action of the Clerk in the matter be approved and confirmed.

Burgess' drain

The Clerk reports that on the 3rd April last he wrote to the Uckfield Rural District Council requesting to be informed what action they had taken in regard to Wm. Burgess' drain and received a reply dated the 18th April last that the nuisance has been abated and that the Council keep the nuisance under observation, and take such steps as may be necessary if the nuisance recurs. As it is not clear whether the drain has been disconnected the Clerk instructed Ranger Walter to keep observation on the Pond and report if there should be any indication of the drain being used.

The Maresfield Committee report that the drain was inspected only 3 or 4 days ago and it was then found to be discharging into the pond. It is Resolved that Ranger Walter do remove a sufficient number of the pipes to prevent the drain discharging into the pond, ramming and properly restoring the surface and that he do deposit the pipes he removes on Mr. Burgess' property.

Stonegate new gate

They further report that they have erected a new gate at Stonegate as decided on at the last Meeting and that it was found necessary to put a length of fencing on each side of the gate, the total cost being £4.6.10.

New gate At Woodlands

Also that they ascertained that the Forest Gate near Woodlands Nursery was not broken by the Military but by some car or van, and that they have had a cost of £ 1.15.6.

It is Resolved that both the above mentioned amounts be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Fairwarp Reading Room danger of fire

They also report that Mr. Alexander Findlay agent for Maresfield Park Estate has pointed out that the furze cut near the Reading Room at Fairwarp and some adjacent growing furze are a danger to the Room if a Forest fire should occur there and they recommend that Acting Ranger Walter be directed to burn what is already cut and to cut and burn so much of the adjacent growing furze as constitutes a danger. It is Resolved that Walter be instructed to carry out the recommendation of the Committee.

Acting Ranger Walter – agreement for service

The Maresfield Committee lay on the table the agreement with Acting Ranger Walter for his Service, approved by them, and signed by Walter.

Acting Ranger Walter – overtime etc.

The Committee also report that a sum of £1.12.1 is due to Acting Range Walter for overtime and 7/9 for a torch which the Committee authorised him to procure. It is Resolved that the two amounts be paid to him out of the General Fund.

Estovers

The Clerk reports that he has the subject of estovers still under consideration.

Military underground cable

Acting Ranger Walter reports that on the 22nd April last he found the Military from Crowborough Camp were digging a cable trench from the Butts at Old Lodge across Camp Hill to a point about 200 yards North West of Crows Nest House for marking Machine Gun firing at long range cross the Main Road to Tunbridge Wells and have constructed a Machine Gun emplacement at the end of the trench and have used the range for firing for the past fortnight. It is Resolved that his report be noted in the Minutes.

Rate

The Clerk having reported that the funds in hand will be exhausted by payment of the current liabilities and having produced an estimate of the annual expenses. It is proposed by Mr. Portman seconded by Mr. Kenward 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 – 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 6 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 hereinafter set out, namely:-

Name	Address	Acreage	Amount £	s	d
Abbey & Sons	Kemp Town Brewery, Seymour Street,	15	0	7	6

	Brighton				
Adams, Mr. Albert Alfred	Prospect House, Burgess Hill, Sussex	2 ½	0	1	6
Amps, James William Esq.	Khartoum, Magdalen Road, Bexhill	65:2:24	1	13	0
Andrews, Miss & others	Linden Towers Tunbridge Wells	½	0	0	6
Appleby Mr. Horace	Nutley Uckfield	½	0	0	6
Arbuthnot, Miss Dorothy	50 Carlisle Mansions, Victoria Street, London SW (late Arbuthnot)	15 ½	0	8	0
Arbuthnot W.R. Esq. Decd. The Repres, of	C/o James McFarlane Esq., Great Bentley, Cuckfield	114 ½	2	17	6
Ashdown, Mr. Thomas	Ivy Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham	1 ½	0	1	0
Avis, Mr ****	The Hollies, Fryars Gate Withyham	1 ½	0	1	0
Baker Mr. Matthias	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Baker Mr. William	Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Ballard & Co. Messrs.	Brewers, Lewes	2 ½	0	1	6
Barchard, Misses. A.E. & E.E.	Campfield Rough. Fairwarp, Uckfield	1:0:15	0	1	0
Barron, J.W. Esq.	Yew Tree Hall, Forest Row, Sussex	4 ½	0	2	6
Bashford, Mr. John	Forest Row, Sussex	15	0	7	6
Bailey, Sir Abe, K.C.M.G.	c/o A.E.N. Ward Esq., 65 London Wall, London E.C.	180	4	10	0
Bedwell, Mr. Charles	Nutley, Uckfield	9:0:29	0	5	0
Begbie, Harold Esq.	Spyways Hartfield, Sussex (late Clough)	5	0	2	6
Bellairs, A.E. Esq.	Stone House, Forest Row	37	0	18	6
Bellingham, Mrs. Elizabeth	Salisbury House, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	5:2:37	0	3	0
Bennett, Mr. J.	Furners Green, Dane Hill, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Bennett, Mr. George	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:4	0	0	6
Birch, Fredk. Peregrine	C/o Messrs. Birch & Co., Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC	3:3:12	0	2	0
Birch, Francis J.P. Esq.	Old End, Forest Row, Sussex	41	1	0	6
Box Mr. Richard	Rozell Lodge, 329 Hainault Road, Leytonstone, London	3	0	1	6
Brassey, The Hon. Earl	C/o Messrs. Bird & Potter, 28 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.	11-1-22	0	6	0
Brassey, The Rt. Countess	C/o W.W.S. Follett Esq., Broomhill, Crowborough, Sussex	95:2:14	2	8	0
Browning Mr. William	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	9½	0	5	0
Budd Budd Fred.	Restlands West Hoathly East Grinstead	145	3	12	6
Burns, L.B. Esq.	Chuck Hatch, Hartfield, Sussex	12	0	6	0

Burns, Mrs. Clementina	Andrews Bank, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Card, Mr. A.	Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row (late Goard)	2 ³ / ₄	0	1	6
Card, Mr. James	Golf View, Ashdown Forest, Forest Row, Sussex	4 ¹ / ₂	0	2	6
Carr. Mr. William	Nutley, Uckfield	27:3:31	0	14	0
Carter, George C.	34 Clarence Street, Kingston on Thames	4	0	2	0
Champneys, Sir F.H. Bart	Littlemead, Nutley, Uckfield	7 ³ / ₄	0	4	0
Clarke Stephenson, Mrs.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	133:3:13	3	7	0
Clarke, Lt. Col Stephenson R	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	56:2:0	1	8	6
Clarke, Chas Bridges Orme Esq.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London (late Du Croz)	62:2:7	1	11	6
Clough, A.H. Esq.	Castletop, Burnley, Ringwood, Hants	434:1:24	10	17	6
Cohen, Nathaniel L. Esq.	11 Hyde Park Terrace, London (late Du Croz)				
Colchester The Rt. Hon. Lord	c/o E.P. Whitley & Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	213	5	6	6
Constable, Mrs. Lucy S.	Fords Bank, Horney Common, Uckfield	2:2:28	0	1	6
Cook, Miss	The Hall Nutley Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Cooper, Ernest Esq.	C/o Turner Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	140	3	10	0
Corbett, Chas. Henry Esq.	Woodgate, Dane Hill Park Uckfield	248:1:24	6	4	6
Cowan, W.H.	Crows Nest, Fairwarp, Uckfield	6:2:20	0	3	6
Dadswell, Mr. Alfred repres.	C/o Miss Fullegar & H. Watson, Ballards Hill, Goudhurst, Kent	1	0	0	6
Darwin, Major Leonard R.E.	12 Egerton Place, London SW 3	33 ¹ / ₂	0	17	0
De La Warr, The Rt. Hon. Muriel Countess	C/o W.W.S. Follett Esq., New University Club, St. James St., London	9:0:4	0	5	0
Denham, Captain Harold A.	The Crossways, Hartfield, Sussex	5:3:32	0	3	0
Dodge, Mrs. Mary Hoadley	C/o Messrs. Blount, Lynch & Petre, 48 Albermarle Street, London W.	11:1:30	0	6	0
De Lutteshaw, Miss Celina and Meyers, Miss Katherine	Solvane, Birch Grove, East Grinstead	6:3:1	0	3	6
Dowson, Hugh Emerson, Esq.	Landhurst Wood, Hartfield, Sussex	14:3:16	0	7	6
Du Croz, Charles Grant Esq.	Court Lands West Hoathly E. Grinstead				
Eason, Edward Henry Physick Esq.	192 Bishopsgate London E.C.	1:1:8	0	1	0
Ellis, The Hon. Mrs. Evelyn	35 Portland Place, London W	3	0	1	6
Faber, Alfred Esq.	Offerton, Forest Row, East Grinstead)	3:0:16	0	2	0

Fyfe, Miss	Homesdale, Grove Park, Lee S.E.	5	0	2	6
Follett, W.W.S. Esq.	Broomhill, Crowborough, Sussex	5	0	2	6
Freeland, Mr. P.H.	Nutley, Uckfield	1 ¾	0	1	0
Freshfield, Douglas, W. Esq.	Wych Cross House, Forest Row, Sussex (late Arbuthnot)	259:1:17	6	10	0
Fuller Miss Millicent	Vaughans Fletching Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Funnell, Mr. Trayton	Oakhouse Farm, Dane Hill, Sussex (late Porter)	10	0	5	0
Gasson Mr. Humphrey	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	3 ½	0	2	0
Gasson, Mr. Thomas	Chelwood Gate, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:32	0	0	6
Godley, The Rt. Hon. Hugh John	29 Chester Street, London SW Ditto (late Darling)	65:2:26	1	13	0
Goldsmiths' Company	Goldsmith's Hall London E.C.	117:3:10	2	19	0
Gordon, Mrs. Louisa M.E. and Marley, Hugh Esq.	C/o Messrs. Gordon & Marley, Broad Street House, New Broad Street, London	5 ½	0	3	0
Gordon, John F.	Domaha, Forest Row East Grinstead	5:1:36	0	3	0
Goslett, G.A.D.	Chelworth, Chelworth Gate, Uckfield	7	0	3	6
Hale The Misses	c/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner. East Grinstead	69	1	14	6
Hardy, Guy C. Trustees of Will	C/o Mr. H. German, Ashby-de-la-Zouch	256:3:35	6	8	0
Head, F.H.	Goldstrow, Piltdown, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Heath, Mr. Joseph Benjamin	Hamilton Terrace, Forest Row	1	0	0	6
Heasman, Mr. Philip	Friars Gate, Withyham, Sussex (late Gardiner)	2	0	1	0
Heasman Mr. William	Furnace Farm, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Heasman, Mr. William	Holly Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham, Sussex	2 ½	0	1	6
Hewitt, H.B.	Perrymans Hill, Furners Green, Uckfield	8:0:36	0	4	6
Hillhouse J.	36 Lincolns Inn Fields, London, WC	1	0	0	6
Hoare, Alfred	37 Fleet St. London E.C	101	2	10	6
Hoath, Mrs. Lydia	C/o Mr. Alfred Hoath, Moorlands, Withyham	4	0	2	0
Hoath, Mr. Amos	Temple Cottage, St. John's, Crowborough	3	0	1	6
Hobbs, Mr. Henry	Fairwarp, Uckfield	0:1:8	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. W.	Forest Row	0:0:16	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. J.	Sillwood Place, Forest Row	0:0:11	0	0	6
Hope, James F. Esq. M.P.	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes	520 ¼	13	0	6
Hounsom Wm. Allin Esq.	41 New Church Road, Brighton	28	0	13	0

Hutchinson, Horace G. Esq.	67 Cadogan Square, London SW	5 ¼	0	3	0
Hyde, Mrs. R.	Pixton Hill Forest Row East Grinstead	127	3	3	6
Horlick, Sir James Bart	Kidbrooke Park, Forest Row (late Kekewick)	150	3	15	0
Inns, Mr. Alfred George	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp, Uckfield	4	0	2	0
Izzard, Mr. William	Paines Hill, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Johnson, W. Claud Esq.	Broadstone, Colemans Hatch, Sussex (part Bank Farm) Ditto (late Spencer)	0:1:16 32:1:22	0	16	0
Johnson, The Rev. Geo. W.	The Vicarage, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Kenward, Mr. Robert	Fletching, Uckfield	74	1	17	0
Kenward, Mr. Hercules	Budletts, Maresfield, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Killick Mr. Henry	Hartfield, Sussex	0:1:0	0	0	6
Knight, Mr. J.	Railway Inn, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:2	0	0	6
Lawrence, General. The Hon H.A.	Ashdown Place, Forest Row, Sussex	8:1:28	0	4	6
Lambert, G.N. Esq.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Sussex	4:2:0	0	2	6
Langridge, Mr. Enoch	Dane Hill, Uckfield	1 ½	0	1	0
Larnach, James Walker Esq.	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	500	12	10	0
Laver Miss Elizabeth Fielder	Greystones, Crowborough	5 ½	0	3	0
Longley, Mr. C.	Oakhurst, Chapel Lane, Forest Row Ditto (pt. Bank Farm)	0:1:1 18:2:0	0	9	6
Longley, Mr. C. J.	Ruthcote, Crawley, Sussex (late Du Croz)	[blank]			
Luxford, Job	Forest Row, Sussex (late Spencer)	33:1:12	0	17	0
Powell, Mr. V.N.W.	27 Painton Road, Oxford	2:1:26	0	1	6
Macmillan, Maurice Esq.	Birch Grove House, nr. East Grinstead	13	0	6	6
Macmillan, Mrs. Helen Artie	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead	44:1:11	1	2	6
Mc Leod, Addison Esq.	C/o F. Coverdale Esq., High Street, Brentwood, Essex	8	0	4	0
Manners, Mr. James Thomas	Bankside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
May, Paul Stanley Esq. & others.	C/o Messrs Finnis Downey Linnell & Chessher, 5 Clifford Street, London	79:2:3	2	0	0
Marchant, Mr. Thomas	Cackle Street, Maresfield, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Maresfield, The Rector of	The Rectory, Maresfield	100	2	10	0
Marriott, Mr & Miss Cordelia Isabella.	c/o Messrs. Hasties, 65 Lincolns Inn Field, W.C	57 ½	1	9	0

Marsden, James.	Hurst Wood House, Hurst Wood, Buxted	3 ½	0	2	0
Martin, Edward	Woodcote, Forest Row	1:1:28	0	1	0
Martin Mr. George	Forest Row (late Whitfield) Ditto Part Bank Farm (late Johnson)	3:0:0 20:0:0	0	11	6
Martin, Mr. William	Coach & Horses, Dane Hill, Uckfield Ditto (late Lambert)	7:2:0 0:3:0	0	4	6
May, Mrs.	Dane Hill, Uckfield	15:3:26	0	8	0
McAndrew, John Esq. J.P.	Holly Hill, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells)	302:3:39	7	11	6
Messel, Harold George, Esq.	Danehurst, Uckfield (late Hardy)	44:2:35	1	2	6
Meyrick, The Rev. Arthur	Ashdowns, Hartfield, Sussex	5:0:15	0	3	0
Midgley, Llewellyn Esq.	Chelwood Corner, Nutley, Uckfield	9 ¼	0	5	0
Misa, W. Pablo Esq.	Old Lands, Buxted, Uckfield (late Larking)	285	7	2	6
Moore, Edward Esq.	“Red Cot”, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7:2:16	0	4	0
Mitchell, Mr. William & Eliza Brett	Nutley Road, Nutley	3 ¼ 0:1:10	0	2	0
Morris, Miss J.V.	Bracklay Cottage, Fairwarp. Uckfield Ditto (late B. Penfold)	5 4:0:30	0	5	0
Neatby, Dr.	82 Wimpole St., London W (late Clough)	3	0	1	6
Needham, Colonel	Tylehurst, Forest Row	58	1	9	0
Philby S.S.	The Vicarage, Nutley, Uckfield	4	0	2	0
Norman, Mr. Henry The Repres. of	Fairwarp, Maresfield, Uckfield	6	0	3	0
Norris, The Revd. G.R.G.	The Vicarage, Wedmore, Somerset	100	2	10	
Osborne, Mr. Albert	Horse & Groom, Rushlake Green, Warbleton	0:3:15	0	0	6
Osborne. Mr. George	Annwood Farm, Fletching, Uckfield	2 ½	0	1	6
Osborne, Miss S.	8 Norfolk Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey	4	0	2	0
Osborne, Mrs. Mahala	Gt. Bucksteep Farm, Bodle St., nr. Hailsham	4:0:11	0	2	6
Osborne, Mr. William and Elizabeth his wife	Foresters Arms, Fairwarp, Uckfield, late Jas Bennett	14:2:0	0	7	6
Osborne, Mr. William	Ditto	15:2:18	0	8	0
Osborne, Mr. Thomas and Harriet his wife	Misbourne Farm, Nutley, Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Osborne, Mr. Thomas	Ditto	7	0	3	6
Page, Messrs. Thomas & James	Old Workhouse, Fairwarp, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Peckham, George	Sunnyside, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:16	0	2	0

Penfold, Berrick Esq.	Summerford Farm, Fairwarp, Uckfield Ditto (late Albert Turner)	21:0:24 2:1:8	0	12	0
Philcox, Mr. George	Newbridge, Maresfield, Tunbridge Wells	2 ½	0	1	6
Plevins, G.S. Esq.	Broadstone, Forest Row, Sussex	3:3:30	0	2	0
Portman, the Hon. Henry Oakeley	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes (l	173:1:31	4	7	0
Porter, Mr. John decd. Repres.	Park House, Ringmer, Lewes	2	0	1	0
Public Trustees, the	C/o Alex Findlay Esq., Maresfield Park, Uckfield (late Munster)	2401:2:23	60	1	0
	Kingsway, London WC2 (late Waldstein decd) Reference G 768.B	28:1:8	0	14	6
Reed, Mrs Emma	Bank Cottage, Forest Row	4:0:37	0	2	6
Ridley, Mr. Spencer	Millbrook, Nutley, Uckfield	12 ½	0	6	6
Ridley, Mr. Joseph	Horney Common, Nutley, Uckfield	14	0	7	6
Ridley, Mr. Sylvanus	Nutley, Uckfield	29:0:0	0	15	0
	Ditto (late Turner)	0:1:11			
Ridley, Mrs. Lucy Rose (H.J.)	Whitehouse Farm, Horney Common, Maresfield	19:2:26	0	10	0
Ridley, Mr. Henry	Nutley, Uckfield	0:1:32	0	0	6
Salzmann, Louis Francis Esq.	Hope Park, Bromley, Kent	3:3:20	0	2	0
Samuel, Sir Stuart M. Bart. M.P.	12 Hill St., Mayfair, London W	5:1:29	0	3	0
Sandford, Mark	“Martin”, Newick, Lewes	1 ¼	0	1	0
Sargeant, John Esq.	11 Vincent Square, Westminster, London SW	7	0	3	6
Sayers, Mr. Frederic	Post Office, Forest Row, East Grinstead	¼	0	0	1 ½
Sclater, Rev. J.S.	C/o W.F. Ingram Esq., Sussex	69:0:14	1	15	0
Scott, Mrs. Hannah	Duddleswell, Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Seymour, Mr. Mark	Post Horn Lane, Forest Row	¼	0	0	6
Soames, Arthur Gilstrap Esq.	Sheffield Park, Fletching, Uckfield	950:0:10	23	15	6
Shoebridge, Mr. Thomas	Nutley, Uckfield	11:0:37	0	6	0
Shoebridge, Mr. Owen	East Croft, Nutley	2	0	1	0
Southdown & East Grinstead Breweries Ltd.	Lewes	4:2:30	0	2	6
Spencer, The Honble Mrs.	C/o C.J. Parris Esq. 67 High Street, Tunbridge Wells	646:1:17	16	3	6

Stenning, J.C. Esq.	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	5:1:4	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mrs. Mary Ann	Collingford, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5 ½	0	3	0
Streatfeild, R.J. Esq.	c/o Messrs. Powell & Co. Lewes	240	6	0	0
Sydenham, Dr. Geo. Mervyn	Chelwood Common, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Stevenson, Mr. Edwin	Normans Bay, Pevensey, Sussex (late Porter)	6:3:4	0	3	6
Tamplin & Sons Brewery Brighton Ltd	Phoenix Brewery, Brighton	½	0	0	6
Taylor, The Devises of J.S. Esq. Decd.	C/o W.B. Bond Esq., Aegen Gill, Forest Row	3:2:26	0	2	0
Taylor Mr. William	Netherfield, Battle	2	0	1	0
Taylor, Mr. James	Barnfield, Hoadley Lane, Crowborough (late Greenfield)	0:1:16	0	0	6
Thomas, Augustus A. Esq.	Fairwarp, Uckfield	11:3:20	0	6	0
Tomsett, Mr. Jesse	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Turner Albert Esq.	The Limes, Nutley, Uckfield Ditto (late Sylvanus Ridley)	75:3:17 2:1:12	1	19	6
Thomas, G.H. Esq.	Oakcroft, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	1:1:20			
Thomas, Mrs. Lilian Sophia	Spatham Farm, Ditching, Hassocks, Sussex (late Hickmott)	1:0:8	0	0	6
Turner Mr. James	Hugletts Pit Farm, Maresfield	2	0	1	0
Tyler Mr. Enoch	Horney Common, Uckfield	5 ¾	0	3	0
Tyler, Mr. Allen	Horney Common, Uckfield	4 ½	0	2	6
Villeneuve-Smith, F. Esq.	Forest Lodge, Maresfield, Uckfield	16:1:5	0	8	6
Wallis Mrs Reginald.	Blacksmith, Rotherfield	2	0	1	0
Walsham, Mrs.	Warrenside, Forest Row	2	0	1	0
Walter, Mr. Alfred	Marlpits, Fairwarp, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Waters, Messrs. H. & E.	Forest Row, Sussex (late Spencer)	23:3:11	0	12	0
Waters, Mr. Henry J.	Shepherds Well, Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	1 ¾	0	1	0
Waters Mr. James	Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:8	0	0	6
Welfare Mr. William	Ocklye Farm, Withyham, Sussex	3	0	1	6
Wheatley Mr. Joseph	Colemans Hatch, Hartfield. Tunbridge	4	0	2	0
Wheatley, Mr. Abraham	51 Benthall Grove, Croydon, Surrey	0:0:31	0	0	6
Wheeler Mr. Charles	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6

White, W. Leeland	Atherton, East Grinstead	0:1:15	0	0	6
Whitewood, Mr. Percy	Nutley, Uckfield (late Barralet)	0:3:0	0	0	6
Whitewood, Mrs. Clara Sophia	Nutley, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
White, Mrs.	Norlington Villa, London Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex	0:0:11	0	0	6
White, Mr. Samuel	Whitehill Cottage, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Wickens Mr. J. H. Mortgagees	C/o W.E. Nicholson Esq., Lewes	11	0	5	6
Wickens Mr. Simeon	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	64 ½	1	13	0
	Ditto (late Lambert)	1:2:0			
Wickens Mr. Spencer Snr. Exors.	C/o Mr. Chas. J. Gasson. Hillside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	15	0	7	6
Wickham, Mrs. Philly	Forest Bank, Nutley, Uckfield	4:1:25	0	2	6
Willett, Arnold J. Esq.	6 Oxford Square, London	5 ½	0	3	0
Wilson Mr. Edward	Mount Pleasant, Oldlands, Maresfield. Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Wilson Geo. M. Maryon Esq.	Searles, Fletching, Uckfield	1662	41	11	0
Wood, Mr. Jesse	Forest Row Green, East Grinstead	11 ½	0	6	0
Wood, Mr. Ephraim	Duddleswell, Uckfield	10:0:16	0	5	6
Wood John Edgar	2 Belmont Villas, West Malling, Kent	4	0	2	0
Wood, Mr. Thomas Daynes	The Hollies, Bennett Park, Blackheath, Kent	30 ¾	0	15	6
Wood, Wm & Son Ltd.	C/o A, Turner Esq., The Limes, Nutley	12	0	6	0
Wood, Arthur H. Esq.	Duddleswell House, Fairwarp, Uckfield	12	0	6	0
Young Mr. William	Fincham, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	23	0	11	6

A. Medhurst De la Warr tenant application to cut brakes and litter

The Clerk reports that he has looked into the enquiry made by Mr. A. Medhurst of the Post Office, Hartfield, who is tenant under Earl De La Warr of Castle Farm and Water's Farm whether he is entitled to take brakes or litter from the Forest under the terms of the Judgement in Hale v De La Warr for both these farms. The Clerk reports that in 1893 the rights of the occupier of Waters Farm 109 acres to take brakes and litter was admitted but any such right attaching to Castle Farm has never been acknowledged. It is Resolved that the Clerk reply to Mr. Medhurst accordingly.

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely:-

Cheques

Walter Hy.	7 weeks salary as Acting Ranger	
	to 21st instant	£4:4:0
	Overtime and torch	£1:19:10
	Workmans insurance	£0:1:9

Brown Wm.	7 Weeks salary as 2nd Ranger 21st to instant 7 weeks insurance	£6:5:7	
		£7:0:0	
		£0:1:9	
		£7:1:9	
Kirby, Mrs.	7 weeks rent of cottage to 21st instant	£1:15:0	

It is Resolved that the Next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 20th July next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5.15 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 20th July, 1917 at 3.0 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Lt. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£245:7:8
2nd Ranger Account	£47:18:4
Protection and Improvement Fund	£146:1:5

Rate

The Clerk reports that the rate made at the last Meeting was confirmed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries on the 5th June last and that he has already collected 114 amounts representing £169:12:6.

2nd Ranger Fund

He has also secured two new subscriptions to the Second Ranger Fund of two guineas each from Sir Jas. Horlick and Mr. J.F. Hope and has collected on account of that fund subscriptions for the current year representing £31:10:6.

Fires

The Clerk reports that since the last Meeting the following fires have occurred on the Forest:-

Reported by Ranger Brown

9th June 6 p.m. opposite Belfour Gardens about 10 rods

Reported by Acting Ranger Walter

27th May 2 small fires near Kingstanding about 1 acre
probable cause spark from traction engine

14th June near Hoopyard Friar's Gate
probable cause - the same

about ½ acre

Traction engines

The Clerk reports that since the last Meeting he wrote to 11 proprietors of traction engines, whose names were supplied to him by Ranger Brown as working across the Forest, calling on them to have spark catchers fixed to their engines and warning them that they will be held responsible for any damage arising from escaping sparks and that two or three of them replied denying having engines working across the Forest.

Coarse growth cutting of

The Clerk read a letter dated 19th June last from Mr. Alfred Hoath of Withyham stating that the Conservators were making a mistake in stopping the cutting of big furze and that from his own observation he was satisfied that most of the fires were caused by sparks from engines. Also the reply made by the Clerk stating he had already communicated with a number of traction engine owners on the subject and that if Mr. Hoath would at any time give him particulars of any engine emitting sparks he would write to the Owner. Also that by arrangement with the Lord the Conservators are in a position to arrange for the cutting of coarse growth and that if anyone desiring to cut would communicate with the Chairman of the Maresfield Committee the matter could no doubt be arranged.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr. Hoath again that the Board desire to impress on him their readiness to arrange for the cutting of coarse growth and that the Chairman of the Maresfield Committee will be glad to receive applications.

Alfred Moon prosecution for fire

The Clerk reports that in compliance with the instructions given at the last Meeting Alfred Moon was prosecuted before the Uckfield Bench in May last but that the Father having undertaken to punish the boy the Bench did not impose any penalty.

Safety zones Clerk to grant licences

The Clerk reports that Lord Norbury and Mr. William Moorcock of Ford's Green wrote to him in May last for permission to cut safety areas outside their boundaries to protect their properties from Forest fires and that he referred them to Messrs Hunt & Co. for licences.

It is Resolved that in future the Clerk be authorised to grant licences for the purpose in such cases as he deems expedient.

Military cutting brakes – coarse growth cutting

Ranger Brown reports that the Military at the Camp at Forest Row have begun to cut brakes on the Forest. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Officer Commanding pointing out that the Commoners are alone entitled to cut brakes and litter for the use of their farms, that it is a very important matter for them, as the Forest does not furnish more than they require and that the cutting is regulated by the Bye Laws and requesting him to stop the cutting of brakes or litter; but to inform him that the Conservators will be pleased to arrange with him areas of coarser growth that may be cut as has been done in the case of the Military at Maresfield Park.

It is also Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to arrange with him for such cutting on such terms as they consider proper.

Military bedding for cattle

The Clerk reports that the Military at Maresfield Park applied to him on the 30th May last for the Conservators' consent to their cutting litter on the Forest for bedding their horses, that he forwarded the application to the Chairman of the Maresfield Committee and informed the Military that he would no doubt communicate with them on the subject.

Mr. Findlay's complaint – coarse growth cutting

He also reads two letters he subsequently received from Mr. Alexander Findlay complaining that the Military were cutting litter which the Commoners would require and he informed him in reply to his first letter that the Military were only authorised to cut coarse growth which is not cut by Commoners.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely:-

Maresfield Committee July 20th 1917

The Chairman reports that in consequence of an application from the Military of Maresfield Park, to cut litter on the Forest, he gave permission to Col. Lawrence, C.O. Machine Gun Corps on June 2nd to cut coarse heather under supervision of Acting Ranger Walter (as to areas) for bedding for Government horses.

No permission was given to cut brakes or litter and it was clearly pointed out to Col. Lawrence's Deputy, Major Grigg several times, that the cutting of these could not be allowed, as they were a requisite of the Commoners for which they paid rates.

From Ranger Walter's report it appeared that almost all the coarse heather had been cut on areas pointed out to the Military but that several acres more could be found near Redbrook, which the Ranger was authorised to point out.

A letter was read from Mr. Hudson, the Lord's Reeve dated 2nd May 1917 giving permission for the Military to cut coarse furze and heath growths on Forest as a preventative of fires.

The Committee strongly approve of this Permit as lessening the danger areas and the spread of fires.

The Committee ask the Board to sanction the action of their Chairman in the above, also to pay out of the General Account to Acting Ranger Walter 15/4 for overtime and 14/6 for repairs to his bicycle both passed by the Committee.

The Chairman reports he has received £1:17:0 from the Military at Maresfield for 37 loads of coarse heather at 1/- per load and it is suggested that when the total is collected, ½ shall be paid to the Lord and ½ to the Protection and Improvement Fund of the Conservators.

Burgess' drain

He further reports that Ranger had been too busy as yet to remove Burgess Drain Pipes, but is under instruction to do so immediately after the Board Meeting.

H.B. Portman, Chairman.

Mr. Findlay's complaint

It is Resolved that the proceedings and recommendations of the Committee as reported be and are hereby approved and confirmed. That the Clerk do write to Mr. Findlay informing him that the Military have not cut any brakes or litter but only such coarse growth as the Commoners would not use.

Ranger Walter bicycle repairs

Also that the bill of 14/6 for the repair of Acting Ranger Walter's bicycle be paid out of the General Fund.

Military Crowborough complaint that Commoners cattle infest the camp

The Clerk reports that on the 18th June last he received a letter from the Military Authority at Crowborough stating that much damage was done to the cultivated areas of their camp by straying cattle belonging to the Commoners, and asking how they could locate the owners of the cattle, so that they could get into communication with them. The Clerk replied that there are about 250 Commoners, that cultivation of the surface was in derogation of their rights, that they could not be required to keep their cattle off the Forest, nor could they be required to fence, but that so far as the Conservators were concerned there was no objection to their fencing off the area in question. He received a reply that it was recognised that it was impossible to interfere with the Commoners' rights and they would do what they could by mutual arrangements with the owners of the cattle.

Military damage to L. Tester's heifer

The Clerk reports that Mr. L. Tester of Poplar Farm, Pound Gate, wrote to him on the 12th June last that a Military motor lorry ran over a heifer of his on the New Road from Pound Gate to Duddleswell and it was then uncertain whether the heifer would survive. That the Military had held a Court of Inquiry and found that as the heifer was loose on the road without any person in charge, the person in charge of the Lorry was not responsible. As Mr. Tester occupies land under Mr. J. F. Hope which has rights of common, the Clerk wrote to the Military pointing out that the road on which the damage was done being within the Forest, the law relating to ordinary highways does not apply, that the heifer was lawfully within the common and that anyone driving over a road within the Common was bound to keep a "careful look out" and was liable if he damaged a Commoners cattle on the road and requesting reconsideration of Mr. Tester's claim, with a view to compensating him. He received a reply adhering to the position that there was no liability. Mr. Tester attends before the Board and states that the damage to his heifer was done about 9 p.m. on Saturday the May last, that the heifer was on the New Road he believed near the side of it and with its back to the motor lorries, that the first Lorry ran into it and broke its hind off leg near the hip. The Officer in the second car sent to Mr. Tester. The heifer is at present only able to limp and it is uncertain whether she will not be permanently lame. That the heifer is due to calve in October next and so far has not slipped her calf.

Mr. Tester is advised by the Board to obtain a letter from his Veterinary Surgeon stating what he considers the compensation should amount to and that if Mr. Tester will forward the letter to the Clerk, he will assist him in preparing a further letter for him to write to the Military Authority in support of his claim.

R.A.F. Golf Club reduction of contribution

Mr. Faber attends before the Board on behalf of the R.A.F. Golf Club and explains fully the great falling off in the income of the Club consequent on the War and the cutting off of the supply of petrol and that the Club is now carried on at a loss and that unless they obtain substantial relief in the matter of rental from the Lord and the Board it will be impossible to carry on the Club.

Mr. Faber having retired, the Board consider the whole matter and It is Resolved that under all the circumstances the Board do reduce each of the half yearly sums payable by the Club to the Conservators on 25th December next and 24th June next from £31:5:0. to £10:10:0. That the Clerk write Mr. Faber informing him thereof and state that as the Conservators understand the Lord desired to be informed how they have dealt with the matter, they trust that he will make at least an equal concession.

Home Grown Timber Co. huts on forest

Acting Ranger Walter reports that the Home Grown Timber Supply Co. have erected three huts on the Forest near the Five hundred for the use of their engine drivers. It is Resolved that the Clerk do require the Company to remove the huts forthwith.

Military gun pit

He also reports that the Military have dug a gun pit on the Forest in the hollow road adjoining Ford's Green and have fenced it with stumps and wire. It is Resolved that record be made of the fact.

A.H. Tyler

The Clerk reports that on the 20th June last he received a letter from Mr. A.H. Tyler of Horney Common stating that a piece of the Forest adjoining his property at Hugletts pits has been enclosed with a fence and takes away from his frontage and asking the Conservators to take steps to have it restored to the Common. The Clerk stated that he finds that the land enclosed is outside the boundaries of the Forest as defined by the Award and that the Board has therefore no jurisdiction in the matter.

It is Resolved that the Clerk inform Mr. Tyler that such is the case.

Ranger Brown to undergo operation

Mr. Freshfield informs the Board that it is necessary that Ranger Brown should undergo an operation in a hospital, and asks the Board to take the matter into their consideration.

It is Resolved that the Board regret very much that Ranger Brown has to undergo an operation and trust that he will speedily recover, that his salary be paid him until he is able to resume his duties and that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to engage a temporary substitute if they consider it necessary.

Road to Water Farm – damage

The Clerk reports that he has at last received from the War Office Valuer an offer to pay £7 compensation for the damage done to the Road from Water Farm. It is Resolved that the Clerk accept the offer and pay over the amount when received to Mrs. Shute.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely:-

Walter Henry	9 weeks salary as Acting Ranger to		
	23rd instant	£5:8:0	
	Overtime		£0:15:4
	Employers insurance	£0:2:3	
	Bicycle Repair	<u>£0:14:6</u>	
			£7:0:1
Brown Wm.	9 weeks salary as second Ranger to		
	23rd instant	£9:0:0	
	Employers insurance	£0:2:3	
			£9:2:3
Kirby Mrs.	9 weeks rent of Cottage to		
	23rd instant	£2:5:0	
The Clerk	Half years salary to		
	30th June last	£50:0:0	

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 5th October next at 3.0 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5:15 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 5th October, 1917 at 3.0 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£204:2:1
2nd Ranger Account	£42:8:1

Ranger Brown operation

The Clerk reports that Ranger Brown went into the Queen Victoria Hospital at East Grinstead for his operation on the 26th July last and returned home on the 21st August last. Ranger Brown thanks the Board for their consideration and good wishes.

Military Forest Row – cutting litter

The Clerk reports that the Military at Forest Row having commenced to cut litter, he, on the 23rd July last wrote to the Commanding Officer, pointing out that brakes and litter must be reserved for the Commoners under the Bye Laws, but that the Forest Row Committee are prepared to point out areas on which coarser growth may be cut and that he received a reply stating that his communication was noted.

Mr. Martin reports that the Clerk's letter has been complied with.

Military Crowborough - damage to L. Tester's heifer

The Clerk report that having received from Mr. Luke Tester a report from his Veterinary Surgeon, Mr. Dier, as to the condition of his heifer and assessing its depreciated value at £20, he again wrote to the Officer Commanding the Crowborough Camp, pointing out the liability of the Military and requesting him to pay Mr. Tester the £20 and the Veterinary Surgeon's fees £1:17: 6. Mr. Tester attends before the Board with a reply he has received from the Deputy Judge Advocate dated the 17th September last denying liability but offering to recommend payment as a matter of grace of £5 in reduction of his loss. It is Resolved that the Clerk assist Mr. Tester in making a suitable reply asking for payment of the Veterinary Surgeon's fees in addition.

Military Maresfield cutting coarse growth

The Clerk reads a further letter from Mr. Alexander Findlay dated 7th August last stating that the Military were busy cutting bracken and carrying away not only what they cut themselves but as he was informed, what other people cut and asking the Board to stop their doing so otherwise he will not pay any Rate which is for the preservation of the Forest Rights.

Road to Water Farm – damage

The Clerk reports that since the last Meeting he received from the War Department the £7 compensation mentioned at the last meeting and paid over the amount, to Mrs. Shute who wrote expressing her gratitude for all the trouble taken in the matter.

Military Crowborough pounding Commoners' cattle

The Clerk reports that on receipt of a complaint from Mr. Ephraim Wood of Upper Putlands, Duddleswell, he again wrote on 10th August last to the Commandant of the Camp at Crowborough pointing out that Commoner's cattle are rightfully on the Forest and must not be impounded for straying into the Camp and that he sent Mr. Wood a copy of the letter and received his thanks for same.

On 15th August the troops at the Camp having been changed, the Clerk wrote to the new Commandant sending him a copy of his letter of the 10th August last.

Military – Forest Row trespasses

The Forest Row Committee report that having received from Ranger Brown the following report namely:-

17th September 1917

Gentlemen,

On the 14th September 1917 I found that the soldiers at Forest Row Camp, had got about a quarter of an acre more ground dug up which had been planted with various green plants, since I last reported, this is on the west side of Broadstone Warren, and near to it, above the Camp. I also found that a place had been build with bricks & about 18 feet by 10 feet and about 3 feet high. On making inquiries, I was told it was for a green-house, and had been erected by order of Major Barnes of Forest Row camp, this is lower down the Forest near the Camp. Also on the 15th I found trenches had been dug and a bank had been made about 7 feet high on one side, and poles and boards

used. I also found six oak rails used to support the bank, which had been taken from the fence around the Recreation ground at Tompsetts Bank, and there are many more rails missing since I last reported. The bank etc. form a bayonet training ground for the soldiers and is on the south side of the Recreation ground at Tompsetts Bank.

Your Obedient Servant
Wm. Brown. Ranger”

The Committee remonstrated with the Military on the subject. It is Resolved that the report be recorded and that the claim for compensation stand over till the end of the War.

A.W. White application

The Clerk reports that he received a letter dated the 31st July last from Mr. Arthur W. White of Summervale, Fairwarp, stating he proposed to keep some ducks on the pool in front of his house, and asked authority to put up a notice board warning the public that the ducks are private property, and must not be shot or molested. After consulting the Chairman of the Maresfield Committee, the Clerk replied that the Conservators cannot allow him to keep ducks on the Forest or to pollute the pool, nor can they permit a notice board to be erected on the Forest, and referring him to the Bye Laws.

Lane to Shepherds Gate Farm

A letter is read dated the 13th September last from Mr. John McAndrew enquiring whether it would be possible to mend the condition of the short lane between Shepherds Gate (late Mr. Horace Hutchinson's house) and Shepherds Gate Farm (tenant H. Holmes) which is impassable for ordinary wayfarers.

Mr. Martin confirms Mr. McAndrew's statement as to its condition, and Ranger Brown states that the length of the lane is about 70 yards.

Mr. Martin states it is considerably used as a path from Forest Row to Coleman's Hatch and suggests that stepping stones be placed there as the cattle use it very much. Mr. Kenward suggests repairing it with green faggots and gravel on top which lasts a long time.

It is Resolved that Mr. McAndrew be informed that if he is disposed to undertake the repair of the lane in question, the Board will be ready to contribute three fourths of the cost such three fourths not exceeding £10 to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund. But that if Mr. McAndrew is not prepared to undertake the work the Forest Row Committee be authorised to expend not exceeding £10 on the repair of it.

Y.M.C.A. new shed

The Clerk reports that he received a letter dated the 13th September last from the Young Men Christian Association asking permission to erect a wooden hut in place of the refreshment tent adjoining the Cricket Pavilion at the Forest Row Camp previously sanctioned on the ground that the tent will not stand the winter storms, and after communicating with the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee he wrote sanctioning the erection on the understanding that when removed the Association re-level the surface of the Forest and remove all debris and he received a reply undertaking to employ with the condition, and expressing most grateful thanks to the Conservators for their kindness.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered in the Minutes, namely:

The Maresfield Committee report that they granted permission to Mr. Edward Taylor of Friars Gate to cut and remove a quantity of burnt furze stems from the Forest near Marden Hill.

The Military have continued to cut coarse growth (too large for litter) and as soon as they have finished cutting, the Committee will render an account of the amounts received for same.

Complaint has been made by Mr. Findlay that brakes cut by him and certain other Commoners were carted away by the Military to Maresfield Park. The Ranger saw Major Gregg, the Commanding Officer and reports that in

consequence of his representation, the Military carted back the whole of the brakes and deposited them on the spots from which they had been carried away.

Mr. Findlay also complained that the Military have been permitted to cut brakes before the authorised time. Neither the Committee nor the Ranger have any knowledge of this having been done and the Ranger believes that nothing of the kind took place.

Mr. Findlay also complains that some litter which the Commoners could have cut, was cut and carried away by the Military.

The Ranger informs the Committee that two or three rods were so cut but that he warned the Military they must not cut the fine litter, and they have not done so since.

The Bridge which the Conservators constructed over the stream on the rough ground below Nutley Bank requires some repair which will not cost more than 30/-, and they ask authority to repair it.

Dated 5th October 1917,

A. Turner

Acting Chairman

It is Resolved that the acts proceedings and recommendations of the Committee be approved and confirmed and that they be authorised to repair the Bridge at a cost not exceeding 30/- to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund. Also that the Clerk write to Mr. Findlay that the matters have been investigated by the Board and that they are satisfied there has been no recurrence of the matters complained of.

Estovers

The Clerk submits his report as to the law of Estovers particularly with reference to fire bote and it is Resolved that six copies of it be made for the use of the Conservators.

R.A.F. Golf Club contribution

The Clerk reports that immediately after the last Meeting he wrote to the Honorary Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club confirming the temporary reduction of rent arranged at the last Meeting and he reads a reply dated 18th August last from the Hon. Secretary thanking the Board for the concession but stating that he is directed to express the regret of his Committee that it will not meet the position, as in their opinion funds will not be available to pay any further contribution either to the Board or the Lord until matters become more normal. It is Resolved the Club be informed that this Board have carefully considered their request for a total remission of their contribution for the next two half years, that they regret they cannot see their way to alter their previous decision: pointing out that the position of the Board is essentially different from that of the Lord in as much as the interests of the Commoners whom the Board represent are seriously affected by the occupation of a portion of the Forest for the purposes of the Golf Club and that they feel therefore that they are not justified in remitting all contribution from the Club.

Military

Acting Ranger Walter reports as follows:

On 19th August last the Officers Training Corps at Maresfield Park were driving a tunnel under the belt of the Fir Trees adjoining Fords Green where a gun pit was made, some time ago. On 21st August they had erected an outpost guard house on White House Hill 12 ft x 8 ft on 6 brick piers and connected by telephone with the Camp. On 20th September for they were erecting sand bag gun emplacements on Burnt Hill and Burnt Oak Bottom and connecting them by telephone with the Camp.

Wm. Burgess' drain

He also reports that on 6th September last he removed four pipes of Mr. William Burgess' drain referred to at previous Meetings and laid the pipes on Burgess' property. At the time he removed the pipes sink water was flowing through them to the pond.

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that the Honourable H. B. Portman and Messrs Sandford and Turner be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts for the current year.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed, namely:

Walter Henry	11 weeks salary as Acting Ranger		
	to 8th instant	£6:12:0	
	Employers Insurance	<u>£0:2:9</u>	£6:14:9
Brown Wm.	11 weeks salary to		
	8th instant	£11:0:0	
	Employers Insurance	<u>£0:2:9</u>	£11:2:9
Kirby Herbert	11 weeks house rent		
	to 8th instant	£2:15:0	

It is Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners be held on Friday the 21st December next at 11 a.m. and that the next Meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoners' Meeting or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.35 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in Ashdown Forest, duly convened by the Clerk, by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends by advertisement in two of the newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, "The Sussex Express", and "The Sussex Daily News" at least 14 days before this date, and by notice sent by post to every Commoner, and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday, the 21st day of December, 1917, at eleven o' clock in the forenoon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Sylvanus Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

Chairman

On the proposition of Mr. Freshfield Seconded by Mr. Portman Mr. Maryon Wilson is chosen Chairman, and having taken the Chair, the Clerk reads the Notice convening the Meeting, and reports its due publication as stated above.

Minutes

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st instant are Mr. William Carr, Mr. Llewellyn Midgley, Colonel Charles Needham and Mr. Mark Sandford.

It is Proposed by Mr. James Card and Seconded by Mr. E. Martin that Mr. Wm. Carr be re-elected a Conservator.

It is Proposed by Mr. E. Martin and Seconded by Mr. Portman that Mr. Llewellyn Midgley be re-elected a Conservator.

It is Proposed by Mr. Freshfield and Seconded by Mr. Ll. Midgley that Colonel Charles Needham be re-elected a Conservator.

It is Proposed by Mr. Wm. Carr and Seconded by Mr. Portman that Mr. Mark Sandford be re-elected a Conservator.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley protests that the system of election should be by one man one vote.

The Chairman having invited any other nominations, and none be made, he declares the four Commoners who have been nominated duly elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Complaint as to purchasers of underwood cutting birch, willow and alder

The following letter from Mr. Joseph Ridley is read, and it is Resolved that it be entered in the Minutes, namely:

Spring Cottage
Horney Common
Uckfield
21:12:17

The Chairman,
Ashdown Forest Commoners Annual Meeting.

Dear Sir,

I am sorry that the state of my health will not permit me to attend the meetings today.

At the last Meeting upon my making enquiry as to the entry about estovers on the agenda, I was told that Mr. Raper would send a list of particulars of estovers. As I have not received any list, I will mention a few out of the many in respect of estovers of fuel. At the time of the Decree of 1693 the Commoners pointed out that the owners of the soil of the Forest had felled great quantities of timber, whereby in a very short time there would not be sufficient left for estovers, and therefore praying that the plaintiffs may be restrained from cutting down any more wood. As to which on reading the depositions of several witnesses on the said Complainants part it fully appeared there was no wood ever estimated or allowed for estovers, but birch, willow and alder only. And therefore it is lastly ordered by like advice that the plaintiffs be and hereby are at liberty to cut down and sell any sort of wood in the said Forest (except only) birch, willow and alder being the sorts of wood usually allowed the said defendants for estovers.

By the year 1820 the whole Forest was becoming so bare of wood (for fuel) the Commoners and Inhabitants them started to plough up annually hundreds of loads of turf from the heath or turf plains and burnt it on their holdings for fuel and manure. The turf plains becoming exhausted they started to plough up the litter plains until the Conservancy Board was established and a stop was put to it.

For several years I have heard of complaints of cases where the Lord of the Manor has sold the underwood and the birch has been cleared away with it and sold for making brooms for sales although the buyers of the underwood are expressly told that the birch, willow and alder is not included in their purchase and is only to be used for estovers by Commoners.

Last year there was a deliberate attempt to throw away the Commoners most ancient birthright, estovers of wood.

In regard to the question of losing rights by non-exercise, I heard the late Mr. Nicholson say at one of the Meetings that there was no such thing as losing the rights to the Forest, as the liabilities (quit rents etc) constituted the right, and as long as the Country maintains a government the rights remain.
When I enfranchised my property, I had a clear understanding with Mr. Nicholson that all rights (Forest) attached remained forever, being paid in advance.

Will you please put this letter before the Meetings and oblige.

Yours Faithfully,
Joseph Ridley

It is Resolved that Mr. Joseph Ridley be informed that if he will supply the Clerk with any specific cases where birch, willow or alder are cut, by purchasers from the Lord of underwood on the Forest and are carried away by them, the Clerk shall make representations to the Lord's Solicitors in order that steps may be taken to stop the practice.

Boring Wheel Mill road repair

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley points out that the new road at the Boring Wheel Mill into the Forest requires a little repairing, as the faggots are rotting in the middle and the road is breaking through, that probably 20 yards of gravel would meet the immediate requirements, and that good gravel for the purpose can be obtained from Dodds Bank, from which there is a better road to bring it down. Also that one gate post at the entrance to the road requires attention, and on his proposition seconded by Mr. Thos. Osborne. It is Resolved that these matters be brought to the attention of the Conservators.

Applications to allow occupiers within the forest to enclose portions temporarily for food production

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley also urges that small occupiers on the Forest should, during the War, be allowed to enclose small areas of the Forest land adjoining their holdings, and cultivate these for the purpose of food production. On being questioned he stated that no one else had applied to him on the subject.

It was Resolved that the Clerk ascertain from the proper Government Department whether, having regard to the War, applications for the purpose can be granted, notwithstanding the provisions of the Commons Act 1876, which prohibits any inclosure of the Forest without the express sanction of Parliament on the express condition that such inclosures be thrown open and restored to the Forest not later than the Michaelmas following the close of the War.

Estovers

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley enquires whether a claim to take estovers for fuel can be established on proof of 60 years user, the same as litter, and whether it can be used on an ancient hearth.
The Chairman states that the answer to both questions is in the affirmative.

On the proposition of Mr. Portman seconded by Mr. Martin a hearty vote of thanks is accorded to the Chairman for the excellent way in which he has conducted the business of the Meeting.

The Chairman returns thanks.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday the 21st December, 1917 at noon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
The Honble H. B. Portman
Mr. James Card

Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account	£261:17:4
2nd Ranger Account	£35:8:4
Protection & Improvement Fund	£155:14:6

The Clerk produces and reads the following Certificates and it is Resolved that it be entered in the Minutes, namely:

To Mr. W. A. Raper,
Clerk
The Conservators of Ashdown Forest,

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners, duly convened and held this day at Nutley Inn, Nutley, for the purpose of electing four Conservators in the place of those Conservators who retire from Office by rotation on the 31st of December instant, I hereby intimate to you that at the said Meeting Mr. William Carr, Mr. Llewellyn Midgley, Colonel Charles Needham and Mr. Mark Sandford were elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Dated this 21st day of December, 1917
G.M. Maryon-Wilson
Chairman

Lane at Shepherds Gate Farm

The Clerk reports that Mr. John McAndrew is unable to undertake the repair of the lane near Shepherds Gate Farm, but that if it is carried out in a thorough manner he will contribute £1:10:0 towards the outlay. The Clerk acknowledged the letter which he sent to the Forest Row Committee, and Mr. S. Martin who had taken the matter in hand reports that he has obtained a contract from Mr. Job Luxford to do the work for £10, who will carry it out as soon as he can obtain labour.

Luke Tester damage to heifer

The Clerk reports that as the result of further correspondence, the Canadian Authorities increased their offer of compensation to Mr. Luke Tester to £10 which he accepted, and the latter wrote thanking the Board and the Clerk for their assistance in the matter.

R.A.F. Golf Club contribution

The Clerk reports that on the 8th October last he wrote to the Hon. Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club in the terms of the Resolution passed at the last Meeting, and on the 6th November last received the following reply:

Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club
November 3rd 1917

W. A. Raper Esq.
Battle.

Dear Sir,
I laid before my Committee on the 20th ulto your letter dated 8th October.

I am asked to inform you in reply, that the Committee deeply regret the decision of your Board. As you are aware, the total remission of payments falling due on December 25th and June 24th next by the Trustees of the Lord of the Manor to contingent on your Board likewise foregoing those two payments.

My Committee, until payments to the Lord of the Manor and the Conservators are remitted, feel that they would be seriously handicapped in asking members to find the funds required to meet the expenditure.

The position of the Club next year will be a serious one. Outside painting ought to be done, and the Course is suffering much from want of labour. Money not expended is not saved, it will only mean increased outlay later.

The Committee feel that they are only asking what has been granted on other cases to Golf Clubs and West End Clubs.

The Club has lost this year six Members by resignation, and nine by death, and has about forty one serving their country. A considerable number of resignations must be expected in December. Not a single new member has been elected.

Frankly my Committee fail to understand what is meant when you write.

“In as much as the interests of the Commoners, whom the Board represent, are seriously affected by the occupation of a portion of the Forest for the purposes of the Golf Club.”

It is notorious that the Golf Club has greatly increased the pasturage on this part of the Forest, has done a considerable amount of drainage, has given a great deal of employment to the Commoners, and has done much for the District in making it popular as a Residential neighbourhood.

If, through any action of the Conservators the Club is compelled to wind up, such action will be very unpopular with the small Commoners, all of whom have, practically speaking, benefited directly or indirectly by the Golf Club.

My Committee suggest that if the Board of Conservators remit the contribution due in December the Club can claim the concession made by the Lord of the Manor for the same period. By March the financial position of the Club can be better ascertained and the question of the two payments due in June can then be discussed.

The Club has paid the half year's rent due to June last to the Conservators and the Lord of the Manor.

Temporary remission of rent is better than total cessation.

Yours faithfully,

Alfred Faber

Hon. Sec.

The Board having carefully considered Mr. Faber's letter in connection with the balance sheet of the Club for the year ending 31st December 1916 it is Resolved that they see no reason to depart from the decision already arrived at with regard to the contribution payable by the Club, and suggest that further economy could be effected in the working expenses of the Club to meet the payment.

Henry May, Chas Catt cutting birch

Ranger Brown reports that on the 1st instant he found Charles Catt of Nutley and Henry May of Nutley removing a quantity of birch which they had cut near the extreme to Hindleap Warren and which they carried to their respective houses. May occupies a cottage at Nutley belonging to Mr. Albert Turner, who stated that it has no right to estovers. Chas. Catt occupies a house erected a few years ago on the Nutley Inn land behind the Nutley Inn.

It is Resolved the Clerk write and caution them that the house they occupy have no right to estovers and that they must abstain from taking any birch from the Forest in future.

Estovers report as to

It is Resolved that the Clerk supply copies of the report on estovers which he presented to the last Meeting to such of the Conservators as have not already received them.

Bridge at Nutley bank repair - Protection and Improvement Fund

The Maresfield Committee report that they have completed the repair of the bridge at Nutley Bank at a cost of £1:15:0 and it is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Cutting of trees – Director of Timber Supply

The Clerk reports that Mr. W.W.S. Follett, one of the De La Warr Trustees having written to him stating that the Government are cutting fir trees and are preparing to cut (1) Gills Lap and (2) the trees along the Hartfield Road which are visible from the Forest, and form an attractive feature of the landscape and asking the intervention of the Conservators in support of his protest; the Clerk wrote at once to the Director of Timber Supply under whose control the trees are with the result that he received an assurance that Gills Lap will not be cut, but that it is necessary to acquire trees on the West side of the Hartfield Road. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Director pointing out that the other clumps on the Forest are specially protected by the Ashdown Forest Confirmation Act and must not be cut.

County Council application for road materials

The County Council of East Sussex having applied for the consent of the Conservators to take materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending the 31st March 1919 namely:

Central Road District (Mr. A.G. Tucker Surveyor)

Point from which it is proposed to obtain the material	Description of Material	Quantity cubic yards
Kingstanding Gravel Pits and neighbourhood	Forest Gravel (from Chuck Hatch to Kingstanding)	100
Ditto	Forest Gravel (from Kingstanding to Friars Gate)	150
Greenwood Gate and Neighbourhood	Forest Gravel for road between Greenwood Gate & Friars Gate and Lye Green	200
Fox Gravel Pit near Duddleswell	Sand Gravel and stone (Crowborough and Maresfield Roads)	150

It is Resolved that consent be granted subject to the same conditions as in former years.

Local Government Board Return

The Clerk lays on the table a copy of the Return he has made to the Local Government Board of the receipts and expenditure of the Conservancy for the year 1916.

Gypsies

Ranger Walter reports that since the last Meeting he has had to move a number of encampments of gypsies off the Forest, and also to be supplied with signed summonses in blank that he may fill them up and serve them on the spot, as it is difficult to trace the parties a day or two afterwards. The Clerk explains that this cannot be done as a Magistrate can only sign a summons upon verbal or written information laid before him.

Road Fairwarp to Fairwarp vicarage

Acting Ranger Walter having reported that the roadway over the Forest from Fairwarp Village to Fairwarp Vicarage is in a very bad state and about 10 yards in length is a quagmire.

Repair At Boring Wheel Mill

The Clerk presents the recommendation of the Commoners made at their Annual Meeting today that the new road on to the Forest at Boring Wheel Mill and a gate post at the entrance be repaired, and it is Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be requested to carry out the repairs to both roads and gate post, the expense to be defrayed out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Audit Committee Report

The Honble H.B. Portman as Chairman of the Audit Committee presents the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely:

To The Conservators of Ashdown Forest,

We have examined (1) The General Account, (2) The Second Ranger Account, and (3) The Account of the Protection & Improvement Fund, each for the year 1917. 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 the casting of the Accounts, and find them all correct; and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the Accounts for the year viz;

Account No. 1 General

The Clerk	½ year's Salary to 31st inst.	£50:0:0	
Do	Disbursements during year	<u>£32:6:4</u>	
			£82:6:4

Kirby Herbert	12 Weeks house rent to 31st inst.	£3:0:0	
Walter Henry	12 Weeks Salary as		
	Acting Ranger to 31st inst. @ 12/-	£7:4:0	
	Insurance	£0:3:0	
	Overtime	<u>£0:16:4</u>	
			£8:3:4

Account No 2. 2nd Ranger

Brown Wm.	12 weeks Salary to 31st inst.	£12:0:0	
	12 weeks Employers insurance	<u>£0:3:0</u>	
			£12:3:0
The Clerk	Disbursements during year	£5:4:4	

Protection & Improvement Fund

Messrs. Horne & Brickett – costs re. Bills in Parliament	£1:1:0	
Maresfield Committee repairs bridge at Nutley bank	£1:15:0	
Hunt & Co. – proportion of receipts for coarse heath	<u>£2:16:0</u>	
		£5:12:0

The balances standing to the credit of the several Accounts after the above mentioned cheques have been paid will be as follows:

The General Account	£168:7:8
The 2nd Ranger Account	£18:1:0
The Protection & Improvement Fund	£150:2:6

And the sum of £ 159:15:4 Consols representing the investment of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

We should point out that the balance in hand on the 2nd Ranger's Account will barely pay his Salary etc. to 29th April next, whereas the year for which the subscriptions have been received does not terminate till 17th June next.

Dated the 19th December 1917

Henry B. Portman

Mark Sandford

Cheques

It is Resolved that the report be approved, that the accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Board, and that cheques be drawn as recommended which are duly signed.

Also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to the Committee for the very thorough manner in which they have carried out their work.

Ranger Kirby

The Clerk reports that Ranger Kirby has been badly gassed in France, and is now in hospital at Buckingham.

It is Resolved that the Clerk do convey to Ranger Kirby the expression of sincere sympathy with him in his suffering, and the hope that he will make a speedy and satisfactory recovery.

Chairman thanks to

A hearty vote of thanks is accorded to the Chairman for his able conduct of the business of the Board during the past year.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 22nd February next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 1.50 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the house of Mr. Albert Turner, at Nutley, on Friday, the 22nd February 1918 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair

The Honble H.B. Portman

Mr. William Carr

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Ll. Midgley

Mr. Mark Sandford

Mr. Albert Turner

Chairman election of

Mr. Portman is voted into the Chair, and on his proposition seconded by Mr. Turner, Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson is elected Chairman of the Board for the current year, and having taken the Chair, he thanks the members for this renewal of their confidence in him for the 18th year in succession.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are then read and confirmed.

The following Committees are then appointed for the current year:

Forest Row District Committee – Messrs Freshfield, Martin and Midgley, and Colonel Needham.

Maresfield District Committee – The Honble H.B. Portman, and Messrs Carr, Kenward, Sandford and Turner.

Fire Committee – The Chairmen of the Board and of the District Committees be the Committee to deal with all matters relating to the protection of the Forest from fire.

Financial Statement

The Clerk reports that the R.A.F. Golf Club have paid the reduced contribution of £10:10:0 for the half year due 25th December last, and that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

Rate Account	£ 175:7:2
2nd Ranger Account	£18:1:0
Protection and Improvement Fund	£169:5:0

A letter is read from Ranger Kirby thanking the Board for the expression of their sympathy.

Ornamental clumps

The Clerk had a reply from the Timber Supply Department of the Board of Trade stating that the Gills Lap Clump has been strictly preserved and it is not thought that any other clumps preserved by the Regulation Act are likely to be affected and strict attention will be given to their preservation.

Henry May cutting birch

Letters are read from Mr. Henry May stating that he has a witness who can prove the exercise of the right to estovers of fire bote for the house he occupies, sixty years ago the man having cut for the former owner and occupier, Mr. Fenner, and for his father.

It is Resolved that notice be given to Mr. May to bring his witness to the next Meeting of the Board.

C. Catt cutting birch

The Clerk reports that Mr. Findlay, Manager of the Maresfield Park Estate, under which Mr. C. Catt holds the Nutley Inn land has written enquiring when the right to take estovers of fuel in respect of the Nutley Inn land lapsed, to which the Clerk replied explaining that while the occupier of the Nutley Inn has a right to fuel, Mr. Catt, who occupies a house built within the last 40 years can have no such right.

Shepherd's Gate lane repair

The Forest Row Committee report that the Mr. Luxford has not yet been able to get on with the repair of the lane at Shepherd's Gate.

Road at Boring Wheel Mill repair

The Maresfield Committee report that about 25 yards of gravel have been dug for the repair of the road at Boringwheel Mill – length about 150 yards – but they have not yet been able to secure the labour to complete the work.

The Committee have the repair of the Track at Fairwarp under their consideration.

White A.W. repair of road at Fairwarp

Mr. A.W. White, owner of Summervale at Fairwarp, late the property of Mr. Alfred Chilton to whom a licence was granted on the 1st October 1909 to keep in repair the road at Fairwarp over the Forest to Marlpits, having written he is doubtful whether the licence is of any value to him, but that if the Conservators will ditch or otherwise drain and make proper foundations for the roads it might be worth his while to metal the surface.

Protection and Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be authorised to drain and repair such portions of the road in question as they deem necessary at a cost not exceeding £5 to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Applications to enclose parts of Forest for food production

The Clerk reports that with reference to the proposal made by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley at the Annual Meeting of Commoners last December and supported by Mr. Thos. Osborne, that small occupiers on the Forest should during the War be allowed to enclose small areas of Forest Land adjoining their holdings for food production, he wrote as directed, to the Board of Agriculture enquiring whether notwithstanding Sec. 36 of the Commons' Act 1876 any authority exists who authorise temporary inclosure of parts of the Forest for the above purpose and reads the reply

received from the Food Production Department dated the 16th January last, stating that the power of taking possession of land conferred by Regulation 2M of the Defence of the Realm Regulations has been delegated to the Agricultural Executive Committee, whose powers in connection with Common land requires the specific sanction of the Board of Agriculture which has been given in a few cases in various parts of the Country, due consideration being given to the enjoyment by the Commoners and public and insisting where sanction is given that arrangements shall be made for re-instatement at the end of the period of possession and stating that if the Conservators consider a portion should be enclosed for the period authorised by the Regulation, namely, two years from August 1918 or from the termination of the War, whichever is earlier, or for any shorter period they should communicate with the East Sussex Agricultural Executive Committee specifying the plots it is desired to enclose and the arrangements which would be made for cultivation.

On 21st January last the Clerk received a letter from the Agricultural Executive Committee forwarding an application from Mr. John Reid of Browns Brook to take in 1½ acres of Forest Land and requesting the Conservators to deal with it.

He also received a letter dated 24th January last from Mr. Sylvanus Ridley stating that several persons would like to have a piece and it would greatly assist them if the Conservators would call a public meeting and explain the terms on which they would be allowed to enclose and cultivate, paying a small acknowledgement.

The Clerk also received several letters from Mr. Thomas Osborne stating, (1) that it would not pay him to enclose and cultivate for so short a period, (2) enquiring how the Commoners are to be compensated for loss of feed for their cattle and litter and brakes, if inclosures are granted and (3) that the land taken in should be properly fenced so that there should be no claim against Commoners if their cattle broke in and damaged the crops, otherwise it would be a great nuisance to little people and a further letter from him stating that he was strongly against enclosing any part of the Forest, that if more land is needed by smallholders, there is plenty near and adjoining the Forest which could be utilised without interfering with the Forest.

The Chairman states that these applications would have to be dealt with by the County Agricultural Executive Committee, explains the procedure which the Committee would follow in the matter and states that in his view the Board can take no further steps until they receive definite applications from Commoners to enclose with the necessary particulars to forward to the Committee.

It is Resolved that the Board is of opinion that it is desirable to postpone considering the application of Mr. Reid until a number of similar applications have been received and further until the general policy to be adopted by the Food Production Department under whose control it is understood, the matter now is, has been laid down more definitely.

Estovers

A letter is read dated the 19th instant from Mr. Joseph Ridley taking exception to some portions of the Clerk's report on the subject of estovers and the Clerk is directed to reply thereto in terms of a draft letter submitted by him to the Board.

Cart tracks improvement of

A letter dated 23rd January last from Mr. Thos. Osborne of Misbourne is read stating it would be a great boon to the little Commoners, if the Conservators would spend as much of the Rates as possible on improving the cart tracks and other improvements that will be of benefit to them.

It is Resolved that if Mr. Osborne will state particulars of any tracks to which he refers, the Board will consider the matter in their next Meeting.

Rangers' reports – Gypsies

Acting Ranger Walter's reports are read showing a large increase of gypsy encampments on the Forest and the Clerk reports that Mr. Aaron Brett of Barnsgate Farm and Mr. D. Sands of Newnham Park Farm had written to him complaining as to the number of gypsies on the Forest. The Clerk wrote to the Chief Constable, suggesting

that all such encampments should be visited by the Police and instructed Ranger Walter to report to the Police all gypsy encampments he found.

Ranger Walter reports that while he was laid up with bronchitis, Ranger Brown attended at the Uckfield Bench on the 17th January last on the prosecution of Aaron Smith a gypsy for camping and that he was convicted and fined 10/-.

Bridge at Nutley Bank

Ranger Walter also reports that within the last few days the Bridge at Nutley Bank, which he only recently repaired has been damaged apparently by some heavy vehicle running into it, knocking 2 posts out of position and drawing the guard rails out of their mortices.

It is Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be authorised to have the damage repaired, the expense thereof to be charged to the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Civil Service Cadets

Mr. Midgley puts before the Board on behalf of the Civil Service Cadets an application for permission to have a camp on the Forest in the coming summer.

It is Resolved that consent be granted subject to the usual conditions.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely:-

Walter, Henry 8 weeks salary as Acting			
	Ranger to 25th inst.	£4:16:0	
	Employers Insurance	<u>£0:2:0</u>	
			£4:18:0
Brown Wm.	8 weeks salary to 25th inst.	£8:2:0	
	Employers Insurance	£0:2:0	
			£8:2:0
Kirby Herbert 8 weeks house rent			
	to 25th inst.	£2:0:0	

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 3rd May next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the house of Mr. Albert Turner at Nutley, on Friday, the 3rd May 1918, at 3.0 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show the following balances standing to the credit of the several accounts namely:-

Rate Account	£168:9:2
2nd Ranger Account	£9:19:0
Protection and Improvement Fund	£170:4:11

Henry May – claim to rights

Mr. Henry May Blacksmith at Nutley, attends to claim rights on the Forest in respect of the cottage and ground containing altogether [blank] which he rents from Mr. Albert Turner.

The Clerk states he has inspected the deeds of the property, which show it was described as a messuage or cottage and 1a.1r.30p. of land in Maresfield formerly Richard Pollards, paying a quit rent of 1/- to the Manor.

Mr. A. Turner states he has been owner of the property for many years and has lived over 70 years at Nutley, but has no knowledge that any rights of common have been exercised by the successive occupiers.

Mr. May states he has been tenant of the property for 17 years and claims fire bote in respect of the house and litter for the land. He states he has had litter from the Forest for littering pigs during the whole 17 years. That about 10 years ago Mr. Joseph Ridley informed him the property had a right to fire bote and each year since he has taken estovers from the Forest for burning on the hearth, but for no other purpose. Mr. Sylvanus Ridley, aged 67 years, states that when he was about 7 years of age he saw Thomas Stevenson on the Forest Load firewood on his wagon and afterwards deliver it at the premises, which were then owned and occupied by James Fenner and that between 25 and 35 years ago he once went with a team from Courtlands Farm and carried a load of firewood, cut by Peter Pearce near the Vetchery and delivered it on the premises which were then occupied by one Paine. He could not speak to any other occasions.

Henry Stevenson aged 68, states he was born and has lived all his life at Nutley and that he remembers when a child that for several years his father carried litter, peat and rushes from the Forest and delivered them at the premises in question and that his uncle John Stevenson cut oak, beech and other trees except holly, which witness' Father carted to the premises. Witness states that he left home and went into service when he was 15 years of age and that his statements refer to what took place before that time.

It is Resolved that the Board are satisfied with the evidence as to litter and that Mr. Albert Turner's name be inserted in the list of Commoners in respect of this property as far as regards litter, but they have not before them sufficient evidence of continuous user as of rights for 60 years last past to take fire bote.

Shepherds Gate lane repair

The Forest Row Committee report that Mr. Job Luxford has informed them that owing to the difficulty in obtaining labour, he is unable to carry out the repair of the lane at Shepherds Gate. It is Resolved that the matter be left in the hands of the Committee.

Military breaking Forest land

The Clerk reports that the Officer Commanding the Camp at Forest Row, having proposed to break up 100 acres of the Forest for food production by the Military, he referred the matter to the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee and the former having conferred with the latter and having met the Commanding Officer and gone over the ground proposed to be broken up, on the 11th March last, the Clerk, by his direction, wrote to the Commanding Officer on the 13th March, stating that the Board would raise no objection to the breaking up and cultivating of so much of the following areas as shall not exceed altogether 50 acres namely:-

No. 1 From Wych Cross Corner towards Chelwood Gate – a strip parallel with the road on the right hand side, about 300 yards long by about 70 yards broad, running back to Mr. Freshfield's green and 2 plots or pieces close to the Nutley Road, with an area of about 4 acres and 2 acres respectively.

No. 2 From Wych Cross towards Plaw Hatch and between Prestidge and Hindleap Warrens, - a strip on the south side of the road to Plaw Hatch parallel with the road about 250 yards in length and about 50 yards in width, starting from the garden fence at the East Corner and two pieces on the right hand side of the road with an area of about 12 – 15 acres.

The Clerk at the same time pointed out that the Commoners are entitled to pasture their cattle on the Forest at all times, so that the Military would have to protect their crops against them.

The Chairman states that he sanctioned this arrangement, on the distinct conditions, which he explained to Sir John Jervis (the O.C.), at the time of inspection – (11th March), (1) that there should be as little interference as possible with the timber growing on the Forest, (2) That all fencing must be removed on the termination of the War and (3) that the surface of the Forest must then be restored.

It is Resolved that the action of the Chairman in the matter be approved and confirmed and that the Clerk make it quite clear to the Officer Commanding that the consent of the Board was given subject to these conditions.

The Chairman reports that the whole of these areas have been ploughed and that a considerable portion of them have already been planted.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report:-

The Committee report to the Board that Acting Ranger Walter terminated his employment by a month's notice which expired on the 29th April last and they hope that Ranger Kirby will soon be able to resume his duties. In the meantime the Committee will see to what is necessary.

Boring Wheel Mill Road – As reported to the last meeting of the Board, the stone for the repair of this road has been dug, but the Committee have been unable as yet to get it carted to the spot. The cost of digging the stone amounts to £2:13:11.

As regards the repair and drainage of the road at Fairwarp, the drainage at the part near the Church has been attended to, but the Committee have been unable to carry out any further work owing to the difficulty of obtaining labour.

The track pointed out by Mr. Thomas Osborne has been repaired at a cost of 10/-.

The repair of the Bridge at Nutley Bank has been carried out by the Acting Ranger.

The Committee ask the Board to pay the above amounts of £2:13:11 and 10/- out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Acting Ranger Walter did overtime work to the extent of 16/11, which the Committee recommend to be paid.
H.B. Portman

Protection and Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that the report be entered and approved and that the sum of 16/11 be paid out of the General Fund and the sums of £2:13:11 and 10/- be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Applications to enclose for food production

The Clerk reports that, with reference to applications of small occupiers to enclose portions of the Forest for the purpose of food production, he wrote to the East Sussex Agricultural Executive Committee on the 25th February last, as directed at the last Meeting and has heard nothing further.

A. Turner and Son deposit of trees

Messrs Albert Turner and Son of Nutley, having purchased 1000 trees at Campfield Rough from Mr. Streatfeild and having applied for permission to deposit a few from time to time during the next 4 or 5 months, for the purpose of

making up loads, the Clerk, by the authority of the Chairman, informed them that the Conservators would make no objection, provided the trees are not allowed to remain longer than necessary, that they are deposited in such positions as not to interfere with the convenience of any Commoner and that, when their removal is completed, they make good any damage done to the surface.

It is Resolved that the action of the Chairman be approved and confirmed.

James Manser claim to rights

A letter is read, dated the 22nd April last, from Mr. James Manser, the occupier of Brown Knoll Farm, The Warren, Crowborough, claiming Forest rights in respect of his holding. It is Resolved that the Clerk enquire into the matter and report to the next Meeting.

Messrs. Anderson depositing trees

The Clerk is informed that Messrs George Anderson and Anderson of Empire House, Piccadilly, the purchases of Pippingford and of Ashdown Park, are cutting timber and depositing it upon the Forest adjoining the road. It is Resolved that the Clerk draw their attention to the Bye Laws and inform them that the Board will not interfere so long as the trees are removed within a reasonable time of their deposit.

Ranger Brown having reported that 2 fires have occurred on the Forest from sparks emitted by traction engines, carrying pit props from Pippingford to Forest Row railway station, the Clerk is directed to impress on Mr. Anderson the necessity for providing all tractors employed with efficient spark catchers.

Sir James Horlick of Kidbrooke Park, having applied for leave to cart trees cut in Kidbrooke across a corner of the Forest to the highroad from Forest Row to Plaw Hatch, it is Resolved that the Clerk inform him that the Board will make no objection.

Fires

Ranger Brown reports that the following fires have occurred on the Forest:-

March 10	6 p.m. near road Birch Grove to Chelwood Gate	abt 15 rods
March 16	3.30 p.m. Ditto	abt. 10 rods
March 25	West Side entrance to Vetchery Road	abt ¼ acre
May 2	2 fires South side high road Wych Cross to Nutley	abt 5 rods

The first fire is believed to have been caused by children, the second by 2 lads (unidentified) seen to cycle from the direction, the third is thought to have been caused by sparks from a Foden Traction Engine, believed to belong to the Universal Carrying Company of Eastbourne, to whom the Clerk wrote, warning them that spark catchers must be provided. The fires on 2nd May were believed to be caused by traction engines employed by Messrs Anderson at Pippingford.

Fires

Acting Ranger Walter reported the following fires:-

February 24	3 p.m. on Burnt Hill	about ¾ acre
March 10	11 a.m. at Marl pits	about 3 acres
March 16	on Poundgate Hill	about 3 acres
March 16	2 fires at Greenwood Gate	
March 16	near Duddleswell	
March 16	2 near Barnsgate	about 60 rods
March 17	3 p.m. at Marl pits	about 10 rods
March 23	11 a.m. on Burnt Hill	about 15 acres
March 29	6 p.m. 7 fires on Burnt Hill and Holly Bank	about 2 acres
April 2	7 p.m. 3 fires near Fairwarp	about ½ acre
April 4	11 a.m. on Paynes' Hill	about 1½ acres
April 4	5 p.m. on Kingstanding Hill	about 3 acres

Those on 24th February and 10th and 17th March are believed to have been caused by children, those on 16th March and that on 4th April on Kingstanding Hill by a traction engine (not identified) that on 23rd March by boys, that on 29th March by soldiers; the others, cause not known. P.C. Stevens assisted in extinguishing that on 2nd April. The total represents about 31 acres.

Road Authorities application for road materials

Leave is granted to the East Grinstead R.D.C. and the Uckfield R.D.C. to take from the Forest during the year ending 31st March 1919 the same quantities of road material as last year namely, 130 yards of gravel each the former from near Kingstanding.

John Reid hedge

Acting Ranger Walter reported on 20th March that John Reid of Brown's Brook has planted a laurel hedge in his ditch on the Eastern side of his property within 3 feet of the centre of his bank. It is Resolved that the report be recorded.

Military excavations

Ranger Walter having reported that some time since the Cadet Training Corps stationed at Maresfield drove a tunnel under a belt of fir trees at Fords Green, using the earth to form a sandbag redoubt; that the timber and props have now been removed and the work apparently abandoned. The Clerk reports that he wrote to the Commanding Officer pointing out that the condition of the tunnel is very dangerous and requesting that it be filled up and the surface restored and has received a reply that the matter is having attention.

2nd Ranger Fund

The Clerk reports that the balance to the credit of the 2nd Ranger Fund is insufficient to pay the salary due to the 2nd Ranger today. It is Resolved that £15 be drawn from the Protection and Improvement Fund and paid into the 2nd Ranger Bank account.

Licences granted

Ranger Brown presents a return of litter and other licences granted by him during the past year.

C.B. Weir licence for litter

He also reports that by direction of the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee and in consideration of the present exceptional times be granted a licence to Mr. C.B. Weir of Duckings, Withyham, to take 5 loads of litter from the Forest for use on his Tye Farm, Hartfield.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Walter Henry	9 weeks salary as Acting Ranger to	£5:8:0	
	29th April last		
	Employers insurance	£0:2:3	
	Overtime and postages	<u>£0:16:11</u>	
			£6:7:2
Brown Wm.	10 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger to		
	6th instant		£10:0:0
	Employers insurance	<u>£0:2:6</u>	
			£10:2:6
Kirby Herbert	10 weeks house rent to 6th instant	£2:10:0	

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board will be held on Friday the 26th July next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 26th July 1918, at 3.0 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford
Mr. Albert Turner

Financial Statement

The minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show the following balances standing to the credit of the several accounts, namely:-

Rate Account	£165:11:6
2nd Ranger Account	£53:10:6
Protection and Improvement Fund	£158:14:11

2nd Ranger subscriptions applications for

It is Resolved that it be a definite instruction to the Clerk that in cases where a letter is received declining to subscribe or to renew a subscription to the 2nd Ranger Fund, no second application be made to the person but that when no reply is received to a first application the Clerk make a second application and no more.

Military excavations

Ranger Kirby reports that the tunnel referred to at the last meeting has been filled in partially only and that there is danger that a subsidence will ensue which will be a danger to the Commoners' cattle. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Military Authority at Maresfield Park requesting them to complete the filling in, so as to render the place secure from subsidence.

Fires

Ranger Brown reports that since the last Meeting the following fires have occurred on the Forest:-

May 27	1 p.m.	West side of Stream near Three Wards	about 2 acres
May 31	12.30 p.m.	adjoining above	about 4 acres
June 23	5 p.m.	In Gill near Old Lodge and Fir Clump	about 7 acres
July 9	6 p.m.	Between highway and footpath above Kidbrooke Wood	about 15 rods

Cause of first, second and fourth fires unknown, third fire believed to have been caused by 3 men (unidentified) who had been picnicing.

Forest Row Committee report

The Forest Row Committee report that the attention of the Sanitary Authority has been drawn to the contamination of the stream flowing by the Rifle butts caused by matter discharged into it from the Forest Row Camp.

Shepherds Gate footpath repairs

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to carry out the repair of the footpath at Shepherds Gate as soon as circumstances will permit.

Maresfield Committee report

The Maresfield Committee report as follows:-

The Committee are still unable to obtain labour to carry out the repair of the Boring Wheel Mill Road.

The fencing of the recreation ground at Ford's Green has fallen into disrepair and requires 700 feet of fine strand wire, 14 posts and 2 iron pipes, which will cost £10 to £12 and they ask the assistance of the Board for its repair.

It is Resolved that the Committee be authorised to carry out the repairs and that the cost thereof be defrayed out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Messrs George Anderson and Andersons wrote on 13th May last that they would take care to conform to the Bye Laws, that they had ordered spark arresters to be attached to their tractors and instruct their men to take every precaution to prevent fires and to remove all deposits of timber as quickly as possible, so that none remain on the Forest an unreasonable time.

Applications are considered from Ranger Kirby who is now discharged from the Army and about to resume his duties and from 2nd Ranger Brown for an increase of salary.

The Maresfield Committee report as follows:-

Ranger Kirby is now discharged from hospital and will be ready to resume his duties as Ranger as soon as the Medical Authority authorises him to do so. He is not able as yet to perform his full work, but can get about on his bicycle. He has pointed out to the Committee that he is unable to maintain himself and family on his present pay and the Committee recommend that from the time of his resuming his duties he be paid 25/- per week plus his house rent 5/- until he is able to resume full work.

His bicycle requires repair and the Committee ask the Board's authority to have what repairs are necessary done to it. Resolved that the report be approved and the recommendations contained in it be adopted.

Ranger Brown

On the recommendation of the Forest Row Committee it is Resolved Brown's salary be increased from £ 1 to £ 25/- per week commencing from Monday next.

H. May – claim estovers

A letter is read from Mr. H. May of Nutley dated 23rd inst. stating his holding has a right to fuel wood and notwithstanding the decision of the Board at the last Meeting, he shall continue to exercise the right.

Also a letter dated 24th inst. from Mr. Joseph Ridley, stating that Mr. May's holding has a right to fuel wood and that a claim for it was made by Richard Fenner and admitted in the suit of Dorset v Newnham.

The Clerk states that no one of the name of Fenner claimed in the suit but that Richard Fenner of Hartfield claimed rights in respect of property in Hartfield, that he had seen Mr. Ridley who is satisfied that it is an error in his copy of the Decree. The Clerk adds that Mr. May's attitude is probably due to this erroneous information given him by Mr. Ridley. It is Resolved that the Clerk write explaining the matter to Mr. May and send Mr. Ridley a copy of the letter.

Messrs Turner removal of timber

Messrs A. Turner and Son of Nutley having applied for leave to draw out the timber they have cut in Campfield Rough, at the bottom of the wood at Brown's Brook and on to the Forest by the road made up by the

Conservators which is now in bad order and to deposit the trees on the Forest and remove them by traction engine via Fairwarp, promising afterwards to put the road into its former condition.

It is Resolved that permission be granted on that understanding.

Military taking litter

Ranger Brown reports as follows:-

On the 13th instant about 1 p.m. I saw two Military wagons from Forest Row Camp and near to it loaded with Forest litter and coming from the direction of Wych Cross. On the 15th instant I went and found the litter has been cut on the bog east side of the Isle of Thorns Farm. On the 16th inst. I reported the matter to the Adjutant of Forest Row Camp and he promised to have the litter cutting stopped. About 7.30 p.m. the same day I saw two more Military wagons with Forest litter. I at once reported the matter and on the 17th inst, I was informed that these last named wagons had gone out before the men knew of the order. I have not seen any more since.

It is Resolved that the Report be recorded on the minutes.

Maresfield Park Estate – Military interfering with exercise of rights

The Clerk reports that the Forest Rate due in respect the Maresfield Park Estate and amounting to £ 60:1: * not having been paid, he this morning saw Mr. Alexander Findlay, who stated that being prevented by the Military from exercising the rights of common, he is advised he is not liable to pay the rate. He stated that (1) litter cut for the Estate had been carried away by the Military [of] Maresfield Camp; (2) that other litter cut had been appropriated by the Military at Crowborough Camp, who had spread it over boggy places and lain upon it: (3) that, when his wagons had been sent on the Forest to carry litter home, the Military from Crowborough Camp had ordered them off saying the Forest was under Military control and his wagons had in consequence returned empty and (4) that the surface of the Forest where he has been accustomed to cut, i.e. in the neighbourhood of Crows Nest, has been so much disturbed by the Military, that the wagons cannot go over it. The Clerk pointed out to him that the first matter only had been reported to him, that he at once wrote to the Military Authority at Maresfield Camp, who promised to return the litter so appropriated and that Acting Ranger Walter subsequently informed him that the litter had been returned – this Mr. Findlay denied but that no complaint had been made to him of the other three matters and that he would report them to the Board today.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr. Findlay informing him of Acting Ranger Walter's statement as to the first matter, pointing out that no previous complaint has been made to the Board of the other 3 matters and that if he will supply the Clerk with definite particulars and approximate dates with regard to them, the Board will at once take steps with a view to preventing in future, interference by the Military with the exercise by the Commoners of their rights.

Maresfield Park Estate – rate in arrear

Also that the Clerk do inform him that the Board must ask him to pay the rate as soon as possible as they do not wish to have to communicate with the Public Trustee on the matter.

Forest Gate at Post Horn Lane repair

Mr. Card reports that the Forest Gate at Post Horn Lane is out of repair. It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to do what repair is necessary, the cost to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Military dangerous excavation

Mr. Card also reports that the Military have dug trenches close to a cart track on the south side of the Recreation Ground at Forest Row, into which Commoners' stock have fallen and which is dangerous to Commoners and there cattle. It is Resolved that the matter be referred to the Forest Row Committee to take such action as they consider necessary.

Abandonment of rights ** - effect of on rating**

The Chairman states that since the last Meeting, Messrs Hasties, the Solicitors of The Honble Mrs. Spencer who is tenant for life of the Ashdown House Estate, rated in respect of about 656 acres, have forwarded to the Clerk a

document signed by Mrs. Spencer, surrendering all the Commonable rights annexed to the Estate and asking for an assurance that no action will be taken by the Board to enforce payment of any rate made subsequent to such surrender. The Chairman states that this raises a question of vital importance to the Conservancy, whether an owner of rights of Common can by releasing or abandoning them, relieve himself from the obligation to pay all rates for the future, or whether, the Provisional Order Confirmation Act having been passed, the obligation to pay rates for the maintenance of the Conservancy is made permanent irrespective of whether the rights of Common be abandoned or extinguished by release or not and he suggests that a small Committee be appointed to go into the matter.

It is Resolved that it be referred to a Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Board and the Chairmen of the two District Committee s to consider the whole matter with power to take steps and incur such expenses as they may consider necessary and to report their acts and proceedings to the Board in due course.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Brown Wm.	12 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger to	
	29th instant	£12:0:0
	Employers insurance	£0:3:0
		£12:3:0

Kirby Herbert	12 weeks house rent to 29th inst.	£3:0:0
The Clerk	A half years salary to 30th inst.	£50:0:0

and that the following be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund:

Luxford Job	Repair of bridge over Quabrook	
	near Golf Club House	£0:10:0

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 18th October next, at 2:30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4:45 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 18th October 1918, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
 The Honble H.B. Portman
 Mr. D.W. Freshfield
 Mr. Robert Kenward
 Mr. Edward Martin
 Mr. Ll. Midgley
 Mr. Mark Sandford

Financial Statement

The minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show the following balances standing to the credit of the several accounts, namely:-

Rate Account	£112:11:6
2nd Ranger Account	£41:7:6

Fires

No fires have been reported since the last Meeting.

Military excavations

The Clerk reports that he wrote as directed at the last Meeting to the Officer Commanding the Cadet Training Corps at Maresfield Park calling on him to complete the filling in of the tunnel at Ford's Green and he has replied that the work has been completed. This is confirmed by Ranger Kirby.

H. May claim to estovers

The Clerk reports that he wrote to Mr. H. May as directed at the last Meeting and this morning received a reply, stating he cannot understand the Clerk's letter, as he produced evidence of the exercise of the right to take fuel. The Clerk reads the evidence given at the Meeting on the 3rd May last which the Board consider altogether insufficient. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr. May explaining this and reminding him that his Landlord Mr. Turner states he does not claim the right for the property and suggest that if he is dissatisfied and has any fresh facts to put before them he can see the Conservators at the next Board Meeting.

Maresfield Park Estate Military interfering with exercise of rights

Also that he wrote as directed to Mr. A. Findlay with regard to the interference of the Military with the exercise of the Commoner's rights and as to the payment of the overdue rate and received a reply dated 3rd August last in which Mr. Findlay repeats his grievances.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Military explaining Mr. Findlay's complaints as to their acts and request that steps be taken (1) to fill in the excavations and disturbances of the surface of the Forest, of which Mr. Findlay complains and (2) express the hope that the surface of the Forest will not be disturbed in the future.

Rate in arrear

Also that the Clerk inform Mr. Findlay that he has done so and again ask him to pay the Forest Rate now overdue pointing out that while the Conservators regret the action of the Military it does not justify him in withholding the rate.

Contamination of stream

On behalf of the Forest Row Committee Mr. Martin reports that the attention of the Sanitary Inspector was drawn to the contamination of the stream by the Rifle Butts at Forest Row, that as a result an improvement has taken place which may continue so long as there is not a heavy rain fall, which washes down the objectionable matter.

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be requested to help the matter under observation and to take such action as they may deem necessary.

Forest Gate at Post Horn Lane repair

Also that the Forest Gate and posts at Post Horn Lane have been received under the supervision of Mr. James Card at a cost of £4:5:0.

It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

The following report of the Forest Row Committee is read, namely:-

The Forest Row Committee met on October 16th

Mr. D. Freshfield and Mr. Martin present an application from Messrs Anderson to lay down on the Forest tram lines and haulage machinery was considered and referred to the Board.

It was reported that the trenches now disused near the Cricket Ground were imperfectly fenced and still dangerous to sheep.

An application from Mr. Weir of Dickons Farm asking to be allowed to cut coarse heather as in previous years on the Forest was granted on the same terms as before.

D.W. Freshfield

Military dangerous excavation

As regards the trenches dug by the Military close to the cart track on the South side of the Recreation Ground at Forest Row. It is Resolved that the Clerk do write to Col Sir. John White Jervis Bart commanding the camps at Forest Row, pointing out the danger to the Commoners and their cattle and begging that the trenches be either filled in or covered over with boarding.

Messrs Anderson

An application is read dated 25th September last and a subsequent letter dated the 7th October inst from Messrs George Anderson and Andersons of Empire House, Piccadilly, for the sanction of the Board to their laying down tram ways and erecting a power station on the Forest between Ashdown Park and the Colemans Hatch to Wych Cross Road as shown on a plan which accompanied their first above mentioned letter and working same and to cart props on or near to the proposed tram line and to lay the same by the road side during the time necessarily occupied in installing the engine and laying down the lines.

After careful consideration it is Resolved Messrs. Anderson be informed that on the ground of National necessity and on the clear understanding that their action is in no way to constitute a precedent, the Board are prepared to grant their consent to the application to lay down a power station and tram lines on the Forest as shown on the plan and to maintain and work them for the period of the War and for six calendar months after the proclamation of peace should such proclamation be made within a year of the date of the consent to be granted to them and in the contrary case for a period of eighteen months from the date of the said consent but no longer on the following conditions:-

1. That the work does not involve the cutting of any trees on the Forest
2. That the tram lines are laid in such a Manner as to prevent as far as possible injury to any of the Commoners' cattle
3. That Messrs. Anderson undertake to make proper compensation for injury to any of the Commoners' cattle caused by the tram lines or the use thereof
4. That they make reasonable and proper crossing places over the tram lines (to be agreed on with the Board) for the passable of Commoners carts and wagons employed in carting brakes and litter from the Forest in exercise of their rights.
5. That they bind themselves to make from time to time such alterations (if any) in the tram lines as the Board may reasonably require, for the convenience of the Commoners lawfully exercising their rights on the Forest
6. That they use all possible means to prevent sparks escaping from the power station and igniting the undergrowth on the Forest and under take to make proper compensation for any damage by fire arising there from
7. That they pay to the Board a sum of £50 on the granting of such consent
8. That they undertake at the end of the above mentioned period to remove the tram lines and power station and to level and restore the surface of the Forest to the reasonable satisfaction of the Board.
9. That they pay the charges of the Clerk in connection with the negotiation and the preparation and completion of the necessary document and that the Board do consent to their carting props on or near to the proposed tram line and to lay them by the road side during the time necessarily occupied in installing the engine and tram lines.

Shepherds Gate footpath repair

With regard to the repair of the footpath at Shepherd's Gate, Mr. Martin reports that he had persuaded Mr. Henry Waters of Forest Row to undertake the work in place of Mr. Job Luxford, who has retired from business but that he is unable to give an estimate. It is Resolved that it be left to the Forest Row Committee to carry out the work at a cost not exceeding £15 to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read namely:-

The fencing of the Ford's Green Recreation Ground and the shed on it have been properly repaired at a cost of £13:15:6.

The repair of the Boring Wheel Mill Road and gate has been completed at a cost of £2.

The Committee ask that these amounts be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund
H.B. Portman

It is Resolved that the acts and proceedings of the Committee as reported be approved and payment made as requested.

Albert Wood Chelwood Gate cutting litter

Ranger Brown reports that on the 1st instant Albert Wood of Chelwood Gate was seen by Ambrose Baxted and William Wood of Chelwood to cut about 4 large lumps of litter on the Forest, which he admitted to Ranger Brown, who saw him on the 2nd inst, also that he had taken other litter – several barrow loads – from the Forest this summer. Ranger Brown also states that Wood was recently seen cutting rushes on the Forest, that Albert Wood has no rights of Common on the Forest and has not applied for or received a licence to cut litter or rushes.

The Clerk states that on the 7th September 1914 Albert Wood cut gorse and rushes on the Forest and on that occasion, he paid a fine of 5/- instead of being summoned and gave a written undertaking not to cut again without a licence.

It is Resolved that the Clerk look into the matter and do prosecute him if the evidence prove sufficient.

William Osborne application to erect shed

An application from Mr. William Osborne of the Foresters Arms Fairwarp for permission to erect a shed outside his hedge on a site he alleges of an old Donkey Shed is referred to the Maresfield Committee to enquire into and report.

Abandonment of rights

The Committee appointed at the last Meeting to consider the effect of Mrs. Spencer's abandonment of rights with a view to escaping the liability to pay future rates, report that by their direction the Clerk laid a case before the Honble M. M. Macnaughten Q.C. for his opinion on the matter; that at his request the Clerk had a conference with him on Wednesday but that his opinion has not yet been received.

It is Resolved that on receipt of the opinion the Committee take such action in the matter as they consider expedient.

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that the Honble H.B. Portman and Messrs. Sandford and Turner be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts for the current year.

Local Government Board Return

The Clerk lays on the table a copy of the Return he had made to the Local Government Board of the receipts and expenditure of the Conservancy for the year 1917.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Sun Fire Office	Insurance of Ranger Kirby	£0:11:8
Ditto	Ranger Brown	£0:11:7
Kirby Herbert	11 weeks salary from 5th August to 21st inst @25/-	£13:15:0
	12 weeks rent to same	£3:0:0

	Employers insurance 11 weeks	<u>£0:2:9</u>	£16:17:9
Brown Wm.	12 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger		
	@25/- to 21st instant	<u>£15:0:0</u>	
	Employers insurance	<u>£0:3:0</u>	
			£15:3:0

It is Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners be held on Friday the 20th December next at 11 a.m. and that the next meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoners' Meeting or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in Ashdown Forest, duly convened by the Clerk by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two of the newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, "The Sussex Express" and "The Sussex Daily news" at least 14 days before this date and by notice sent by post to every Commoner and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 20th day of December, 1918 at eleven O'clock in the forenoon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
 Sir Stuart M. Samuel Bart.
 The Honble H.B. Portman
 The Reverend G.S. Phillips
 Mr. William Carr
 Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield
 Mr. Robert Kenward
 Mr. Edward Martin
 Mr. Llewellyn Midgley
 Mr. Sylvanus Ridley
 Mr. Mark Sandford

Chairman

On the proposition of Mr. L. Midgley seconded by the Portman, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson is chosen Chairman and he, having taken the Chair, the Clerk reads the notice convening the Meeting and reports the due publication thereof as above mentioned.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley protests against the existing method of voting by acreage and claims that it should be one Commoner one vote.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st instant are Mr. Douglas William Freshfield, Mr. Edward Martin, The Honble Henry Berkeley Portman and Mr. Joseph Ridley

It is proposed by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Midgley that Mr. Douglas William Freshfield be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Portman and seconded by Mr. Kenward that Mr. Edward Martin be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Midgley and seconded by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley that the Honble Henry Berkeley Portman be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Portman that Mr. Joseph Ridley be re-elected a Conservator.

No other nomination having been made the Chairman declares the four Commoners who have been proposed and seconded duly elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Mr. Freshfield, Mr. Martin and Mr. Portman then thank the Conservators for the renewal of their confidence. Mr. Joseph Ridley being absent through illness.

Military occupation

Mr. Portman explains the difficulties with which the Board have had to contend during the past four years of war, owing to the Military having taken possession of the Forest, particularly as regards the dangerous trenches dug over various parts of the Forest and particularly between Crowborough and Fairwarp. The Conservators have done all that was possible in the interest of the Commoners and hope to induce the Military to fill the trenches in and restore the surface before they leave the District.

Sir Stuart M. Samuel enquires under what authority the Military have cultivated parts of the Forest and whether they will make any payment and continue to hold them after the War.

The Chairman explains that the Military have acted under the powers of the Defence of the Realm legislation, that the areas cultivated were arrived at by way of compromise and will not be retained by the Military after the War, that the surface of the Forest is to be restored to its previous condition and allowance made for all damage done, which will be treated as compensation.

Lanes to Forest Bank & Nutley Windmill, condition of

The Reverend G.S. Phillips draws attention to the bad state of the lanes to Forest Bank and to the Nutley Windmill and the Chairman promises to draw the attention of the Conservators to their condition.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley suggests that wounded soldiers should be allowed to cultivate the areas broken up by the Military for the purpose of producing food.

In reply to a complaint of the condition of the road at Browns Brook the Chairman explains that Messrs A. Turner and Son were permitted to cart over it from Mr. Streatfeild's wood, timber required for national emergency, on their undertaking to put the road in as good a condition as before.

On the proposition of Mr. Portman a hearty vote of thanks is accorded to the Chairman for his conduct of the business

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 20th December 1918, at noon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Conservators Election of

The Clerk produces and reads the following Certificate and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely:

To Mr. W.A. Raper

Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners, duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, for the purpose of electing four Conservators in the place of those Conservators who retire from office by rotation on the 31st of December instant, I hereby intimate to you that at the said meeting Mr. Douglas William Freshfield, Mr. Edward Martin, The Honble Henry Berkeley Portman and Mr. Joseph Ridley, were elected as Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Dated this 20th day of December, 1918

G.M. Maryon-Wilson

Chairman

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show the following balances standing to the credit of the several accounts, namely:-

Rate Account	£156:11:7
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2nd Ranger Account	£20:6:11
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Protection and Improvement Fund	£142:0:5
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and state that the balance of the Rate includes the rate of £60:1:0 received today from the Public Trusts in respect of the Maresfield Estate.

H. May claim to estovers

The Clerk reports that he wrote to Mr. H. May as directed at the last Meeting, but that Mr. May is not in attendance.

Military dangerous excavations

The Clerk reports that he wrote to the Officer Commanding the Forest Row Camp with regard to the dangerous trenches mentioned at the last Meeting, and received a reply dated the 22nd October last stating that the matter was receiving attention, and that the trenches would be filled in, and Ranger Brown reports that the work has been done.

The Clerk also wrote to the Military Authority at Maresfield Park with reference to the matters complained of by Mr. Findlay, and received a reply dated 23rd October last stating that the trenches west of Duddleswell House and south of Duddleswell and on Camp Hill were then being used by the Officers Cadet School at Maresfield Park in connection with technical exercises, but that the trenches between Duddleswell Oldlands and Mount Pleasant were constructed in connection with the defences of London scheme, and that the Cadets could not be spared to fill them in.

A letter addressed by Mr. A.H. Wood of Duddleswell Manor to the Chairman and dated the 29th alto is read in which, he draws attention to the danger to cattle of the trenches dug by the Military, and which are being overgrown and concealed by heather, and suggestion that of the hundreds of convalescent soldiers now at Crowborough Camp, some might be employed in filling them in.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Officer Commanding the Command Depot at Crowborough, urging that this work be carried out.

Also that he write to the Officer Commanding Cadets (Artillery) enquiring whether the trenches above referred to are any longer required for technical exercise, and if not, whether he can arrange to have them filled in.

Further, as a last resort, the Clerk write to the War Office, pointing out that the Military are bound to fill in all trenches and ***** the surface at the end of the war, and that the cost of doing so will then be much greater than now when men are available on the spot.

Messrs. Anderson

The Clerk reports that Messrs. Anderson accepted the terms and conditions fixed by the Board for their consent to the erection of a Power Station and tram lines on the Forest, that the Consent has been completed, and the sum of £50 received, and placed on deposit to the account of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Messrs. Anderson application for second tramline

A letter is read dated the 19th inst. From Messrs. Anderson stating that they have to remove about 1500 tons of timber for pit props from Tile Lodge Wood to the main road from Newbridge to Duddleswell and asking the consent of the Board to their laying down a single line of tramway with a starting additional fork line next the main road in the position indicated on a plan enclosed with the letter, the distance across the Forest being about 250 yards, and to operate it with an oil motor engine only, the position of which the plan indicates as next the main road.

The application having been considered it is Resolved that the consent of the Board be granted on the same terms and conditions as the previous licence, except the consent is to extend only to the 31st December 1919, and that a stipulation be inserted that the oil motor engine shall be so concealed and worked as not to be a danger to horse traffic on the main road.

Albert Wood - litter cutting

The Clerk reports that Albert Wood was convicted by the Justices at Uckfield on the 5th instant, and was fined 5/- with 14/- costs, which have been paid.

R.A.F. Golf Club acknowledgement

A letter is read from the Hon. Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club dated the 4th December instant stating that the membership of the Club is less than when he last attended before the Board, and that the Ladies' Club are unable to use their course on account of the Camp that it will take three or four years for the Club, even partially, to recover from the effects of the War, and begging the Board to continue the reduction of the acknowledgement paid by the Club for two years.

It is Resolved that under the circumstances the Board do reduce each half yearly sum due on the 25th December inst, and the 24th June next from £31:5:0 to £10:10:0 and that the Clerk inform Mr. Faber thereof.

East Sussex County Council application for road materials

The County Council of East Sussex having applied for the consent of the Conservators to take materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March 1920, namely,

Central Road District (Mr. A.G. Tucker Surveyor)

Point from which it is proposed to obtain the material	Description of Material	Quantity cubic yards
Kingstanding Pits	Gravel	150
Greenwood Gate	Grave	250
Fox Gravel Pit near Duddleswell	Gravel	200

It is Resolved that consent be granted subject to the same condition as in former years.

Lane at Shepherds Gate

The Forest Row Committee report that Mr. Henry Walters is unable at present to carry out the repair of the footpath at Shepherds Gate, and that at present the ground is not in a fit condition for the work.

Wm. Osborne shed

The Maresfield Committee report that they have inquired into the matter of Mr. William Osborne's application to re-erect a shed, as referred to them at the last Meeting, and as they find that no shed has existed on the spot at any time during 12 years last past, they advise the Board to refuse the application.

It is Resolved that the report be approved, and that the Clerk inform Mr. Osborne accordingly.

Road at Dodds Bank repair

The Committee further report that the road down the Dodds Bank to Dodds Bottom requires the hedges trimming, the water tabling made out, the surface repaired and reformed, and some drainage done, the cost of which they estimate will be covered by £10.

It is Resolved that the Committee be authorised to carry out the work, the cost thereof not exceeding £10 to be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Lanes to Forest Bank Nutley Mill

It is also Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be requested to examine the state of the lanes to Forest Bank, and to the Nutley Windmill, to which attention was drawn by a Commoner at the Commoner's Meeting today, and report what is necessary to be done and the probable cost.

Audit Committee Report

The Honble H.B. Portman as Chairman of the Audit Committee presents the following report, which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely:

To The Conservators of Ashdown Forest,

We have examined (1) The General Account, (2) The Second Ranger Account, and (3) The Account of the Protection & Improvement Fund, each for the year 1919. I 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 ***** the casting of the Accounts, and find them all correct; and recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the Accounts for the year viz:

Account No. 1 General

The Clerk	½ year's Salary to 31st instant	£50:0:0	
Do	Disbursements during year	<u>£19:17:6</u>	£69:17:6
Kirby Herbert	10 weeks Salary as Ranger		
	to 31st inst.	£12:10:0	
	10 weeks Employers Insurance	£0:2:6	
	10 weeks rent of cottage		
	@ 5/- per week to 30th instant	<u>£2:10:0</u>	£15:2:6

Account No 2. 2nd Ranger

Brown Wm	10 weeks Salary to 30th inst	£12:10:0	
	10 weeks Employer's insurance	<u>£0:2:6</u>	£12:12:6

The Clerk	Disbursements during year	£3:14:11
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Protection & Improvement Fund

The Clerk	Costs of obtaining Counsel's opinion	
	Re. abandonment of rights	<u>£17:19:2</u>

The balances standing to the credit of the several Accounts after the above mentioned cheques have been paid will be as follows:

The General Account	£40:19:3
The 2nd Ranger Account	£19:11:2
The Protection & Improvement Fund	£33:12:*

and the sum of £159:15:4 Consols representing the investment of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Dated 17th December 1919

Henry B. Portman

Mark Sandford

Cheques

It is Resolved that the report be approved, that the accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Board, and that cheques be drawn as recommended, which cheques are accordingly signed.

Also that the Board do thanks the Committee for the very thorough manner in which they have carried out the audit.

Rate Required

The Clerk reports that the rate made on the 18th May 1917 will be practically exhausted by the next Meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Portman seconded by Mr. Martin, it is Resolved that notice be given on the Agenda for the next Meeting to make a new Rate, and that the Clerk prepare the necessary documents for the purpose.

Abandonment of Rights

The Committee appointed at the Meeting of the Board on the 26th July last to consider the effect of Mrs. Spencer's abandonment of rights, with power to take steps to incur such expenses as they may consider necessary, and to report their acts and proceedings to the Board in due course, present the following report:

Shortly after the last Meeting of the Board your Committee appointed, received the opinion of the Honble M.M. Macnaughton, Counsel, who advised:

- (1) That in his opinion the liability to rate imposed by Sec. 14 of the Commons Act 1876, and the Commons Regulation (Ashdown Forest) Provisional Order Confirmation Act 1885, is a liability which attaches to the lands entitled to rights of Common over Ashdown Forest, when the latter Act was passed and that the Owner of such lands cannot get rid of the liability at all. But
- (2) that if (contrary to his opinion) the effect of the Acts was to impose the liability on the owners of the rights of common, irrespective of the lands to which such rights of common were appendent or appurtenant, then that the rights, on which the liability to rates was imposed by statute, cannot be extinguished without statutory authority.

Thereupon the Clerk by their direction wrote to Messrs. Hasties informing them that the Board had been advised by eminent Counsel to the effect of the first part of his opinion, and that it will be the duty of the Board to enforce payment of the next rate.

Messrs Hasties have replied asking for further information, and suggesting that, with a view to avoiding litigation, the Conservators and Mrs. Spencer should submit the question to a Counsel, to be nominated by a Judge of the Chancery Division, agreeing that his opinion should be binding on both parties.

Your Committee while equally anxious to avoid litigation on this question, are unable to recommend the Board to agree to the course suggested by Messrs Hasties, since to do as would in their opinion be inconsistent with the duty of the Board as a public body to which large public as well as private interests have been entrusted by Parliament, and would apparently not be binding on their successors in office.

It must be pointed out that should the Board, in place of maintaining what it has been advised are undoubtedly its powers and rights in His Majesty's Courts, pledge itself to be bound by the opinion of an informally selected Counsel on a matter vital to its constitution and maintenance, it might find itself liable to be accused with some reason of having misunderstood or failed in the execution of its trust.

Should Parliament not have succeeded in conferring on the Board the legal powers it was undoubtedly its intention to give it, it is to be anticipated that the Board of Agriculture would introduce an Amendment Act to remove the difficulties.

It seems therefore obvious that no Course can properly be adopted by the Board of Conservators that would prejudice their position in supporting any such action on the part of the Board of Agriculture.

It is Resolved that the report be received and entered on the Minutes.

Further that the recommendations of the Committee be approved and adopted, and that the Clerk do send a reply to Messrs Hasties in accordance with it, which is to be first approved by the Committee.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 28th February next at 2.30 p.m., on or such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

On the motion of Mr. Sandford a vote of thanks is accorded to the Chairman for the admirable manner in which he has discharged the duties of Chairman during the past year.

The Meeting terminated at 1.20 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 28th February 1919 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair

The Honble H.B. Portman

Mr. William Carr

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Ll. Midgley

Mr. Joseph Ridley

Chairman Election of

The Honble H.B. Portman is voted into the Chair, and on the proposition of Mr. Robert Kenward seconded by Mr. Midgley, Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson is elected Chairman of the Board for the current year, and having taken the Chair, he thanks the members for this renewal of their confidence in him for the 20th year in succession and accepts the position for another year assuring them that he will endeavour to continue to conduct the business of the Board in an efficient manner relying on the united support of the other members which is absolutely essential to the position.

Mr. A. Turner's death

The Clerk reports that Mr. A. Turner died on the 18th January last.

The Chairman recalls that Mr. Turner was a member of the Board from its institution, and was his predecessor in the Chair and always proved himself a most valuable colleague and he moves that the Board desires to record the appreciation of the great loss it has suffered by his death and to express to Mrs. Turner and his family its sincere

sympathy with them in the irreparable loss they have sustained, and this Resolution being seconded is passed unanimously and the Clerk is instructed to forward a copy of it to Mrs. Turner.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are then read and confirmed.

The following Committees are then appointed for the current year:

Forest Row District Committee – Messrs Freshfield, Martin and Midgley, and Colonel Needham.

Maresfield District Committee – The Honble H.B. Portman, and Messrs Carr, Kenward, and Sandford.

Fire Committee – The Chairmen of the Board and of the District Committees be the Committee to deal with all matters relating to the protection of the Forest from fire.

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show the following Balances standing to the credit of the several Accounts namely:

Rate Account	£76:17:6
The 2nd Ranger Account	£13:19:6
The Protection & Improvement Fund	£144:13:0

Messrs Anderson second tram line

The Clerk reports that the second licence to Messrs Anderson sanctioned at the last Meeting has been completed, and the sum of £50 received and placed on deposit to the account of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

The Clerk reports that £100 now stands on deposit at Barclays Bank to the credit of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

It is Resolved that a sum of £40 be transferred from the Protection and Improvement Fund to the 2nd Ranger Fund.

Also that the £100 now on deposit and such further sum as is necessary from the Post Office Deposit account be invested in the purchase of £150, 5 percent War Stock 1929–1947 in the Joint names of the Chairman and the Clerk to be held by them on account of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Military excavations

The Clerk reads letters he wrote on the 23rd January to the Authorities at Crowborough and Maresfield Camp and the Secretary for War urging the filling in of the Military excavations on the Forest and reads replies from the Officer Commanding the Crowborough stating that arrangements are being made for the troops to start filling in the trenches; and from the Secretary for War stating that the Clerk's letter had been forwarded to the Major General for administration of the Eastern Command 50 Pall Mall S.W. who will give the necessary instructions for a reply, but that so far no reply has been received. Both Rangers report that the Military have been actively engaged in filling up excavations.

The Clerk suggests that a survey of the Forest should now be made and particulars prepared of all work required to be done, and that a copy of such particulars prepared should be forwarded to the Major General.

It is Resolved that the Rangers when making their rounds do report in their weekly reports any excavations that have not been properly filled in and levelled.

R.A.F. Golf Club acknowledgement

The Clerk reports that the reduced contribution from Golf Club due 25th December last had been received with a letter from the Hon. Sec. stating "Please convey to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest the thanks of the Committee of the above Club for their consideration in agreeing to the reduced half yearly payment of £10.10.0 up to and including June 24th next."

Footpath near Tompsetts Bank flooded

The Clerk reads a petition from the residents at or near Tompsetts Bank drawing attention to the footpath leading past Stee** Farm to the main Lewes Road which is impassable in wet weather and asking that arrangements be made to draw off the water from the lower part running by the side of the road, the cost of which is estimated at from £15 to £20.

Mr. Freshfield states that additional work is required to this path and that the residents benefited should be invited to contribute.

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be empowered to promise a contribution of £10 out of the Protection and Improvement Fund towards the cost of such work as they shall approve.

Military occupation of forest

The Chairman reads the following correspondence which has passed between himself and the Secretary for War and it is Resolved that the letters be entered on the Minutes. They are as follows:

Searles
Fletching, Sussex
24th December 1918

My Lord.
Ashdown Forest – Sussex

I write on behalf of the Board of Conservators to ask if you will be so good as to give me as early an intimation as possible as to the date from which the Board will be able to resume their control of the Forest, the administration of which is entrusted to them by Act of Parliament. I may remind you that the power given to the Military Authorities under the Defence of the Realm Acts 1914 and statutory rules made in pursuance thereof, in exercise of which Military Camps were formed at Forest Row and Crowborough, and roads and tracks made across the Forest, and temporary structures erected on it in connection with these camps were expressly limited by the above statutes to the direction of the War. At the close of this period these powers expire and the rights and authority of the Conservators so far as they have been interfered with, or curtailed by these provisions will resume force. These roads and structures thus made and erected on the Forest were then to be necessarily removed, all excavations caused by them to be properly filled in and levelled, the surface of the Forest restored to its former condition and compensation allowed to the Conservators for all damage caused by these operations. The Board are anxious to take the necessary steps at the earliest possible moment to repair this damage and restore the natural growths of the Forest to the use of which the Commoners are entitled.

I shall be much obliged by your kindly giving me this intimation as to the date mentioned as soon as you are in a position to do so and also to what department the Board should address its claim for damages.

I am My Lord
Your obedient Servant
George M. Maryon–Wilson
Chairman Board of Conservators
Ashdown Forest

The Right Honble Lord Milner
War Office London

War Office
London SW1
25th Jan 1919

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 24th December 1918 on the subject of the portion of the Forest at present occupied by the War Department, I am commanded by the Army Council to state that whilst fully in sympathy with the desire of your Board, as expressed in the above quoted letter, it is not possible at the moment to give an undertaking as to the date of vacation.

I am to say that the wishes of your Board shall be carefully noted, and as soon as demobilization permits every endeavour shall be made to restore the Forest land to the Conservators at once.

I am Sir

Your obedient Servant

J. A. Corcoran

The Chairman

Board of Conservators

Ashdown Forest

Searles, Fletching

Sussex

The Forest Row Committee report that they have been in communication with the Officer Commanding the Camp at Forest Row who was authorised to discuss with them matters connected with the discontinuance of the Camp, and the Officer Commanding stated that it is desired to continue a portion of the Camp for the accommodation of men who are to be drafted abroad. In connection with the subject the following letters are read and it is Resolved that they be entered on the minutes. They are as follows:

Forest Row

26-2-1919

Dear Mr. Gordon

As I understand the Garrison here have done damages to the Recreation Ground in front of Ladies Golf Club during the past 3 years, we would much like to repair this damage at once, so that there would be no ill feeling between the Ashdown Forest Conservators and the troops when these leave to vacate the Camp permanently. Our idea was to restore the cricket pitch, pavilion roof recreation Ground paling and seats, re-turf bare patches and generally do what we could to reduce the claim for damages which will doubtless be made by the Conservators against the Army in the end.

Yours faithfully

H.M. Ballingall

Lieut. Col. R.F.A.

Commanding "B" Res Bse R.F.A.

The Hutments

Forest Row, Sussex

27th February 1919

Dear Sir,

In continuation of our conversation concerning the retention of part of Forest Row Bank, I am directed by the 2 M G 1 Dept War Office to inform you that the latest date till which the Forest Row Camp will be required for Military purposes will be November 30th 1919 and that they comply with the other conditions viz. assist in returning that part of the Forest used by the Military to its primeval condition.

War Office is confirming this Message in writing to the Conservators of the Forest immediately.

Yours sincerely,

H. M. Ballingall,
Lt. Col. R.F.A.
Command 91. B (R) Bde. R.F.A.

The Clerk to the Conservators
Ashdown Forest

Military ***

It is Resolved that Ranger Brown do go over his beat with the Military Representative from Forest Row Camp, and point out to him any excavations which require filling in and levelling.

It is further Resolved that the whole matter of the occupation of the Forest by the Military Authorities be brought up for further consideration at the next Meeting of the Board.

The Maresfield Committee report as follows:

Nearly all the stone required for repair of the road at Dodds Bank, has been dug and the work has been partly carried out. Mr. Sylvanus Ridley has undertaken to do one day's cartage, the expenditure so far has been £5.

As regards the lane to Nutley Windmill about 380 yards require repair, 200 yards being in very bad condition and 180 yards not so bad. The 200 yards require bottoming with faggots and coarse stone laid over and two stone under drains will have to be constructed. Mr. Turk has kindly undertaken to do all the cartage. The Committee estimate that the cost will probably amount to £40.

Mr. Alfred Walter of Oak Cottage, Fairwarp, has applied to have the road from Dogwood Yard to the main road at Fairwarp repaired and the Committee propose to authorise him to dig stone for the purpose, and spread it and to do other necessary repairs subject to the supervision of the Ranger.

It is Resolved that the report be approved and the recommendations be adopted, and that Mr. Sylvanus Ridley and Mr. Turk be thanked for their promised assistance.

Abandonment of rights

The Clerk reports that pursuant to the directions given at the last Meeting he wrote a letter approved by the Committee to Messrs. Hasties on the 2nd January last, stating that it would be inconsistent with the duty of the Board as a public body to submit a matter affecting so vitally the administration of the Forest and the general interests of the Commoners for which they are made responsible by Act of Parliament, to the decision of an informally constituted tribunal (as suggested by Messrs. Hasties) even were it not as they are advised, doubtful whether any such decision would be binding on their successors in office.

The Clerk states he has received no further communication on the subject from Messrs Hasties.

Rate

The Clerk having reported that the funds in hand will be exhausted by payment of the current liabilities, and having produced an estimate of the annual expenses, it is proposed by Mr. Portman seconded by Mr. Kenward 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 – 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 6d 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 herein after set out, namely:

Name	Address	Acreage	Amount £	s	d
Abbey & Sons	Kemp Town Brewery, Seymour Street,	15	0	7	6

	Brighton				
Adams, Mr. Albert Alfred	Burgess Hill, Sussex	2 ½	0	1	6
Amps, James William Esq.	Khartoum, Magdalen Road, Bexhill	65:2:24	1	13	0
Andrews, Miss & others	Linden Towers Tunbridge Wells	½	0	0	6
Appleby Mr. Horace	Nutley Uckfield	½	0	0	6
Arbuthnot, Miss Dorothy	50 Carlisle Mansions, Victoria Street, London SW (late Arbuthnot)	12:1:8	0	6	6
Arbuthnot W.R. Esq. Decd. The Repres, of	C/o James McFarlane Esq., Great Bentley, Cuckfield	114 ½	2	17	6
Ashdown, Mr. Thomas	Ivy Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham	1 ½	0	1	0
Avis, Mr *****	The Hollies, Fryars Gate Withyham	1 ½	0	1	0
Baker Mr. Matthias	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Baker Mr. William	Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Ballard & Co. Messrs.	Brewers, Lewes	2 ½	0	1	6
Barchard, Misses. A.E. & E.E.	Campfield Rough. Fairwarp, Uckfield	1:0:15	0	1	0
Barron, J.W. Esq.	Yew Tree Hall, Forest Row, Sussex	4 ½	0	2	6
Bashford, Mr. George	Forest Row, Sussex (late Mr. John Bashford) Ditto (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	5:3:28 0:0:31	0	3	6
Bailey, Sir Abe, K.C.M.G.	c/o A.E.N. Ward Esq., 65 London Wall, London E.C.	180	4	10	0
Bedwell, Mr. Charles	Nutley, Uckfield	9:0:29	0	5	0
Begbie, Harold Esq.	Spyways Hartfield, Sussex (late Clough)	5	0	2	6
Bellairs, A.E. Esq.	Stone House, Forest Row	37	0	18	6
Bellingham, Mrs. Elizabeth	Salisbury House, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	5:2:37	0	3	0
Bennett, Mr. J.	Furners Green, Dane Hill, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Bennett, Mr. George	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:4	0	0	6
Birch, Fredk. Peregrine	C/o Messrs. Birch & Co., Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC	3:3:12	0	2	0
Birch, Francis J.P. Esq.	Old End, Forest Row, Sussex	41	1	0	6
Bishop, Wm.	Chesnut Cottage, Milton Steventon, Berks (late John Bashford)	3:2:20			
Box Mr. Richard	Rozell Lodge, 329 Hainault Road, Leytonstone, London	3	0	1	6
Brassey, The Rt. Countess	C/o W.W.S. Follett Esq., Broomhill, Crowborough, Sussex (late Earl Brassey)	95:2:14 11.1.22	2	18	6
Brown, Mr. Alfred	Bank Farm Cottage, Forest Row (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:0:39	0		06
Browning Mr. William	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	9½	0	5	0

Budd Budd Fred.	Restlands West Hoathly East Grinstead	145	3	12	6
Burns, L.B. Esq.	Chuck Hatch, Hartfield, Sussex	12	0	6	0
Burns, Mrs. Clementina	Andrews Bank, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Card, Mr. Abraham	Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row (late Goard)	2 ³ / ₄	0	1	6
Card, Mr. James	Golf View, Ashdown Forest, Forest Row, Sussex	4 ¹ / ₂	0	2	6
Carr. Mr. William	Nutley, Uckfield	27:3:31	0	14	0
Carter, George C.	34 Clarence Street, Kingston on Thames	4	0	2	0
Champneys, Sir F.H. Bart	Littlemead, Nutley, Uckfield	7 ³ / ₄	0	4	0
Clarke Stephenson, Mrs.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	133:3:13	3	7	0
Clarke, Lt. Col Stephenson R	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	56:2:0	1	8	6
Clarke, Chas Bridges Orme Esq.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London (late Du Croz)	62:2:7	1	11	6
Clough, A.H. Esq.	Castletop, Burnley, Ringwood, Hants	434:1:24	10	17	6
Cohen, Nathaniel L. Esq.	11 Hyde Park Terrace, London (late Du Croz)				
Colchester The Rt. Hon. Lord	c/o E.P. Whitley & Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	213	5	6	6
Constable, Mrs. Lucy S.	Fords Bank, Horney Common, Uckfield	2:2:28	0	1	6
Cook, Miss	The Hall Nutley Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Cooper, Ernest Esq.	C/o Turner Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	140	3	10	0
Corbett, Chas. Henry Esq.	Woodgate, Dane Hill Park Uckfield	248:1:24	6	4	6
Cowan, W.H.	Crows Nest, Fairwarp, Uckfield	6:2:20	0	3	6
Dadswell, Mr. Alfred repres.	C/o Miss Fullegar & H. Watson, Ballards Hill, Goudhurst, Kent	1	0	0	6
Darwin, Major Leonard R.E.	12 Egerton Place, London SW 3	33 ¹ / ₂	0	17	0
De La Warr, The Rt. Hon. Muriel Countess	C/o W.W.S. Follett Esq., Broomhill, Crowborough	9:0:4	0	5	0
Denham, Captain Harold A.	The Crossways, Hartfield, Sussex	5:3:32	0	3	0
Dodge, Mrs. Mary Hoadley	C/o Messrs. Blount, Lynch & Petre, 48 Albermarle Street, London W.	11:1:30	0	6	0
De Lutteshaw, Miss Celina and Meyers, Miss Katherine	Solvane, Birch Grove, East Grinstead	6:3:1	0	3	6
Dowson, Hugh Emerson, Esq.	Landhurst Wood, Hartfield, Sussex	14:3:16	0	7	6
Du Croz, Charles Grant Esq.	Court Lands West Hoathly E. Grinstead				
Eason, Edward Henry Physick	192 Bishopsgate London E.C.	1:1:8	0	1	0

Ellis, The Hon. Mrs. Evelyn	35 Portland Place, London W	3	0	1	6
Faber, Alfred Esq.	Offerton, Forest Row, East Grinstead)	3:0:16	0	2	0
Fleming, Mr. Basil Robert	Hill Side, Chapel Lane, Forest Row (late G. Martin)	1:0:29	0	1	0
Fyfe, Miss	Homesdale, Grove Park, Lee S.E.	5	0	2	6
Follett, W.W.S. Esq.	Broomhill, Crowborough, Sussex	5	0	2	6
Freeland, Mr. P.H.	Nutley, Uckfield	1 ¾	0	1	0
Freshfield, Douglas, W. Esq.	Wych Cross House, Forest Row, Sussex Ditto (late Arbuthnot)	259:1:17 2:3:38	6	11	6
Fuller Miss Millicent	Vaughans Fletching Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Funnell, Mr. Trayton	Oakhouse Farm, Dane Hill, Sussex	18:1:13	0	9	6
Gasson Mrs. Agnes	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	3 ½	0	2	0
Gasson, Mr. Thomas	Chelwood Gate, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:32	0	0	6
Godley, The Rt. Hon. Hugh John	29 Chester Street, London SW Ditto (late Darling)	65:2:206	1	13	0
Goldsmiths' Company	Goldsmith's Hall London E.C.	117:3:10	2	19	0
Gordon, Mrs. Louisa M.E. and Marley, Hugh Esq.	C/o Messrs. Gordon & Marley, Broad Street House, New Broad Street, London	5 ½	0	3	0
Gordon, John F.	Domaha, Forest Row East Grinstead	5:1:36	0	3	0
Goslett, G.A.D.	Chelworth, Chelworth Gate, Uckfield	7	0	3	6
Hale The Misses	c/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner. East Grinstead	69	1	14	6
Hardy, Guy C. Trustees of Will	C/o Mr. H. German, Ashby-de-la-Zouch	256:3:35	6	8	0
Head, F.H.	Goldstrow, Piltdown, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Heath, Mr. Joseph Benjamin	Hamilton Terrace, Forest Row	1	0	0	6
Heasman, Mr. Philip	The Homestead, Friars Gate, Sussex	2	0	1	0
Heasman Mr. William	Little Furnace Farm, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Heasman, Mrs. C., Heasman Sarah & Heasman W*****	C/o Mrs C. Heasman, Holly Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham, Sussex	2 ½	0	1	6
Hewitt, H.B.	Perryman's Hill, Furners Green, Uckfield	8:0:36	0	4	6
Hillhouse J.	36 Lincolns Inn Fields, London, WC	1	0	0	6
Hoare, Alfred	37 Fleet St. London E.C	101	2	10	6
Hoath, Mrs. Lydia	C/o Mr. Alfred Hoath, Moorlands, Withyham	4	0	2	0
Hoath, Mr. Amos	Temple Cottage, St. John's, Crowborough	3	0	1	6
Hollamby, Mr. W.	Forest Row	0:0:16	0	0	6

Hollamby, Mr. J.	Sillwood Place, Forest Row	0:0:11	0	0	6
Hope, James F. Esq. M.P.	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes	520:3:0	13	0	6
Hounsom Wm. Allin Esq.	41 New Church Road, Brighton	28	0	13	0
Hyde, Mrs. R.	Pixton Hill Forest Row East Grinstead	127	3	3	6
Horlick, Sir James Bart	Kidbrooke Park, Forest Row (late Kekewick)	150	3	15	0
Inns, Mr. Alfred George	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Izzard, Mr. William	Paines Hill, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Johnson, W. Claud Esq.	Broadstone, Colemans Hatch, Sussex	0:1:16 32:1:22	0	16	0
Kenward, Mr. Robert	Fletching, Uckfield	74	1	17	0
Kenward, Mr. Hercules	Budletts, Maresfield, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Killick Mr. Henry	Old Town, Groombridge, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:0	0	0	6
Knight, Mr. J.	Railway Inn, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:2	0	0	6
Lack, Dr.	Brown House, Forest Row (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	1:1:29	0	1	0
Lawrence, General. The Hon H.A.	Ashdown Place, Forest Row, Sussex	8:1:28	0	4	6
Lambert, G.N. Esq.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Sussex	4:2:0	0	2	6
Langridge, Mr. Enoch	Dane Hill, Uckfield	1 ½	0	1	0
Larnach, James Walker Esq. Decd. The Repres. of	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	500	12	10	0
Laver Miss Elizabeth Fielder	Greystones, Crowborough	5 ½	0	3	0
Longley, Mr. C.	Oakhurst, Chapel Lane, Forest Row	0:1:1	0	0	6
Longley, Mr. C. J.	Ruthcote, Crawley, Sussex (late Du Croz)	[blank]			
Luxford, Job	Forest Row, Sussex (late Spencer)	33:1:12	0	17	0
Macmillan, Maurice Esq.	Birch Grove House, nr. East Grinstead	13	0	6	6
Macmillan, Mrs. Helen Artie	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead	44:1:11	1	2	6
Mc Leod, Addison Esq.	C/o F. Coverdale Esq., High Street, Brentwood, Essex	8	0	4	0
Manners, Mr. James Thomas	Bankside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Marchant, Mr. Thomas	Cackle Street, Maresfield, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Maresfield, The Rector of	The Rectory, Maresfield	100	2	10	0
Marriott, Mr & Miss Cordelia Isabella.	c/o Messrs. Hasties, 65 Lincolns Inn Field, W.C	65:0:17	1	13	0

Marsden, James.	Hurst Wood House, Hurst Wood, Buxted	3 ½	0	2	0
Martin, Edward	Woodcote, Forest Row	1:1:28	0	1	0
Martin Mr. George	Forest Row Ditto (late Read)	23:0:0 0:1:0	0	12	0
Martin, Mr. William	Coach & Horses, Dane Hill, Uckfield	8:1:0	0	4	6
May, Mrs. L.A.E.	Dane Hill, Uckfield	15:3:26	0	8	0
May, Paul Stanley Esq. & others.	C/o Messrs Finnis Downey Linnell & Chessher, 5 Clifford Street, London	79:2:3	2	0	0
McAndrew, John Esq. J.P.	Holly Hill, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells)	302:3:39	7	11	6
Messel, Harold George, Esq.	C/o T.G. Page Esq., 57 Coleman St., London EC2	44:2:35	1	2	6
Meyrick, The Rev. Arthur	Ashdowns, Hartfield, Sussex	5:0:15	0	3	0
Bibby ****	Chelwood Corner, Nutley, Uckfield	9 ¼	0	5	0
Misa, W. Pablo Esq.	Old Lands, Buxted, Uckfield (late Larking)	285	7	2	6
Moore, Edward Esq.	“Red Cot”, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7:2:16	0	4	0
Mitchell, Mr. Ben	Corn Dealer, Jarvis Brook, Crowborough (late Hobbs)	0:1:8	0	0	6
Mitchell, Mr. William & Eliza Brett	Nutley Road, Nutley	3 ¼ 0:1:10	0	2	0
Morris, Miss J.V.	Bracklay Cottage, Fairwarp. Uckfield	9:0:30	0	5	0
Neatby, Dr.	82 Wimpole St., London W (late Clough)	3	0	1	6
Needham, Colonel	Tylehurst, Forest Row	58	1	9	0
Norman, Mr. Henry The Repres. of	Fairwarp, Maresfield, Uckfield	6	0	3	0
Norris, The Revd. G.R.G.	The Vicarage, Wedmore, Somerset	100	2	10	
Osborne, Mr. Albert	Horse & Groom, Rushlake Green, Warbleton	0:3:15	0	0	6
Osborne. Mr. George	Annwood Farm, Fletching, Uckfield	2 ½	0	1	6
Osborne, Miss S.	8 Norfolk Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey	4	0	2	0
Osborne, Mrs. Mahala	Gt. Bucksteep Farm, Bodle St., nr. Hailsham	4:0:11	0	2	6
Osborne, Mr. William and Elizabeth his wife	Foresters Arms, Fairwarp, Uckfield, late Jas Bennett	14:2:0	0	7	6
Osborne, Mr. William	Ditto	15:2:18	0	8	0
Osborne, Mr. Thomas and Harriet his wife	Misbourne Farm, Nutley, Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Osborne, Mr. Thomas	Ditto Part Court *****	7 8:2:0	0	3	6
Parsons, Miss Muriel	Mouse Hole, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	1:2:19	0	1	0

Peckham, George	Sunnyside, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:16	0	2	0
Penfold, Berrick Esq.	Summerford Farm, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7:3:8	0	4	0
Philcox, Mr. George	Newbridge, Maresfield, Tunbridge Wells	2 ½	0	1	6
Phillips The Rev. J.S. MA	The Vicarage, Nutley, Uckfield	4	0	2	0
Playford, Miss Agnes	Harlie, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:0:16	0	0	6
Plevins, G.S. Esq.	Broadstone, Forest Row, Sussex	3:3:20	0	2	0
Portman, the Hon. Henry Oakeley	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes (l	173:1:31	4	7	0
Powell, Mr. V.N.W.	Wooton nr. Oxford	2:1:26	0	1	6
Public Trustees, the	C/o Alex Findlay Esq., Maresfield Park, Uckfield (late Munster)	2401:2:23	60	1	0
	Kingsway, London WC2 (late Waldstein decd) Reference G 768. B	28:1:8	0	14	6
Reed, Mrs Emma	Bank Cottage, Forest Row	3:3:37	0	2	0
Ridley, Mr. Spencer	Millbrook, Nutley, Uckfield	12 ½	0	6	6
Ridley, Mr. Joseph	Horney Common, Nutley, Uckfield	14	0	7	6
Ridley, Mr. Sylvanus	Nutley, Uckfield	29:1:16	0	15	0
Ridley, Mrs. Lucy Rose	Whitehouse Farm, Horney Common, Maresfield	19:2:26	0	10	0
Ridley, Mr. Henry	Nutley, Uckfield	0:1:32	0	0	6
Salzmann, Louis Francis Esq.	Hope Park, Bromley, Kent	3:3:20	0	2	0
Samuel, Sir Stuart M. Bart. M.P.	12 Hill St., Mayfair, London W	5:1:29	0	3	0
Sandford, Mark	“Martin”, Newick, Lewes	1 ¼	0	1	0
Sargeant, John Esq.	11 Vincent Square, Westminster, London SW	7	0	3	6
Saunders, Mr. Harry	Hawthorn, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:1:3	0	0	6
Sayers, Mr. Frederic	Post Office, Forest Row, East Grinstead	¼	0	0	1 ½
Sclater, Rev. J.S.	C/o W.F. Ingram Esq., Lewes	69:0:14	1	15	0
Scott, Mrs. Hannah	Duddleswell, Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Seymour, Mr. Mark	Post Horn Lane, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Shelford, W.H. Esq.	Horncastle, E. Grinstead (late Arbuthnot)	22:2:26	0	11	6
Soames, Arthur Gilstrap Esq.	Sheffield Park, Fletching, Uckfield	950:0:10	23	15	6
Shoebridge, Mr. Thomas	Nutley, Uckfield	11:0:37	0	6	0
Shoebridge, Mr. Owen	East Croft, Nutley	2	0	1	0
Southdown &	Lewes	4:2:30	0	2	6

East Grinstead Breweries Ltd.					
Spencer, The Honble Mrs.	C/o C.J. Parris Esq. 67 High Street, Tunbridge Wells	646:2:21	16	8	6
Stanbridge, Mrs.	2 Benthall Grove, West Croydon, Surrey (late A. Wheatley)	0:0:31	0	0	6
Stenning, J.C. Esq.	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	5:1:4	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mrs. Mary Ann	Collingford, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5:2:0	0	3	0
Streatfeild, R.J. Esq.	c/o Messrs. Powell & Co. Lewes	240	6	0	0
Sydenham, Dr. Geo. Mervyn	Chelwood Common, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Stevenson, Mr. Edwin	Normans Bay, Pevensey, Sussex	6:3:4	0	3	6
Tamplin & Sons Brewery Brighton Ltd	Phoenix Brewery, Brighton	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	6
Taylor, The Devises of J.S. Esq. Decd.	C/o W.B. Bond Esq., Aegen Gill, Forest Row	3:2:26	0	2	0
Taylor Mr. William	Old Workhouse, Fairwarp, Uckfield (late Page)	2	0	1	0
Taylor, Mr. James	Barnfield, Hoadley Lane, Crowborough (late Greenfield)	0:1:16	0	0	6
Thomas, Augustus A. Esq.	Fairwarp, Uckfield	11:3:20	0	6	0
Turner Albert Esq.	The Limes, Nutley, Uckfield Ditto (late Sylvanus Ridley)	78:0:29	1	19	6
Thomas, G.H. Esq.	Oakcroft, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	2:0:38	0	1	6
Thomas, Mrs. Lilian Sophia	Spatham Farm, Ditching, Hassocks, Sussex (late Hickmott)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Turner Mr. James	Hugletts Pit Farm, Maresfield	2	0	1	0
Tyler Mr. Enoch	Horney Common, Uckfield	$5 \frac{3}{4}$	0	3	0
Tyler, Mr. Allen	Horney Common, Uckfield	$4 \frac{1}{2}$	0	2	6
Villeneuve-Smith, F. Esq.	Forest Lodge, Maresfield, Uckfield	16:1:5	0	8	6
Wallis Mrs Reginald.	Blackswell, Rotherfield	2	0	1	0
Walsham, Mrs.	Warrenside, Forest Row	2	0	1	0
Walter, Mr. Alfred	Marlpits, Fairwarp, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Waters, Messrs. H. & E.	Forest Row, Sussex	23:3:11	0	12	0
Waters, Mr. Henry J.	Shepherds Well, Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	$1 \frac{3}{4}$	0	1	0
Waters Mr. James	Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:8	0	0	6
Weeks, Mr. Fredk Robt	Forest Hotel, Forest Row, (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:3:20	0	0	6
Welfare Mr. William	Ocklye Farm, Withyham, Sussex	3	0	1	6

Wheatley Joseph	Mr.	Colemans Hatch, Hartfield. Tunbridge	4	0	2	0
Wheeler Charles	Mr.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
White, Leeland	W.	Atherton, East Grinstead	0:1:15	0	0	6
Whitewood, Percy	Mr.	Nutley, Uckfield (late Barralet)	0:3:0	0	0	6
Whitewood, Clara Sophia	Mrs.	Nutley, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
White, Samuel	Mr.	Whitehill Cottage, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Wickens Mortgagees	Mr. J. H.	C/o W.E. Nicholson Esq., Lewes	11	0	5	6
Wickens Simeon	Mr.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	66	1	13	0
Wickens Spencer Snr. Exors.	Mr.	C/o Messrs. Hunt, Currey, Nicholson & Co., Lewes	15	0	7	6
Wickham, Arthur	Mr.	Forest Bank, Nutley, Uckfield	4:1:25	0	2	6
Willett, Arnold J. Esq.		6 Oxford Square, London	5 ½	0	3	0
Wilson Edward	Mr.	Mount Pleasant, Oldlands, Maresfield. Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Wilson Geo. M. Maryon Esq.		Searles, Fletching, Uckfield	1662	41	11	0
Wood, Mr. Jesse		Forest Row Green, East Grinstead	11:2:0	0	6	0
Wood, Ephraim	Mr.	Duddleswell, Uckfield	10:0:16	0	5	6
Wood John Edgar		2 Belmont Villas, West Malling, Kent	4	0	2	0
Wood, Thomas Daynes	Mr.	The Hollies, Bennett Park, Blackheath, Kent	30 ¾	0	15	6
Wood, Wm & Son Ltd.		C/o A, Turner Esq., The Limes, Nutley	12	0	6	0
Wood, Arthur H. Esq.		Duddleswell House, Fairwarp, Uckfield	12	0	6	0
Young William	Mr.	Fincham, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	23	0	11	6

It is Resolved that Ranger Kirby's salary be increased from 30th December last to thirty shillings per week.

Young trees cutting

The Clerk states that on 28th January last he received a report from Ranger Brown that on 2nd and 3rd January last soldiers from Forest Row Camp were found cutting down small oak and holly trees at the back of Goat Farm, which they carried away on gun carriages. Ranger Brown viewed the spot and found that the largest stones measured 7 inches across. The Clerk forwarded a copy of the report to Messrs. Hunt, Carrey, Nicholson and Co, who stated they would take up the matter with the Officer in Command of the Camp.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely:-
Kirby Herbert 9 weeks salary as Ranger

to 3rd prox.	£13:10:0	
Employers insurance	£0:2:3	
Rent of Cottage to do.	<u>£2:5:0</u>	
		£15:17:3
Brown William 9 weeks salary to 3rd prox.	£11: 5: 0	
Employers insurance	<u>£0:2:3</u>	
		£11:7:3

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 2nd May next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m.

H.B. Portman Chairman

A meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 2nd May 1919, at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon Wilson in the chair
The Honble H.B. Portman
Colonel Needham
Mr. William Carr
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Ll. Midgley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The minutes of the last Meeting are then read and confirmed.

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show the following balances standing to the credit of the several accounts, namely:-

Rate Account	£197:9:10
2nd Ranger Account	£42:12:3
Protection and Improvement Fund	£59:1:0

he Clerk produces the Brokers bought note for £150 5% War Stock 1929 – 47 purchased for account of the Protection and Improvement Fund purchased at a cost of £142.16.9 with £100 paid by Messrs. Andersons, 10/5 interest on the deposit thereof and £42.6.4 withdrawn from the Protection and Improvement account in the P.O. Savings Bank. He also reports that £40 was withdrawn from the last mentioned account and paid into the 2nd Ranger account.

Rate

The Clerk reports that the Rate made at the last Meeting was approved by the Board of Agriculture on 10th March last and is being collected.

Fires

The Rangers report the following fires that have occurred since the last Meeting:-

Northern Area

25th March	A fire South side of highroad from Goat to Wych Cross, 20 rods, occurred directly after a traction engine belonging to Messrs J.H. Friend of Forest Row had passed.
	Clerk wrote them stating the circumstances and warning them that all traction engines crossing the Forest must be provided with efficient spark catchers.
5th April	A fire near Greenwood Gate burning about 20 acres. Military from Crowborough Camp assisted to extinguish it. Cause unknown
13th April	Fire near Hollies Down about noon about $\frac{1}{4}$ acre. Cause unknown.
19th April	Fire near back entrance Wych Cross Place about 4. p.m. about 1 rod extinguished by Mr. Freshfield and spirit lamp & bottle found.
24th April	Two fires south side and close to road Wych Cross to Nutley about 8 a.m. and between Rushy Bottom, Vetchery Road about 7 rods together, extinguished by Ranger Brown. Cause unknown

Southern Area

17th March	7 p.m.	Near Pippingford	About 4 Rods
26th March	10 a.m.	Adjoining Millbrook Hill	About 10 Rods
28th March	2 p.m.	Near Pippingford	About 1 acre
3rd April	11 a.m.	Adjoining Millbrook Hill	About 15 acres
5th April	9 p.m.	Near Pippingford	About 30 acres
23 rd April	3 p.m.	Near Pippingford	About $\frac{1}{2}$ acre
23rd April	3.15 p.m.	Near Windmill	About 4 acres
23rd April	6.30 p.m.	Near Spring Gardens	About $\frac{1}{2}$ acre

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes:-

The Forest Row Committee met on April 19th 1919.

Present. The Chairman, Mr. D.W. Freshfield, Colonel Needham and Mr. E. Martin.

Road at Highgate. Mr. Martin informed the Committee he had called on Messrs Waters to furnish a specification of the work proposed to be done and its cost for submission to the Board.

Bridge near Golf Club House Cottages. The Ranger reported this Bridge which was on a frequented footpath called for repairs. The Committee recommend they should be authorised to repair it. Mr. Martin promised to inspect the Bridge before the Board met.

Camp at Forest Row. The Chairman informed the Committee he had had a fortnight before a letter from the Colonel commanding the camp confirming specifically all the promises made in the previous communication from the War office that the Camp should be completely evacuated by November 30th. The Ranger had gone round the Forest with the Military and indicated the trenches to be filled up and tracks repaired.

The Committee considered suggestions obtained by Lord Bryce from Sir D. Prane Director of Kew Gardens with regard to the restoration of the natural growths on the parts of the Forest denuded by the action of the troops. Colonel Ballingall having volunteered to take steps in this direction on the part of the War Office it was agreed to communicate with him on the subject

Housing

The Chairman stated that he also informed that the Rural District Council of East Grinstead had applied to the Board of Agriculture for powers to maintain part of the Camp as a temporary measure for housing purposes and

also that a petition had been handed about at Forest Row for signature asking that the camp should be converted into a permanent hamlet.

In consequence of this information he had referred to Lord Bryce who had been one of a deputation to Lord Ernle the President of the Board of Agriculture recently on the general subject of the Protection of Commons and Public Rights. At Lord Bryce's suggestion he had written privately to the Secretary of the Commons Preservation Society laying the facts before him and asking him if in his opinion any recent Act (apart from the War Acts) gave the government power to occupy any part of the Forest and thereby override the Act constituting the Board. He proposed to lay Mr. Chubb's reply before the Board, for whose information it was produced.

The Chairman added that there were admirable sites for cottages available and in the market close to the village and that the exceptional shortage at the present moment was largely aggravated by the number of cottages occupied by relations of officers or men in the camp. Four of his own were so occupied.

The Committee are of opinion that there is a shortage of cottage accommodation at Forest Row but that it can be met by building on available sites on private property without serious difficulty. If the demand after the removal of the camp and the consequent diminution of pressure remains urgent there should be no difficulty in as a temporary measure re-erecting the huts near the village. The proposal to plant a permanent hamlet on the Forest is a preposterous one. It would be a disastrous precedent for further encroachments on the rights the Board are appointed to protect. Moreover (though this so far as the Board is concerned is a bye issue) it would not fail to be injurious to the interests and prosperity of the locality as a whole.

The Committee recommend that the Clerk be instructed should occasion arise to take in conjunction with the Chairman the action that may seem called for to frustrate any schemes of the nature indicated.

It is Resolved that the acts proceedings and recommendations of the Committee as reported be approved

Mr. Freshfield reads the following letter received from the Secretary of the Commons & Footpaths Preservation Society and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes:-

25 Victoria Street
Westminster S.W.
28th April 1919

Douglas W. Freshfield Esq.
Wych Cross Place
Forest Row
Sussex

Dear Mr. Freshfield

I have been away and your letter was kept back for my personal attention, hence the delay in dealing with it.

I had heard something about the suggested conversion of part of the Forest Land at Forest Row into either a housing site or permanent allotments. A Mr. Gregory wrote to Lord Eversley following up our Joint communication to the President about War Memorials, trying to enlist Lord Eversley's sympathy in his scheme. I need scarcely say that he has not had any encouragement.

You have done splendidly with the War Office and should be congratulated for wringing from that Department such satisfactory assurances. Evidently the latest official was sent not by the War Office but by the Board of Agriculture which is the Department responsible for the provision of allotments. The Board has power under the Orders in Council made in pursuance of the Defence of the Realm Acts to authorise the utilisation of Common land for allotments whether that land is regulated or otherwise. This power was, of course, a mere emergency measure but I see that the Board has inserted in the Land Settlement Bill now before Parliament a clause which will enable it to apply Section 1 of the Defence of the Realm (Acquisition of Land) Act 1916 to land taken for

allotments. This means that the Board could sanction the retention of such land for a period of two years from the termination of the War and with the consent of the Railway and Canal Commission, for a further period of three years – thus for five years after the termination of the war the land could be retained as allotment land by the Board of Agriculture even if the War Office completely evacuates and restores it.

There is nothing either in Housing Act 1909 or in the new Housing Bill that would enable a Rural District Council to take any part of a Common permanently or otherwise in connection with a Housing scheme, but of course the War Office can retain possession of Common land and works thereon for two years after the war terminates and for a further three years if the Railway and Canal Commission agree.

If therefore the Rural District Council can succeed in inducing the War Office to throw aside its promise to you it would, I think, be possible for the huts to be retained for two, and, possibly, for five years. Our deputation to Lord Ernle was very satisfactory from many points of view. Lord Ernle, I think, admitted that a distinction must be drawn between Metropolitan, Suburban, and Regulated Commons (all of which are *prima facie*, of use for recreation and as open spaces) and Rural Commons situate in remote districts. The mere fact that Ashdown Forest is regulated should be sufficient to secure its protection from permanent encroachments, unless of course fresh legislation places new powers in hands of the Local Authorities.

Commons are protected against Housing Schemes by our safeguard in the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909 Sec 73. This Section is not proposed to be varied or replaced by the new Bill before the House of Commons.

If I can let you have any further information I shall be glad to do so and you may fully rely upon any help which we can afford in resisting any scheme to injure the Forest.

Yours truly,
Lawrence W. Chubb pp *Gill
Secretary

Road at Highgate

Mr. Martin reports that he has received from Messrs. E. & E. Waters an incomplete specification of work to be done to the road at Highgate. It was Resolved that when a more precise specification has been supplied Messrs. Waters be informed that if they can collect the remaining £15, the Board will contribute the promised £10 when the work had been carried out.

Bridge ** repair**

Mr. Martin also reports that the bridge across the Shalesbrook originally erected by Mr. Freshfield situate about 50 yards above the Golf Club Cottages had been repaired since the last Meeting.

Bridge near Water Farm repair

Also that the Bridge near Water Farm requires some slight repairs.

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to have the necessary repairs executed.

Forest Row Parish Council as to seeding down land cultivated by military

A letter is read dated 24th April last from the Parish Council of Forest Row stating they understand the Military propose to sow the land recently cultivated by them with gorse seed which would encourage fires and urging that it be sown down to permanent pasture. Mr. Freshfield states he has ascertained there is no intention on the part of the Military to sow gorse, but that the Conservators will press on them the desirability of sowing the ground with grass seed.

Military occupation

A reply dated 21st March last from the Garrison Adjutant at Crowborough Camp is read, stating that the filling in of the trenches is receiving attention.

Military camp at Forest Row duration of

The Chairman states that after the last Meeting he received the following letter from the War Office which is read:

War Office
London S.W. 1
27th February 1919

Eastern 8/7723 (2.MG1)

Sir,

In continuation of War Office letter, number as above of 25th January 1919, I am directed to inform you that the "Forest Row" camp can be vacated and restored by November 30th 1919. I am to say that it is hoped that this will meet with the wishes of your Board.

I am Sir,
Your obedient Servant
OB Lawford Maj. ***
Director of Quartering

The Chairman
Board of Conservators
Ashdown Forest

Military to fill up excavations

As it is rumoured that 3000 Royal Engineers are shortly to be quartered at Maresfield Park it is Resolved that the Clerk do then write to the War Office urging that the filling up of the excavations on the Forest be completed and suggesting that the R.E. may be available for the purpose.

Messrs. Anderson application for extension of licence

A letter is read from Messrs. George Anderson & Co. stating that it will take much longer to convert their timber than was anticipated and asking the Board to extend the first licence granted to them till the 31st December 1920 for which they are willing to pay a further £50.

Ranger Brown reports that a considerable quantity of timber and coal are deposited on the Forest around the Power Station.

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee do take up the matter and that Messrs. George Anderson & Co be requested to send a responsible representative to meet the Committee on the spot to go into the whole matter with power if the Committee think fit to arrange an extension of the licence on such terms as they consider necessary and proper.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes:

The Reverend G.W. Johnston having resigned the Office of Superintendent of the Fairwarp Recreation Ground on his resignation of the Vicarage and removal to Nutley your Committee recommend that Mr. John Sargeant of "Arnolds" Fairwarp be appointed Superintendent in his place.

Your Committee have completed the repair of the Road at Dodds Bank at a total cost of £9.5.0 which they ask to be reimbursed to them out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

They have repaired about 130 yards of the road to Nutley Windmill being the worst part of it at a cost £11 leaving about 200 yards to be repaired which will be less expensive.

Mr. Alfred Walter to whom permission was granted at the last Meeting of the Board to dig stone and repair the road from Dogwood yard has so far done nothing.

The Committee has not yet been able to take in hand the repair of the Road at Forest Bank. It was Resolved that their acts & recommendation be approved and adopted.

Rangers Kirby and Brown present their returns of the litter and other licences granted by them during the past year.

East Sussex County Council site for sanatorium

A letter is read dated 21st March last from the Clerk to the County Council of East Sussex stating that the Sanatorium Sub Committee of the Public Health Committee are looking for a suitable site for a sanatorium for tuberculosis as the Local Government Board are urging the provision of accommodation for ex-service men. That they have inspected Camp No 8 at Crowborough and enquiring whether this camp is under the Jurisdiction of the Conservators and whether the County Council could utilize it for the purpose.

The Clerk states that he replied that it is under the jurisdiction of the Conservators, and referred him to the Statutes under which no part of the Common can be enclosed without the sanction of Parliament.

Hand grenades etc. left on forest

Ranger Kirby reports that the Military exercising on the Forest have from time to time thrown away into the undergrowth live hand grenades and hundreds of cartridges and that his attention was drawn to the fact by the explosions that have taken place during the fires above reported.

It was Resolved that the Clerk write to the press warning the public of the danger.

Tompsetts Bank telephone extensions

A letter is read dated the 1st instant from the Post Office Telephone Department asking the consent of the Conservators to lay an underground pipe and cable and two distributing poles and stays under and on the Forest at Tompsetts Bank in accordance with a drawing which accompanied the letter. It is Resolved that subject to the approval of the Lord as regards the disturbance of the soil, a consent be granted subject to the payment of an acknowledgement of 1/- per annum for each distributing pole.

Cheques

It was Resolved that the following cheques be signed namely;

Kirby Herbert 9 weeks salary as Ranger			
	@ 30/- to 5th inst.	£13:10:0	
	Employer's Insurance	£0:2:3	
	Rent of Cottage to 5th inst.	<u>£2:5:0</u>	
			£15:17:3
Brown William 9 weeks salary @ 25/- to 5th inst.		£11:5:0	
	Employers Insurance	<u>£0:2:3</u>	
			£11:7:3

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 25th July next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.20 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 25th July 1919 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair

The Honble H.B. Portman
 Mr. James Card
 Mr. D.W. Freshfield
 Mr. Robert Kenward
 Mr. Edward Martin
 Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Mr. Midgley's retirement & bereavement

The Chairman states that he has received a letter from Mr. Midgley resigning his office of Conservators in consequence of having sold his qualifying property. The Chairman also informs the Board that Mr. Midgley has suffered a great bereavement in the death of Mrs. Midgley.

It was Resolved that the vacancy on the Board thus created be postponed till the Annual Meeting of Commoners and that the Clerk do convey to Mr. Midgley the expression of the sincere sympathy of the Board with him in the sad bereavement he has suffered, their regret at the severance of his association with it after 27 years service, and their high appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered as a Conservator during those years.

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show the following balances standing to the credit of the several accounts namely:

General Account	£231.14.1
End Ranger Fund	£31.5.0
Protection & Improvement Fund	£60.5.11

Fires

The Rangers report the following fires that have occurred since the last Meeting:

Northern Area

8th May	8 p.m.	Near Wych Cross Place supposed sparks from Foden engine	about 3 yards
9 th May	noon	Between Goat Crossways and Cold Harbour entrance. Supposed Messrs J.H. Friend's engine	About 15 rods
10 th May	1 p.m.	Southside road from Wych Cross to Nutley. Cause unknown	About 5 rods
15 th May	8.30 p.m.	East side road from Hartfield to Old Lodge south of Kidd's Hill	About ½ acre
21 st May	6 p.m.	North side road from Coleman's Hatch at Hollies Down. Cause unknown	About ½ acre
21 st May	7 p.m.	Near Rushey Bottom South side high road. Cause unknown	About 10 rods
2 nd June	11 p.m.	North side road from Wych Cross to Goat. Cause unknown	About 2 rods
7 th June	8 p.m.	West side road from Wych Cross to Chelwood Gate near Lord R. Cecil's. Cause unknown	About 2 rods
28 June	11 p.m.	Opposite Wych Cross Fir Clump. east side of road 5 fires and on west side 9 fires, also one at Wych Cross	About 29 rods
28 th June	night	North side highroad from Wych Cross towards Plaw Hatch about 150 yards from back entrance to Wych Cross Place. Cause unknown	About 3 rods

Southern Area

9 th May	2 p.m.	Near Old Fox Duddleswell suspicion	About 16 rods
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11 th May	7 a.m.	Near Vetchery	About 3 acres
11 th May	6.15 p.m.	Near Boring Wheel Mill. Cause unknown	About ½ acre

Forest Row Committee

The Forest Row Committee present the following report:

Messrs Waters have now carried out the repairs to the Footpath at Coleman's Hatch, but they have not yet had an opportunity of inspecting the work.

The Bye Law Notice Boards in there area having got into a very bad condition they have had them thoroughly repaired by Ranger Brown at a cost of 15/5 and ask that that amount may be paid out of the Rate Account.

Ranger Brown having applied for an increase of his salary the Committee recommend that it be increased from 25/- per week to 30/- per week commencing on the 28th instant.

The repair of the Bridge near Water Farm has been completed at a cost of £1.4.6 which the Committee ask to be repaid.

The Committee further report that representatives of the Committee met Messrs. Andersons on the 10th May last, and in pursuance of the authority given to them at the last Meeting they fixed an area within which timber may be temporarily deposited pending removal, and arranged that an extension of the licence should be granted to them on payment of a further £50.

Protection & Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that the acts and proceedings of the Committee as reported be approved and confirmed, that the sums of 15/5 and £1.4.6 be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund, and that the Clerk be authorised to complete the further licence to Messrs. Andersons.

Land Settlement (Facilities) Bill

Mr. Freshfield reports that Lord Bryce had been and is giving close attention in conjunction with the Commons Preservation Society to the progress of the Land Settlement (Facilities) Bill in Parliament, and to the amendments that are necessary for the protection of commons and open spaces.

P.C. Chapman damage to boots

A letter is read dated 20th June last from P.C. Harry Chapman who assisted to put out the fire of the 15th May, stating that his boots were damaged by the fire and are beyond repair, and asking for some compensation to enable him to replace them. The Ranger having confirmed his statement, it is Resolved that he be granted a sum of 30/- out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Military excavations

The Clerk reads correspondence that has passed between the Military at Crowborough Camp Headquarters and the Divisional Official Royal Engineers as to filling up excavations the last dated 18th June last and a letter from the Military Authority at Crowborough stating that the Clerk will be duly informed of any arrangements made in this connection, but so far the Clerk has received no further communication.

Telephone, underground cable, etc. Tompsetts Bank

He also reports that the consent granted at the last Meeting to the Post Master General to lay an underground pipe and cable and two distributing poles and stays at Tompsetts Bank has been completed.

Maresfield Committee

The Maresfield Committee present the following report:

The Committee report that the repair of the road near Nutley Windmill with two good drains under has been completed at a total cost of £29.0.6 which they ask to be repaid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

The cartage of timber by Messrs. Turner over the Road at Browns Brook has now terminated and the Committee recommend that they be now requested to put it into repair in accordance with their undertaking as recorded on 26th July 1918, before the autumn rains.

Ranger Kirby's bicycle which had had constant and heavy use requires new tyres and a new spindle and the Committee recommend that they be authorised to have the necessary work done to it.

The Committee have considered an application from Mr. Chas F. Wood of Woodlands Nursery, Hon. Secretary to the Fairwarp Brass Band for permission to erect a shed for Band practice on the Forest at Fairwarp, adjoining the old Cart lodge on Mr. Norman's frontage, and having investigated the proposed site, they recommend that subject to the consent of the Lord being obtained, a revocable licence be granted for the purpose on the payment of an annual acknowledgement of 6d to the Conservators and 6d to the Lord.

The Committee are informed that Military have invited tenders for filling up excavations on great part of the Forest, and that later, contracts will be entered into for filling up the remaining excavations. The Committee understand that the tenders are only for filling in level with the surface and are of opinion that all filling in should be properly rammed and sufficient earth be put on top to allow for sinkage. The Committee have instructed the Ranger to do what is necessary to put the Bye Law Boards within their area in a proper state of repair.

Ranger Kirby having applied for an increase of salary the Committee have carefully considered the matter, and being thoroughly satisfied with his work recommend that his cash salary be increased from 30/- to 35/- per week from the 28th instant.

Fairwarp Band hut

It is Resolved that the acts proceedings and recommendations of the Committee as reported be approved and adopted except as regards the Band Shed, that the sum of £29.0.6 be repaid to the Committee out of the Protection & Improvement Fund. That the increase in Ranger Kirby's salary commence from the 28th instant, and that as regards the application of Mr. Wood, the Clerk write to him explaining that the Board regret very much that the Act of Parliament which created the Conservancy prohibits their allowing a building to be erected on Forest land, and that they hope the Committee will be able to secure a site for so desirable a purpose on private ground.

Fairwarp Recreation Ground Superintendent

A letter dated 21st May last is read from Mr. John Sargeant accepting with pleasure the Office of Superintendent of the Fairwarp Recreation Ground.

Mr. Thomas Shannon pollution of pond

A complaint having been received from Mr. Thomas Wilson of Oldlands Gate that the adjacent pond on the Forest which is his only source of supply of clean water is daily disturbed and polluted by ducks belonging to Mr. Thomas Shannon of the Nook. It is Resolved that the Clerk inform Mr. Shannon that he has no right to permit his ducks on the pond, and call upon him to prevent their straying on to it.

Military Excavations

Ranger Kirby having reported that the advance guard of the Royal Engineers has arrived at Maresfield Park.

It is Resolved that the Clerk ask what steps the Engineers propose to take to close up the excavations made by the Military forces which have been stationed at the Camp on the South Eastern portion of the Forest .

Chelwood Recreation Ground damage

The Superintendent of Chelwood Recreation Ground having asked the Board to support his claim on the Military at Forest Row Camp for damage done by the Soldiers to the Pavilions on the Ground.

It is Resolved that the Clerk forward the claim with a covering letter expressing the hope of the Board that the claim ***** will be paid in due course.

Clerk's Salary increase of

A letter is read by the Chairman dated 7th June which he had received from the Clerk stating on account of the considerable increase in the cost of his office staff less than £25 of his Salary remains as remuneration for his own personal services and asking the Board to grant him a reasonable increase. The Clerk having withdrawn the application is considered and it is Resolved that he be granted an increase of £50 per annum to commence from the 1st instant.

Simeon Wickens application to erect seats

The Chairman reads a letter dated the 18th instant which he received from Mr. Simeon Wickens of Dane Hill asking the sanction of the Board to his erecting two plain seats on the Wych Cross Hill main road as a slight appreciation of the cause for which so many have given their all in the Great War.

The Chairman states that he wrote to Mr. Wickens for some further particulars which he has not yet received. It is Resolved that the consideration of the application be adjourned till the further particulars are received and that the Clerk inform Mr. Wickens thereof.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:

Kirby Herbert	12 weeks Salary as Ranger		
	to 28th inst. @ 30/-	£ 18:0:0	
	Employer's Insurance	£0:3:0	
	Rent of Cottage to 5th inst.	<u>£3:0:0</u>	
			£21:3:0
Brown William	12 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger		
	to 28th inst @ 25/-	£15:0:0	
	Employer's Insurance	<u>£0:3:0</u>	
			£15:3:0
Waterlow Bros & Layton Ltd	for letter book	£1:4:0	
Clerk	Half years Salary to 30th June last		£50:0:0

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 3rd October next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.50 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson

A Special Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 29th August 1919 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Colonel Needham
Mr. William Carr
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Also a letter from Mr. Midgley thanking the Board for the expression of their appreciation of his Services and their sympathy with him in his loss.

Military damage

The Chairman states that he convened this Meeting in consequence of communications that have passed with the War Department Valuer with reference to making good the damage done to the Forest by the Military, which he felt must be submitted to the Board in order that they may decide what course should be taken in the matter.

He explained shortly the substance of these communications which conveyed in the first instance an offer of £1000 as the amount of compensation for the damage which was subsequently increased to £1500.

The Clerk then reads the following correspondence:

To Mr. W.A. Raper,
Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest,
Battle, Sussex

Dear Sir,

Reinstatement of Trenches, Ashdown Forest – Crowborough Camp Area

The Troops from Crowborough have filled in a considerable area of the practice trenches in Ashdown Forest and as no further Military labour is available in that area for completing the work it is proposed to place the work out to Tender. Before Tenders are accepted I am directed to ask whether the Conservators would accept a cash payment in view of reinstatement as it would appear that the grazing rights over the Land in question will not be seriously interfered with if the trenches are left in their present state, it may, however be advisable to fill in certain trenches which may be considered dangerous.

With a view to arriving at a settlement I would suggest that a cash payment of £1000 should be made to the Conservators forthwith in full satisfaction and settlement of all claims including the reinstatement of the Land.

My Headquarters request me to send a reply so as to reach them in London at the latest by the 15th inst, I shall therefore, be obliged if you will treat the matter as urgent.

Yours faithfully,
E. Pilcher
W.D. Land Agent (Captain)
Sussex

11 Marlborough Place
Brighton
7.8.19

Battle
11th August 1919

Dear Sir,

Reinstatement of Trenches, Ashdown Forest – Crowborough Camp Area

I have submitted your letter to use of the 7th instant to the Board of Conservators, and I am directed by them to inform you that they are ready to consider any proposal which covers the whole area of the Forest.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,
W. Augs Raper
Clerk

Captain Pilcher
W.D. Land Agent (Sussex)

W.A. Raper Esq.
Solicitor, Battle

Dear Sir

Reinstatement of Trenches, Ashdown Forest – Crowborough Camp Area

Thank you for your letter of August 11th. I note that the Board of Conservators are ready to consider any proposal which covers the whole area of the Forest and I would point out to you that the Maresfield and Forest Row areas have been reinstated by Military Labour, there may, however, be a few isolated trenches, etc. which have not been filled in, but it is not considered that the cost of reinstatement of these would amount to but a few pounds, and, therefore, the sum I have previously sanctioned is considered sufficient to cover the whole area of the Forest.

I wish to make it perfectly clear that I am prepared to recommend that the sum of £1000 should be paid to your Board in full satisfaction and settlement of their Claim for reinstatement over the whole Forest and beyond this sum I should not be prepared to go unless you can prove to me that there is any considerable area beyond that already mentioned which has not been reinstated.

Will you please let me have a reply by return as the Tenders for reinstatement are being withheld pending your Board's decision in the matter.

Yours faithfully,
E. Pilcher, Captain
W.D. Land Agent (Sussex)

11 Marlborough Place,
Brighton
13.8.19

Battle
18th August 1919

Dear Sir,

I have submitted your letter to me of the 13th instant to the Conservators, and am directed to inform you that they have gone very carefully into the whole matter of reinstating the Forest.

By way of one illustration only, I may state, that Mr. D.W. Freshfield, the Chairman of the Committee having charge of the Forest Row Area has reported to them as follows:

The Forest Row area (as defined for the Board's Rangers) has as Captain Pilcher may ascertain from Mr. Brown the Forest Ranger, Broadstone Warren, or from Col. Ballingall not so far been reinstated in its natural condition by Military labour. A few trenches have been filled up but more remain – principally in the region near Gills Lap, within a mile of the Camp. But it must be noted that the filling up of the trenches is but a small part of the work of reparation that has to be done, in order to carry out the understanding of the War Office (as formally made to the Board in the letters in the Clerk's hands) to restore the Forest to its primeval condition. The pasturage and herbage have to be recreated on the many (hundreds) of acres devastated by use as exercise grounds or potato fields, or as the site of the Forest Row Camp, Public footpaths which have been broken up and made impassable must be restored, asphalted areas broken up.

To this end much ground will have to be harrowed and sown, stone dug to fill in boggy places, where the footpath drains have been destroyed by artillery wagon traffic.

It is obvious, and I am sure Col. Ballingall would agree, that the repairs to the section of the Forest for which I am responsible, must amount to at least several hundred pounds I cannot put it at less than £500 and Lord Bryce agrees with me.

This Estimate has also been confirmed by experienced men well acquainted with that area. After careful consideration, the Board have directed me to inform you that after going thoroughly into the cost of carrying out the work necessary to restore the Forest to the condition it was in before the Military entered upon it, they have satisfied themselves that £1500 is the extreme minimum for which the work can be carried out, and that they cannot see their way to accept a less sum.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
W.A. Raper,
Clerk

Captain Pilcher

W. A. Raper Esq.
Solicitor, Battle

Dear Sir

Reinstatement of Trenches, Ashdown Forest – Crowborough Camp Area

I am obliged by your letter of August 18th. If you will sign and return to me the attached acceptance form I will recommend payment of the sum of £1500 in full discharge of the claim over the whole Forest including the Camp site at Forest Row and on the understanding that the War Dept. shall have the right to remove or sell the Buildings fittings etc. now on the Forest Row Camp. As soon as the acceptance form is returned to this office I will forward my Report & recommendation to the War Office for approval.

Yours faithfully,
E. Pilcher
Captain
W.D. Land Agent Sussex

11 Marlborough Place
Brighton
20.8.19

The matter having been fully discussed, on the motion of Mr. Martin seconded by Mr. Kenward it is Resolved that for the purpose of arriving at the approximate amount of compensation for damage done by the Military to the whole area of the Forest, including the sites of the Camps, the Forest Row and Maresfield Committees be requested to arrange for a thorough inspection of their respective areas, with power to call in any assistance they may require, and to report to the Clerk when their inspection is completed, and the Clerk is thereupon to convene a Meeting of the Board to consider the Reports.

That it be an instruction to the Committees, in making their inspections and reports to direct their attention to the cost of filling in and levelling excavations, and restoring the surface of the Forest, as far as possible to its previous condition - asphalt paths only to be broken up where absolutely necessary.

And that each Committee be authorised to incur an expenditure not exceeding £25 to be paid in the first instance out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

The Clerk was directed to write Captain Pilcher, the W.D. Valuer informing him that the Board found it necessary to have a thorough inspection of the Forest made before they could ascertain even the approximate amount of the damage and that the decision of the Board would be communicated to him without delay.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson

A Special Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Wednesday the 24th September 1919 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Mr. William Carr
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Joseph Ridley
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

The Chairman states that he convened this Meeting for the purpose of receiving and dealing with the reports of the Committee with reference to the cost of reinstating the surface of the Forest

Military damage

The Clerk reads the following reports and it is Resolved that they be received and entered on the Minutes. They are as follows:

2nd September 1919

Dear Sir,

Maresfield Committee

My Committee have today spent a long tiring day on the Forest and they desire me to write & tell you what is their decision as to the proposal to accept a sum from the Government and to fill in the trenches and restore the Forest to its original condition.

The Committee went over the Forest and were greatly surprised at the tremendous work that is necessary to make it safe for cattle or even for any one to walk over the Forest. The Committee cannot advise the Board to undertake the work of having the trenches filled in but think it much better that the Government should do the work themselves.

The Committee suggest that the Government be asked to put the unemployed men at the work instead of paying them to do nothing. The Crowborough Camp is apparently empty and might be used to house the men while at this work.

Will you kindly ask our Member of Parliament to put this strongly to the Government and will he urge the Government to carry out their promise to restore the Forest which is now in a very dangerous condition and the Rights of Commoners are almost destroyed altogether.

Yours faithfully,
M. Sandford
W.A. Raper Esq.

12th September 1919

Dear Mr. Raper,

Forest Row Committee

I enclose Sir Alex Stenning's report to the above Committee. Of course the Report is only intended to deal with the area under our supervision, the Maresfield Committee will make their claim.

I quite approve of the report. Considerable trouble has been taken. We went on 2 occasions and inspected all the area occupied and used by the Military and Sir Alex took full notes of all materials to be considered.

Yours sincerely,
Edward Martin

W. Aug. Raper Esq.

Copy of Sir Alexander Stenning's Report

121 Cannon Street,
London, E.C.

9th September 1919

Dear Sir,

In accordance with instructions to report as to the damage done to Ashdown Forest by the occupation of part and the erection of a Camp, I have inspected that part of the Forest under the supervision of the Forest Row Committee of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest & was accompanied by Colonel Needham, E. Martin Esq. and attended by Brown the Ranger.

I beg to report that the portion of the Forest at Forest Row occupied by the Camp covers an area of about 90 acres on which metalled roads have been made, drains laid, and water pipes and many buildings erected with brick and concrete foundations and pavings, cinder paths and gun parks, and cooking arrangements. Considerable damage has been done by excavations and I am of opinion that considering the difficulty of obtaining labour, the Authorities should remove all buildings, brick and concrete foundations and pavings, all cinder paths, foundations for gun parks, roadways, except the one leading from the Lewes Road to Broadstone Warren, all telegraph and other poles, clear out all ditches and watercourses, remove all cinder heaps, manure and ash pits, fill up sewage tanks, gun parks east of Lewes Road to be filled up and damage to footpath leading to Hindleap Warren to be made good. The fence round the Recreation Ground requires making good.

There are patches of the Forest near Wych Cross used for exercising ground, and some parts have been used for potato growing. These should be raked over and levelled, and temporary fences removed.

As regards the various rifle pits and trenches on the Forest at Gills Lap, these should be filled in at once as some are dangerous to cattle grazing. Also all pits east and west of track from Greenwood Clump to Kidds Hill Road.

I am of opinion that all the before mentioned works should be done by the Military Authorities and when done there will still remain much work for the Conservators to do to restore as far as possible the Forest to its original state.

It is difficult to estimate with any accuracy what it will cost, but I consider it would not be unreasonable to ask the Authorities to pay the sum of One thousand pounds (£1000). This would enable much to be done, though it may be not all.

The Military Authorities should also pay all costs and expenses of the Conservators.

I am yours faithfully,
Alex R. Stenning

W.A. Raper Esq.

On the Motion of Mr. Martin Seconded by Mr. Sandford it is Resolved that the Clerk do write to the W.D. Valuer to the following effect:

The Board of Conservators have caused a thorough inspection of the whole area of the Forest to be made, with the view of arriving at the approximate cost of restoring it to its former condition, and they are advised that it will involve the expenditure of many thousands of pounds.

As regards the Forest Row Area alone, I enclose the Report of Sir Alexander R. Stenning whose services were called in by the Committee for that area.

Under these circumstances the Board feel that it is impossible for them to undertake such a work of restoration especially, having regard to the impossibility of obtaining the necessary labour, and they therefore feel that they must call upon the War Department to carry out the work of restoring the Forest to its former condition as far as possible in compliance with the assurances given to the Board.

The Board of Conservators direct me to add that it must be distinctly understood that they reserve to themselves the right to submit a claim for the expenses that they may be called upon to incur in the extent of any work being left undone and for the inspection.

It is Resolved that the next ordinary Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 24th October next or on some earlier date as the Chairman may deem necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson
Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 24th October 1919 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Colonel Needham
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Mark Sandford

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

A letter is read from the Honourable H.B. Portman regretting his inability to attend in consequence of the death of his father, Lord Portman.

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show the following balances standing to the credit of the several accounts namely:

Rate Account	£163.13.1
End Ranger Fund	£49.15.6
Protection & Improvement Fund	£30.14.11

Military damage compensation for

The Clerk reports that on the 4th inst. he wrote to the War Department Land Agent in the terms directed at the last Meeting and has since received the following letter.

L.A.S. 1526

W.A. Raper Esq.
Solicitor, Battle

Dear Sir,

Reinstatement of Ashdown Forest

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of October 4th and regret to hear that your Board is unwilling to accept my proposal of a settlement at £1500. The Report of Sir Alexander Stenning was not enclosed with your letter as stated; perhaps you will send me a copy thereof.

The War Department has no labour available for carrying out the work of restoration and you are probably aware that there are very few Troops now stationed in Sussex, most of the Camps are shortly to be relinquished including Forest Row.

As the land in question was acquired under the Defence of Realm Regulations there is no legal right to compensation as such, although any actual monetary loss to which the Conservators have been put owing to the action of the War Dept. is assessed and awarded either by arrangement between the parties, or failing that, by application to the Defence of Realm Losses Royal Commission. Under these circumstances it cannot be admitted that any assurances given to your Board constitute a binding Agreement except in the sense quoted above.

It must therefore be clear to you that it is not possible for me to agree to any principle of legal liability.

If you will therefore kindly complete and return to me the enclosed Claim Form I will attach my Report thereto and forward to my Headquarters when the whole matter can be submitted to the Commission who will adjudicate thereon. This however they can only do if the Claim is submitted to them without reservation.

Yours faithfully,
E. Pilcher
W.D. Land Agent (Captain)
Sussex

11 Marlborough Place
Brighton
17.10.19

After considering the matter it is Resolved that he Clerk do reply to the W.D. Land Agent reminding him of his letter of the 7th August in which he stated "as no further Military Labour is available it is proposed to place the work out to Tender Before Tenders are accepted I am directed to ask whether the Conservators would accept a cash payment in lieu of reinstatement" and that the Board therefore request that he will take the steps suggested in that letter and have the work of reinstating the Forest carried out with the least possible delay.

Also that on receipt of his reply the Chairman do take such action as he may deem necessary.

Also that the Clerk do enquire of the Secretary of the Commons Preservation Society whether he had had brought before him any similar case, and who would be the proper authority at the War Office to whom the Conservators should apply in the event of the W.D. Land Agent not taking steps to have the work of reinstatement carried out.

Military damage expenses of Maresfield Committee

The Maresfield Committee present a bill for £5.10.0 incurred by them for conveyances, when inspecting the Military excavations on the Forest, with a view to estimating the cost of restoration.

It is Resolved that a cheque be drawn for the amount and that it be debited to an account for claiming reimbursement from the War Office.

Forest Row housing scheme

The Clerk reads a letter from the Surveyor to the Rural District Council of East Grinstead dated 3rd inst. stating that there is difficulty in obtaining sites for permanent cottages in Forest Row village, that the need is acute, that under Circular D.93 of the Ministry of Health it is possible for Local Authorities to take over a portion of the Camp for housing purposes, and they have in mind the taking over of the two buildings in Forest Row Camp of Green Hall now used as officers' messes. That they understand an agreement exists that the Camp shall be demolished by the end of November next, and enquiring whether the Board will consent to these two buildings and outbuildings remaining upon terms to be agreed.

Also a further letter from the Surveyor dated the 10th instant explaining that the proposal is a temporary and emerging measure only pending the erection at the earliest possible date of permanent cottages.

Also a letter from the Clerk to the same Council dated the 14th instant referring to the proposal as a temporary measure for relieving the shortage of houses, and asking whether this Board would receive a deputation who would lay the Council's proposals more fully before them.

A deputation from the Council is then introduced namely Mr. Alfred Faber and Mr. Carter (Vice Chairman of the Council).

Mr. Faber expressed regret that their Surveyor in his first letter alleged difficulty in obtaining sites for permanent cottage buildings as such is not the case, as various suitable sites have been offered including one by Mr. Freshfield.

Mr. Faber states the Council propose to erect at least 18 cottages at Forest Row but their difficulty is where to house the workman coming from a distance to make bricks and build the cottages. For this purpose they are anxious to have the use of the two huts above referred to which can be converted into three dwellings each for a term not exceeding three years; that they recognize that the permanent residents are strongly opposed to the erection of any permanent buildings on the Forest land and it is only the extreme difficulty and urgency of the position that includes the Council to make the present application.

The Deputation having retired the matter is fully discussed and it is Resolved that subject to an accurate plan being submitted to and approved by the Board showing the position and ground to which the application relates, the Board do grant their consent to the huts being used by the Council for the housing of workmen in connection with the Forest Row housing scheme for a period not exceeding two years from the 30th November next on condition that the Council do enter into an agreement under seal with this Board or their Clerk to remove the huts and their appurtenances and make good the surface of the Forest not later than the 30th November 1921 and undertaking that no encroachment in the form of gardens or otherwise shall be made on the Forest land, that nothing shall be permitted on the premises that will be a nuisance or annoyance to neighbouring inhabitants, and that the Council will be responsible for any damage done by the occupiers of the huts to the adjacent Forest land. Also that the Council pay the reasonable charges or the Clerk to the Conservators in relation to the preparation and completion of the agreement. That it be explained to the Council that the consent of the Board to the application must not be treated as a precedent for any similar application in the future, it being only given to meet the exceptional circumstances of the case. Mr. Freshfield and Mr. Martin did not vote.

S. Winkley Smith application to deposit firewood

A letter from Mr. S. Winkley Smith of Tompsetts Bank dated the 15th inst. is read asking the permission of the Board to his keeping some more firewood on the Forest for a time, owing to scarcity of coal and his having insufficient space to store it on his own premise, and offering to pay a nominal rent and to consume the wood as speedily as possible. The Clerk states he was not aware that he had any firewood on the Forest.

Mr. Martin states that Mr. Winkley Smith already has six or eight cords of wood on the Forest outside his premises.

Ranger Brown reports that since Mr. Winkley Smith's application was made to the Clerk he has caused a large additional quantity of cord wood to be deposited on the Forest land. It is Resolved that the Board cannot allow this additional quantity to remain and call upon him to have it removed, and inform him that unless it is removed within a month the Board will be compelled to take action under the Bye Laws.

Mr. J.G. Ridley claim to rights

Ranger Brown having reported that on 1st August last Charles Ridley of Lavender Plat was cutting brakes to carry to New Combe Farm, West Hoathly, belonging to his father John Gurr Ridley, and stated that his father claimed common rights for the Farm. The Clerk wrote to Mr. J.G. Ridley calling upon him if he claimed rights, to attend before the Board today with any Witnesses he had, but that he had received no reply, and Mr. Ridley is not in attendance.

It is Resolved that the Clerk give him notice to attend the next Meeting.

A. Card claim to rights

Ranger Brown also reports that on the 5th August last rushes were cut and grass above the Golf Club Cottages and brakes near Mrs. Walsham's for A. Card the owner of the Broomyard at Tompsetts Bank who also owns a great part of the field where the Royal Oak Beer Shop used to stand, for all of which he claims rights. It is Resolved that notice be given to him to attend the next Meeting with his Witnesses.

It is Resolved that Mr. William Turner Riley of the Orchard Nutley be appointed Superintendent of Ford's Green Recreation Ground in place of the late Mr. Albert Turner.

Miss Hale overhanging trees etc

Complaint having been made that Miss Hale's trees and hedge overhang the roadway and ditch at Shepherds Gate and that the ditch on the west side belonging to her property is filled up. It is Resolved it is Resolved that the Clerk write requesting her attention to these matters.

Application to erect village hall at Fairwarp

Letters are read from A. H. Wood of Duddleswell Manor and Mr. John Sargeant of Fairwarp asking the consent of the Conservators to the erection of a village hall at Forest land at Fairwarp.

It is Resolved that the Clerk inform them that the Commons Act 1876 prohibits the enclosure of any part of the Forest without the express sanction of Parliament, and that a letter similar to the answer to the application made for the erection of a band shed also at Fairwarp be sent.

Mr. Simeon Wickens application to erect seats

The Chairman read a further letter which he had received from Mr. Simeon Wickens of Danehill dated the 18th instant for the sanction of the Board to erect two seats on the Chelwood Gate to Wych Cross Road and it was Resolved that the application should be refused as there was comparatively little traffic on that section of the road.

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that Messrs R. Kenward and Mark Sandford be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Conservancy for the current year.

For the Maresfield Committee as above

Kirby Herbert 18 weeks Salary as Ranger to

13 weeks House rent to do £3.5.0

Employers insurance	£0.3.3
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Employers insurance £0.3.3

£26.3.3

to 27th inst (@ 30/- £19.10.0

Employers insurance £0.3.3

Employers insurance	<u>£0.3.3</u>
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£19.3.3

The Meeting terminated at 5.20 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in the Forest duly convened by the Clerk by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two of the newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, The “Sussex Express” and “The Sussex Daily News” at least 14 days before this date, and by notice sent by post to every Commoner, and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 19th day of December 1919 at eleven o’clock of the forenoon.

Present

Mr. D.W. Freshfield in the Chair

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson

Colonel Needham

The Reverend J.S. Philips

Mr. Charles Bedwell

Mr. James Card

Mr. William Carr

Mr. Robert Kenward

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Thomas Osborne

Mr. Joseph Ridley

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley

Chairman

On the proposition of Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Maryon-Wilson, Mr. D.W. Freshfield is chosen Chairman, and he having taken the Chair, the Clerk reads the notice convening the Meeting and reports the due publication thereof as above mentioned.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Selection of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st inst are Mr. James Card, Mr. Robert Kenward, and Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson, that a Conservator will have to be elected for the ensuing three

years in place of Mr. Albert Turner deceased, that a Conservator will have to be elected for the ensuing two years in place of Viscount Portman, resigned and that two Conservators will have to be elected for the ensuing year in place of Mr. Midgley and Mr. Sandford, who have ceased to be qualified.

The Chairman announces that he will first proceed to the election of 4 Conservators for the ensuing three years.

It is proposed by Mr. Osborne and seconded by Mr. Bedwell that Mr. James Card be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Carr that Mr. Robert Kenward be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Colonel Needham and seconded by Mr. Osborne that Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Colonel Needham and seconded by Mr. Martin that Admiral the Honourable Sir Stanley Cecil James Colville G.O. V.O. K.C.B be re-elected a Conservator.

No other Commoner having been proposed the Chairman declares the above named four gentlemen duly elected Conservators for the ensuing three years.

The Chairman then announces that he will proceed to the election of one Conservator in the place of Viscount Portman retired for the ensuing two years.

It is proposed by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley and seconded by Mr. Thomas Osborne that Mrs. Lucy Rose Ridley be elected to fill the vacancy.

It is proposed by Mr. Maryon-Wilson and seconded by Mr. Robert Kenward that Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart. be elected to fill the vacancy.

No other name having been proposed, voting was taken for each Nominee.

They voted for Mrs. Ridley, Messrs Bedwell, Osborne and Sylvanus Ridley and for Sir Francis H. Champneys, Colonel Needham and Messrs. James Card, William Carr, Kenward, Martin, Maryon-Wilson and Joseph Ridley whereupon the Chairman declares that Sir Francis H. Champneys is duly elected a Conservator for the ensuing two years.

The Chairman next announces that he will proceed to the Election of two Conservators in the places of Messrs. Midgley and Sandford for the ensuing year.

It is proposed by Mr. Maryon-Wilson and seconded by Mr. Thomas Osborne that Mr. William Osborne be elected to fill one vacancy.

It is proposed by Mr. Martin and seconded by Mr. Kenward that Mr. William Webb Spencer Follett be elected to fill one vacancy.

No other names having been proposed, the Chairman declares these two gentlemen duly elected Conservators for the ensuing year.

Military damage

The Chairman states that the Board of Conservators have been for a long time in communication with the War Department with a view to getting repaired the damage done to the Forest by the Military during the War and they hope in time to bring the negotiations to a satisfactory conclusion.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley complains that the rhododendron's growing on a Commoner's private property are a danger to the Commoner's cattle owing to the fences being defective.

The Chairman states that these defects will be made good as soon as the owner can procure the necessary labour.

The Reverend J.S. Phillips thanks the Conservators for the repairs carried out by them to the road to Nutley Windmill, and draws attention to the bad condition of the lane at Forest Bank and the road leading to Millbrook Farm from the Nutley to Forest Row main road and states that Mr. Spencer Ridley the tenant of Millbrook Farm is prepared to assist with cartage for the repairs of the cattle.

The Chairman undertakes to draw the attention of the Conservators to these cases.

On the motion of Mr. Sylvanus Ridley seconded by Mr. Charles Bedwell, it is Resolved that the Commoners of the Forest assembled at this Annual Meeting desire to convey to Viscount Portman their deep regret that circumstances have compelled him to resign the office of a Conservator, their warm thanks for the very valuable services he has rendered to the Commoners and their sincere wishes for his speedy restoration to health.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman for his able conduct of the business concluded the Meeting.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 19th December 1919 at noon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair

Lieut. Col. Needham

Mr. William Carr

Mr. James Card

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward

Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. Joseph Ridley

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Resignation of Viscount Portman

The Clerk reports that since the last Meeting The Right Honourable Henry Berkeley Lord Viscount Portman resigned the Office of a Conservator.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk produces and reads the following Certificate and it is Resolved that it be entered in the Minutes viz,

To Mr. W. A. Raper

Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Inn, Nutley for the purpose of electing five Conservators in the place of four Conservators who retire from office by rotation on the 31st of December instant, and I hereby intimate to you that at the said Meeting Mr. James Card, Mr. Robert Kenward, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson and Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Colville were elected Conservators for the ensuing three years and were elected Conservators in the place of Mr. Midgley and Mr. Sandford for the ensuing year and Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart. was elected a Conservator in the place of Viscount Portman for the ensuing two years.

Dated this 19th day of December 1919

Douglas W. Freshfield

Chairman

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account	£174.13.10
2nd Ranger Fund	£37.5.0
Protection & Improvement Fund	£33.12.11

Military damage

The Clerk reports that the Secretary of the Commons Preservation Society replied to the enquiry he was directed at the last Meeting to make that the subject of removal of buildings from Common land and restoration of the surface is now only commencing to arise and that he is not aware of any definite decision yet come to.

The Clerk further reports that on the 29th October last he wrote to the War Department Land Agent again requesting him to take steps to have the Forest reinstated as it is quite impossible for the Board to carry out the work, to which the agent replied on the 31st October last that he could not recommend the War Department to carry out the work as they have no Military labour available in the District, and that the Board must make their claim on the prescribed Form.

The Clerk replied referring him to the Defence of the Realm (Acquisition of Land) Act 1915 Sec 2 (3).

This Section provides that where any buildings or other works connected with the War have been erected or constructed upon any Common, the building or work shall be removed and the land restored to its previous condition except so far as the Board of Agriculture on application of the Occupying Department may be order declare that such removal and restoration is not required in the interests of the persons interested in the land or the Public.

The Board of Conservators are to have notice of any such application and an opportunity of being heard, and before any such Order comes into force, a draft of it shall be laid before each House of Parliament for 30 sitting days.

No progress having been made the Clerk on the 19th November last, attended at the War Office and ascertained that the Department concerned is the Directorate of Lands at 4 Whitehall Court at the head of which is Colonel Coles.

The Clerk attended there and Colonel Coles being away saw Colonel Cobb, and fully explained the position to him and suggested the desirability of prompt action, before the camps in the neighbourhood are dismantled. Colonel Cobbs promised to go thoroughly into the matter and communicate later with the Clerk, but so far no communication has been received.

Mr. Freshfield points out the difficulty the Government will probably have in carrying out the work of restoration, and suggests that it might be the best solution to come to an arrangement, if possible, with the War Department for a pecuniary payment to the Conservators to expend on the restoration. He further suggests that representatives of the Conservancy be authorised to interview the Director of Lands with a view to arriving at some such arrangement.

It is Resolved that the Chairman and Mr. Freshfield be appointed with power to add to their number and with the assistance of the Clerk to negotiate with the Director of Lands.

Sir Alex Stenning employ

It is further Resolved that the Clerk be authorised to request Sir Alexander Stenning to survey the area of the Forest that he has not already gone over and report in the same manner as he has already done in respect of the Forest Row Area.

Huts at Forest Row

The Clerk reports that after the last Meeting he communicated to the East Grinstead Rural District Council the decision arrived at by the Board at that Meeting with regard to the temporary retention of two mess huts on the Forest at Forest Row and beyond an acknowledgement of his letter he has received no further communication.

Road at Tompsetts Bank query local authority take over

Mr. Freshfield states that there is a movement on foot among the local residents to induce the Rural District Council of East Grinstead to take over the maintenance of the road running across the Forest from the Wych Cross Road below Ashdown Place to the top of ***** Lane and enquires whether the Board are favourable to the proposal and it is Resolved that in the event of the matter proceeding the Board will be prepared to give their consent.

Fords Green Recreation Ground Superintendent

A letter is read from Mr. William Turner Riley accepting the Office of Superintendent of Ford's Green Recreation Ground.

S. Winkley Smith deposit

The Clerk reports that he wrote to Mr. S. Winkley Smith as directed at the last Meeting.

Ranger Brown reported under date 23rd November last that Mr. Winkley Smith had not removed the wood, but cut it about 5 feet long and corded it up close to his hedge at the end of the former deposit of wood. The new heap being about 18 feet long by 6 feet wide.

It is Resolved that under the exceptional circumstances the Board will assent to the deposit remaining till the 31st December 1920 and Mr. Winkley Smith paying the Board an acknowledgement of 1/-.

Mr. J.G. Ridley claim to rights; Mr. Abraham Card claim to rights

The Clerk reports that he gave Mr. J.G. Ridley and Mr. Abraham Card notice that if they would attend this Meeting with their Witnesses of User the Board would be prepared to investigate their claims to rights of common on the Forest, but that neither of them has come.

Miss Hale overhanging trees etc.

The Clerk reports that on the 28th October last he wrote to Miss Hale as directed at the last Meeting and received no reply.

Ranger Brown reports that nothing has been done. It is Resolved that the Clerk write again to Miss Hale stating that the Board will be greatly obliged if she will give attention to the matter.

East Sussex County Council application for road materials

The County Council of East Sussex having applied for the consent of the Conservators to take materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending the 31st March 1921 namely, from the same, places and the same quantities as in last year.

It is Resolved that consent be granted subject to the same conditions as in former years.

Audit Committee's Report

Mr. Robert Kenward presents the following Report of the Audit of the accounts for the current year, which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes namely:

To The Conservators of Ashdown Forest

With the assistance of Mr. Mark Sandford I have examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account and (3) The Account of the Protection and Improvement Fund, each for the year 1919. I 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; and recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the Accounts for the year namely,

Account No. 1 General

The Clerk	½ years Salary to 31st inst.	£75:0:0
Do	Disbursements during year	<u>£40:12:4</u>
		£115:12:4

Kirby Herbert	9 weeks Salary as Ranger at 35/- to 29th inst.	£15:15:0
	9 Weeks Employers Insurance	£0:2:3
	9 weeks rent of Cottage at 5/- per week to 29th inst.	<u>£2:5:0</u>
		£18:2:3

Account No. 2 2nd Ranger

Brown William	9 weeks Salary @ 30/- to 29th inst.	£13:10:0
	9 weeks Employers Insurance	<u>£0:2:3</u>
		£13:12:3

The Clerk Disbursements during the year	£4:1:10
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The balance standing to the credit of the several Accounts after the above mentioned Cheques have been paid will be as follows:

General Account	£40:19:3
The Second Ranger Account	£19:11:2
Protection & Improvement Fund	£33:12:11

The sum of £159.15.4 Consols and the sum of £150 5% War Stock 1929—47 represent the investments held on account of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Dated 16th December 1919

Robert Kenward

As usual we found the accounts well kept and correct.

Mr. Sandford

It is Resolved that the report be approved that the accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Board and that Cheques be drawn as recommended and these are accordingly signed.

Also that the Board do thank Mr. Kenward and Mr. Sandford for the great trouble they have taken in auditing the accounts.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 6th February next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

Douglas W. Freshfield

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 6th February 1920 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
 Admiral The Honble Sir Stanley C.J. Colville
 Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart.
 Mr. William Carr
 Mr. James Card

Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

Mr. D.W. Freshfield is voted into the Chair, as the Chairman had not arrived.

Mr. W. Osborne declines Office of Conservator

The Clerk reports that Mr. William Osborne has written declining to accept the Office of a Conservator to which he was elected at the last Annual Meeting of Commoners and the vacancy will therefore have to be filled at the next Annual Meeting.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

Rate Account	£73.0.3
2nd Ranger Fund	£19.11.2
Protection & Improvement Fund	£109.19.9

The Clerk states as regards the 2nd Ranger Fund an appeal was issued to old subscribers and to 22 residents who were not subscribers, explaining the importance of continuing the services of a 2nd Ranger and inviting contributions with the result that he received from old subscribers donations amounting to £2.11.0 in addition to their ordinary subscriptions and £ 11 from 5 new subscribers.

Cheques

It is Resolved that cheques be drawn as follows:

Kirby Herbert 6 weeks Salary as Ranger	
to 9th inst at 35/-	£10.10.0
6 weeks house rent to	£1.10.0
Employers Insurance	<u>£0.1.6</u>
	£12.1.6
 Brown William 6 weeks Salary as 2nd Ranger	
to 9th inst at 30/-	£9.0.0
Employers Insurance	<u>£0.1.6</u>
	£9.1.6

At this point Mr. Maryon-Wilson joins the Meeting and explains that his late arrival is due to a Meeting of the County Agricultural Committee at Lewes from which he has just come.

Chairman of Board

On the motion of Mr. Freshfield seconded by Mr. Kenward Mr. Maryon-Wilson is unanimously elected Chairman of the Board for the current year.

Mr. Kenward moves that the thanks of the Board be accorded to Mr. Maryon-Wilson for the valuable work he did as Chairman during the past year and in doing so expresses the hope that he may be able to discharge the duties of Chairman for many years to come.

The motion being carried unanimously.

Mr. Maryon-Wilson takes the Chair and thanks the Board for the compliment they have paid him in electing him their Chairman for the 21st year in succession but states that his time is now taken up with County business, especially as Chairman of the Small Holdings Committee of the County Council that he finds it very difficult to conduct the work of the Conservancy with that degree of diligence that it requires, and he therefore feels unable to continue as Chairman of the Board beyond the present year if they were good enough to wish him to do so. In extending a hearty welcome to the new Members of the Board, he assures them that they will find the work important and interesting and expresses the hope that they will be able to give to it the time that it requires.

The following Committees are then appointed for the current year.

Forest Row District Committee – Messrs Freshfield, Martin, Colonel Needham and Admiral Sir Stanley Colville.

Maresfield District Committee – Messrs W.W.S. Follett, Carr, Kenward, Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart.

Fire Committee - The Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of each of the two District Committees.

Military damages

The Clerk reports that on the instructions of the Committee appointed at the last Meeting to negotiate with the Director of Lands for the restoration of the Forest, he wrote on the 3rd January last to the Director pointing out that the communication promised him when he saw Colonel Cobb on the 19th November last, had not yet been received, that the matter of restoration is urgent as the Commoners are injuriously affected, and the excavations are dangerous to their cattle, and inviting him to appoint a day and hour when representatives of the Conservancy might have an interview with him. So far he has received no further communication.

He further states that Mr. Chubb the Secretary of the Commons & Preservation Society who has had great experience in dealing with such matters, has offered, if desired to accompany the deputation, and give every assistance in his power.

The Clerk is instructed to write again to the Director pressing him to appoint a time to receive the Committee.

Huts at Forest Row camp

The Clerk reads a letter from the Clerk to the East Grinstead Rural District Council dated the 19th January last, stating that as this Board only consented to the mess huts remaining for two years from 30th November 1919 the Housing Commissioner considers that the expense and labour of converting them would not be justified and the Council therefore propose to take no further action in the matter.

Anderson Andersons & Co further licence

The Clerk reports that the extended licence to Messrs. George Anderson Andersons & Co has been completed and the acknowledgement of £50 has been paid into the account of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Military damage

The Clerk submits an account received from Sir Alexander Stenning & Partners of £26.5.0 for surveying damage done by the Military to the Forest Row portion of the Forest in company with the Forest Row Committee and reporting thereon.

It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

S. Winkley Smith deposit

The Clerk reports that Mr. S. Winkley Smith has written thanking the Board for their assent to his deposit of firewood remaining until 31st December next and has paid the acknowledgement of 1/-.

Chas. Catt cutting trees

Ranger Brown reports that on the 6th ult. he found 15 birch trees freshly cut, lying near Wych Cross by the side of the high road to Nutley, one a foot in diameter, another 10 inches and others smaller. Being informed that Mr. Charles Catt of Nutley Inn Farm was seen assisting in cutting them on the 27th December last, he with Ranger

Kirby visited the Farm on the 8th ult. and found some of the trees there, and saw Mr. Catt who admitted cutting them, and stated he intended to have another load, as he did not get any last year his son admitted sawing down two.

It was Resolved that in the circumstances of the present times the Board do take us action in the matter.

Abraham Card claim to rights

A letter is read from Mr. Abraham Card stating his inability to attend this Meeting to support his claim to rights. It is Resolved that he be given notice to attend the next Meeting.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read, and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes namely:

11 Hans Place

S.W.

The Forest Row Committee met on Saturday January 24th. Present The Chairman and Mr. Martin.

An application from Mr. W. Claude Johnson for permission to stone the Forest track to Broadstone Farm from the point where it leaves the road to Water Farm up to the nearest gate into Broadstone Farm was considered. The Committee recommend the application should be granted on the usual terms, and with restrictions as to width.

A complaint was received from Mrs. Park of Forest Row as to the cutting of birch trees near to Forest Row Camp and the Ranger was instructed to see Mrs. Park and report.

It was reported that no steps had been taken by the War Office to fulfil its pledge to remove the Camp at Forest Row by November 1st last and to employ the troops stationed there during the summer in making good damage.

W. Claude Johnson application to metal cart track

It is Resolved that a revocable licence be granted to Mr. W. Claude Johnson to metal and maintain the road subject to the payment of a yearly acknowledgement of 10/- to the Lord and 10/- to the Conservators and to such special conditions as the Forest Row Committee may consider necessary.

Mrs. Park complaint

That as regards Mrs. Park's complaint the Board after hearing Ranger Brown's report are unable to see their way to take any action.

Forest Row camp removal of

Also that the Clerk do write to the War Office calling upon them to carry out the undertaking given by Colonel Ballingall to clear away the Forest Row camp not later than the 1st November last.

Mrs. Park deposit of stones

It having been reported that Mrs. Park has deposited a quantity of stones on a narrow strip of Forest land outside the southern boundary of the Greenhall property. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to her to remove them.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 9th April next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.15 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson
Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened by direction of the Chairman and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 19h March 1920 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart.
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

Rate Account	£66.17.3
2nd Ranger Fund	£17.9.8
Protection & Improvement Fund	£85.10.6

The Clerk reports that the last rate due from the Public Trustees in respect of the Maresfield Park Estate amounting to £60.1.0 has not yet been paid. It is Resolved that the Clerk do apply to the Public Trustees for payment.

Ranger Kirby increase of pay

The Chairman explains that he has convened this meeting in consequence of a notice given by Ranger Kirby to terminate his Service as Ranger on the 29th inst. That by his direction the Clerk interviewed Ranger Kirby and ascertained that he had no wish to give up the work, but stated that he cannot live on his present salary without encroaching on savings before marriage, that he had authorised the Clerk to offer an increase of 5/- a week to that salary which the Ranger had refused stating the he cannot do with a less increase than 10/- a week.

The Board having carefully considered that whole matter it is Resolved that the Board are prepared to increase Ranger Kirby's salary by 5/- per week, bringing it up to £2 per week instead of 35/- commencing from the 29th instant, and to give him in addition a bonus of 5/- per week for six months from the same date to the 27th September next, at the expiration of which period the Board will review the whole question of the Forest Rangers. This is communicated to the Ranger on behalf of the Board by the Chairman and is accepted by him.

Military damage

The Chairman reports that the Committee appointed to negotiate with the War Office with regard to reinstating the Forest have failed so far to obtain an interview with the Director of Lands, but hope to do so at an early date.

Miss Savile ** to erect fence**

A letter dated yesterday, from Miss Savile of Shepherds Gate is read asking to have a few posts and wire fixed to keep the cows passing along the side of the lane to protect the footpath and stepping stones along the side of the lane from being trodden in by cattle.

It is Resolved that Miss Savile be informed that the Board will make no objection to her erecting a fence for protecting the footpath and stepping stones from Cattle passing along the lane provided the character and position of the fence are approved by the Forest Row Committee .

W. Claude Johnson licence

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it is entered on the Minutes viz:

It having been referred by the Board of Conservators to settle the terms and conditions on which a revocable licence should be granted to Mr. Claude Johnson of Broadstone Farm, Coleman's Hatch, Sussex to make up and stone the present cart track leading from his gate adjoining Ashdown Forest (marked "A" on the accompanying map to the Road marked "B" on the map). The Committee recommended the following conditions and restrictions as at present proposed.

(1) The proposed road leading from points A to B (marked on the map) to be made as near as possible along a line (marked in blue pencil on the map) which line runs parallel with the hedge on the south side of Yew Tree Hall with liberty for Mr. Claude Johnson, if he should wish, for the purpose of making the road straighter at point "A" above mentioned, to move the site of the present gate some 5 yards further south. The proposed road not to be made more than 12 feet in width. Before the exact line of the proposed road between points A & B is finally fixed upon it must be pegged out to show the proposed lines and the approval of the Forest Row Committee obtained. Before the road is proceeded with Mr. Claude Johnson must make arrangement with the owner of Yew Tree Hall for cutting and lopping of the boughs and branches of the trees which project over the line of the proposed new road.

(2) The present road between points B & C on the map to be maintained and repaired by Mr. Claude Johnson.

(3) The present road between points C & D to be maintained and repaired by Mr. Johnson, by the owner of Yew Tree Hall, and by the owner of Hollycroft. The expense of such maintenance and repair to be agreed upon and contributed by arrangement between the above 3 parties. In case they cannot agree as to the proposition to be contributed by each party the decision of the Forest Row Committee as to the proportion which each party should bear, should be asked for who should take into consideration the amount of use by each party of the road between points C & D of the road.

(4) It is to be understood that the proposed new road between points A & B shall be used by Mr. Johnson and his successors in title for the purposes for which the present cart track is used that is for the use and accommodation only of the House and Farm at Broadstone.

E. Martin

10th February 1920

It is Resolved that the report be approved and the recommendations be adopted and that the Clerk take steps to give effect thereto.

The draft licence which he has prepared is then read and considered and referred to the Forest Row Committee for their approval.

Miss Arbuthnot licence to cart building materials

Mr. Freshfield states that Miss Arbuthnot of Forest Lodge, Plaw Hatch, being about to erect a pair of cottages on her land the materials for which can only be got on the site by carting them from the high road across the Forest land for a distance of about 30 yards, as indicated on a plan he produces, and the provision of the cottages being a matter of great urgency, he granted her permission (subject to such conditions as the Board may consider right).

It is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield's action in the matter be confirmed, the conditions to be that Mrs. Arbuthnot makes good any damage done to the surface of the Forest and paying an acknowledgement of 2/-.

Pound Gate dangerous hole

Mr. Kenward reports that there is a dump hole at the back of the Pound Gate Schools which is dangerous to the children and cattle, and asks the permission of the Board to a fence being put round it. It is Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be authorised to expend not exceeding £1 in fencing it.

Water mains at Forest Row Camp offer to sell to Board

The Clerk reports that he received a letter from the W.D. Land Agent (Sussex) enquiring whether the underground water mains and pipes at the Forest Row Camp would be of any use to the Conservators, if so, he thought they might be left in the ground and set off against the claim for re-instatement, but if not, he would instruct the Engineers to remove them.

The Clerk consulted the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee, and by his instructions replied to the W.D. Land Agent that the Conservators do not desire to acquire the water mains or pipes. The Chairman of the Committee

also felt that it was very undesirable to complicate matters by entertaining the suggestion of setting them off against the claim for reinstatement.

It is Resolved that the action of the Chairman of the Committee be approved and confirmed.

Thos. Shannon trespass

Ranger Kirby reports that Mr. Thomas Shannon of the Nook near Old Lands Gate, has cut turf from the Forest for a space of about 20 feet square to repair the boundary bank of his property. It is Resolved that the Clerk do point out to him that he has committed an unlawful trespass and warn him that he must not repeat it.

Local Government Board returns

The Clerk lays on the table a copy of the returns made to the Local Government Board of the receipts and expenditure of the Conservancy for the years 1918 and 1919.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Kirby Herbert	6 weeks salary as Ranger to		
	22nd inst @ 35/-	£10:10:0	
	House rent @ 5/-	£1:10:0	
	Employers insurance	<u>£0:1:6</u>	
			£12:1:6
Brown William	6 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger		
	to 22nd inst @ 30/-	£9:0:0	
	Employers insurance	<u>£0:1:6</u>	
			£9:1:6

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 28th May next at 3.0 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.40 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 28th May 1920 at 3 p.m.

Present

George M. Maryon-Wilson Esqre in the Chair
Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley C.J Colville
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart
Colonel Needham
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. E. Martin
Mr. Joseph Ridley

Military damage

Sir Alexander Stenning being in attendance it is Resolved that the matter of Military damage be dealt with before the minutes are read.

Sir Alexander then states that he met the War Office representative on the 21st inst., and the Forest Rangers being in attendance they viewed the sites of the Camps and the other portions of the Forest, and subsequently received from the authorities a letter of which the following is a copy:

Directorate of Lands,
War Office & Ministry of Munitions,
4 Whitehall Court,
S.W 1
24th May, 1920

Dear Sir Alexander,

Ashdown Forest Reinstatement

I am writing as promised with regard to our meeting on the 21st inst. The work of reinstatement I think can be classified under three heads:-

1. The north-west section at Forest Row which comprises the hutment camp, parade and drill grounds attached which I think approximate 100 acres in extent of which probably 25 has been hutted and the remainder used as drill ground.
2. The land which has been utilized for trench digging practice.
3. The area used for food production, gun parks, drilling etc.

With regard to 1, I think we were agreed that until the site had been cleared of all huts it was impossible to either arrive at a fair assessment for compensation in lieu of reinstatement, or to see exactly what would be required or the nature of the work to be carried out. In any case I understand that the Conservators wish for certain roads on the camp (coloured black on the plan supplied to the Engineers) to be preserved and left for the use of the Conservators.

With regard to 2. I understand that you are not prepared to agree a lump sum payment in lieu of reinstatement and carry out such work as you considered necessary in your own time, but that you ask the Department to fulfil their reputed obligations to reinstate. As you are aware the cost of physical reinstatement must far exceed the freehold value of the land but if you are right in your assumption of the Department's liability I am prepared to recommend that the Department should endeavour to reinstate as far as possible themselves. In this connection, however, I understand that you do not ask that the trenches should be properly filled up and rammed as if the land were valuable agricultural land, but merely that there should be filled in such a way as to obviate any likelihood of danger to cattle.

With regard to 3, which comprises land adjoining Forest Row camp – that at Wych Cross, that opposite Lewes Park Farm and that abutting on the road from Wych Cross to Chelwood Gate in fact all those areas used for food production and drilling but not damaged by branches, I understand that you will accept the sum of £ 300 in full discharge of any claim against the Department for damage and reinstatement.

I shall be glad to hear from you that these terms are acceptable to the Conservators in which case I will immediately put them forward for approval.

Yours faithfully,
Henry S. Cobb
Colonel
Chief Valuer & Compensation Officer.

Sir Alexander Stenning,
West Hoathly,

Sussex.

He also reports that the question of restoring the fencing round the Recreation Ground at Forest Row was not alluded to as it was left over for Captain Pilcher to report whether he had arranged for it with the Superintendent of the Recreation Ground.

Mr. Freshfield mentions that the compensation paid to the Cricket Club £22-15-0 was in respect of Cricket equipment only.

The Board having heard Sir Alexander's statement, and discussed the whole matter with him it is Resolved that the Board are prepared to accept the War office proposal of £300 in respect of item 3 referred to in the letter, on the understanding that it covers nothing that is included under item 1.

Also that the board are prepared to accept proposal No.2 but having regard to the inconvenience to the Commoners using the Forest and the danger to their cattle from the present state of the Forest, the Board must press for a definite time limit to be fixed within which the work shall be carried out.

Also that the Board agree that it will be better, as suggested, to defer the adjusting of the compensation under item 1 until the sites of the camps have been cleared.

Also that the Clerk communicate these Resolutions to Sir Alexander.

It is Resolved that the thanks of the Board be accorded to him for his conduct of the negotiations so far.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Board are then read and confirmed.

Finances

The Clerk produced the Bank Pass Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:-

General Account	£115:1:9
2nd Ranger Account	£9:8:2
Protection & Improvement Fund	£87:12:1

2nd Ranger Fund

The Clerk points out that the cheque to be drawn in favour of the 2nd Ranger today will more than exhaust the balance in hand for the years which ends on the 17th June next.

Protection and Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that £30 be transferred from the Protection and Improvement Fund to the 2nd Ranger Account

Also that when the Annual Balance sheet of the 2nd Ranger Fund for the year ending 17th June next is issued a strong appeal be issued to all persons likely to subscribe particularly to Residents around the Forest but do not pay Forest Rate, to subscribe to the Fund, the terms of the appeal to be settled by the Chairman.

Rate required

The Clerk reports that the rate made on the 28th February 1919 will be practically exhausted by the next meeting.

It is Resolved that notice be given on the Agenda for the next meeting to make a new rate, and that the Clerk prepare the necessary documents for the purpose.

Fires

The Rangers report that the following fires have occurred on the Forest since the last meeting:-

Northern area

21st March	2 p.m.	Adjoining Ridge Road, Coleman's Hatch	about ¼ acre
21st March	6.30 p.m.	Between Aegens Gill and Ryst Wood Cottage	about 1 rod
23 rd March	10.30 p.m.	Near Mr. Faber's House	about 10 rods
24th March	9 p.m.	Opposite Wrens Warren above Forest Row brickyard	about 80 rods
24th March	10.15 p.m.	Near Mr. Faber's	about 1 rod
26th March	noon	At Rushey Bottom	about 25 rods
26th March	8 p.m.	Near Butlers Gate	about 50 rods
26th March	9 p.m.	West side of Whitehouse	about 8 rods
28th March	4 p.m.	Near Wych Cross Inn clump	about 40 rods
28th March	9 p.m.	Eastside Little Claypits Farm (incendiary)	about ¾ acre
31st March	5 p.m.	South side Gills Lap Clump	about 2 acres
31st March		Between Jumper's Town Herons Warren (incendiary)	about 25 rods
26th April	10 p.m.	Northside Wych Cross to Coleman's Hatch Road	about 2½ acres
1st May	9 p.m.	Southside above road above Whitehouse	about 2 rods
1st May	9 p.m.	Hollies Down	about 2 rods
1st May	9 p.m.	Some locality lower down	about 2 rods
1st May	9 p.m.	Above Little Claypits Farm	about 2 acres
4th May	10 p.m.	Two on west side Furnace farm, New Bridge	about 10 rods
5th May	4 p.m.	Between the Rough & Little Claypits Farm, Gills Gap	about 2 acres
5th May	9 p.m.	Top of Hundred Roughts near Five hundred	about 1½ acres
5th May	9 p.m.	North side Greenwood Inn Clump	about 1½ acres
11th May	8 p.m.	At Lodge Bottom north side track leading to Greenwood Gate	about 1 acre
11th May	11 p.m.	West side Ridge School	about 10 rods
14th May	10.30 p.m.	Between Coleman's Hatch Rd & top of Four Acres	about 5 rods
14th May	11 p.m.	West side of Prelude	
16th May	9.40 p.m.	Between Prelude and Ashdown Park	about 2 acres
17th May	9 p.m.	Opposite the Ridge adjoining east side Ridge road	about 5 rods
17th May	9 p.m.	Southwest corner of Four Acres, Coleman's Hatch	
19th May	3 p.m.	Between Old Lodge entrance & Greenwood Gate	about 2 acres
19th May	9 p.m.	Northside road Coleman's Hatch to Wych Cross. Supposed small boy dropped lighted match	about 10 rods

Southern area

20th March	8.30 p.m.	Adjoining Kingstanding Farm	about 1 acre
28th March	9.15 p.m.	At Marl pits	about ½ acre
28th March	9.15 p.m.	on Stonehill	
28th March	9.15 p.m.	at Burnt Oak	
25th April	9.15 p.m.	Near Nutley Windmill	about 8 rods
3rd May	8 p.m.	At St John's Common near Marden Hill	about 1 ½ acres

5th May	10.30 p.m.	At Stonehill	about 30 rods
11th May	3 p.m.	Near Old Lodge	about 4 acres
11th May	3.30 p.m.	On Stonehill	about ½ acre
11th May	10 p.m.	On Stonehill	
		these three wilful - dry furze across cart tracks	
16 th May	3 p.m.	Near Kingstanding	about ½ acre

Ranger Brown increase of pay

The Chairman reports that after the last meeting he received an application from Ranger Brown for an increase of pay and having regard to the view expressed by the Board at the last meeting he directed the Clerk to inform Ranger Brown that he would be granted a bonus of 5/- per week commencing from the 29th March last, to continue to the 27th September next, and to explain to him that the Board will then review the whole question of the Forest Rangers.

It is Resolved that the action of the Chairman be confirmed.

The Forest Row Committee present the following reports which are read and it is Resolved that they be entered on the minutes namely:-

A meeting of the Forest Row Committee was held on April 30th. Present The Chairman, Mr. E. Martin and Colonel Needham.

An application from the Ladies Golf Club for an alteration and extension of the links, was considered and it was Resolved to instruct the Clerk to call on the Secretary to furnish particulars plans and details of the work proposed.

It was reported that Mr. C. Johnson had commenced work on the road authorised across the Forest to Broadstone Farm on the lines laid down by the Committee and that the Clerk had in his hand the formal agreement which had not yet been signed by Mr. Johnson. As the terms had been laid before Mr. Johnson the Committee did not think any need had arisen from the premature taking in hand of the work.

The danger of flooding to the Forest from dams erected by Mr. W.C. Bond at Aegens Gill was considered and it was Resolved to enquire that sluices should be made in the dams that would be opened in care of floods.

The Ranger reported that heather was being cut by the Golf Club after the legal time (March 31st)

The Chairman was asked to write to the Secretary and point out this was contrary to Rule and was setting a bad example.

The Ranger reported several fires.

The bad condition of the bridge near the 3rd tee on the Golf course was reported and it was resolved that as it was erected by the Golf Club the duty of repairing it rested with the Club.

A meeting of the Forest Row Committee was held on May 14th. Present – The Chairman, Admiral Sir S. Colville, Colonel Needham and Mr. Martin.

The plan of the camp at Forest Row submitted by the War Office was examined and after inspection of the ground the Committee was unanimously of opinion that the old road repaired by the military from near the Golfers Hotel to the Lewes Road and also the new road constructed round the east and south side of Ashdown Place from Greenhall to the Lewes Road should be preserved and all other roads, yards etc on the Forest broken up and the surface restored.

The Committee trusts the Board will endorse this decision which will in their opinion secure a benefit to the neighbourhood without injury to the Commoners' rights.

The conclusion arrived at has been communicated to Sir A. Stenning, who had reported his meeting with the officials of the Lands Department of the War Office, was to be on the 21st inst.

The application made by the Ladies Golf Club for an extension of their links of which a plan was admitted was and considered fully on the ground. It appeared to the Committee that the change proposed would not entail any substantial diminution in the litter field and that it would to some extent be of advantage in doing away with two of the present greens which are inconveniently situated. The Committee suggest the application should be granted.

The Committee recommend that the small Brick armoury in the disused rifle ground be removed. It is useless, falling into disrepair and unsightly.

The Chairman reported there had been systematic incendiarism on the Forest round Colemans Hatch and Chuck Hatch and that the Police Superintendent, East Grinstead, had promised all possible Police assistance owing to the Constable at Coleman's Hatch not having been replaced, this is of a very scanty nature.

Mr. Martin explains that the proposed rearrangement of the Ladies Golf Course means the giving up of five greens in exchange for three new ones.

The Forest Row Committee present an account for £1:2:0 expended by Ranger Brown in connection with extinguishing fires and recommended that it be paid out of the Protection & Improvement Funds.

Ladies Golf Course alteration of; Mr. Bond's dam

It is Resolved that the acts proceedings and recommendations of the Committee as reported be approved and confirmed except (1) That leave be not given to make any alteration in the position of the Ladies ninth green (2) That the paragraph relating to the dam across Mr. Bond's stream be referred back for further consideration and (3) That the repair of the bridge be considered below:-

Sleeper bridge repair of

A letter is read from Mrs. Emma Reed, drawing attention to the unsafe condition of the sleeper bridge referred to in the report near the Ryst Cottage. It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to contribute to the repair of the bridge such a sum as they deem proper not exceeding £5 to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement fund.

Licences granted

Ranger Kirby presents his return of licences granted by him during the year ending 31st March last.

Pound Gate dangerous hole

The Maresfield Committee report that they have had the dangerous dump hole at the back of the Pound Gate School securely fenced at a cost of 2/-.

Nutley Inn Farm estovers

Mr. Joseph Ridley produced a copy of the Decree of 1691 and referred to the claim of right in it made by Cooper and contended that Mr. Catt the occupier of the modern house on the Nutley Inn Farm is entitled to two loads of fuel wood from the Forest. The Clerk not admitting the contention it is Resolved that the matter be referred to the Committee originally appointed to deal with this subject for consideration and report, and that they be summoned for the purpose before the next Meeting of the Board.

Lane at Shepherd's Gate repair

Mr. Martin reminds the Board that the question of carrying out the repair of the lane near Shepherd's Gate which was before the Board on 21st December 1917 had stood over in consequence of Mr. Job Luxford having retired from business and withdrawn from the contract and he reports that Messrs Waters are now prepared to carry out the work for £12:10:0. It is Resolved that Mr. Martin be requested first to see what money can be raised for the

purpose by subscriptions from the neighbours and that the balance be provided out of the Protection & Improvement Fund.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:

Kirby Herbert 10 weeks salary as Ranger

to 31st inst @ £2	£20:0:0
bonus 5/-	£2:10:0
house rent	£2:10:0
Employer's insurance	<u>£0:2:6</u>
	£25:2:6

Brown William 10 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger

to 31st @30/-	£15:0:0
Bonus 5/-	£2:10:0
Employers Insurance	<u>£0:2:6</u>
	£17:12:6

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday , the 30th July next, at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 20th July 1920 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Admiral The Honble Sir Stanley C.J. Colville
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart
Colonel Needham
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

Rate Account	£105:11:9
2nd Ranger Fund	£22:0:8
Protection & Improvement Fund	£79:19:2

The Rangers report that the following fires have occurred the Forest since the last Meeting:

Northern Area

7th May	5 p.m.	3 small fires near Colemans Hatch	about 30 rods
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8th May	2 p.m.	East side of Ridge House	
8th May	6 p.m.	Above Furnace Farm	about ½ acre
8th May	8 p.m.–	South East side of Wren's Warren	about 15 rods
8th May	10.30 p.m.	Between Ridge Road and Highroad	about ½ rod
9th May	2 p.m.	West side high road near to Chuck Hatch close to high road opposite north *** of Wren's Warren	
<u>Southern Area</u>			
6th June	3 p.m.	On Stone Hill	about 25 rods
7th June	6 p.m.	Between Old Lodge & Greenwood Gate	about 1½ acres
23rd June	2 p.m.	Near Old Lodge Entrance	about 30 rods

W.C. Johnson Licence

The Clerk reports that the licence to Mr. W. Claude Johnson authorised at the last Meeting has been granted.

Ladies Golf Course alteration

Also that he informed the Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club that the Board consent to the proposed alterations to the Ladies Golf Club except that they cannot consent to any alternation being made in the position of the 9th Green.

Also that on 29th ults, he wrote to Messrs Hunt & Co. the Lord's Solicitors asking their attention to the repair of the fence round the West side of the disused sand pit above Aegen Gill.

Hut at F. Row camp removal of

Also that he has been in communication with the Young Men's Christian Association about the non removal of their huts at Forest Row camp and they have replied that they had obtained an undertaking from the Harley Motor Service Co. to remove one hut at once and that the other hut which was lent to them was the property of Mr. W.G. Bradshaw and has since changed ownership 2 or 3 times and that they were pressing for its removal. Ranger Brown reports that this hut has since been removed.

Damage to road to Quabrook Gate

Mr. Martin reads a letter he received from Miss Rumbold complaining that considerable damage has been done to the Forest Road between the gate of Yew Tree Hall and Quabrook Gate by the carriage by Mr. W. Claude Johnson of materials for making up the length of road from Broadstone Farm for which a licence was recently granted to him and of other goods, and he states that he has advised Miss Rumbold to write direct to Mr. Johnson on the subject.

It is Resolved that in case the Forest Row Committee report to the Clerk that no step has been taken by Mr. Johnson within a month of this date to repair the road, the Clerk to write to Mr. Johnson calling upon him to take prompt steps to put the road in proper repair.

Brick armoury at F. Row rifle range

Mr. Martin reports that he has made various inquiries but has failed to obtain any information as to the ownership of the brick armoury erected some 40 years ago on the disused rifle range at Forest Row which is now used by the public for purposes which are nuisance to the neighbourhood, and he produces an offer he has received from Messrs H. & E. Waters to remove the building and pay the Conservators £5.

It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to accept the offer provided Messrs. Waters [to] level and make good the surface of the Forest after removal, and that the £5 be paid into the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Shepherd's Gate repair

Mr. Martin states that Mr. J. McAndrew has given £2 towards the repair of the lane at Shepherd's Gate, and presents the account of Messrs H. and E. Waters £12:10:0 for carrying out the work.

It is Resolved that the account be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Mr. Bond's dam

The Forest Row Committee report that they have viewed the existing flood gates on the stream passing through Mr. Bond's property, and are satisfied with them for the present.

Deposit on Highgate Green

The Committee point out that the County Council's snow plough has been lying on Highgate Green for a long time, and as other persons have been required to remove things deposited on this Green, it is undesirable that it should be allowed to remain there.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the County Surveyor requesting him to have it removed.

Recreation Ground Tompsett's Bank – appointment of Superintendent

The death having been reported of Mr. John Forbes Gordon who was appointed Superintendent of the Recreation Ground at Tompsett's Bank in 1898 it is Resolved that Dr. Richard Andra Fegan of The Elms, Forest Row, be and is hereby appointed Superintendent thereof, and that the Clerk do inform him thereof.

Proposed telephone wire down Marden's Hill

An application from the Post Office to put up a telephone line with 14 poles from Crowborough Town to "Ulverstone" in the occupation of Mr. Alfred Blackie having been referred to the Maresfield Committee for consideration. The Committee report that having viewed the proposed position of the line as shown by a plan submitted by the Post Office which is close to the boundary of the Forest they consider that the line will not affect the amenities of the Forest. It is Resolved that consent be granted on the usual conditions.

R.E. telephone line from Crowborough Camp to new road

The Clerk states that Ranger Kirby having reported that on the 14th June last he saw the Royal Engineers from Crowborough Camp (in Crowborough Warren) erecting 15 telephone poles and 8 wires across the Forest from their camp to the New Road where it ends without connecting with anything, he wrote to the Officer Commanding pointing out that Parliament has taken a particular interest in the preservation of the Forest and has placed it under the jurisdiction and control of this Board with the duty of and responsibility for preserving it in its natural condition, and that under the Bye Laws the erection of any pole, etc on the Forest without their sanction is prohibited and is made an offence and calling upon him to stop the work pending further information and to state by whose authority he has undertaken the work.

He received a reply dated the 30th ulto. that no further work is contemplated, that the control of the Board was overlooked, that the line was for use in connection with the Camp and is not intended to be permanent beyond possibly 2 or 3 years and expressing the hope that this Board may see its way to give permission for the line to remain for the present.

The Officer however appears to have informed Ranger Kirby that it was contemplated ultimately to connect it with the Camp at Maresfield.

It is Resolved that having regard to Military engineers and on the understanding that the line erected is only intended to be a temporary matter, the Board will not require its removal as present, but that the Clerk impress on the Commanding Officer that no extension must be carried out without application to the Board for the purpose.

Fencing round Crowborough Warren

Ranger Kirby having reported on 1st inst. that Mr. Edward Hartley the new owner of the Crowborough Warren Estate has had a barbed wire fence erected round the whole of the Estate part of which he considered encroaches on the Forest, the matter was referred to the Maresfield Committee who having viewed the fence all round report that the fence put up opposite the Old Mill takes in a strip from 20 to 30 feet in width of the Forest for a length of about 98 yards and that the stream leading from the Lower Mill Pond at the point indicated on the Ordnance Map is the Forest boundary until it makes the bank and ditch running at right angle to it.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Mr. Hartley pointing this out and call upon him to remove the length of fence.

Catt estovers

The Clerk reports that at the last Meeting the question of whether Mr. Catt of the Nutley Inn is entitled to estovers was referred for consideration to the Committee originally appointed to deal with the subject, but after searching the Minute books for 20 years back he cannot find that any such Committee was appointed. The Clerk is directed to make further inquiry into the claim and bring the matter before the Board if anything fresh arises.

Rate

The Clerk states that owing to the great number of changes in the ownership of rated properties of which he has not yet been able to obtain full particulars, he has not yet been able to complete the Rate. It is Resolved that the making of the rate be adjourned till the next Meeting.

Licences granted Rangers future arrangements

Ranger Brown presents his return of licences granted during the year ending 1st July inst.

It having been Resolved when the grant of bonuses to the Rangers was last made to the 27th September next that the whole question of the employment of the Forest Rangers should be reviewed before that date. It is Resolved that it be referred to a Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the two District Committees to consider the whole subject with power to take such action in the matter as they may think fit.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:

Kirby Herbert	9 weeks salary as Ranger	
	to 2nd August @ £2	£18:0:0
	9 weeks bonus 5/-	£2:5:0
	House rent	£2:5:0
	Employer's insurance	
	5 weeks @ 3d	£0:1:3
	4 weeks @ 5d	<u>£0:1:8</u>
		£22:12:11
Brown William	9 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger	
	to 2nd August @30	£13:10:0
	9 weeks bonus @ 5/-	£2:5:0
	Employer's insurance	
	5 weeks @ 3d	£0:1:3
	4 weeks @ 5d	<u>£0:1:8</u>
		£15:17:11

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 8th October next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 8th October 1920, at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair

Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart.

Mr. James Card

Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Edward Martin

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are as follows:

General Account	£85:7:4
2nd Ranger Fund	£71:18:2
Protection & Improvement Fund	£76:0:7

Superintendent of Forest Row Recreation Ground

The Clerk reports that Dr. R.A. Fegan has accepted the office of Superintendent of Forest Row Recreation Ground at Forest Row

Highgate Green Deposit

Ranger Brown reports that the snow plough referred to at the last Meeting has been removed from the spot on which it stood to another part of the Green between the high road and a water ditch which is eight yards from the edge of the high road. It is Resolved that the Clerk write again to the County Surveyor calling on him to remove it.

H. & E. Waters wagons on Highgate Green

The Forest Row Committee report that Messrs H. & E. Waters of Forest Row having certain wagons and a timber carriage lying on Highgate Green called upon them to remove them off the Green and received a reply dated the 5th inst, that their works which were damaged by fire are nearly restored and they will then desist from leaving them on the Green. It is Resolved that the Clerk write and inform them that having regard to their undertaking to remove same the Board will defer taking action in the matter.

2nd Ranger Fund

The Clerk reports that the Chairman's appeal in support of the 2nd Ranger Fund was sent to about 30 possible subscribers whose names had been suggested resulting so far in 10 fresh subscriptions amounting together to £11:11:6 and increases by old subscribers to £2:3:6. The Clerk is instructed to supply certain of the Conservators with particulars of all the subscribers that they may endeavour to induce others to subscription.

Gorse burning

A letter dated the 23rd August last from Sir Stuart Samuel is read in which he urges that the Conservators should themselves burn the gorse by arrangement with the Lord of the Manor.

Rangers future arrangements

The Committee appointed at the last Meeting to consider the whole subject of the employment of the Rangers with power to take such action in the matter as they may think fit report that having carefully considered the position they have decided that the present arrangements be continued until the 24th June next.

Unfenced pit near Pippingford

Ranger Kirby having reported that the fence round a quarry near the entrance to Pippingford worked by the County Council was broken down and a great deal of the material had disappeared, the Clerk on the 25th September last wrote to the County Surveyor requesting him to put it in order. The County Surveyor replied that the County Council had not taken any gravel from it far from 10 to 12 years past, and that it had since been worked by others. On further enquiry Ranger Kirby ascertained that 3 years ago while he was on Military Service Sir Stuart Samuel had some stone dug and his Manager stated that the fence was then in order. No one has used it since. Ranger Kirby suggests that it would be better instead of renewing the fence to slope down the sides of the pit which has been excavated as near an existing cart track as is safe. It is Resolved that Ranger Kirby do carry out the sloping as he suggests.

H. Walter's caravan

Harry Walter's caravan turned out from Mr. Inn's land having lain on the Forest for some time and Walter having failed to comply with the Ranger's caution to remove it. Ranger Kirby summoned him and on 17th June last he was convicted by the Uckfield Bench and fined £1. As he took no steps to remove the caravan, Ranger Kirby issued another summon and on the 16th September last Walter was again fined £1 which he paid.

On this occasion Mr. Buckwell who appeared for him pointed out that a horse broom belonging to the County Council was allowed to lie on the Forest, and thereupon the Clerk wrote to the County Surveyor pointing out the comment made and requesting that the broom be removed, and that instructions be given to the District Surveyor not to deposit or leave anything on the Forest in future. The Ranger reporting that the broom has not been removed. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the County Surveyor again.

Foot & Mouth disease

Foot and mouth disease having broken out in this area the Chief Constable on 27th August last applied to the Clerk to stop Commoners' cattle crossing the high roads. The Clerk wrote to him explaining that the Board has no authority to interfere with the Commoners' exercising their rights, but that the Rangers would give his information unto the owners, and the matter being one of extreme urgency the Clerk authorised the Chief Constable under Bye Law 11 if he considered it desirable, to post notices round the Forest urging Commoners to keep their cattle off the high roads.

It is Resolved that the Clerk's action in the matter be approved.

Crowborough Cricket Ground play football

Mr. F. Humphrey representing the Crowborough Cricket Club having applied for the permission of the Board to football being played on the ground and desiring permission to cut a small amount of gorse to clear the ground, the Clerk referred the matter to the Chairman of the Maresfield Committee who reports that he met Mr. Humphrey on the ground and gave consent to the playing of football and authorised him to cut the gorse on a small defined area for the purpose.

Military damage

The Clerk reports that he received a communication from the Land Agent Eastern Command stating that he was prepared to pay the £300 agreed compensation on his signing and returning a receipt which accompanied and as this receipt stated it was in full and final settlement of all claims in respect of occupation of "area used for food production, gun parks, drilling etc", he was unable to sign the receipt without the instruction of the Board. It is Resolved that the Clerk do write the Land Agent a letter to be approved by the Chairman stating that £300 was an agreed payment in satisfaction of the damage to the area used for food production, manoeuvring and drilling, but that it was arranged that the restoration of the sites of the camps and the adjacent gardens should be carried out by the War Office, and pointing out that in particular this should include certain works specified in a report of Ranger Brown.

Road at Tompsetts Bank

As the road material laid down by the Military Authority on the cart track turning from past the north west side of Mrs. Walsham's property to the Wych Cross Road has been sold to Messrs B.&*. J. Martin of Forest Row, and Mrs. Walsham being desirous that the metalling should not be removed from that part of the cart track which lay between two property and that of Mr. S. Winckley Smith, the Clerk by direction of Mr. Edward Martin wrote to the Messrs. Martin requesting them not to remove the material from this particular length until after this Meeting to which they assented.

Mr. Edward Martin explains the matter more fully, and states that there is no legal power to remove this material.

The question having been raised whether any distinction should be made between this short length of metalling and that on either side of it is Resolved that the matter be referred to Messrs. Freshfield & Martin to go into the whole question with full power to act.

Kingstanding rifle range abandoned

The Clerk reports that he has received notice from the Sussex Territorial Force Association that they propose to abandon the Kingstanding rifle range and Ranger Kirby reports that it is being dismantled.

Rate

The Clerk reports that the funds in hand will be exhausted by payment of the current liabilities and having produced an estimate of the Annual Expenses it is proposed by Sir F.H. Champneys seconded by Mr. Edward Martin 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 1845–1878 and 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 6d 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 sum payable by them are hereinafter set out, namely:

Rights of Common upon the Forest at the rate of 6d 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 herein after set out, namely:

Name	Address	Acreage	Amount £	s	d
Abbey & Sons	Kemp Town Brewery, Seymour Street, Brighton	15	0	7	6
Amps, James William Esq.	Khartoum, Magdalen Road, Bexhill	65:2:24	1	13	0
Andrews, Miss & others	Linden Towers Tunbridge Wells	0:2:0	0	0	6
Appleby Mr. Horace	Nutley Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Arbuthnot, Miss Dorothy	Forest Lodge, Sharpthorne, East Grinstead	12:1:8	0	6	6
Arbuthnot W.R. Esq. Decd. The Repres, of	C/o James McFarlane Esq., Great Bentley, Cuckfield	114 ½	2	17	6
Ashdown, Mr. Thomas	Ivy Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham	1:2:0	0	1	0
Avis, Mr Obadiah	The Hollies, Fryars Gate Withyham	1:2:0	0	1	0
Baker Mr. Matthias	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Baker Mr. William	Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Ballard & Co. Messrs.	Brewers, Lewes	2 ½	0	1	6
Barchard, Misses. A.E. & E.E.	Campfield Rough. Fairwarp, Uckfield	1:0:15	0	1	0
Barnard, Mr. Henry	Woodlands Nursery. Maresfield (late Wood)	12:0:0	0	6	0
Bashford, Mr. George	Forest Row, Sussex	6:0:19	0	3	6
Bailey, Sir Abe, K.C.M.G.	c/o A.E.N. Ward Esq., 65 London Wall, London E.C.				0
Bellairs, A.E. Esq.	Stone House, Forest Row	37	0	18	6
Bellingham, Mrs. Elizabeth	Salisbury House, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	5:2:37	0	3	0
Bennett, Mr. J.	Furners Green, Dane Hill, Uckfield	2	0	1	0

Bennett, Mr. George	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:4	0	0	6
Birch, Fredk. Peregrine	C/o Messrs. Birch & Co., Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC	3:3:12	0	2	0
Birch, Francis J.P. Esq.	Old End, Forest Row, Sussex	41	1	0	6
Bishop, Mrs.	C/o E.P. Whitley Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	3:2:20			
Box Mr. Richard	Rozell Lodge, 329 Hainault Road, Leytonstone, London	3	0	1	6
Brailey, W.H. Esq. M.D.	21 Landsdowne Place, Hove (late Sandford)	1:3:0	0	1	0
Britt, Mrs	Greylands, Nutley (late A. Turner)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Brown, Mr. Alfred	Bank Farm Cottage, Forest Row (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:0:39	0		06
Browning Mr. William	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	9½	0	5	0
Bu**, The Revd. E.A.	Yewhurst, Forest Row (late Abe. Bailey)	177	4	8	6
Burns, L.B. Esq.	Chuck Hatch, Hartfield, Sussex	12	0	6	0
Burns, Mrs. Clementina	Andrews Bank, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Card, Mr. Abraham	Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	2:3:0	0	1	6
Card, Mr. James	Golf View, Ashdown Forest, Forest Row, Sussex	4:2:0	0	2	6
Carr. Mr. William	Nutley, Uckfield (cottages there late A. Turner)	27:3:31	0	14	0
Carter, George C.	34 Clarence Street, Kingston on Thames (formerly Arbuthnot, late Cohen)	4	0	2	0
Carver, P.W	(late Cohen)	57:2:0	1	9	0
Champneys, Sir F.H. Bart	Littlemead, Nutley, Uckfield	7:3:0	0	4	0
Clarke Stephenson, Mrs.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	133:3:13	3	7	0
Clarke, Lt. Col Stephenson R	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London	56:2:0	1	8	6
Clarke, Chas Bridges Orme Esq.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 33 Poultry London (late Du Croz)	62:2:7	1	11	6
Clough, A.H. Esq.	C/o J.T. Marriott Esq., Estate Office, Brockenhurst, Hants	392:1:24	10	17	6
Cohen, Nathaniel L. Esq.	11 Hyde Park Terrace, London (late Du Croz)				
Colchester The Rt. Hon. Lord	c/o E.P. Whitley & Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	162	4	1	0
Colville, Admiral The Hon Sir Stanley	Pixton, Forest Row, Sussex (late Hyde)	38:2:34	0	19	6
Constable, Mrs. Lucy S.	Fords Bank, Horney Common, Uckfield	2:2:28	0	1	6
Cook, Miss	The Hall Nutley Uckfield	17	0	8	6

Cooper, Ernest Esq.	C/o Turner Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	140	3	10	0
Corbett, Chas. Henry Esq.	Woodgate, Dane Hill Park Uckfield	248:1:24	6	4	6
Cowan, W.H.	Crows Nest, Fairwarp, Uckfield (late R.J. Streatfeild)	6:2:20	0	3	6
Dadswell, Mr. Alfred repres.	C/o Miss Fullegar & H. Watson, Ballards Hill, Goudhurst, Kent	1	0	0	6
Darwin, Major Leonard R.E.	12 Egerton Place, London SW 3	33:2:0	0	17	0
De Lutteshaw, Miss Celina and Meyers, Miss Katherine	Solvane, Birch Grove, East Grinstead	6:3:1	0	3	6
Dennett. Mr. Wm.	Piltdown Nursery, Uckfield (late Wilson)	9:3:8	0	5	0
Davis, Mr. S.	Redcot, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7:2:16	0	4	0
Dennis, Mrs. Langton	Offley, Pound Gate, Crowborough	2:2:0	0	1	6
Dodge, Mrs. Mary Hoadley	C/o Messrs. Blount, Lynch & Petre, 48 Albermarle Street, London W.	11:1:30	0	6	0
Douglas, Miss Charlotte Amy	Harlie, Forest Row, Sussex	0:2:1	0	0	6
Dowson, Hugh Emerson, Esq.	Landhurst Wood, Hartfield, Sussex	8:0:24	0	4	6
Du Croz, Charles Grant Esq.	Court Lands West Hoathly E. Grinstead	55:2:0	1	8	0
Eason, Edward Henry Physick Esq.	192 Bishopsgate London E.C.	1:1:8	0	1	0
Eckstein, Frederick G.J. Esq.	C/o Chapman & Martin, Lewes (late Misa)	285	7	2	6
Eden, A. J. Esq.	The Crossways, Hartfield	5:3:32	0	3	0
Ellis, The Hon. Mrs. Evelyn	35 Portland Place, London W	3	0	1	6
Faber, Alfred Esq.	Offerton, Forest Row, East Grinstead)	3:0:16	0	2	0
Ferris, Col. W.B.	Wilmshurst, Fletching, Uckfield (late Wilson)	18:2:5	0	9	6
Fleming, Mr. Basil Robert	Hill Side, Chapel Lane, Forest Row (late G. Martin)	1:0:29	0	1	0
Follett, W.W.S. Esq.	Broomhill, Crowborough, Sussex	5	0	2	6
Freeland, Mr. P.H.	Nutley, Uckfield Ditto (late Hillhouse)	1:3:0 1:0:0	0	1	6
Freshfield, Douglas, W. Esq.	Wych Cross House, Forest Row, Sussex Ditto (late Arbuthnot) Ditto (Ashdown Place)	259:1:17 2:3:38 8:1:28	6	15	6
Fuller Miss Millicent	Vaughans Fletching Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Fyfe, Miss	Homesdale, Grove Park, Lee S.E.	5	0	2	6
Funnell, Mr. Trayton	Oakhouse Farm, Dane Hill, Sussex	18:1:13	0	9	6
Gasson Mrs.	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	3:2:0	0	2	0

Agnes					
Gasson, Mr. Thomas	Chelwood Gate, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:32	0	0	6
Godley, The Rt. Hon. Hugh John	29 Chester Street, London SW Ditto (late Darling)	65:2:206	1	13	0
Goldsmiths' Company	Goldsmith's Hall London E.C.	117:3:10	2	19	0
Gordon, Mrs. John F.	Domaha, Forest Row East Grinstead	5:1:36	0	3	0
Goslett, G.A.D.	Chelworth, Chelworth Gate, Uckfield	7	0	3	6
Grover, Mr. Bernard	Nutley, Uckfield (land opposite The Limes, Nutley – late A. Turner)	5	0	2	6
Hale The Misses	c/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner. East Grinstead	69	1	14	6
Hardinge, The Rt. Hon. Sir A.H. GCMG, KCB	Cold Harbour, Forest Row, Sussex	5:3:19	0	3	0
Hardy, Guy C. Trustees of Will	C/o Mr. John German, Ashby-de-la-Zouch	256:3:35	6	8	0
Head, F.H.	Goldstrow, Piltown, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Head, Mr. John	Great Surreys Farm, Ashurst Wood, East Grinstead (late Abe Bailey)	30	0	15	0
Heasman, Mr. Philip	The Homestead, Friars Gate, Sussex	2	0	1	0
Heasman Mr. William	Little Furnace Farm, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Heasman, Mrs. C., Heasman Sarah. Heasman Mrs Isabella	C/o Mrs C. Heasman, Holly Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham, Sussex	2:2:0	0	1	6
Heath, Mr. Joseph Benjamin	Hamilton Terrace, Forest Row	1	0	0	6
Hewitt, H.B.	Perrymans Hill, Furners Green, Uckfield	8:0:36	0	4	6
Hillhouse J.	36 Lincolns Inn Fields, London, WC	1	0	0	6
Hoare, Alfred	37 Fleet St. London E.C	101	2	10	6
Hoath, Mrs. Lydia	C/o Mr. Alfred Hoath, Moorlands, Withyham	4	0	2	0
Hoath, Mr. Amos	Temple Cottage, St. John's, Crowborough	3	0	1	6
Hobbs, Mr. James	Blackven Farm, Horney Common, Uckfield (late A. Turner)	0:2:0	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. W.	Forest Row	0:0:16	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. J.	Sillwood Place, Forest Row	0:0:11	0	0	6
Hope, James F. Esq. M.P.	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes	520:3:0	13	0	6
Horlick, Sir James Bart	Kidbrooke Park, Forest Row (late Kekewick)	150	3	15	0
Hounsom Wm. Allin Esq.	41 New Church Road, Brighton	28	0	14	0
Hyde, Thos. Esq. Decd. The Trustees of	C/o E.M. Challenor Esq., Solicitors, Abingdon	59	1	9	6
Ince, Revd. J.B.C.	The Vicarage, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Inns, Mr. Alfred	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6

George					
Izzard, Mr. William	3 Gladstone Road, Crowborough	1	0	0	6
Johnson, W. Claud Esq.	Broadstone, Colemans Hatch, Sussex	32:2:38	0	16	06
Kent, Sir Stephenson KCB	Chapelwood Manor, Nutley (late Brassey) (late De La Warr) (late Wilson)	106:3:36 9:0:4 206:1:31	2 5	18 3	0 6
Kenward, Mr. Robert	Fletching, Uckfield	74	1	17	0
Kenward, Mr. Hercules	Budletts, Maresfield, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Killick Mr. Henry	Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:0	0	0	6
Knight, Mr. J.	Railway Inn, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:2	0	0	6
Lack, Dr.	Brown House, Forest Row	1:1:29	0	1	0
Lambert, G.N. Esq.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Sussex	4:2:0	0	2	6
Langridge, Mr. Enoch	Dane Hill, Uckfield	1:2:0	0	1	0
Larnach, Capt. Nevill	C/o Stanley Pott Esq., Brambletye Estate Office, East Grinstead	647:3:10	16	4	0
Laver Miss Elizabeth Fielder	Greystones, Crowborough	5:2:0	0	3	0
Longley, Mr. C.	Oakhurst, Chapel Lane, Forest Row	0:1:1	0	0	6
Longley, Mr. C. J.	Ruthcote, Crawley, Sussex (late Du Croz)	[blank]			
Loveday, Mr. Charles	Primrose Alley, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Lucas, F. R. Esq.	The Rough, Chelwood (late Funnell)	29:1:13	0	15	0
Macmillan, Maurice Esq.	Birch Grove House, nr. East Grinstead	13	0	6	6
Macmillan, Mrs. Helen Artie	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead	44:1:11	1	2	6
Manners, Mr. James Thomas	Bankside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Mappin	"Ashdowne", Hartfield	5:0:15	0	3	0
Marchant, Mr. Thomas	Cackle Street, Maresfield, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Maresfield, The Rector of	The Rectory, Maresfield	100	2	10	0
Marriott, Mr & Miss Cordelia Isabella.	c/o Messrs. Hasties, 65 Lincolns Inn Field, W.C	65:0:17	1	13	0
Marsden, James.	Hurst Wood House, Hurst Wood, Buxted	3:2:0	0	2	0
Martin, Edward	Woodcote, Forest Row	1:1:28	0	1	0
Martin Mr. George	Forest Row Ditto (late Read)	23:0:0 0:1:0	0	12	0
Martin, Mr. William	Coach & Horses, Dane Hill, Uckfield	8:1:0	0	4	6
May, Paul Stanley Esq. & others.	C/o Messrs Finnis Downey Linnell & Chessher, 5 Clifford Street, London	79:2:3	2	0	0
McAndrew, John	Holly Hill, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	302:3:39	7	13	0

Esq. J.P.	Ditto (late A.A. Adams)	2:2:0			
McLachlan, J.M. Esq.	Forest Lodge, Maresfield, Uckfield (late Villeneuve-Smith)	16:1:5	0	8	6
Mc Leod, Addison Esq.	C/o F. Coverdale Esq., High Street, Brentwood, Essex	8	0	4	0
Messel, Harold George, Esq.	C/o T.G. Page Esq., 57 Coleman St., London EC2	44:2:35	1	2	6
Miles, Mrs. L.A. G.	Danehill, Uckfield (nee May)	15:3:26	0	8	0
Mitchell, Mr. Ben decd. The Exors of	Jarvis Brook, Crowborough (0:1:8	0	0	6
Mitchell, Mr. William & Eliza Brett	Forest Row, Sussex (late Reed) Ditto	0:2:0 0:1:10	0	2	0
Morris, Miss J.V.	Bracklay Cottage, Fairwarp. Uckfield Ditto (late B. Penfold Summerford)	9:0:30 5:2:0	0	7	6
Needham, Colonel	Tylehurst, Forest Row	58	1	9	0
Norman, Mr. Henry The Repres. of	Fairwarp, Maresfield, Uckfield	6	0	3	0
Osborne, Mr. Albert	Horse & Groom, Rushlake Green, Warbleton	0:3:15	0	0	6
Osborne. Mr. George	Hill End Farm, Nutley, Uckfield	2:2:0	0	1	6
Osborne, Messrs.	Ditto (late Wilson)	48:3:24	1	4	6
Osborne, Mrs. Mahala	Gt. Bucksteep Farm, Bodle St., nr. Hailsham	4:0:11	0	2	6
Osborne, Mr. William and Elizabeth his wife	Foresters Arms, Fairwarp, Uckfield, late Jas Bennett	14:2:0	0	7	6
Osborne, Mr. William	Ditto	15:2:18	0	8	0
Osborne, Mr. Thomas and Harriet his wife	Misbourne Farm, Nutley, Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Osborne, Mr. Thomas	Ditto	7	0	3	6
Oxley, William	38 Queens Road, Tunbridge Wells (late Waldstein)	28:1:8	0	14	6
Parsons, Miss Muriel	Mouse Hole, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	1:2:19	0	1	0
Peckham, George	Sunnyside, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:16	0	2	0
Penfold, Mr Henry.	Lisburne, Nutley (Dodds Bottom, formerly A. Turner)	2:1:8	0	1	6
Philcox, Mr. George decd. The Repres of	Newbridge, Maresfield, Tunbridge Wells	2 ½	0	1	6
Phillips The Rev. J.S. MA	The Vicarage, Nutley, Uckfield	4	0	2	0
Playford, Miss Agnes	Harlie, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:0:16	0	0	6

Plevins, G.S. Esq.	Broadstone, Forest Row, Sussex	3:3:20	0	2	0
Portman, the Hon. Henry Oakeley	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes (1	173:1:31	4	7	0
Powell, Mr. V.N.W.	Wooton, Boar's Head nr. Oxford	2:1:26	0	1	6
Public Trustees, the	C/o Alex Findlay Esq., Maresfield Park, Uckfield (late Munster)	2401:2:23	60	1	0
Reed, Mrs Emma	Bank Cottage, Forest Row	2:2:0	0	1	6
Ridley, Mr. Spencer	Millbrook, Nutley, Uckfield	12:2:0	0	6	6
Ridley, Mr. Joseph	Horney Common, Nutley, Uckfield	14	0	7	6
Ridley, Mr. Sylvanus	Nutley, Uckfield	29:1:16	0	15	0
Ridley, Mrs. Lucy Rose	Whitehouse Farm, Horney Common, Maresfield	19:2:26	0	10	0
Ridley, Mr. Henry	Nutley, Uckfield	0:1:32	0	0	6
Salzmann, Louis Francis Esq.	Hope Park, Bromley, Kent	3:3:20	0	2	0
Samuel, Sir Stuart M. Bart. M.P.	12 Hill St., Mayfair, London W	5:1:29	0	3	0
Sargeant, John Esq.	11 Vincent Square, Westminster, London SW	7	0	3	6
Saunders, Mr. Harry	Hawthorn, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:1:3	0	0	6
Sayers, Mr. Frederic decd. The Repres of	Post Office, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:1:0	0	0	6
Sclater, Rev. J.S.	C/0 W.F. Ingram Esq., Lewes	69:0:14	1	15	0
Scott, Mrs. Hannah	Duddleswell, Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Seymour, Mr. Mark	Post Horn Lane, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Shakerley Ackers , S.H. Esq.	Duddleswell Manor, Uckfield (late A.H. Wood)	12:0:0	0	6	0
****p, Miss	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp (late Inns)	3:0:0	0	1	6
Shelford, W.H. Esq.	Horncastle, E. Grinstead (late Arbuthnot)	22:2:26	0	11	6
Shoebridge, Mr. Thomas	Nutley, Uckfield	11:0:37	0	6	0
Shoebridge, Mr. Owen	East Croft, Nutley	2	0	1	0
Shannon, Mr.	Dodds Grove, Nutley	9:0:29	0	5	0
Soames, Arthur Gilstrap Esq.	Sheffield Park, Fletching, Uckfield	950:0:10	23	15	6
Southdown & East Grinstead Breweries Ltd.	Lewes	4:2:30	0	2	6
Spencer, The Honble Mrs.	[blank]	[blank]			
Stanbridge, Mrs.	5 Benthall Grove, West Croydon, Surrey (late A. Wheatley)	0:0:31	0	0	6

Stenning, J.C. Esq.	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	5:1:4	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mrs. Mary Ann	Collingford, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5:2:0	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mr. Edwin	Normans Bay, Pevensey, Sussex	6:3:4	0	3	6
Stevenson, Mr. Frank	Little Shelf, Nutley (Sweet Minepits late A. Turner)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Stevenson, Mr. R.	Millbrook Farm, Nutley (late Wilson)	14:2:21	0	7	6
Stevenson, Mr. Stephen	Little Shelf, Nutley (late Mitchell)	3:1:0	0	2	0
Sterling, Miss	Landhurst, Hartfield (late Clough) Ditto (late Dowson)	43:0:0 6:2:32	1	4	6
Streatfeild, R.J. Esq.	c/o Messrs. Powell & Co. Lewes	[blank]			
Sydenham, Dr. Geo. Mervyn	Chelwood Common, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Tamplin & Sons Brewery Brighton Ltd	Phoenix Brewery, Brighton	0:2:0	0	0	6
Taylor, The Devises of J.S. Esq. Decd.	C/o W.B. Bond Esq., Aegen Gill, Forest Row	3:2:26	0	2	0
Taylor Mr. George	Old Workhouse, Fairwarp, Uckfield (late Page)	10	0	5	0
Taylor, Mr. James	Barnfield, Hoadley Lane, Crowborough (late Greenfield)	0:1:16	0	0	6
Thomas, Augustus A. Esq.	Fairwarp, Uckfield	11:3:20	0	6	0
Turner Albert Esq.	The Limes, Nutley, Uckfield Ditto (late Sylvanus Ridley)	63:3:1	1	12	0
Thomas, G.H. Esq.	Oakcroft, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	2:0:38	0	1	6
Thomas, Mrs. Lilian Sophia	Spatham Farm, Ditching, Hassocks, Sussex (late Hickmott)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Turner Mr. James	Hugletts Pit Farm, Maresfield	2	0	1	0
Taylor, Mr Allen	Horney Common, Uckfield	4:2:0	0	2	6
Tyler Mr. Enoch	Horney Common, Uckfield	5:3:0	0	3	0
Villeneuve-Smith, F. Esq.	5 Sussex Mansions, South Kensington, London SW 1 (late Neatby)	3:0:0	0	1	6
Wallis Mrs Reginald.	Blacksmith, Rotherfield	2	0	1	0
Walls, Mrs Annie	Cackle Street, Nutley (late Miss S. Osborne)	4	0	2	0
Walsham, Mrs.	Warrenside, Forest Row	2	0	1	0
Walter, Mr. Alfred decd. The Reps of	Marlpits, Fairwarp, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Walter Mr. John	Dodds Bank, Nutley (late A. Turner)	3	0	1	6
Walters, Mr. Lewis	Lye Green, Withyham (late Wilson)	26:0:7	0	13	6
Waters, Messrs. H. & E.	Forest Row, Sussex	23:3:11	0	12	0
Waters, Mr. Henry J.	Shepherds Well, Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	1:3:0	0	1	0

Waters, Mr Roy g.	Forest Row (late Hyde)	24	0	12	0
Waters Mr. James	Forest Row	0:2:8	0	0	6
Waters, Mr. John	Forest Row (Burnt House Farm late Lord Colchester)	51:0:0	1	5	6
Ward, F. Esq.	The Laurels, Nutley (late Whitewood)	0:3:0	0	0	6
Weeks, Mr. Fredk Robt	Forest Hotel, Forest Row, (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:3:20	0	0	6
Welfare Mr. William	Ocklye Farm, Withyham, Sussex	3	0	1	6
Wheatley Mr. Joseph	Colemans Hatch, Hartfield. Tunbridge	4	0	2	0
Wheeler Mr. Charles	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
White, Mr.	White Hill Cottage, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
White, W. Leeland	Atherton, East Grinstead	0:1:15	0	0	6
White, Mr. Samuel	Whitehill Cottage, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Whitewood, Mrs. Clara Sophia	Nutley, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Wickens Mr. J. H. decd. The Repres of	C/o Messrs. Hunt, Currey, Nicholson & Co., Lewes	11	0	5	6
Wickens Mr. Spencer Snr. Exors.	C/o Messrs. Hunt, Currey, Nicholson & Co., Lewes	15	0	7	6
Wickens Mr. Simeon	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield Ditto (late A. Turner The Forge)	55 0:1:0	1	8	0
Wickham, Mr. Arthur	Forest Bank, Nutley, Uckfield	4:1:25	0	2	6
Willett, Arnold T. Esq.	C/o John Sargeant Esq., "Arnolds", Fairwarp, Uckfield	5:2:0	0	3	0
Willett, Dr. E.W.	Spylands, Hartfield (late Begbie)	5	0	2	6
Wilson Mr. Edward	Mount Pleasant, Oldlands, Maresfield. Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Wilson Geo. M. Maryon Esq.	Searles, Fletching, Uckfield	1298	32	9	6
Wood, Mr. Jesse decd. The Repres of	C/o Frederick Turner Esq., Solicitors, East Grinstead	11:2:0	0	6	0
Wood, Mr. Ephraim	Duddleswell, Uckfield	10:0:16	0	5	6
Wood John Edgar	2 Belmont Villas, West Malling, Kent	4	0	2	0
Wood, Mrs. F.	Fair Place Farm, Nutley (late Wilson)	26:2:5	0	13	6
Wood, Mr. Thomas Daynes	The Hollies, Bennett Park, Blackheath, Kent	30:3:0	0	15	6
Young Mr. William decd The Repres of	Fincham, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	23	0	11	6

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart., Mr. W.W.S. Follett and Mr. Robt. Kenward be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Conservancy for the current year and report.

R.A.F. Golf Club licence expired

The Clerk having pointed out that the Consent given to the Trustees of the Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club to use the Links on the Forest expired on the 25th December 1916. It is Resolved that the matter be considered at the next Meeting.

Ranger Kirby bicycle repairs

Ranger Kirby having reported that the Conservators' bicycle which he uses and which was purchased second-hand in 1912 requires very extensive outlay in repairs. It is Resolved that the Chairman be empowered to deal with the matter.

Ranger Brown bicycle repairs

Ranger Brown presents an account for repairs to his bicycle during the year amounting to £1:19 9. It is Resolved that the amount be paid to him out of the 2nd Ranger Fund.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:

Kirby Herbert 10 weeks salary to 11th

inst. @ £ 2		£20:0:0
10 weeks bonus @ 5/-	£2:10:0	
Do house rent @ 5/-	£2:10:0	
Employers insurance @ 5d	<u>£0:4:2</u>	
		£25:4:2

Brown William 10 weeks salary to 11th

inst @ 30/-		£15:0:0
10 weeks bonus @ 5/-	£2:10:0	
Employers insurance @ 5d	<u>£0:4:2</u>	
		£17:14:2

It is Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners be held on Friday the 17th December next at 11 a.m., and that the next Meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoners Meeting or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5.10 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in the Forest duly convened by the Clerk by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, The "Sussex Express" and "The Sussex Daily News" at least 14 days before this date, and by notice sent by post to every Commoner, and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 15th day of December 1920 at eleven o'clock of the forenoon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair

Admiral The Hon Sir Stanley C.J. Colville

The Reverend J. S. Philips

Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Humphrey Wickham

There were also present the following persons not being Commoners [section scored through with a note to leave blank]

Chairman

On the proposition of Mr. Kenward seconded by Mr. Martin, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson is chosen Chairman, and he having taken the Chair, the Clerk reads the notice convening the Meeting and reports the due publication and circulation thereof as above mentioned.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st inst. are Mr. James Card, Mr. Robert Kenward, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson and General Sir Stanley Colville G.C.V.O. and that there is a fourth vacancy in consequence of the death of Mr. Joseph Ridley.

It is proposed by Mr. Kenward and seconded by Mr. Martin that Mr. William Carr be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Card and seconded by Mr. Carr that Mr. William Webb Spencer Follett be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Admiral Colville and seconded by Mr. Follett that Colonel Charles Needham be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Revd J.S. Phillips and seconded by Mr. Carr that Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Loftus be re-elected a Conservator.

No other Commoner having been proposed the Chairman declares the above named four gentlemen duly elected Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Mr. Jesse Ridley desires to know why he is not entitled to represent his wife at meetings of Commoners as the late Mr. Mark Sandford is alleged to have represented the late Lady Shelley on the Board of Conservators.

The Clerk states that the award especially provided that Lady Shelley and the Lord of Manor were empowered to nominate representatives on the Board of Conservators and that Mr. Mark Sandford subsequently became himself qualified as an owner of property entitled to rights of Common.

Road to Millbrook Farm

The Revd J.S. Phillips desires the Board of Conservators to take into their consideration the condition of the track leading from the Main Nutley to East Grinstead road to Millbrook Farm and the cottages beyond, and the lane to Forest Bank both of which are in a very bad condition. The Chairman undertakes to bring these matters before the Board.

Stock turned out by non-Commoners

The Clerk reads a letter from Mr. Sylvanus Ridley complaining that licences are issued to non-Commoners to take litter and turn out unlimited numbers of sheep and cattle without payment, while small Commoners have to pay rate and suggesting that non-Commoners should be charged say 10/- a head per annum for cattle, 2/6 a head for sheep and 2/6 a load for litter, and small Commoners, if they turn out in excess should make some payment. Also enquiring (1) What qualification Mr. Follett has as a Commoner (2) Complaining that Mr. A. Turner's executives have not properly repaired the road at Brown's Brook (3) That they have done serious damage to the Forest at

Duddleswell by cutting a road through the bank and carting out and depositing timber covering an acre of the Forest.

The Clerk states that the Board of Conservators have never issued a licence to anyone to turn out stock, but that by general agreement and the assent of the Lord of the Manor licences have for many years been granted to small Occupiers within the pale to cut one or two loads of litter each year, which has been a great boon. That as regards Mr. Follett's qualification, he is a owner as a Trustee of the De la Warr Estates of a house and 5 acres of land called the Gate and Old Mare's lying near Fryar's Gate, Withyham, and entitled to rights of Common.

The Chairman states that the other matters referred to in the letter will be considered by the Board.

The Meeting terminates with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for his conduct of business.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley on Friday the 17th December 1920 at noon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Admiral The Honble Sir Stanley C.J. Colville GCMG,
Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Mr. Freshfield accident

Mr. Freshfield being presented from attending in consequence of an accident having fractured his arm. It is Resolved that he be informed that the Conservators greatly regret the cause of his absence and trust that he will make a speedy and satisfactory recovery.

Unfenced pit near Pippingford

Ranger Kirby reports that he has sloped down the sides of the pit or quarry near the entrance to Pippingford.

Rate

The Clerk reports that the rate made at the last Meeting was approved by the Ministry of Agriculture on the 12th November last and is being collected.

Ranger Kirby bicycle repair

The Chairman reports that he has had Ranger Kirby's bicycle repaired at a cost of £2:12:0.

Snow plough Highgate

Mr. Martin points out that the snow plough has been merely removed by the County Council from one part of Highgate Green to another. It is Resolved that its present position on the Green is a breach of the Bye Laws and suggest that it should be stored on Wall Hill Farm belonging to Mr. Friend who ***** it .

Road at Tompsetts Bank

Mr. Martin reports that the matter of allowing the metalling to remain on the cart track on the North West side of Mrs. Walsham's property at Tompsetts Bank has been adjusted between the parties.

Ranger Kirby reports that Mr. Huntley has not yet put back his fence as required. It is Resolved that the Clerk do call upon him to do as without further delay.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk produces and reads the following certificate and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely:

To Mr. W. A. Raper
Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners, duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Hotel, Nutley, for the purpose of electing four Conservators in the place of three Conservators who retire from Office by rotation on the 31st of December instant, and of Mr. Mark Sandford deceased, I hereby intimate to you that at the said Meeting Mr. William Carr, Mr. William Webb Spencer Follett, Colonel Charles Needham and Lieutenant Colonel Douglas Loftus were elected Conservators for the ensuing three years.

Dated this 17th day of December 1920.

G.M. Maryon Wilson
Chairman

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balance standing to the credit of the several accounts are

General Account	£173:11:2
2nd Ranger Account	£45:10:1
Protection & Improvement Fund	£80:0:1

County Council road materials

The County Council of East Sussex having applied for the consent of the Board to take materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending the 31st March 1922, namely from the same places and in the same quantities as the last two years. It is Resolved that the consent be granted subject to the same conditions as in former years.

Post Office telephone line unauthorised

The Clerk reports that Ranger Brown telephoned to him on the 11th inst. that the Post Office Authorities were erecting a telephone line from Chuck Hatch to the top of Kidds Hill 3 feet from the water table of the high road for the service of Mrs. Varner of Chuck Hatch. The Clerk at once telephoned to the Post Office Authorities at Tunbridge Wells pointing out that they are acting in breach of an understanding arrived at some years age between the Post Master General and the Board that no telegraph or telephone line affecting the amenities of the Forest should be erected without consultation with the Board and calling on them to stop the work and submit any proposal to the Board today.

Mr. Barnes from the Engineering Department of the telephones at Tunbridge Wells attends and states that the Post Office is erecting the line in conformity with a consent given by the County Council dated the 13th September last and after due advertisement in the Sussex Daily News of the 1st October last of the proposed erection of a line from Uckfield to Edenbridge, that the work has been completed and it is not proposed to extend the line at present.

The Clerk reminded Mr. Barnes of the arrangement with the Post Master General and that the attention of his department was particularly drawn to the arrangement in a correspondence in June last in connection with the line carried down Marden Hill without previous consultation.

That the Forest including the roads over it is under the jurisdiction of the Conservators and subject to the Bye Laws, that the County Council have no authority to give permission and can only waive any objection so far as a line affects their main road.

Mr. Barnes states that his department had no intention of floating the authority of the Conservancy and that in consequence of changes in the personal of his department the arrangement with the Post Master General had been last sight of.

Mr. Barnes was informed that the Board will consider the position and he then withdrew.

It is Resolved that Mr. Follett do inspect the line and report to the Clerk as to whether and to what extent the line affects the amenities of the Forest, that the Clerk report to the Chairman, that a letter then be written to the Post Master General in such terms as the Chairman shall approve, and that the Clerk do write to the County Surveyor pointing out that consents given as regards lines on the Forest have misled the Post Office Authorities into imagining that no further consent was necessary and requesting him to qualify any consent hereafter for a line along a main road through the Forest by stating that it extends only so far as the County Council, as the Board Authority is concerned and as subject to confirmation by the Conservators of the Forest.

R.A.F. Golf Club application for renewal of licence for other purposes

Major Bond and Mr. E. P. Whitley Hughes attend to support an application of the R.A.F. Golf Club for (1) the renewal of the licence to use the links which expired on the 25th December 1916 (2) for some change in the area of the links and (3) for some arrangement if it can be lawfully accomplished by which an area of open Forest adjoining the Golf Club premises can be enclosed as a stand for motor cars in consideration of the Club throwing an equivalent of their land into the Forest. As regards application the deputation state that the Lord of the Manor has renewed his licence for 21 years and the Club are anxious that the Board should grant a like term. After some discussion it is agreed that the applications 2 and 3 shall stand over until the annual Meeting of the Club to be held early in February next has decided whether they wish to proceed with them.

It is Resolved that the application for a renewal of the licence be referred to the Forest Row Committee to consider and advise thereon and that if before the next Meeting the Club intimate their desire to proceed with applications 2 and 3 or either of them they be also referred to the Committee for consideration.

Ladies Golf Club complaints

A complaint is received from the Ladies Golf Club that timber was being carted over the Fairway on their course instead of along the road to the R.A.F. Club House and that the loaded tugs have been left all night and part of the following mornings close to their 9th Green.

Mr. Martin reports that it has since been arranged that the timber shall be carted by the road referred to and that loaded tugs will not be left standing during the day time. It is Resolved that the Clerk inform the Club thereof.

Military damage

The Clerk refers to the letter he wrote to the Eastern Command on the 8th November last setting out the form of receipt he was authorised to give for £290 to be paid by Military Authority and states that before the matter proceeded further Mr. Martin reported to him that nothing has been done to fill up the trenches and other excavations near Gills Lap. The Clerk thereupon called on Ranger Kirby to report as to the condition of his part of the Forest and being informed by him that nothing had been done there to fill up the numerous trenches and other excavations, the Clerk therefore applies to the Board for instructions. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Eastern Command pointing out that the £300 was agreed compensation for the area's cultivated **** and offer a receipt in respect only of this work and at the same time require an assurance that the excavations above referred to be filled in and the surface restored by the 1st May next.

It is further Resolved that as soon as the £300 is received the Forest Row Committee be authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £100 in restoration work.

Harry Walter caravan

Ranger Kirby reports that the caravan of Harry Walter is still on the Forest and that the Clerk to the Uckfield Justices suggested that the Conservators allow it to remain there till he can find some place to which to remove it on his paying say 1/- a week by way of acknowledgement. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Harry Walter

informing him that they cannot allow the caravan to remain on the Forest and that unless he removes it they will be compelled to issue another summons and that he inform the Clerk to the Justices thereof.

Damage to Forest Messrs. Turner

With regard to damage to the Forest caused by Messrs Turner's cartage and deposit of timber referred to by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley in a letter to the Clerk it is Resolved that the Clerk write to Messrs. Turner that the Board will be obliged if they will make good the damage referred to.

It is also Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be requested to view the condition of the track from the Nutley to East Grinstead main road to Millbrook Farm and the cottages beyond and the lane to Forest Bank and advise the Board whether any and if so what work should be undertaken to same.

Report of Audit Committee

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts for the current year presents the following report which is read and it is Resolved it be entered on the Minutes, viz:

To the Conservators of Ashdown Forest,

In the unavoidable absence of Sir Francis H. Champneys we have examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account and (3) The Account of the Protection and Improvement Fund, each for the year 1920. 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; and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the Accounts for the year viz:

Cheques

Account No. 1 General

The Clerk	one years Salary to 31st inst.	£150:0:0
	Disbursements during year	<u>£32:8:11</u>
		£182:8:11

Kirby Herbert	11 weeks Salary as Ranger @	
	£2 to 27th inst.	£22:0:0
	11 weeks bonus	£2:15:0
	6 weeks rent of Cottage	
	@ 5/- per week to 27th inst.	£2:15:0
	6 weeks employers insurance	£0:4:7
	8 weeks unemployment insurance	
	to 27th inst.	<u>£0:2:8</u>
		£27:17:3

Account No 2, 2nd Ranger

Brown William	11 weeks salary @ 30/-	
	to 27th inst.	£16:10:0
	11 weeks bonus	£2:15:0
	6 weeks employers insurance	£0:4:7
	8 weeks unemployment insurance	
	to 27th inst.	<u>£0:2:8</u>
		£19:10:3

The Clerk	disbursements during the year	£5:11:3
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The new Rate is coming in steadily but as yet there is not sufficient in hand to meet all the cheques to be drawn in Account No. 1 by £ 169:19:0. By the Clerk's suggestion therefore, we propose that his salary be drawn in 2 cheques namely, for £100 and for £50.

The balances standing to the credit of the other accounts after the above cheques have been paid will be as follows:

The Second Rangers Account £20:6:7
The Protection & Improvement Fund £80:0:1

The sum of £159:15:4 Consols and the sum of £150 5% War Stock 1929–47 represent the investments held on account of The Protection & Improvement Fund.

We found the accounts well kept and correct.
Dated the 17th day of December 1920.

Wm. W.S. Follett
Robt. Kenward

Cheques

It is Resolved that the report be appeared that the accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Board and that cheques be drawn as recommended.

Also that the Board do express their thanks to the Auditors for their valuable services.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 25th day of February next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and have as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 3 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday the 4th March 1921, at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon–Wilson in the Chair
Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Colville G.C.V.O.etc..
Colonel Needham
Lieut. Col. Loftus
Mr. James Card
Mr. William Carr
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Joseph Ridley

Chairman election of

On the motion of Admiral Sir Stanley Colville, Colonel Needham is voted into the Chair, and on the proposition of Sir Stanley Colville seconded by Mr. Follett, Mr. George Maryon Maryon–Wilson is elected Chairman of the Board for the current year.

Mr. Maryon–Wilson having taken the Chair thanks the Members for the compliment they have paid him in electing him as their Chairman for the 22nd year. He states he had fully intended owing to great pressure of County work to have asked the Board to release him, but having regard to the number of new members that have been elected Conservators he felt that his services for another year might be a help to them and he accepts the position for that period.

He explains that as the Annual Meeting of the members of the R.A.F. Golf Club could not be held before the 25th February last, the day after the Meeting fixed for the Board, he considered it desirable to postpone the Meeting of the Board until today to give the Club an opportunity of submitting their application for a renewal of their licence to this Meeting without delaying it to the next Meeting.

The following Committees are then appointed for the current year.

Forest Row Committee – Mr. Freshfield, Admiral Sir Stanley Colville, Mr. Edward Martin and Colonel Needham.

Maresfield Committee – Mr. Follett, Sir Francis H. Champneys and Messrs Carr and Kenward.

Fire Committee – The Chairman of the Board and the Chairmen of the two District Committees.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are then read and confirmed.

Ranger Brown reports that the snow plough has been removed from Highgate Green.

Ranger Kirby reports that Mr. Huntley has now set back his boundary fence as required.

Telephone line Chuck Hatch

Mr. Follett reports that he has inspected the telephone line from Chuck Hatch to Kidds Hill and that it does not seriously affect the amenities of the Forest.

It is Resolved that the District Engineer of the P.O. Telephones be informed that the Board having inquired into this case do not propose to take any further action with regard to it, but that in future they must be consulted before any new line or extension is contemplated.

The Clerk reports that Messrs. Turner adhere to their contention that they left the road at Brown Brook in better repair than before they commenced to cart timber over it.

Harry Walter caravan

Ranger Kirby reports that Harry Walter has now removed his caravan off the Forest.

The Clerk produces the Bank books which show that the balances standing to the several accounts are:

General Account	£18:3:6
2nd Ranger Account	£20:6:7
Protection & Improvement Fund	£98:8:5

2nd Ranger's Account

It is Resolved that having regard to the state of the 2nd Ranger's Account the sum of £25 be transferred from the Protection & Improvement Fund to that account.

Fires

Ranger Brown reports that since the last Meeting 14 fires have occurred within his area burning altogether about 1 ½ acres, causes unknown except as to the last 5 fires near Birch Grove Lodge and the Gate.

Ranger Kirby reports that 6 fires have occurred within his area burning altogether about 5 acres cause unknown in each case.

R.A.F. Golf Club licence

Major Bond and Mr. S.P. Whitley Hughes attend as a Deputation from the R.A.F. Golf Club and state that the Club desire to proceed with all the applications submitted at the last Meeting. They explain that the Lord of the Manor has renewed his Licence for 21 years from the 25th March 1920 at the fixed rent of £125 per annum and that the Club desires this Board to grant them a renewed Licence for a concurrent term at the same rent or

acknowledgement as before; that they will need to increase the number of their members to at least 460 before they can run the Club financially with comfort and would have great difficulty in paying a higher rent at any rate for 3 or 4 years to come.

The Club also desires to extend the Links over an additional 15 acres as per plan produced between Water Farm and the Birches giving up about 5 acres on the Shepherd's Hill side.

They also desire permission to gravel on area of about 550 square yards, of which they submit a plan, adjoining the entrance to the Club house and to use it as a stand for motor cars of members and visitors on the understanding that the use of it be abandoned at 24 hours notice if the Board should find it necessary.

They also request permission to set up a memorial seat at the first Tee.

The Deputation undertakes to submit a plan to scale of the 15 acres it is desired to add to the Links and the 5 acres they propose to give up.

The Deputation having retired the Board carefully consider the proposals and it is Resolved that a new Licence be granted for the original area less then 5 acres, not for a definite period but subject to the same powers to revoke as are contained in the old Licence and to the payment of the same acknowledgement of £12:10:0 per annum.

That subject to approval of the plan the additional 15 acres be included in the licence without any additional payment for the present.

The Club to abandon the present 11th and 12th holes, and the fairway between the new 12th Tee and the new 12th hole not to exceed 100 yards in width.

That the Board raise no obligation to the Club gravelling the area indicated provided nothing in the form of inclosing is permitted.

That the Board regret they have no power to sanction the placing of the proposed memorial seat on the open Forest, but suggest that if the Superintendent of the Forest Row Recreation Ground is approached he may perhaps sanction it being placed with the railings of that ground.

Forestry Department

A letter is read dated the 1st January last from the Forestry Commission asking whether there is any possibility of the Board considering favourably the idea of a Lease of some of the Forest area to the Commission for the purposes of afforestation at an annual rent to be agreed, the area to be selected for planting to be chosen in consultation with the Board.

It is Resolved that the Commission be informed that the Statutes under which the Conservancy was established prohibit the inclosure of any part of the Forest without the express sanction of Parliament.

Track to Millbrook Farm

The Maresfield Committee report that they have viewed the track to Millbrook Farm and found it in fair order, and cannot recommend the Board to do anything to it; they are of opinion that the tenant of the Farm should fill in the ruts.

Lane to Forest Bank

They also viewed the lane to Forest Bank, the lower part of which they found in bad condition; they recommend that the gorse should be laid on the crown of this part, that the water tables should be made out and the soil laid on the top of the gorse. They state that some 6 inch pipes will be required to complete the drainage and estimate that the total cost will be covered by £15. It is Resolved that the Committee be authorised to carry out the work recommended at a cost not exceeding £15 to be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Wandsworth Juvenile Camping

A letter is read dated the 6th February last from the Wandsworth Juvenile Organization Committee applying for permission to have a Camp on the Forest from the 23rd to the 30th July next.

It was Resolved that permission be granted to have the Camp on the spot indicated by Mr. Freshfield subject to the usual conditions including precautions against fire and clearing up the site at the conclusion of the Camp, the site to be pointed out by Ranger Brown.

Military damage

The Clerk reads the correspondence with the Eastern Command with reference to the payment of the £300; the Clerk is directed to obtain from Sir Alexander Stenning a copy of the letter he or his son wrote to Mr. Freshfield of the 4th February last and arrange to give the Eastern Command the receipt required.

Mr. Freshfield states that in anticipation of the receipt of the money he instructed his head gardener to purchase the necessary grass seeds, and to clear the ground of stones so that it may be drilled and the seed sown.

Mr. B.R. Roberts road damage

A letter is read dated the 1st February last from Mr. B.R. Roberts of the Stores, Duddleswell, stating that the road leading from his backyard to the main road had been very badly cut up by timber wagons, that he had spent 30/- in stone and cartage to make it temporarily passable but that it is still in a very bad condition and asking whether he is entitled to reimbursement.

It is Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be requested to view the road and report.

Mrs. Anderson

A letter is read dated the 7th January last from Mrs. Anderson of Heather View, Fairwarp asking to have the water drained from the land round her house. Ranger Kirby went over for the purpose, but finding that Mrs. Anderson's object was to use the Forest land outside her property for the purpose of rearing poultry, he did not feel justified in doing anything.

Mrs. Scott drying post etc.

Letters awarded from Mr. Augs. F. Thomas of Fairwarp and two other householders there complaining that Mrs. Scott of Putlands Cottages has established a permanent and extensive drying ground on the Forest in their vicinity to the disfigurement of the Forest and the depreciation of the adjacent properties.

It is Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be requested to view the ground and report.

Also Ranger Kirby having stated that licences for drying posts were formerly granted the Clerk undertook to look up the matter.

Sleeper Bridger near Ryst Cottage repair

Mr. Martin reports that the repair of the sleeper bridge near Ryst Cottage has been completed and it is Resolved that the promised contribution of £5 towards the outlay be paid to the Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Arthur G. Whalley Firing Forest

Ranger Brown having submitted a statement of evidence collected to prove that Arthur George Whalley of Step Cottage, Danehill set fire to the growth on the Forest in five different places near Birch Grove House and the Gale on the 25th ulto. It is Resolved that the Chairman and Mr. Martin be requested to consider the evidence and decide whether he be summoned under Bye Law.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn

Kirby Herbert 10 weeks salary as Ranger

@ £2 to 7th inst.

£20:0:0

10 weeks bonus to 7th inst.	£2:10:0	
Do. Rent	£2:10:0	
Do. Employer Insurance	£0:4:2	
Do. Unemployment Insurance	<u>£0:3:4</u>	
		£25:7:6
Brown William 10 weeks salary @ 30/-		
to 7th inst.	£15:0:0	
Do. Bonus to 7 th	£2:10:0	
Do. Employer Insurance	£0:4:2	
Do. Unemployment Insurance	<u>£0:3:4</u>	
		£17:17:6

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 20th day of May next at 2.30 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5.30 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 20th May, 1921 at 2.30 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson Esqre. in the chair
Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Colville G.C.V.O. etc.
Colonel Needham
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Lane to Forest Bank repaired

The Maresfield Committee report that they have completed the work to the lane to Forest Bank at a cost of £9:4:11.

It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Clothes posts

The Clerk reports that he has searched the minute Books of the Board from its commencement, but, while he finds records authorising the granting of licences to cut brakes, litter and peat, to retain faggots stacks and for other purposes, there is no Resolution authorising the granting of licences to erect or retain clothes posts, but it appears that Ranger Soper issued one or two licences for this purpose, which may have been sanctioned by one of the Committees. On the other hand, on 27th October 1894, the Ranger reported that Charles Philpott, having erected posts for drying clothes, was served with notice to remove and did remove them.

A.G. Whalley firing Forest

The Clerk reports that the case against Arthur G. Whalley, for breach of Bye Law 4 in setting fire to the growth on the Forest, was heard at the Uckfield Bench on the 19th March last, when defendant was convicted and fined £1 inclusive of costs.

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are:-

General Account	£ 100:10:6
2nd Ranger Account	£27:9:1
Protection and Improvement Fund	£79:1:7

Fires

The Reports of the Rangers are produced showing that since the last meeting 41 fires have occurred in the Forest Row area burning 69a.1r.35p, and 28 in the Maresfield area, burning 21a.0r.27p.

The Clerk reports that by the direction of the Chairman he wrote on the 14th April last to the Chief Constable of East Sussex asking him to draft additional Constables into the District, with a view to tracing the perpetrators of the fires and he reads a reply from the Chief Constable, dated the 18th April, suggesting that additional Rangers should be appointed for the purpose during the spring and that in the meantime he is instructing the Police Superintendents to give special attention to the matter. The Clerk, by direction of the Chairman, replied on the 25th April to the Chief Constable, that, as the season when fires occur had now probably passed, the matter had better stand over and meanwhile the Board will consider the whole subject before next spring.

Rangers Kirby and Brown state that at present when a fire breaks out they hurry to the spot to extinguish it and are seen there engaged in doing so by the person or persons who started the fire, who then hurry off to another part of the Forest and light other fires; and that, if they could be relieved of the duty of attending the first outbreak, they could keep watch with a good prospect of detecting the incendiaries lighting the second fire.

It is Resolved that it be referred to the Fire Committee to consider the whole matter and recommend to the Board what measures they consider should be adopted for dealing with fires on the Forest in the future.

Military damage

The Clerk reports that he has received the agreed compensation of £200, in settlement of all damage to so much of the area of the Forest as was used for food production, manoeuvres and drilling purposes during the period of the war.

Forest Row Committee reports

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes, namely:-

At a meeting of the Forest Row Committee held on the 18th May 1921. Present Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield, Colonel Needham and Mr. Edward Martin, Admiral Colville being unavoidably absent. The Committee considered the following report of Ranger Brown:-

Military old tins etc.

I beg to report that with reference to Forest Row Camp there is a large quantity of old sheet iron lying about which was at the bottom of the horse mangers. There are also three sewage tanks which have not been filled in, also a large number of ditches, also sewage beds.

Mr. Geo. Martin, Draper, Forest Row, has not got all the stone removed away from the cart roads but the greater part is gone.

Also there are a large number of tins deposited in furze bushes and in the ponds around Tompsetts Bank in various parts.

Wm. Brown, Ranger

H & E Waters bill

1. They advise the payment of a bill (amounting to 18/-) from Messrs. H & E Waters for sleepers.

Refuse deposited in Forest

2. The Committee have received many complaints about the deposit by people in the neighbourhood of pots and pans, bottles and various kinds of rubbish on the Forest. The matter is becoming a nuisance and the Committee think the Board should take some steps to stop this use of the Forest as a dumping ground for rubbish.

Bye Law Board repair

3. The Committee ordered the Ranger to get a new post to support the Bye Law board at Chuck Hatch, the present post being rotten and present an estimate for the work of Mr. Chas. Elcock of Hartfield amounting to £2:5:0 which they propose to accept.

4. Mr. Freshfield mentioned that in his opinion some underwood and scrub, ***** some 2 acres of ground at Plaw Hatch and near Major Darwin's property, should be cut and removed and the Committee advised that the Lord of the Manor should be communicated with as to this.

Forest Row Recreation Ground fence requires repair

5. It was reported that many of the posts and rails around the Recreation Ground at Forest Row had been removed and that some rails wanted repair and that the seats within the rails also wanted repair. The Committee submitted to the Board this question for their consideration as to what had best be done, that is whether the rails and seats should be done away with altogether, or repaired.

Military damage details required

6. The Committee thought the Board should be informed what obligations the War Office still remained under to the Board for putting in order and into its pristine condition, the site lately occupied or used by the Military and beyond the payment of a sum of £300 already promised.

Fires - separate notice boards

7. The Committee thought that some separate notice boards should be put up at positions on the Forest to be fixed upon and giving notice that any one lighting a fire on the Forest would be prosecuted.

Military Damage reseeding

8. The Committee decided to hand to the Board Mr. Freshfield's account (amounting to £122:17:9) for his expenditure in respect of saving grass seeds on the Forest and preparing the ground for the purpose, where damaged by the Military during their occupation of the camp.

Forest Row Cricket Club - application for subscription

9. The Committee submitted to the Board for their consideration the question as to whether a donation (say £5) should be given to the Forest Row Cricket Club towards a Fund now being raised for putting a new roof on the Cricket Pavilion.

The report having been considered, the following Resolutions are passed:-

Protection and Improvement Fund

As regards para. 1, that Messrs. H & E. Water's bill of 18/- paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Deposit of Rubbish

As regards para. 2, that the Committee do select a suitable spot where pots, pans and similar rubbish (not being animal or vegetable matter) may be deposited and do erect a notice board on the spot indicating that such rubbish may be deposited there and that notices be distributed among the inhabitants informing them of the spot set apart for the purpose and giving notice that any person found depositing rubbish elsewhere on the Forest will be prosecuted for a breach of Bye Law.

Repair of Bye Law; post at Chuck Hatch

As regards para. 3, that the tender of Mr. Elcock, amounting to £2:5:0 be accepted and when the work is completed to the satisfaction of the Committee the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Cutting of underwood etc. at Plaw Hatch

As regards para. 4, Mrs. Follett undertakes to communicate with the steward of the De La Warr Estate as to cutting the underwood and scrub indicated.

Forest Row Recreation Fence repair of

As regards para. 5, Ranger Brown states that some time since Colonel Cobb of the War Office promised to provide 50 posts it is Resolved that Sir Alexander Stenning's attention be drawn to the matter of restoring the railings and that as regards the seats the Board were not responsible for their maintenance

Military damage

As regards para.6, the Clerk states that the Military are responsible for all damage not covered by the £300 and that it is desirable to draw the attention of Sir Alexander Stenning to all matters, other than excavations of the surface, which he is already dealing with, with a view to claiming for same.

Notices not to light fires

As regards para. 7, it is Resolved that the question of erecting special notice boards against lighting fires be referred to the Fire Committee for consideration.

Restoration of land used by Military for food production

As regards para. 8, it is Resolved that as the figures £122:17:9 appears to be approximate, the Clerk ascertain the exact amount and pay the same out of the £200 received and place the balance on deposit at Barclays Bank, in the joint names of the Chairman and the Clerk.

Request for subscription to repair Pavilion on Forest Row Recreation Ground

As regards para. 9, it is Resolved that as there are 5 recreation grounds on the Forest in respect of which the Board of Conservators has no authority to expend money, they fear that to comply with this suggestion would create a dangerous precedent and regret that they are unable therefore to subscribe.

Forest Row Recreation Ground resignation of Superintendent

A letter is read from Dr. Fegan resigning the office of Superintendent of the Forest Row Recreation ground owing to his leaving the neighbourhood.

Appointment of successor

It is Resolved that Mr. Charles Glennie de Rougemont of Pickridge, Forest Row, be appointed Superintendent of the Forest Row Recreation Ground.

The Maresfield Committee present the following Report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minute

To the Board of Conservators of Ashdown Forest.

I beg to report that in pursuance of the direction given by the Board, the Maresfield Committee attended at Fairwarp and enquired into the complaints made by a Mr. Thomas against cottagers putting their washing on the Forest and were of opinion that as the washing complained of could not be seen from Mr. Thomas' house, he had personally, no cause of complaint but as the uncontrolled rights of cottagers to put poles on the Forest might affect its amenities, the Committee suggest the old custom of issuing licences for poles, say at 1/- a pole, should be re-established the Ranger having informed them that he used to issue such licences before the war.

As regards the road on that part of the Forest at Fairwarp which abuts on the Old Lands Estate, the Committee are of opinion, after seeing the road and making enquiries, that it badly wants putting in order and has been made much worse, particularly the Southern half of it by Messrs. Turner's motor lorries and timber trains and they suggest that Messrs. Turner should be called upon to subscribe to the making up of this road, which they estimate could be made up sufficiently for ordinary Forest traffic for £50 by clearing out the water tables and making up the crown of the road with gorse and earth, as was done on the Forest road below Nutley. There is little over half a

mile of this road. We should suggest also that the owner of the bungalow which has been added to on the north end of this road, who must have used the road for the cartage of his building materials, should be called upon to contribute to the cost.

Dated this 14th May, 1921.

W.W.S. Follett.

R.A.F. Golf Club Licence

The Clerk produces the Ordnance map on which he had laid down to scale the 15 acres which the R.A.F. Golf Club desire to have included in the new licence and states that as soon as the Club indicate to him the 5 acres on the Shepherds Hill side which it is proposed to exclude from the new Licence, he will be able to complete it.

Forestry Commission

A further letter is read from the Forestry Commission as to the possibility of leasing part of the Forest.

It is Resolved that the Clerk inform the Commission that the Board regret that they are unable to add anything to the Clerk's letter of the 11th March last.

Greenwich Scouts application to camp

It is Resolved that an application from the 18th Greenwich (The Livingstone) Troop of Baden Powell Scouts for permission for about 20 members of the Troop to camp on the Forest near Wych Cross from 30th July to 13th August next, be granted subject to the usual conditions.

Mrs. Warden licence for safety zone

The Clerk reports that Mrs. Warden of "Netherfield", St. John's Common, having applied for permission to cut a safety zone for the protection of her property against fire, after consulting Ranger Kirby he granted her permission to cut the undergrowth within 12 feet of her boundary and she paid him 1/- acknowledgment for same.

Mrs. James Card claim to rights

Mr. James Card of Shalesbrook, Forest Row, having claimed rights of common in respect of Little Claypits Farm containing 3½ acres, inside the Forest Pale in the Parish of Hartfield, which he recently purchased from the Misses Hale and John Divall of the Rough, Newbridge, aged 77, who has received all his life in the immediate neighbourhood, having given evidence that to his own knowledge the successive occupiers of the holding have for over 60 years last past, continuously and openly, as of right and without interruption, turned out stock from the holding on the Forest and taken brakes and litter there from for use on the holding.

It is Resolved that the Board are satisfied that Mr. James Card has established his claim in respect of the holding, to common of pasture and to take brakes and litter and that his name be inserted in the Schedule of Commoners in respect thereof, and thereupon Mr. Card pays to the Clerk the current rate in respect thereof.

Military damage

Ranger Brown reports that on the 8th instant, he went round his beat with Captain Noakes R.E. from the Maresfield Camp and showed him all trenches, gun pits etc., excavated thereon. Captain Noakes informed him that the whole of the work of filling in these excavations is now in the hands of the Royal Engineers stationed at Maresfield Park and that any correspondence on the subject is to be addressed to Captain Easterbrook D.O. R.E. at Maresfield Camp.

Rangers' present arrangements extended

On the motion of the Chairman it is Resolved that the present terms of employment of the Rangers be extended to Monday the 22nd August next.

Rangers future arrangements

Also that it be referred to the Fire Committee to consider and report to the Board, what arrangements they recommend should be made after that date with regard to the employment of Rangers.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Kirby Herbert 11 weeks salary as Ranger

@ £2 to the 23rd inst.	£22:0:0	
Do. bonus to do.	£2:15:0	
Do. house rent do.	£2:15:0	
Do. Employer Insurance do.	£0:4:7	
Do. Unemployment Insurance do.	£0:3:8	
		£27:18:3

Brown William

11 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger		
@30/- to the 23rd inst.	£16:10:0	
Do. Bonus to do.	£2:15:0	
Do. Employer Insurance do.	£0:4:7	
Do. Unemployment Insurance do.	£0:3:8	
		£19:13:3

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday , the 5th day of August next, at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.20 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 26th August, 1921 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Colville G.C.V.O. etc.
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart
Colonel Needham
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

The Chairman states that as the Clerk reported to him that there was no business of importance requiring the consideration of the Board on the 5th instant, the date fixed for the next meeting, he acted on the authority conferred on him and postponed the meeting until today.

The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

Military compensation £ 300

The Clerk reports that of the £300 received from the Military Authorities in compensation for land used for food production, he paid to the Forest Row Committee £122:7:3 expended by them in reparations and produces the Bank receipt for the balance of £177:12:9 placed on deposit.

Military damage

Also that Sir Alexander Stenning has been supplied with all information to enable him to deal with the claim for compensation for Military damage.

Superintendent of Forest Row Recreation Ground

He also produces a letter from Mr. C.G. de Rougemont accepting the office of Superintendent of the Forest Row Recreation Ground.

Refuse deposited on Forest

The Forest Row Committee report that they have not yet dealt with the matter referred to in para. 2. of their Report presented to the last meeting (p. 388).

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are:

General Account	£101:14:3
2nd Ranger Account	£7:15:10
Protection and Improvement Fund	£99:9:

Protection and Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that £20 be transferred from the Protection and Improvement Fund to the Second Ranger account.

Also that after such transfer the balance standing to the credit of the Protection and Improvement Fund be transferred from the Post Office Savings Bank to a deposit account to be opened with Barclays Bank Ltd at Battle.

Fires

The Rangers report that since the last meeting 24 fires have occurred in the Forest Row District burning about 8¾ acres and 6 in the Maresfield District burning about 16½ acres.

Of these Ranger Brown reported a fire outside Greenhall Fir Clump lit by girl guides under the superintendence of Miss Worthington and the Clerk reports that after consultation with the Forest Row Committee, he wrote Miss Worthington a letter of caution to which she replied regretting the occurrence which she stated was owing to ignorance of the Bye Laws and promising that it shall not happen again.

R.A.F. Golf Club fires

Ranger Brown also reports that the employees of the R.A.F. Golf Club have during the recent very dry season for several weeks made fires of turf on the Forest on the new course which burned day and night also several fires of gorse.

It is Resolved that the Clerk do write to the Secretary of the Club pointing out that the lighting of a fire on the Forest is breach of Bye Law No. 4 and do call upon him to give a written assurance on behalf of the Club that this practice shall be immediately discontinued and shall not be repeated in the future.

R.A.F. Golf Club licences

The Clerk reports that as yet the R.A.F. Golf Club have not returned to him the drafts of the proposed licences and plans.

Fire Committee report

The Fire Committee present the following Report on the matters referred to them at the last meeting which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes, namely:-

The Fire Committee met on Wednesday, the 22nd June, 1921.

Present – Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson, Chairman, and Mr. D.W. Freshfield, Mr. Follett being unable to attend and considered the matters referred to them by the Board of Conservators at their meeting held on the 28th May last.

1. The Committee are of opinion that for the purpose of dealing more effectually with forest fires it may be desirable to divide the areas of undergrowth into blocks by cutting lanes.

2. They recommend that the Fire Committee be empowered, when the next fire season approaches, to employ two men in each of the two Districts, for a period of not less than six weeks, to assist the Rangers in extinguishing fires and detecting the incendiaries, at such remuneration as the Fire Committee may fix and that the expense thereof be met out of the Forest Rate and the Protection and Improvement Fund in equal proportions.
3. Further that inasmuch as the maximum penalty of 40/- imposed by the Forest Bye Laws, is entirely inadequate as a deterrent against fires, the Home Secretary be approached with a view to obtaining his sanction to a special Bye Law to meet these cases.
4. Further that a communication be addressed to the Royal Automobile Club and the Automobile Association requesting them to warn their members, through their Journal or in other appropriate manner, of the danger of lighting fires on Ashdown Forest, which is an offence under the Forest Bye Law. The Committee consider that this course will be more effectual than the erection of special notice boards suggested by the Forest Row Committee
5. The Committee are of opinion that it is most desirable to impress on all residents in and around the Forest, that the prevention and detection of fires involve considerable expenditure and that a strong appeal should be made especially to those who do not pay Forest Rate to contribute thereto.
6. The Committee have carefully considered the position with regard to the Forest Rangers and recommend that no alterations be made in the present arrangements or in their remuneration.

It is Resolved that the suggestions and recommendations contained in the Report be and are hereby approved with these additions:- that with regard to paragraph 3 the Clerk do write to the Home Secretary such a letter as the Chairman shall approve - that with regard to paragraph 4, the Club and association be also requested to warn their members not to leave broken bottles, paper or other rubbish upon the Forest; and with regard to paragraph 5, that early in March next the suggested appeal to be approved by the Chairman, be issued and the assistance of the Local press be invoked in such form as he may deem expedient.

Application for land W.R. James

A letter is read from Mr. W. Rodda James invalided out of the Navy applying for a piece of land on the Forest to make a livelihood and provide shelter for his family.

It is Resolved that the Clerk do explain to him that no part of the Forest can be inclosed without the express sanction of Parliament and suggest that he make application to the East Sussex County Agricultural Committee for a small holding.

Mrs. Yolland application for approach to coach house

The Maresfield Committee report that they have considered an application from Mrs. Yolland for permission to make a paved approach to her coach house at "Heather View" Fairwarp and have viewed the spot and note that the coach house stands against the boundary of her property adjoining the Forest.

It is Resolved that the Clerk inform Mrs. Yolland that it is not in their power to grant her application.

Major Ormond's application

They also report that they have considered an application from Major Arthur W. Ormond C.B.E., F.R.C.S. the owner of Fairview at Fairwarp for permission (1) to repair the existing cart track to his property and (2) to have an overhead telephone line to connect his house with the telephone line passing up the adjacent road to Duddleswell and have viewed the place. The cart track is in a bad condition and the repair of it will be a benefit to the Commoners carting litter but a telephone line to the house will involve the erection of a post on the Forest to the South East of Major Ormond's property.

It is Resolved that permission be granted to Major Ormond to repair the cart track not exceeding 14 feet in width from the point marked "A" on the plan he submitted (about the middle of the South side of the Duddleswell Cricket Ground) round the north and part of the west side of his property to the holly tree there, but not further, the work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the Committee and that Major Ormond be informed that the Board cannot sanction an overhead wire across the Forest Land, but will raise no objection to the wires being carried under the Forest surface.

Brown's Brook road repair of

The question of Messrs. A. Turner and Sons liability to make good the damage to the road out of Campfield Rough at Brown's Brook (p.244) was referred back to the Maresfield Committee for consideration.

Mrs. Scott clothes posts

Ranger Kirby having reported that 3 of the posts on the Forest used by Mrs. Scott at Fairwarp for washing were erected during his absence at the war the matter is referred to the Clerk for consideration.

Pond by Rist wood clearing out

An application is read from the R.A.F. Gold Club for permission to clean out the pond on the Forest adjoining Rist Wood. It is Resolved that the Clerk inform the Secretary that the Board will raise no objection provided it is carried out under the supervision and to the satisfaction of the Forest Row Committee.

Rangers' compensation for damage to clothing

Applications are considered from the Rangers for damage done to their boots and clothing in extinguishing Forest fires and after investigation it is Resolved that the sum of £2:10:0 be awarded to Ranger Kirby and £3:10:0 to Ranger Brown out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

A letter is read from Sir Henry Cowan complaining of certain notices put up by the Military cautioning the public with regard to explosions.

It is Resolved that the Clerk do inform Sir Henry that the notices in question were put up by the Military under the Powers of D.O.R.A. without any reference to the Board and were removed a few days ago.

Automobile Association gradient board

Ranger Brown having reported that in June last a notice board was erected by the Automobile Association on the Forest at the top of Kidds Hill indicating the gradient of the hill. It is Resolved that the Clerk write to the Association drawing their attention to Bye Law No. 2.

Rate

The Clerk reports that the rate made on the 8th October 1920 will be practically exhausted by the next meeting it is 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.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

The Clerk	½ years salary to the 30th June last	£75:0:0
Kirby Herbert	14 weeks salary @ £ 2 to 29th inst.	£28:0:0
Do.	Bonus of 5/-	£3:10:0
Do.	Cottage rent 5/-	£3:10:0
Do.	Insurance	<u>£0:15:2</u>
		£35:15:2
Brown William	14 weeks salary @ 30/- to 29th inst.	£21:0:0
Do.	Bonus @ 5/-	£3:10:0
Do.	Insurance	<u>£0:15:2</u>
		£25:5:2

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 28th day of October next at 3.0 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.55 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 11th day of November, 1921 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Admiral The Honble Sir Stanley Colville G.C.V.O. etc.
Colonel Needham
Lieut. Col. Douglas Loftus
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

The Chairman explains that as there was no business of importance to transact on the 28th October last, that date fixed for the next meeting, he directed the Clerk to defer calling the meeting of the Board till today.

The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

Protection and Improvement Fund transfer to Barclays

The Clerk reports that the Protection and Improvement Fund has been transferred from the Post Office Savings Bank to a Deposit Account at Barclays Bank Ltd and produces the Deposit book.

R.A.F. Golf Club undertaking not to light fires

The Clerk produces a letter dated the 26th September last from the Secretary of the R.A.F. Golf Club undertaking on behalf of the Committee that in future the provisions of the Bye Laws will be strictly adhered to.

P.O. telegraph & telephone lines

The Superintending Engineer and the Sectional Engineer of the Post Office Engineering department attend before the Board and point out that the Post Office has statutory powers to erect lines along public roads with the consent of the Road Authorities and they state that the Post Master General has no record of any agreement arrived at with him not to erect any lines along the public roads crossing the Forest without the consent of the Board and desire to know upon what grounds the Board base their position. The Chairman states that (1) the Conservators claim that the provisions of "The Commons Regulation (Ashdown Forest) Provisional Order Confirmation Act 1885" imposes on the Conservators the duty of preserving the Forest in its natural condition and that this applies to the roads passing through the Forest and (2) that at a Conference held on 26th January 1905 between Lord Stanley the then Post Master General and the representatives of many open spaces and places of natural beauty in the Home Counties including Ashdown Forest, his Lordship gave certain assurances upon which this Board has always since acted and in confirmation of the arrangement he points out that on 19th July 1907 the P.M.G. wrote applying for the consent of the Conservators to the erection of a telephone line along the highroad from Hill End, Nutley, towards Wych Cross as far as the new road to the Vetchery, that the Clerk replied on the 20th July 1907 pointing out that the connection could be equally well secured by carrying the line outside the Forest along the highroad by Stonesmead (which route was in fact adopted) and inviting the P.M.G. if he had any further remarks to offer to forward them before the meeting of the Board on 2nd August 1907 but none were received.

The Superintending Engineer then requested that the Board should send him a statement of the grounds on which they base their position and that he would then ask the Postmaster General to receive a deputation from the Board to discuss the matter further.

It is Resolved that the Clerk do furnish such a statement to be approved by the Chairman.

R.A.F. Golf Club licence for links

The Clerk reports that the draft of the proposed new Licence to the R.A.F. Golf Club was not returned to him by their Legal adviser until the 8th instant and certain alterations having been made in it in behalf of the Club he submitted the draft to Mr. Martin, who produces it and states that the only objection to which he takes exception is that on page 3 which limits the obligation of the Club on termination of the licence to the removal and levelling of all bunkers erected since the 26th July 1909 whereas the original licence provided that they should then remove all bunkers on the links and he recommends that as the alteration would involve an enquiry into when each bunker was constructed the licence should be worded in this respect the same as the original licence.

It is Resolved that Mr. Martin's recommendation be adopted and that the Clerk do settle the licence accordingly and is hereby authorised to sign the same for and on behalf of the Board of Conservators.

Penalty for fires

The Clerk reports that the Home Secretary having been asked to receive a deputation with a view to increasing the penalty imposed by the Bye Law for setting fire to the Forest underground reads a reply dated the 8th September last pointing out that the penalty is limited to 40/- by Section 16 of the Commons Act 1876, and that legislation would be necessary to enable it to be increased.

Automobile Association notice board

Also the Clerk having drawn the attention of the Automobile Association to the notice board erected at the top of Kidds Hill received a reply dated the 30th August last regretting that the sign had been erected without the permission of the Board and thanking them for permitting it to remain.

Clothes posts

The Clerk reports as follows:-

I have looked into the question of clothes posts on the Forest and find that while it appears that a former Ranger granted one or two licences for the purpose I find no Resolution of the Board authorising any such licences being granted. The following facts appear on the minutes October 1894 (I.319) Charles Philpot of Tompsetts Bank complied with a notice to remove recently erected posts. In September 1899 (II.94) William Taylor of Tompsetts Bank having failed to remove clothes posts when required the Ranger by direction of the Board took them up and deposited them in the garden. In June 1903, James Pilbeam living in Crowborough Warren in compliance with an order of the Board removed 17 clothes posts from the Forest, August 1905 (II.442) William Norman of Tompsetts Bank having erected 3 clothes posts in front of his house the Forest Row Committee accepted his statements that they only replaced old posts and they were allowed to remain. August 1907 (III.92) Eliza Warnett of Sunnyside Cottage Pound gate had 5 old posts and had recently erected 2 more, on the recommendation of the Maresfield Committee her request was granted that they be allowed to remain, she undertaking to remove them when required. October 1910 (III.309) Mrs. Walsham of Warrenside Tompsetts Bank on notice from the Board removed clothes posts erected near her gardener's cottage.

An easement of this nature on the Forest if enjoyed without disturbance for 40 years is indefeasible. I have no information now long the majority of Mrs. Scott's posts have stood there, but ***** been added since 1914 and she has clearly not acquired a right to retain them. I suggest that the proper course is to call upon her to remove these and if she fails to comply, that the Ranger be instructed to remove them and deposit them on her private ground.

It is Resolved that if Mrs. Scott will give a written undertaking to remove the 3 clothes posts erected during the war when called upon by the Board to do so they be allowed to remain for the present.

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the several accounts stand as follows:-

General Account	£2:6:7
2nd Ranger Account	£6:13:8
Protection and Improvement Fund	£69:2:10

2nd Ranger's Account

It is Resolved that £ 40 be transferred from the Protection and Improvement fund to the 2nd Ranger's Account.

Fires

From the Ranger's reports it appears that since the last meeting the following fires have occurred in the Forest Row area 4 burning about 3½ roods and in the Maresfield area 4 burning about 3 roods the cause in all cases being unknown.

Ranger Brown reports that on the 9th instant he saw a fire starting half way between Wych Cross and Chelwood Gate just after a wagon in charge of two men named Oliver Avis and Walter White and belonging to Messrs. Brown and Hecks of Gooses Farm, Birch Grove, and left the spot where they had been cutting some furze; the men denied having caused the fire or used any matches there. There was no one else in the neighbourhood at the time.

It is Resolved that the Clerk write to Messrs. Brown & Hecks stating the circumstances and requests them to caution the men.

Forest Row Committee

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes namely:-

The Forest Row Committee met on 11th October Mr. D. Freshfield, Chairman, Colonel Needham and Mr. Martin present. Admiral Sir Stanley Colville wrote regretting his inability to attend.

The Committee decided to authorise the erection of one or more notice boards for bidding the deposit of household refuse of any description on to Forest and to instruct the Clerk to send out notices to the same effect to the householders concerned. They further agreed to enter into private communication with Mr. H. Waters who was prepared to assist in the matter and with members of the public bodies concerned.

Mr. Freshfield reported Mr. M. Macmillan had asked him to bring before the Committee an application for a very slight enlargement of this ground to enable football to be played on it. The Local Club were prepared to bear any incidental to the alteration. An application had been sent to the Clerk but no acknowledgement had so far been received. The Committee desire to bring the case before the Board with a recommendation that the request be complied with by the grant of a temporary licence or in any other way the Board may think appropriate.

Conviction for stealing sleepers - Ranger Brown reported that the Police had prosecuted Wm. Miles of Tompsetts Bank for stealing 3 sleepers laid down over a ditch on the public footpath leading to Cherry Orchard and Broadstone and that he had been convicted and fined ten shillings on the 10th inst.

State of Camp - Ranger Brown reported that Sir Alexander Stenning's attention had been called to it and that in consequence the Military had sent a man to fill in the excavations.

Mr. Martin however had not completed the removal of materials he had purchased. It was Resolved to admonish Mr. Martin and request him to fix a date by which the work should be completed which the Committee could lay before the next Board Meeting.

Gypsies

Complaints were brought forward of the number about and it was determined to call the attention of the Police to their great increase.

Fires

Ranger Brown reported a few small fires of unknown origin.

The Committee recommend that the following bills be paid

Charles Elcock repair of Bye Law Boards £2:5:0

H & E. Waters cartage of sleepers £0:6:0

Refuse notice not to deposit

It is Resolved that the Clerk prepare and print a short notice drawing attention to Bye Law 15 and that persons found depositing refuse will be prosecuted, such notices to be delivered by Ranger Brown to householders around the Forest Row part of the Forest .

Refuse, removal of

Also that the Clerk write to the Chairman of the Parish Council of Forest Row suggesting that they use their influence with the District Council to undertake the removal of house refuse at Forest Row.

Chelwood Gate Recreation Ground small addition

It is Resolved that the request of the Superintendent of the Chelwood Gate Recreation Ground be granted on the understanding that the area to be enclosed shall be restored to the Forest if any Commoner object.

Military damage progress of restoration

The Clerk is instructed to forward to Sir Alexander Stenning a copy of the Schedule some time since supplied to him of the works of reinstatement which the Military Authorities had then failed to carry out and a copy of a report made by Ranger Brown as to the present position.

Mr. A.E. McLaren gravel cart track

An application having been made to the Forest Row Committee by Mr. A.E. McLaren to improve the existing cart track from the Wych Cross to Colemans Hatch road to his house known as "Splyaws", the Committee recommend that he be allowed to gravel the track not exceeding a width of 12 feet subject to the approval of the Ranger. It is Resolved that the recommendation be approved.

The Committee present the following bills and recommend that they be paid, namely:-

Charles Elcock, repair to Bye Law Boards £2:5:0

out of the General Account

H & E Waters, cartage of sleepers £0:6:0

Wm. Brown, further assistance extinguishing fires £0:10:0

both out of the Protection and Improvement Fund

Wm. Brown, repair to his bicycle £2:16:9

out of the 2nd Ranger Fund

It is Resolved that they be paid accordingly.

H. Webb application to purchase birch trees and etc.

A letter is read dated 5th July last from Mr. H. Webb of Stone Bridge, Wadhurst, to Ranger Brown desiring to purchase certain birch, willow and alder trees for conversion into pit props. It is Resolved that he be informed that this Board cannot permit the sale of any such trees.

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes, namely:-

Road at Brown's Brook repair of

We have again examined the road across the Forest from Campfield Rough abutting an old lands, to ascertain if possible, the state it was in before the war. Mr. St. John Smith the Land agent in Uckfield, who had a bungalow at

the north end of this road before the war, stated that he could drive up to it in his motor car. John Reid, who lives in one of the cottages close by the road, stated that Mr. Turner came to him after they had finished pulling out the trees and asked him if he would dig out some gravel to put on the road and if he could get help. He told him his opposite neighbour nation Walters, across the road would do so but Mr. Turner did not take any further steps to repair the road. Both these men are ready to say that the road is much worse than it was before the timber drawing and Langridge, an employee at Old Lands, living in one of the Old Lands cottages on the road, is ready to give evidence to the same effect.

Mr. Follett saw Mr. Diplock, one of the partners of Messrs. Turner the timber merchants and suggested the firm should give a donation towards making up this road. He said it was a very old matter but that the Board had better approach the Firm.

By direction of the Committee, Ranger Kirby prepared the following estimate:-

Ranger Kirby having measured up the road, which is 990 yards in length estimates the cost of repairing it as follows:-

For digging 150 yards of stone	£30:0:0
For carting 150 yards of stone on road	£16:0:0
For taking out 6 drains under the road and cleaning out and relaying and replacing new pipes in place of broken ones	£3:0:0
For siding out and cleaning out water tables and outlets, along the whole length of road, 990 yards and levelling stone on road	£26:0:0
Total cost	£75:0:0

Mr. L.A. Waters application for repair of cart track to Marlpits

In consequence of an application from Mr. L.A. Waters of Marlpits Farm, Nutley, to repair the track from the letter box to his Farm and the windmill, Sir Francis Champneys viewed the road with Ranger Kirby and reports that it seems to be quite a good cart track. At one place the water stands. This can be easily cured by cleaning out the ditch by the roadside and cutting a small ditch from the cart track into it.

There is a good deal of stone lying by the side of the track. This can easily be transferred into any ruts as they form. Those who use the track might do this.

It is Resolved that the Report and recommendations be approved and that the Clerk apply to Messrs. Turner and to Baron Eckstein and Mr. Saxon (adjacent owners) to contribute toward the cost of repairing the road at Browns Brook and that Mr. L.A. Waters be informed that the Board cannot see their way to repair the road to the windmill and Marlpits.

F. Taylor application to deposit poles

Mr. F. Taylor of White hill Crowborough having applied for permission to lay about 3 loads of poles on the Forest adjoining Warren Road at Church Hill St. John's Common, for convenience of cartage. It is Resolved that consent be granted on the condition that no load remain deposited for more than 14 days.

Rate

The Clerk having reported that the funds in hand are now exhausted and having produced an estimate of the annual expenses, it is proposed by Mr. Robert Kenward, seconded by Admiral Colville 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 – 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 Ashdown Forest at the rate of 6d 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 hereinafter set out, namely:-

Name	Address	Acreage	Amount £	s	d
Abbey & Sons	Kemp Town Brewery, Seymour Street, Brighton	15	0	7	6
Amps, James William Esq.	Khartoum, Magdalen Road, Bexhill	65:2:24	1	13	0
Andrews, Miss & others	Linden Towers Tunbridge Wells	0:2:0	0	0	6
Appleby Mr. Horace	Nutley Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Arbuthnot, Miss Dorothy	Forest Lodge, Sharpthorne, East Grinstead	12:1:8	0	6	6
Arbuthnot W.R. Esq. Decd. The Repres, of	C/o James McFarlane Esq., Great Bentley, Cuckfield	114:2:0	2	17	6
Ashdown, Mr. Thomas	Ivy Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham	1:2:0	0	1	0
Avis, Mr Obadiah	The Hollies, Fryars Gate Withyham	1:2:0	0	1	0
Bailey, Sir Abe, K.C.M.G.	c/o A.E.N. Ward Esq., 65 London Wall, London E.C.	3:0:0	0	1	6
Baker, Mr. Charles	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield				
Baker Mr. Matthias	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Baker Mr. William	Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Ballard & Co. Messrs.	Brewers, Southover, Lewes	2:2:0	0	1	6
Barchard, Misses. A.E. & E.E.	Campfield Rough. Fairwarp, Uckfield	1:0:15	0	1	0
Barnard, Mr. Henry	Woodlands Nursery. Maresfield (late Wood)	12:0:0	0	6	0
Bashford, Mr. George	Forest Row, Sussex	6:0:19	0	3	6
Bashford, Mr. Wm. W.	"King Edward VII", Peel Street, Luton, Beds.	4:3:36	0	2	6
Bayley, Major T.C.	Chelworth, Chelwood Gate, Uckfield (late Goslett)	7:0:0	0	3	6
Bellairs, A.E. Esq.	Stone House, Forest Row	37	0	18	6
Bellingham, Mrs. Elizabeth	Salisbury House, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	5:2:37	0	3	0
Benn, S.H. Esq.	Pixton Hill Farm, Forest Row (late Waters)	24:0:0	0	12	0
Bennett, Mr. George	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:4	0	0	6
Bennett, Mr. J.	Furners Green, Dane Hill, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Bibby, H.C. Esq.	Chelwood Corner, Nutley, Uckfield	9:1:0	0	5	0
Birch, Fredk. Peregrine	C/o Messrs. Birch & Co., Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC	3:3:12	0	2	0
Birch, Francis J.P. Esq.	c/o E.P. Whitley-Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	36	0	18	0
Blackie, Alfred Esq.	Ulverstone, Marden Hill, Crowborough	2:0:0	0	1	0
Box Mr. Richard	Rozell Lodge, 329 Hainault Road,	3	0	1	6

	Leytonstone, London				
Brailey, W.H. Esq. M.D.	21 Landsdowne Place, Hove (late Sandford)	1:3:0	0	1	0
Bridgwater, Miss	Forest Row, Sussex (late Martin)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Britt, Mrs	Greylands, Nutley (late A. Turner)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Brown, Mr. Alfred	Bank Farm Cottage, Forest Row (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:0:39	0	0	06
Browning Mr. William	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	9:2:0	0	5	0
Card, Mr. James	Golf View, Ashdown Forest, Forest Row, Sussex	4:2:0	0	2	6
Carr. Mr. William	Nutley, Uckfield	27:3:31	0	14	0
Carr, Mr. Henry	Fords Green, Nutley	0:2:0	0	0	6
Carver, P.W	(late Cohen)	57:2:0	1	9	0
Champneys, Sir F.H. Bart	Littlemead, Nutley, Uckfield	7:3:0	0	4	0
Clarke Stephenson, Mrs. Decd. The Repres of	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 4a Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, EC2	133:3:13	3	7	0
Clarke, Lt. Col Stephenson R. C.B.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 4a Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, EC2	56:2:0	1	8	6
Clarke, Chas Bridges Orme Esq.	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 4a Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, EC2) (formerly Gilbert) (formerly Sadlier) (late Du Croz) (late Budd Budd) (Broadhurst)	44:2:9 106:1:0 112:2:0 145:0:0 187:0:0	14	18	0
Clough, A.H. Esq.	C/o J.T. Marriott Esq., Estate Office, Brockenhurst, Hants	392:1:24	9	16	6
Cohen, Nathaniel L. Esq.	11 Hyde Park Terrace, London (late Du Croz)				
Colchester The Rt. Hon. Lady	c/o E.P. Whitley & Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	213	5	6	6
Colville, Admiral The Hon Sir Stanley	Pixton, Forest Row, Sussex	38:2:34	0	19	6
Constable, Mrs. Lucy S.	Fords Bank, Horney Common, Uckfield	2:2:28	0	1	6
Cook, Miss B. decd. The Repres of	The Hall Nutley Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Cooper, Ernest Esq.	C/o Turner Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	140	3	10	0
Corbett, Chas. Henry Esq.	Woodgate, Dane Hill Park Uckfield	248:1:24	6	4	6
Cowan, W.H.	Crows Nest, Fairwarp, Uckfield (late R.J. Streatfeild)	6:2:20	0	3	6
Dadswell, Mr. R..	C/o Miss Fullegar & H. Watson, Ballards Hill, Goudhurst, Kent	1	0	0	6
Darwin, Major	12 Egerton Place, London SW 3	33:2:0	0	17	0

Leonard R.E.					
Davis, Mr. S.	Redcot, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7:2:16	0	4	0
De Luttshaw, Miss Celina and Meyer, Miss Katherine	Solvane, Birch Grove, East Grinstead	6:3:1	0	3	6
Dennett. Mr. Wm.	Pitdown Nursery, Uckfield (late Wilson)	9:3:8	0	5	0
Dennis, Mrs. Langton	Offley, Pound Gate, Crowborough	2:2:0	0	1	6
Dodge, Mrs. Mary Hoadley	C/o Messrs. Blount, Lynch & Petre, 48 Albermarle Street, London W.	11:1:30	0	6	0
Douglas, Miss Charlotte Amy	Harlie, Forest Row, Sussex	0:2:1	0	0	6
Dowson, Hugh Emerson, Esq.	Landhurst Wood, Hartfield, Sussex	8:0:24	0	4	6
Du Croz, Charles Grant Esq. decd. The Repres of	Court Lands West Hoathly E. Grinstead	55:2:0	1	8	0
Durrant, Lieut H.	Normans Bay, Pevensey, Sussex	6:3:4	0	3	6
***** Miss * & ***** Miss S.	Summerford House, Fairwarp (late *****)	4:0:0	0	2	0
Faber, Alfred Esq.	Offerton, Forest Row, East Grinstead)	3:0:16	0	2	0
Ferris, Col. W.B.	Wilmshurst, Fletching, Uckfield (late Wilson)	12:3:20	0	6	6
Ffolliott Esq.	9 Montague Gardens, Tunbridge Wells (Lot 5. Late Spencer)	26:8:8	0	13	6
Fleming, Mr. Basil Robert	Hill Side, Chapel Lane, Forest Row (late G. Martin)	1:0:29	0	1	0
Follett, W.W.S. Esq.	Broomhill, Crowborough, Sussex	5	0	2	6
Freeland, Mr. P.H.	Nutley, Uckfield	2:3:0	0	1	6
Freshfield, Douglas, W. Esq.	Wych Cross House, Forest Row, Sussex Ditto (late Arbuthnot) Ditto (Ashdown Place)	259:1:17 2:3:38 8:1:28	6	15	6
Fuller Miss Millicent	Vaughans Fletching Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Funnell, Mr. Trayton	Oakhouse Farm, Dane Hill, Sussex	18:1:13	0	9	6
Fyfe, Miss Alice	Homesdale, Grove Park, Lee S.E.	5	0	2	6
Gasson Mrs. Agnes	Chelwood Gate, near East Grinstead	3:2:0	0	2	0
Gasson, Mr. Thomas	Chelwood Gate, near East Grinstead	0:2:32	0	0	6
Godley, The Rt. Hon. Hugh John	29 Chester Street, London SW Ditto (late Darling)	65:2:26	1	13	0
Goldsmiths' Company	Goldsmith's Hall London E.C.	117:3:10	2	19	0
Gordon, Mrs. John F.	Domaha, Forest Row East Grinstead	5:1:36	0	3	0
Grover, Mr. Bernard	Nutley, Uckfield (land opposite The Limes, Nutley – late A. Turner)	5	0	2	6
Hale The Misses	c/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner. East	25	0	12	6

	Grinstead				
Hardinge, The Rt. Hon. Sir A.H. GCMG, KCB	Cold Harbour, Forest Row, Sussex	5:3:19	0	3	0
Hardy, Guy C. Trustees of Will	C/o Mr. John German, Ashby-de-la-Zouch	256:3:35	6	8	0
Harman, Mr. G.	Butcher, East Grinstead (late Spencer)	499:1:35	12	10	0
Harper, W.A. Esq.	Plaw Hatch, East Grinstead	70:0:0	1	15	0
Harrison, Miss Marion	Holly Croft, Forest Row	4:0:16	0	2	6
Haslam, George D. Esq.	Danehurst, Uckfield (late Messel)	44:2:35	1	2	6
Head, F.H.	Goldstrow, Piltdown, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Head, Mr. John	Great Surreys Farm, Ashurst Wood, East Grinstead (late Abe Bailey)	25:0:22	0	13	0
Heasman, Mr. Christopher	Quabrook, Colemans Hatch (late Bishop)	3:2:20	0	2	0
Heasman, Mr. Philip	The Homestead, Friars Gate, Sussex	2	0	1	0
Heasman Mr. William	Little Furnace Farm, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Heasman, Mrs. C., Heasman Sarah. Heasman Mrs Isabella	C/o Mrs C. Heasman, Holly Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham, Sussex	2:2:0	0	1	6
Heath, Mr. Joseph Benjamin	Hamilton Terrace, Forest Row (late A. Card)	1 2:3:0	0	2	0
Hewitt, H.B.	Perryman's Hill, Furners Green, Uckfield	8:0:36	0	4	6
Hoare, Alfred	37 Fleet St. London E.C	101	2	10	6
Hoath, Mrs. Lydia	C/o Mr. Alfred Hoath, Moorlands, Withyham	4	0	2	0
Hobbs, Mr. James	Blackven Farm, Horney Common, Uckfield (late A. Turner)	0:2:0	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. W.	Forest Row	0:0:16	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. J.	Sillwood Place, Forest Row	0:0:11	0	0	6
Hope, James F. Esq. M.P.	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes	520:3:0	13	0	6
Horlick, Sir James Bart.	Kidbrooke Park, Forest Row, Sussex	150:0:0	3	15	0
Hounsom Wm. Allin Esq.	41 New Church Road, Brighton	28	0	14	0
Hyde, Thos. Esq. Decd. The Trustees of	C/o E.M. Challenor Esq., Solicitors, Abingdon	59	1	9	6
Ince, Revd. J.B.C.	The Vicarage, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Inns, Mr. Alfred George	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Izzard, Mr. William	3 Gladstone Road, Crowborough	1	0	0	6
Johnson, W. Claud Esq.	Broadstone, Colemans Hatch, Sussex	32:2:38	0	16	06
Kent, Sir Stephenson KCB	Chapelwood Manor, Nutley	322:1:31	8	1	6

Kenward, Mr. Hercules	Budletts, Maresfield, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Kenward, Mrs. J.	Piltdown, Uckfield	100:0:0	2	10	0
Kenward, Mr. Robert	Fletching, Uckfield	74	1	17	0
Killick Mr. Henry	Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:0	0	0	6
Knight, Mr. J.	Railway Inn, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:2	0	0	6
Lack, Dr.	Brown House, Forest Row	1:1:29	0	1	0
Lambert, G.N. Esq.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Sussex	4:2:0	0	2	6
Langridge, Mr. Enoch	Dane Hill, Uckfield	1:2:0	0	1	0
Larnach, Capt. Nevill	C/o Stanley Pott Esq., Brambletye Estate Office, East Grinstead	647:3:10	16	4	0
Laver Miss Elizabeth Fielder	Greystones, Crowborough	5:2:0	0	3	0
Longley, Mr. C.	Oakhurst, Golf Road, Forest Row	0:1:1	0	0	6
Longley, Mr. C. J.	Ruthcote, Crawley, Sussex (late Du Croz)	[blank]			
Loveday, Mr. Charles	Primrose Alley, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Lucas, F. R. Esq.	Streeters Rough, Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	29:1:13	0	15	0
Macmillan, Maurice Esq.	Birch Grove House, nr. East Grinstead	13	0	6	6
Macmillan, Mrs. Helen Artie	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead	44:1:11	1	2	6
Manners, Mr. James Thomas	Bankside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Mappin	"Ashdowne", Hartfield	5:0:15	0	3	0
Marchant, Mr. Thomas	Cackle Street, Maresfield, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Maresfield, The Rector of	The Rectory, Maresfield	100	2	10	0
Marriott, Mr & Miss Cordelia Isabella.	c/o Messrs. Hasties, 65 Lincolns Inn Field, W.C	65:0:17	1	13	0
Marsden, James.	Hurst Wood House, Hurst Wood, Buxted	3:2:0	0	2	0
Martin, Edward	Woodcote, Forest Row	1:1:28	0	1	0
Martin Mr. George	Forest Row Ditto (late Read)	9:2:0	0	5	0
Martin, Mr. William	Coach & Horses, Dane Hill, Uckfield	8:1:0	0	4	6
May, Paul Stanley Esq. & others.	C/o Messrs Finnis Downey Linnell & Chessher, 5 Clifford Street, London	79:2:3	2	0	0
McAndrew, John Esq. J.P.	Holly Hill, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells Ditto (late A.A. Adams)	305:1:39 2:2:0	7	13	0
McLachlan, J.M. Esq.	Forest Lodge, Maresfield, Uckfield (late Villeneuve-Smith)	16:1:5	0	8	6
Mc Leod, Addison Esq.	C/o Alfred Savill & Sons, 51 Lincoln's Inn Fields	8	0	4	0

Miles, Mrs. L.A. G.	Danehill, Uckfield (nee May)	15:3:26	0	8	0
Mitchell, Mr. William & Eliza Brett	Forest Row, Sussex (late Reed) Ditto	0:2:0 0:1:10	0	2	0
Morris, Miss J.V.	Bracklay Cottage, Fairwarp. Uckfield	14:2:30	0	7	6
Needham, Colonel	Tylehurst, Forest Row	58	1	9	0
Norman, Mr. Henry The Repres. of	Fairwarp, Maresfield, Uckfield	6	0	3	0
Osborne, Mr. Albert	Oaklands, Duddleswell, Maresfield	0:3:15	0	0	6
Osborne. Mr. George	Hill End Farm, Nutley, Uckfield	2:2:0	0	1	6
Osborne, Messrs.	Ditto (late Wilson)	48:3:24	1	4	6
Osborne, Mrs. Mahala	Gt. Bucksteep Farm, Bodle St., nr. Hailsham	4:0:11	0	2	6
Osborne, Mr. William and Elizabeth his wife	Foresters Arms, Fairwarp, Uckfield, late Jas Bennett	14:2:0	0	7	6
Osborne, Mr. William	Ditto	15:2:18	0	8	0
Osborne, Mr. Thomas and Harriet his wife	Nutley, Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Osborne, Mr. Thomas	Ditto	7	0	3	6
Oxley, William	38 Queens Road, Tunbridge Wells (late Waldstein)	28:1:8	0	14	6
Parsons, Miss Muriel	Mouse Hole, Forest Row, Sussex	1:2:19	0	1	0
Peckham, George	Sunnyside, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:16	0	2	0
Penfold, Mr Henry.	Lisburne, Nutley	2:1:8	0	1	6
Philcox, Mr. George decd. The Repres of	Newbridge, Maresfield, Tunbridge Wells	2:2:0	0	1	6
Phillips The Rev. J.S. MA	The Vicarage, Nutley, Uckfield	4	0	2	0
Playford, Miss Agnes	Harlie, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:0:16	0	0	6
Plevins, G.S. Esq.	Broadstone, Forest Row, Sussex	3:3:20	0	2	0
Portman, the Hon. Henry Oakeley	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes (l	173:1:31	4	7	0
Powell, Mr. V.N.W.	Wooton, Boar's Head nr. Oxford	2:1:26	0	1	6
Public Trustees, the	C/o Alex Findlay Esq., Maresfield Park, Uckfield (late Munster)	2401:2:23	60	1	0

Reed, Mrs Emma	Bank Cottage, Forest Row	2:2:0	0	1	6
Ridley, Mr. Spencer	Millbrook, Nutley, Uckfield	12:2:0	0	6	6
Ridley, Mr. Joseph	Horney Common, Nutley, Uckfield	14	0	7	6
Ridley, Mr. Sylvanus	Nutley, Uckfield	29:1:16	0	15	0
Ridley, Mrs. Lucy Rose	Whitehouse Farm, Horney Common, Maresfield	19:2:26	0	10	0
Ridley, Mr. Henry	Nutley, Uckfield	0:1:32	0	0	6
Ridley, Mr. Harry	Hawthorn, Forest Row	0:1:8	0	0	6
Salzmann, Louis Francis Esq.	Hope Park, Bromley, Kent	3:3:20	0	2	0
Samuel, Sir Stuart M. Bart. M.P.	12 Hill St., Mayfair, London W	5:1:29	0	3	0
Sargeant, John Esq.	“Arnolds”, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7	0	3	6
Saunders, Mr. Harry	Hawthorn, Forest Row, Sussex	0:1:3	0	0	6
Sayers, Mr. Frederic decd. The Repres of	Post Office, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:1:0	0	0	6
Sclater, Rev. J.S.	C/o W.F. Ingram Esq., Lewes	69:0:14	1	15	0
Scott, Mrs. Hannah	Duddleswell, Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Seymour, Mr. Mark	Post Horn Lane, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Shakerley Ackers , S.H. Esq.	Duddleswell Manor, Uckfield	12:0:0	0	6	0
Sharpe, Miss	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp (late Inns)	3:0:0	0	1	6
Shelford, W.H. Esq.	Horncastle, E. Grinstead (late Arbuthnot)	22:2:26	0	11	6
Shoebridge, Mr. Thomas	Nutley, Uckfield	11:0:37	0	6	0
Shoebridge, Mr. Owen	East Croft, Nutley	2	0	1	0
Shannon, Mr.	Dodds Grove, Nutley	9:0:29	0	5	0
Soames, Arthur Gilstrap Esq.	Sheffield Park, Fletching, Uckfield	950:0:10	23	15	6
Southdown & East Grinstead Breweries Ltd.	Southdown Brewery, Lewes	4:2:30	0	2	6
Stanbridge, Mrs.	5 Benthall Grove, West Croydon, Surrey	0:0:31	0	0	6
Stenning, J.C. Esq.	C/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	5:1:4	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mrs. Mary Ann	Collingford, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5:2:0	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mr. Frank	Marlpits, Nutley (late A. Turner)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Stevenson, Mr. R.	Millbrook Farm, Nutley	14:2:21	0	7	6
Stevenson, Mr. Stephen	Little Shelf, Nutley (late Mitchell)	3:1:0	0	2	0
Sterling, Miss	Landhurst, Hartfield	45:3:32	1	4	6

Streatfeild, R.J. Esq.	c/o Messrs. Powell & Co. Lewes	[blank]			
Swan, Edw. Arthur Esq.	The Grove, Woodhurst Road, Oxted, Surrey	0:0:24	0	0	6
Sydenham, Dr. Geo. Mervyn	Chelwood Common, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Tamplin & Sons Brewery Brighton Ltd	Phoenix Brewery, Brighton	0:2:0	0	0	6
Taylor, The Devises of J.S. Esq. Decd.	C/o W.B. Bond Esq., Aegen Gill, Forest Row	3:2:26	0	2	0
Taylor Mr. George	Old Workhouse, Fairwarp, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Taylor, Mr. James	Barnfield, Hoadley Lane, Crowborough	0:1:16	0	0	6
Thomas, Augustus A. Esq.	Rutlands, Fairwarp, Uckfield	11:3:20	0	6	0
Thomas, G.H. Esq.	Oakcroft, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	2:0:38	0	1	6
Thomas, Mrs. Lilian Sophia	Spatham Farm, Ditching, Hassocks, Sussex (late Hickmott)	1:0:0	0	0	6
Turner Albert Esq.	The Limes, Nutley, Uckfield	63:3:1	1	12	0
Turner Mrs. James	Hugletts Pit Farm, Maresfield	2	0	1	0
Tyler, Mr. Allen	Horney Common, Uckfield	4:2:0	0	2	6
Tyler Mr. Enoch	Horney Common, Uckfield	5:3:0	0	3	0
Villeneuve-Smith, F. Esq.	5 Sussex Mansions, South Kensington, London SW 1 (late Neatby)	3:0:0	0	1	6
Walker, Miss Alice B.	Briar's Field, Forest Row (late Birch)	1:2:0	0	1	0
Wallis Mrs Reginald.	The Forge, Rotherfield	2	0	1	0
Walls, Mrs Annie	Cackle Street, Nutley	4	0	2	0
Walsham, Mrs.	Warrenside, Forest Row	2	0	1	0
Walter, Mr. Alfred decd. The Reps of	Marlpits, Fairwarp, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Walter Mr. John	Dodds Bank, Nutley (late A. Turner)	3	0	1	6
Ward, F.H. Esq.	308 Regent Street, London, W1	0:3:0	0	0	6
Warwick, Charles Esq.	c/o C.J. Parris Esq., Tunbridge Wells (late Spencer)	91:3:0	2	6	0
Walters, Mr. Lewis	Lye Green, Withyham (late Wilson)	26:0:7	0	13	6
Waters, Messrs. H. & E.	Forest Row, Sussex	57:0:23	1	9	0
Waters, Mr. Henry J.	Shepherds Well, Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	1:3:0	0	1	0
Waters Mr. James	Forest Row	0:2:8	0	0	6
Waters, Mr. John	Forest Row (late Lord Colchester)	51:0:0	1	5	6
Weeks, Mr. Fredk Robt	Forest Hotel, Forest Row, (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:3:20	0	0	6
Welfare Mr. William	Ocklye Farm, Withyham, Sussex	3	0	1	6

Wheatley Joseph	Mr.	Colemans Hatch, Hartfield. Tunbridge	4	0	2	0
Wheeler Charles	Mr.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
White, Mr		White Hill Cottage, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
White, Samuel	Mr.	Whitehill Cottage, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Whitewood, Clara Sophia	Mrs.	Nutley, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Wickens Mr. J. H. decd. The Repres of		C/o Messrs. Hunt, Currey, Nicholson & Co., Lewes	11	0	5	6
Wickens Spencer Snr. Exors.	Mr.	C/o Messrs. Hunt, Currey, Nicholson & Co., Lewes	15	0	7	6
Wickens Simeon	Mr.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	55:1:0	1	8	0
Wickham, Humphrey	Mr.	Pock Hill, Forest Row (late Spencer)	7	0	3	6
Wickham, Arthur	Mr.	Forest Bank, Nutley, Uckfield	4:1:25	0	2	6
Willett, Arnold T. Esq.		C/o John Sargeant Esq., "Arnolds", Fairwarp, Uckfield	5:2:0	0	3	0
Willett, Dr. E.W.		Spylands, Hartfield (late Begbie)	5	0	2	6
Wilson Edward	Mr.	Mount Pleasant, Oldlands, Maresfield. Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Wilson Geo. M. Maryon Esq. JP		Searles, Fletching, Uckfield	1298:0:39	32	9	6
Wood, Mr. Jesse decd. The Repres of		C/o Frederick Turner Esq., Solicitors, East Grinstead	11:2:0	0	6	0
Wood, Ephraim	Mr.	Duddleswell, Uckfield	10:0:16	0	5	6
Wood John Edgar		Glenville, London Road, West Malling, Kent	4	0	2	0
Wood, Mr. F.		Fair Place Farm, Nutley (late Wilson)	26:2:5	0	13	6
Wood, Mrs. E.M.		The Hollies, Bennett Park, Blackheath, Kent	30:3:0	0	15	6
Worthington, Godfrey Esq.		Pickridge, Forest Row (late Birch)	3:1:0	0	2	0

Ministry of Health Returns

The Clerk lays on the table a copy of the return made to the Ministry of Health of the receipts and expenditure of the Conservancy for the year 1920.

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that Sir Francis H. Champneys, Mr. Follett and Mr. Kenward be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Conservancy for current year and to report.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Kirby Herbert 11 Weeks salary @ £ 2 to 14th inst.	£22:0:0
Do. Bonus @ 5/-	£2:15:0
Do. Cottage rent 5/-	£2:15:0
Do. Employers insurance	<u>£0:11:11</u>

£28:1:11

Brown William 11 weeks salary @ 30/- to 14th inst. £16:10:0

Do. Bonus @5/-

£2:15:0

Do. Insurance

£0:11:11

£19:16:11

Annual Meeting of Commoners

It is Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners be held on Thursday the 15th December next at 11 a.m., and that the next meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoners Meeting or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5.20 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in Ashdown Forest duly convened by the Clerk by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, "The Sussex Daily News" and "The Argus" at least fourteen days before this date and by notice sent by post to carry Commoner and held at the Nutley Inn, at Nutley, on Thursday the 15th day of December 1921, at eleven o' clock of the forenoon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Colville G.C.V.O. etc.
The Reverend J.S. Phillips
Mr. James Card
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. John McAndrew
Mr. Thomas Osborne
Mr. M. Pusey
Mr. Sylvanus Ridley
Mr. S.D. Sheppard
Mr. Henry Waters

There is also present Mr. H. Jesse Ridley who is not a Commoner.

Chairman Election of

On the proposition of Mr. Freshfield seconded by Mr. Kenward, Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson is chosen Chairman and he having taken the Chair, the Clerk reads the notice convening the meeting and reports the due publication and circulation thereof as above mentioned.

The Chairman reminds Mr. H. Jesse Ridley that not being a Commoner he cannot take part in the proceedings.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st instant are Mr. Douglas William Freshfield, Mr. Edward Martin, Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart and Mr. Joseph Ridley and that there is a further

vacancy in consequence of Mr. William Carr who was elected at the last Annual Meeting having sold his qualifying property.

The Chairman having announced that he proposes first to receive nominations to fill the four vacancies created by the retirement of the first named four Conservators

It is proposed by Mr. Henry Waters and seconded by Admiral Sir Stanley Colville that Mr. Douglas William Freshfield be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. James Card and seconded by Mr. Kenward that Mr. Edward Martin be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. E. Martin and seconded by Mr. Follett that Sir Francis M. Champneys Bart be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Sylvanus Ridley and seconded by Mr. Card that Mr. Joseph Ridley be re-elected a Conservator.

No other Commoners having been proposed to fill the first four vacancies the Chairman declares the above named four gentlemen duly elected Conservators for the ensuing three years.

The Chairman then invites nominations to fill the place of Mr. William Carr for the ensuing two years.

It is proposed by Mr. Osborne and seconded by Mr. Follett that Mr. Sylvanus Ridley be elected a Conservator for the ensuing two years.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley having declined the nomination, it is proposed by Mr. Card and seconded by Mr. Osborne that Mr. William Mitchell be elected a Conservator for the ensuing two years in place of Mr. William Carr.

No other Commoner having been proposed the Chairman declares Mr. William Mitchell duly elected a Conservator for the ensuing two years.

Brown's Brook road repair

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley draws attention to the bad state of the road at Browns Brook. The Chairman states that a Committee has the matter in hand and will shortly hold another meeting on the spot and Mr. Ridley promises to attend the meeting.

Road to Marlpits bad condition

He also draws attention to the deep ruts in the road to Marlpits and the windmill and points out that there is stone at hand to repair it and that it is a great convenience to Commoners for driving cattle and carting litter off the Forest and he considers that the Tenant of Marlpits Farm should bear half the cost.

The Chairman states that a Committee has already viewed the road but were under the impression it was not used to any extent by the Commoners.

Boring Wheel road condition

Mr. Ridley also points out that the road at Boring Wheel sometime ago put into good repair by the Conservators has got into a bad state and that the cross drains require attention.

Fairwarp Gravel deposit

He points out that Mr. Burgess sometime ago deposited a lump of gravel on the Village Green at Fairwarp Village and that it ought to be removed.

Fairwarp Recreation Ground Military trespass

He also states that some of the Military are making a ** across the Fairwarp recreation ground opposite the Fox and are cutting it up.

Forest Gate at Woods nursery

A Commoner also points out that the Forest Gate against Woods nursery requires considerable repair.

Gates to Forest roads proposed

Mr. Thos. Osborne suggests that it would be beneficial to the Commoners if gates were to be placed across some of the Forest Roads, that near the Nutley Green for instance, to keep their cattle from straying on the highroad.

The Chairman suggests that he should send the Clerk particulars of the points at which he suggests gates should be erected.

And he undertakes that all the matters that have been mentioned shall be brought before the Board of Conservators for their consideration.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley thanks Mr. Freshfield for having thoroughly repaired certain fences to which he drew attention at the last Commoners Meeting.

Volunteer firemen

Mr. S.D. Sheppard refers to the very great danger to private property caused by the numerous forest fires and suggests that a volunteer body of Commoners should be formed with a view to the prompt extinction of the fires and if possible the detection of the incendiaries and states that he himself would be glad to join such a body. The Chairman states that the whole question of Forest fires is under the serious consideration of a special Committee appointed for the purpose and that his suggestion shall receive full consideration.

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley suggests that these fires would be greatly reduced if Commoners were permitted to cut the rough growth of furze and that Commoners would be found ready to cut and carry it away.

The Chairman undertakes that this suggestion shall be carefully considered.

Fire safety zones

In reply to a question that Clerk states that he is authorised by the Lord to grant permission to cut rough growth where necessary to form safety zones adjoining the boundaries of private properties.

The Meeting then terminates with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman for his conduct of the Meeting.

Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday the 15th December 1921, at noon.

Present

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Colville G.C.V.O. etc.
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

P.O. telegraph & telephone wires

The Clerk reports that in accordance with the directions of the Board on the 24th November last he wrote to the Superintending Engineer of the Post Office a letter approved by the Chairman, which he reads and received a reply from him dated 25th November acknowledging receipt and stating that the matter shall receive further consideration. As yet he has heard nothing further.

R.A.F. Golf Club licence

That the draft licence to the R.A.F. Golf Club altered as directed at the last Meeting has been approved by the Club and is about to be signed.

Mrs. Scott clothes posts

That Mrs. Scott has signed the undertaking required by the Board and he lays it on the table.

Chelwood Recreation Ground

That he communicated to the Superintendent of the Chelwood Recreation Ground the Resolution passed by the Board at the last Meeting.

Military damage

The Clerk reads the following report received from Sir Alexander Stenning namely:

14th December 1921

Dear Sir,

Ashdown Forest Reinstatement

In reply to yours of the 12th inst. I have to report as follows:

All the deep trenches or pipe lines round the new roads that have been taken over will be filled in shortly.

The 50 posts and rails, as agreed upon when I met Colonel Cobb in April 1920, for repairing the Recreation Ground I understand will be delivered this week.

The small portions of trenches adjoining Green Hall Toll have been filled in and about an additional 60 ft of posts and rail fence will be put up round the quarry at Green Hall Toll and the other fencing made secure.

These are the only matters that are now outstanding.

There is no doubt that the several sites on which the building stood will shortly be overgrown with pasture and not recognizable as there are already indications of pasturage coming through and it would therefore be a great mistake to disturb it by tearing up the surface for a further levelling.

Yours faithfully,
Alex R. Stenning.

W.A. Raper Esqre

It is Resolved that the report be considered by the Forest Row Committee and the Clerk do send such reply to Sir Alexander as the Chairman of that Committee may direct. The Clerk reports he wrote to Mr. McLaren as directed at the last Meeting.

Brown's Brook Road repair

That he wrote to Messrs Turner with reference to contributing to the repair of the Brown's Brook road and has received a reply, that they suggest meeting the Committee on the spot.

It is Resolved that the Committee be requested to arrange such Meeting and that Mr. Sylvanus Ridley be invited to be present.

Rate

The Clerk reports that the Rate made at the last Meeting was approved by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries on the 18th November last and is being collected.

Brown & Hicks

The Clerk reports that he wrote to Messrs. Brown & Hicks as directed at the last Meeting but has received no acknowledgement.

It is Resolved that he write to them again for an assurance that they will caution their men.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reads the following Certificate and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely;

To Mr. W.A. Raper

Clerk to

The Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Hotel, Nutley, for the purpose of electing five Conservators in the place of four Conservators who retire from Office by rotation on the 31st December instant, and of Mr. William Carr who has ceased to be qualified, I hereby intimate to you that at the said Meeting Mr. Douglas William Freshfield, Mr. Edward Martin, Sir Francis H. Champneys and Mr. Joseph Ridley were elected Conservators for the ensuing three years and Mr. William Mitchell was elected a Conservator in the place of Mr. William Carr for the ensuing two years.

Dated this 15th day of December 1921

G.M. Maryon Wilson

Chairman

E. Sussex County Council, application for road materials

An application is read from the East Sussex County Council for permission to take the undermentioned road materials from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March 1928, viz; from the same places and for the same quantities as last year.

It is Resolved that consent be granted subject to the same conditions as in former years.

Major Mair chicken run

Ranger Kirby having reported that Major Mair of the Beacon Fairwarp had deposited on the Forest near his house a fowl house 5ft x 7 ft and enclosed a space adjoining it 8ft x 20 ft with wire netting;

Mrs. Anderson chicken coops

And that Mrs. Anderson of Heather View Fairwarp has placed 3 chicken coops on the Forest near her house, the Clerk reports that he wrote to the parties pointing out that they had committed breaches of the Bye Laws which impose a penalty and calling on them to remove them without delay and received replies which he reads from Major Mair asking to be allowed to let his inclosure remain till Ladyday next and from Mrs. Anderson urging that her coops be allowed to remain.

The Clerk in each case replied that his instructions are to see that the Bye Laws are respected and that he hoped they would render proceedings unnecessary by complying at once.

It is Resolved that the steps taken by the Clerk be approved and confirmed.

Audit Committee's Report

The Committee appointed at the last Meeting to audit the accounts for the current year present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, viz:

To The Conservators of Ashdown Forest

In the unavoidable absence of Sir Francis H. Champneys we have examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account and (3) The Account of the Protection and Improvement Fund, each for the year 1921. We have checked the balances brought forward from the 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; and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the accounts for the year, viz;

Account No. 1 General

The Clerk	½ years Salary to 31st inst.	£75:0:0
	Disbursements during year	<u>£32:6:8</u>
		£109:6:8

Kirby Herbert	6 weeks Salary as Ranger @ £ 2	
	to 26th inst.	£12:0:0
	6 weeks bonus do	£1:10:0
	6 weeks rent of Cottage @ 5	
	Per week to 26th inst	£1:10:0
	6 weeks employers insurance	<u>£0:6:6</u>
		£15:6:6

Account No 2, 2nd Ranger

Brown William	6 weeks salary @ 30/- to	
	26th inst.	£9:0:0
	6 weeks bonus	£1:10:0
	6 weeks employers insurance	<u>£0:6:6</u>
		£10:16:6

The Clerk	disbursements during the year	£3:5:10
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The new Rate is coming in but as yet there is only £53:4:8 to the credit of the General Account, Clerk however anticipates that he will receive sufficient before the end of the year to meet the cheques.

The balances standing to the credit of the other accounts after the above cheques have been paid will be as follows:

The Second Rangers Account	£12:0:8
The Protection & Improvement Fund	£33:0:1

The sum of £159:15:4 Consols and the sum of £150 5% War Stock 1929-47 represent the investments held on account of The Protection & Improvement Fund. Of the £300 received from the War Office £122:7:3 was paid to the Forest Row Committee and the receipt for the balance of £177:12:9 deposited at Barclays Bank in the joint names of the Chairman and Clerk had been produced to us.

We found the accounts well kept and correct.

Dated the 17th day of December 1920.

Wm. W.S. Follett

Robt. Kenward

Cheques

It is Resolved that the report be approved, that the accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Board and that cheques be drawn as recommended. Also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to the Auditors for their valuable services.

Fire

Ranger Kirby reports that a fire occurred on the Forest on Sunday 13th November last at 9 p.m. between Crows Nest and Barns Gate – cause unknown.

Mr. William Carr's retirement

A letter is read from Mr. William Carr who has sold the property which qualified him as a Conservator regretting that his relations with the Board have now been severed and thanking the members for all the support they have given him during the time he has acted on the Board. It is Resolved that the Conservators greatly regret the loss of Mr. Carr's valuable assistance on the Board, and thank him for the help he has always given them and express the hope that he may be spared to enjoy many years of health and happiness.

Forest Row refuse removal

The Clerk reports that the Clerk to the Forest Row Parish Council has undertaken to bring the suggestion of the Board with regard to dealing with the removal of town refuse before the Meeting of the Council on the 20th instant.

It is Resolved that the Clerk defer issuing the proposed notices to householders until the Parish Council has decided what action it will take.

Mr. T.O. Hart application to widen cart track

An application is read on behalf of Mr. T. O. Hart who has lately purchased Tile Lodge Colemans Hatch asking permission to widen the track to the property from Kidds Hall for more convenient access with his motor car.

This application was addressed to Messrs Hunt Currey & Nicholson who forwarded it on to the Clerk and who intimates that the Lord has no objection to a revocable licence being granted on payment of a small nominal acknowledgement to the Lord and the Conservators.

It is Resolved that a revocable licence be granted to Mr. Hart to repair the track with gravel not exceeding a width of 12 feet on paying a yearly acknowledgment of 2/6 each to Lord and Conservators.

Mr. McLaren repair of track

And that the same course be adopted in the case of Mr. McLaren dealt with at the last Meeting.

It is Resolved that a very hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Chairman for his able conduct of the business of the Board during the past year.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on the 17th February next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 1.15 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday the 17th February 1922, at 3 p.m.

Present

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

Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Colville G.C.B.

Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart.
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Edward Martin

Chairman election of

Mr. D.W. Freshfield is voted into the Chair, and on the proposition of Mr. W.W.S. Follett seconded by Mr. Edward Martin, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson is elected Chairman of the Board for the current year. Mr. Maryon-Wilson having taken the Chair thanks the Board for the compliment they have paid him in electing him their Chairman again for the 23rd year. He stated that he had fully decided to decline re-nomination owing to greatly increased demands on his time of his work on the East Sussex County Council, and that while accepting the office once more he felt that the time must come when if his County work increases he must reluctantly surrender the position of their Chairman which he had only been able to carry out thanks to the unvarying support and assistance he had always received from every member of the Board and its Clerk.

The following Committees are then appointed for the current year.

Forest Row District Committee – Mr. Freshfield, Admiral Sir Stanley Colville, Mr. Edward Martin and Colonel Needham.

Maresfield District Committee – Mr. Follett, Sir Francis H. Champneys, Colonel Loftus and Messrs Carr and Kenward.

Fire Committee – The Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of each of the two District Committees.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are then read and confirmed.

R.A.F. Golf Club licences

The Clerk reports that the Licences to the R.A.F. Golf Club to use the Links and to make a stand for motor cars have been completed.

Mr. Martin reports that on behalf of the Forest Row Committee he recently gave permission to the R.A.F. Golf Club to burn certain rubbish accumulated in the Course of making the new holes, on condition that the fires were properly looked after and extinguished or burnt out before nightfall the terms of which permission the Secretary confirmed by letter to the Clerk.

Military damage

The Clerk reports that on the instruction of the Forest Row Committee he wrote to Sir Alexander Stenning on the 9th January last pointing out that the fencing of the Forest Row Recreation Ground had not been carried out, nor the damage to the Chelwood Recreation Ground and its Pavilions made good, and asking his good offices to obtain proper compensation. Sir Alexander having replied that this was the first he had heard of it, the Clerk forwarded him a copy of the letter he wrote to him on 6th June last, drawing his attention to these two matters.

Brown & Hicks

The Clerk wrote to Messrs Brown & Hicks on 30th December asking for an assurance that they had cautioned their men with regard to fire and received a reply that they had questioned their men who carried the litter from the Forest who assured them that they had nothing to do with starting the fire, but saw it and tried to put it out.

Forest Row collection of refuse

The Clerk reports that he received a reply from the Parish Council of Forest Row stating that in view of the high rates existing at present the Council do not see their way clear to urge the Rural District Council to make provision for the collection of house refuse.

Major Mair fowl run; Mrs. Anderson chicken coops

Ranger Kirby reports that Major Mair and Mrs. Anderson have complied with the requirements of the Board and removed the fowl run and chicken coops from the Forest .

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Book which shows that the several accounts stand as follows:

General Account	£122:14:4
Second Ranger Account	£12:0:8
Protection & Improvement Fund:	£230:19:1

2nd Ranger Fund Appeal

It is Resolved that the Clerk do now have printed the Chairman's appeal to residents round the Forest to subscribe to the 2nd Ranger Fund, and delivered by hand by the Ranger to the residents with a form to be filled up stating what subscription each will give, which the Rangers are to endeavour to get filled up and return to the Clerk.

Forest Row Committee Report

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely;

The Forest Row Committee met on February 15. 1922. Present: the Chairman, Admiral Sir S. Colville, Colonel Needham and Mr. E. Martin.

Refuse deposit of

It was Resolved to recommend that the Clerk be instructed to send out a printed form of notice to residents at Forest Row warning them against deposit of refuse on the Forest.

Mrs. Osborne application to make road

The Committee took into consideration an application from Mrs. Osborne of Shepherds Well to make a short loop road from the existing road up to her garden gate. They recommend that the request be granted, subject to a plan of the proposed road being submitted to and approved by the Committee.

Forest Row Recreation Ground military damage

Correspondence with regard to reparations of damage done by the Military to the Forest Row and Chelwood Gate Cricket Grounds was considered. The Committee consider that it is inexpedient to press further claims on the War Office as to the Forest Row ground. They suggest the Clerk should be asked to inform the Board by whom the railings were erected and on whom the responsibility for their maintenance rests.

No final reply from Sir A. Stenning to the Clerk as to his action in respect of the claim for £10 made by the Committee of the Chelwood Gate ground or the Military was before the Committee. They suggest this sum should be paid to the Chelwood Gate Committee out of the moneys the Board hold in respect of damage done by troops, subject to repayment to the Board should Sir A. Stenning recover it from the War Office.

Restoration of site of Forest Row camp

The Committee further recommend that a sum of £50 should be put at their disposal out of the Reparation Fund above mentioned for the completion of the restoration of the site of the Camp at Forest Row, the removal of all remaining disfigurements to the surface of the Forest and the proper fencing of dangerous stone quarries.

Ranger Brown reported that the Golf Club were taking steps in accordance with their licence to provide a gravelled ground for the parking of cars near the Golf House.

Refuse deposit of

It is Resolved that the Clerk do have printed a notice that proceedings will be taken under Bye Law 15 against any person hereafter found depositing any refuse or rubbish a print of such notice to be delivered at each house in and about Forest Row, and that copies of notice be supplied to any residents who are willing to post the same up in their premises.

Mrs. Osborne licence to make road

Also that a revocable licence be granted to Mrs. Osborne to make and maintain the proposed road about 12 yards in length and not to exceed 12 feet in width, she paying annual acknowledgements of 1/- each to the Lord and the Conservators.

Military damage Forest Row Recreation Ground

Also that the claim against the War Department for repair of the fence round the Forest Row Recreation Ground be not further pressed.

Also that the Clerk write to the Secretary of the Forest Row Cricket Ground that the Board are under no obligation to maintain the fence but are prepared to consider an application for a contribution out of the Protection and Improvement Fund toward the cost of restoring it.

Military damage Chelwood Recreation Ground

Also that a donation of £10 be made out of the Protection and Improvement Fund to the Superintendent of the Chelwood Gate Recreation Ground towards the cost of making good the damage done by the Military to the fence and pavilions. The Clerk to take such steps as he may be advised with a view to obtaining repayment of the amount from the War Departments.

Military damage site of Forest Row camp

Also that the Forest Row Committee be empowered to expend a sum not exceeding £50 out of the Protection and Improvement Fund in restoring the surface of that part of the Forest at Forest Row lately used by the Military as a camp and its environments.

Mr. T.O. Hart application to widen cart track

The Clerk reports that further correspondence has taken place with the solicitors of Mr. T.O. Hart with reference to gravelling a track from Kidds Hill to Tile Lodge and that they have promised to submit a plan showing which particular track he desires to gravel, which plan he will then submit to the Forest Row Committee.

Kingstanding rifle range discontinuance of

The Clerk reports that on 4th January last, he received notice from the Sussex Territorial Army Association that it is not proposed to reconstruct the Kingstanding rifle range and he replied that he presumed the Association would remove the butts and fill up all excavations connected with it, to which the Secretary replied on the 12th January, that he understood the butts had practically disappeared as a result of occupation by the War Department. But would enquire, ** stated any reinstatement required would be done when the War Department vacate the area

Ranger Brown having stated that the butts still remain but that there are no excavations which require filling in. It is Resolved that no further action be taken in the matter.

Fairwarp Recreation Ground damage

Complaint having been made by the Superintendent of the Forest Row Recreation Ground that the Military from Maresfield Camp have been making a road over Fairwarp Recreation Ground, the Clerk wrote to the Officer Commanding with a plan showing the Recreation Ground and requesting that he would take steps to stop the traffic and cause the damage to be made good, and received a reply denying damage. Ranger Kirby reports that he has seen the troops galloping over the ground, that the recreation ground is very little used for recreation and that the inhabitants of Fairwarp principally use the ground nearer the Village which the Board set out in 1904 as a practice ground for cricket at the requests of the Cricket Club. It is Resolved that the Clerk enquire of the Superintendent what use is made of the Recreation Ground and what care is taken of it.

Post Office telephone lines

The Clerk reports that he has heard nothing further from the Postmaster General.

Fairwarp Green deposits

Ranger Kirby reports that Mr. William Burgess has not yet removed the lump of soil deposited on Fairwarp Green. It is Resolved that if Mr. Burgess does not remove it at once, the Clerk do take up the matter.

Maresfield Committee report

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, namely:

Forest gates

Sir Francis Champneys and I, with Mr. Sylvanus Ridley and Mr. Osborne, on February the 8th inspected the 3 Forest roads leading up into Nutley on which the Commoners suggest gates should be erected to prevent their cattle straying up to the main road through Nutley on which there is a very considerable motor traffic at all times and we consider that their application for these 3 gates might be agreed to. The roads are narrow and would require only a post or two on each side of the gate.

Boring Wheel Road gate

As to Boring Wheel Road we found that the ditches and cross drain complained of are being repaired by Ranger Kirby but the gate requires a new gate post and a new rail or two not exceeding £2.

Mr. Walters sink drain

Our attention was drawn to the fact that the sink waste from one of the cottages on the Nutley and Fairwarp Road occupied by Mr. Walters ran across one of the tracts on to the Forest and suggest that Mr. Walters should be given notice to alter the outlet of his drain.

Road to Nutley mill

The road up to the Windmill could be put in order by the occupier of the farm so far as it leads up to his entrance gate the stones are all there and only want raking into the ruts. The rest of the road is in fairly good order and quite possible for wagons and carts as considerable quantities of stone were put upon it not long ago.

Brown Brook road

As to the Brown Brook Road it unfortunately happened that we had not Mr. A. Turner's letter of the 10th of December last when we again inspected it with Mr. Sylvanus Ridley. He suggested as there were no Commoners living on it no moneys out of the Forest Rate shall be spent upon it.

The water tables and the ruts on the road could be filled with furze for about £25 taking, Ranger Kirby's previous estimate as a basis. But the matter had better stand over until we have seen Mr. A. Turner.

Military excavations

The Military trenches were inspected and in many instances they had not put back all the earth that had even dug out.

Wm. W. S. Follett

February 17th 1922

Forest Gates erection of

It is Resolved that the Committee be authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £ 20 in erecting the 3 gates referred to with the necessary posts and wing fences.

Boring Wheel Mill gate

And not exceeding £2 in providing and fixing a new post and rails to the Boring Wheel Mill gate, the expenditure in each case to be defrayed out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

William Walter's drainage

That the Clerk do call on Mr. William Walter's of Sandpit Cottage, Nutley, do divert the discharge of his sink water so that it shall not flow on to the Forest track.

Marlpits Road repair

That the report of the Committee with reference to the road to Marlpits be approved.

Brown Brook Road repair

And that their report with reference to the repair of the Brown's Brook road be referred back for further consideration.

Forest Gate at Woods Nursery

Ranger Kirby reports that the Forest Gate by Woods Nursery has been repaired locally.

Mr. W.H. Bailey application to repair road

An application is read from Mr. W.H. Bailey the owner of Pricketts Hatch for permission to repair the road across the Common land west of the Fords Greed Recreation Ground which road is founded. It is Resolved that he be authorised to do such repairs as may be appeared by the Maresfield Committee.

F.J. Ridley claim to rights

A claim having been made by Mr. F.J. Ridley of Nutley to rights of common in respect of his shop and premises in Nutley Street.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:

Kirby Herbert 8 weeks Salary as Ranger	
@ £2 to 20th inst.	£16:0:0
bonus do	£2:0:0
house rent	£2:0:0
Employers insurance @ 1/3	<u>£0:10:0</u>
	£20:10:0
 Brown William 8 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger	
@ 30/- to 20th inst.	£12:0:0
bonus do	£2:0:0
Employers insurance @ 1/3	<u>£0:10:0</u>
	£14:10:0

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 7th day of April next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.45 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Fire Committee duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Wednesday the 15th March 1922, at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson in the Chair
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. W.W.S. Follett

This Meeting was convened for the purpose of dealing with the report of the Fire Committee presented to the Board of Conservators at their Meeting held on the 26th August last, and the Resolution s passed thereon (see p. 397) and deciding what action shall be taken during the approaching season for the prevention of Forest fires and the detection of incendiaries.

The report and Resolutions are read and considered and the whole matter fully discussed.

The Committee consider that there are three courses open to adopt (1) to divide the litter plains and big growth up into blocks by cutting lanes, (2) to burn the big growth under and (3) a combination of both plans.

Mr. Follett undertakes to apply to the Lord of the Manor for his consent to the Board cutting lanes and burning the big growth.

It is Resolved that the Chairman be authorised to employ not exceeding six suitable men with bicycles 3 in each of the two Districts to cut or burn or both commencing on Good Friday next the 14th April at a rate of pay not exceeding £2:0:0 per man per week for ordinary hours for cutting or burning or both as may be decided and to assist in detecting incendiaries, such employment to be for a period of about one month or six weeks as may be found necessary.

That the District Committees do select the areas to be dealt with and instruct the respective Rangers.

That the Chairman be requested to see the Chief Constable for East Sussex and ascertain whether he can afford any assistance and if so in what manner for the detection of incendiaries.

That the Chairman be authorised if he consider it advisable to supply the Rangers with field glasses.

That the Clerk write to the Royal Automobile Association and Automobile Club such letters in the terms recommended as the Chairman shall appear.

That the Sussex Express and Sussex Daily News be asked to insert statements which Mr. Freshfield undertakes to draft and send to the Clerk.

That the Rangers approach any occupiers round the Forest who are likely to be willing to assist with or without their employees in extinguishing fires.

That as soon as the Chairman authorises the Rangers to move in the matter, they make inquiries for suitable men and report to the Clerk.

Also as it appears that the East Surrey Traction Company are about to run motor buses between East Grinstead and Uckfield, the Clerk do write to them requesting them to instruct their employees to impress on their passengers to be careful not to throw lighted cigarette ends into the undergrowth or do any other act that may fire the undergrowth.

That the Clerk do see the Officer commanding the Royal Engineers at Maresfield Park and explain the fire troubles and ascertain whether it will be possible for the Military to render assistance during the fire season by sending out patrols or otherwise.

Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday the 28th day of April 1922, at 3 p.m.

Present

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

Colonel Needham

Lieut. Col. D. Loftus

Mr. James Card

Mr. W.W.S. Follett

Mr. D.W. Freshfield

Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. Wm Mitchell

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Mrs. Osborne's road

Ranger Brown reports that Mrs. Osborne has completed the road for which a licence was granted to her to his satisfaction.

Chelwood Recreation Ground – military damage

The Clerk reports that as regards the claim of the Superintendent of the Chelwood Recreation Ground for compensation for Military damage he has settled with the War Department and cannot see his way to put forward this claim. It is Resolved that no further action be taken in the matter.

Fairwarp Recreation Ground Superintendent dead

The Clerk reports Mr. John Sergeant, the Superintendent of the Fairwarp Recreation Ground died about a month ago, and he was therefore unable to ascertain from him what use is being made and what care taken of the Recreation Ground.

It is Resolved that the question of appointing a successor be put on the agenda for the next Meeting, and that the Maresfield Committee be requested to make enquires with the view of submitting the name of a suitable successor.

Fairwarp Green deposit

Ranger Kirby reports that Mr. Burgees has now removed the heap of earth deposited on Fairwarp Green.

F.T. Ridley claim to rights admitted

The Clerk reports that he has investigated the claim of Mr. F.T. Ridley to rights of common in respect of his shop and premises in Nutley Street, and finds that they formed part of the property in respect of which Mr. Barralet paid rates regularly but that its severance from the remainder had not come to the Clerk's knowledge.

It is Resolved that Mr. Ridley's name be inserted in the register of Commoners in respect of the property.

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Book which shows that the several accounts stand as follows:

General Account	£115:12:0
Second Ranger Account	£0:7:4
Protection & Improvement Fund	£255:17:0

Mr. Joseph Ridley's death

The Clerk reads a letter from Mrs. Penfold stating that her father, Mr. Joseph Ridley, died on the 29th ulto. The Clerk reports that Mr. Joseph Ridley was the last survivor of the Conservators appointed when the Conservancy was created.

On the motion of the Chairman it is Resolved that this Board greatly regret the loss of their oldest Conservator and that the Clerk do convey to Mrs. Penfold and his family their sincere sympathy in the loss they have sustained.

Fire Committee report

The Chairman states that in pursuance of the power given to the Fire Committee to take such action as they deemed necessary for the suppression of fires and detection of incendiaries he together with the Clerk interviewed the Chief Constable who was most sympathetic but stated that he was unable to employ additional police on the work, but that he would cause enquires to be made for suitable men whom the Conservancy might employ. That the Committee met on Monday last and interviewed 3 men recommended by the Police, named Hopkins, Meads and Wood (two others having meanwhile found permanent employment).

The Chairman explained the nature of the work they would be required to carry out under direction of the Ranger, that the men would be employed for 6 weeks commencing on Monday next, hours of employment to be from noon to 10.0 p.m. including Sundays, but with a day off in each week in lieu of the Sunday to be arranged by the Rangers, pay £2 per week, and that if in the meantime the men found permanent work they were to be released on giving 7 days notice. The men accepted the engagement and Wood promised to send another man Ringwood for approval of the Committee. That the next day Wood wrote that he and Ringwood had secured permanent jobs and he Wood desired to be released, that a fresh applicant named Saunders from Uckfield is in attendance and being interviewed is found satisfactory and recommends a fourth man named John Wallis at Uckfield.

It is Resolved that the acts and proceedings of the Committee as reported be approved and confirmed.

Mr. Martin recommends a Mr. P. Lullett formerly game keeper at Ashdown Park now residing near Chuck Hatch and now unemployed as suitable for the work. It is arranged that Mr. Freshfield do interview this man and engage him if satisfied and that the Clerk interview John Wallis and if satisfactory do engage him for the work on the same terms as the others in the event of Mr. Freshfield not engaging.

It is Resolved that the thanks of the Board be tendered to the Fire Committee for what they had done in this matter

Clearing Forest after military occupation

Mr. Freshfield reports that a great deal of work has been done toward clearing up the surface of the Forest at and near the Forest Row camp and fencing and that the account now stands

Paid for posts and rail	£5:6:6
Less stone sold	<u>£1:5:0</u>
	£4:1:6
Labour to 22nd April instant	<u>£22:12:2</u>
	£26:13:8

and that materials have been sold producing £11: 7: 0 which has been handed to the Clerk for payment into the Protection and Improvement Fund.

That there remain certain loads of stone to dispose of, that he would like to employ a portion in the repair of the road from the High road to Balfour Gardens, but that he is interested in a house on that road he would like the Board to fix the price, and that Messrs. Waters are prepared to purchase the remainder of the stone.

It is Resolved the report be approved and the acts and proceedings referred to in it be confirmed and that 2/6 per load be charged for the stone be used on the road to Balfour Gardens

Mr. Martin states that a quantity of bricks which formed part of the disused rifle butts at Forest Row are lying on the Forest and he suggests that they be sold and cleared away. It is Resolved that he be requested to sell them and to pay the proceeds into the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Mrs. Emma Reed Golf Club inclosing greens

A letter is read from Mrs. Emma Reed, of Bank Cottage, Forest Row, complaining that the Golf Club are enclosing certain new greens to the detriment of the Commoners. It is Resolved that the matter be referred to the Forest Row Committee with power to act. The Maresfield Committee report as follows:-

Forest Gates at Nutley; Brown Brook road

The materials for the three Forest gates to be erected at Nutley are now ready. Owing to Sir Francis M. Champney's bereavement, the Committee had had to defer further action in regard to the Brown's Brook road.

Mr. W.H. Bailey repair of road

A representative of the Committee met Mr. W. H. Bailey of Pricketts Hatch at his property on the 24th February last and arranged with Mr. Bailey the repairs he might carry out to the road into his property which repairs have since been carried out as authorised. It is Resolved that the report be entered on the minutes.

Post Office telegraph and telephone lines

The Clerk reports that he has received the following letter from the Post Office, which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes. It is as follows:-

Post Office Engineering Department
Superintending Engineer's Office,
South Eastern District,
34, Sydenham Road, Croydon,

P.O. reference W/S/9895/21

18th April, 1922

The Clerk
Conservators of Ashdown Forest,
Battle, Sussex

Dear Sir,
Telegraph and Telephone Lines

With reference to your letter of the 24th of November last, I have to state that the fuller information now furnished has made it possible to trace the official papers relating to the deputation received by the Postmaster General in 1905 in regard to the question of the avoidance of Commons and Forests and other similar places of natural beauty in the placing of telegraph and telephone lines.

It is the case that on that occasion Lord Stanley gave an assurance that where there was a choice of routes he would do his best to facilitate the selection of routes which would not interfere with places of natural beauty. He, however, clearly intimated that financial considerations could not be ignored, and this point is, of course, of even more importance at the present day.

It does not appear that any undertaking or assurance was given that the Conservators of Ashdown Forest would be consulted before telegraphic lines were placed in public roads crossing the Forest. The Postmaster General is advised that he is under no obligation to seek their consent in such cases, provided that the telegraphs are kept within the limits of the highway.

His right to the use of public road, wherever situated, depends solely upon the provisions of the Telegraph Acts, under which the consent needed is that of the Road Authority: and, as he is advised, this right cannot be overridden by the provisions of the Commons Regulation (Ashdown Forest) Provisional Order Confirmation Act 1885, or of any bye-law made there under.

I am, however, authorised to arrange that as a matter of courtesy the Conservators shall in future be consulted whenever it is proposed to place overhead telegraphs on roads in the Forest; and in the circumstances, no doubt the Conservators will agree that the matter need not be pursued further at the present time.

Yours Faithfully,
F. Tandy
Superintending Engineer

After consideration it is Resolved that the Clerk do reply in the following terms:-

1st May, 1922

Dear Sir,

W/S/9895/21

I am instructed by the Board of Conservators of Ashdown Forest to acknowledge your letter of the 18th inst. in relation to P.O. Telegraph posts and wires on the Forest.

My Board desires me to thank you for the undertaking to consult the Conservators in any future cases where it is proposed to carry the wires over the Forest and believes that there should be no difficulty in settling any questions that may arise, in a way that may entail no injury to the public interests it is its duty to regard. The most important consideration from their point of view is to keep the roads running mainly along the skyline of the Forest free from obstructions.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
W. Augs. Raper,
Clerk

The Superintending Engineer,
Post Office Engineering Department,
South Eastern District,
34, Sydenham Road,
Croydon

Quabrook gate repair of

Mr. Martin reports that the Forest Gate at Quabrook opening on the high road from Forest Row to Tunbridge Wells is very dilapidated. It is Resolved that the Forest Row Committee be authorised to put it and the posts into a proper state of repair, the cost to be charged to the Protection and Improvement Fund.

2nd Ranger Fund Protection and Improvement Fund

It is Resolved that £25 be withdrawn from the Protection and Improvement Fund and paid to the credit of the Second Ranger Fund

Ministry of Health Annual Return

The Clerk lays on the table a copy of the Annual Return made to the Ministry of Health for the year 1921.

Return of licences granted during past year

Also Ranger Kirby's return of the licences granted by him during the year ending 31st March last.

Ranger Kirby bicycle repairs

The Chairman reports that Ranger Kirby's bicycle being badly and urgently in need of repair he examined it and authorised Ranger Kirby to get certain necessary repairs done to it by Mr. F.T. Ridley and he submits Mr. Ridley's bill for the work amounting to £1:11:0.

It is Resolved that the Chairman be thanked for his action in the matter and that the bill be paid out of the General Account.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:

Ridley F.T.	for repair of Ranger Kirby's bicycle	£1.11.0	
Kirby Herbert	10 weeks salary as Ranger		
	@ £2 to 1st prox.		£20:0:0
	Bonus		£2:10:0
	House rent		£2:10:0
	Employers Insurance @ 1/3		<u>£0:12:6</u>
			£25:12:6
Brown William	10 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger @ 30/-		
	to 1st prox.		£15:0:0

Bonus
Employers Insurance @ 1/3

£2:10:0
~~£0:12:6~~
£18:2:6

It is Resolved that the next meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 21st July next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The meeting terminated at 4.45 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 21st day of July, 1922 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart
Mr. James Card
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. William Mitchell

Letters of apology were received from Admiral Sir Stanley Colville, Colonel Needham and Mr. W.W.S. Follett.

Earl De La Warr's representative

The Clerk reads the following nomination and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes.

Whereas under the Award of William Augustus Raper of Battle in the County of Sussex Gentleman dated the 28th day of March 1887 and confirmed by the Land Commissioners on the 31st day of March 1887 which Award was made in pursuance of the Commons Regulation (Ashdown Forest) Provisional Order Confirmation Act 1885 empowering me as Lord of the Manor of Duddleswell to nominate in writing a person to act on my behalf as Conservator of the Forest of Ashdown in the County of Sussex now I hereby nominate and appoint James Herbert Husey Hunt of Lewes in the County of Sussex Solicitor as such Conservator and failing him in pursuance of my said powers I nominate and appoint William Edward Nicholson of Lewes aforesaid Solicitor to act as such Conservator as aforesaid on my behalf.

Dated this 28th day of April 1922

De La Warr

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Fire Committee report

The Fire Committee report that they employed four men for six weeks commencing on 1st May to assist the Rangers in the prevention of Forest Fires and provided them with the necessary appliances and have expended the following sums and that they consider the result has fully justified the expenditure

4 men for 6 weeks at £2:0:0	£48:0:0
Workmen's Insurance	£1:0:0
Bannister for gloves and swaps	£0:11:11
Aitchison & Co. Ltd. 2 Binoculars for Rangers	<u>£6:10:0</u>
	£56.1.11

It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund

Mrs. Reed complaint

The Forest Row Committee recommend with regard to Mrs. Emma Reed's Complaint referred to them at the last Meeting that no action be taken.

Quabrook Gate repair of

They also report that the Forest Gate at Quabrook has been repaired at a cost of £19.6 and it is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund

Financial Statement

The Clerk produces the Bank Pass Books which show that the several accounts stand as follows:-

General Account	£143:13:10
2nd Ranger Account	£10:14: 2
Protection and Improvement Fund	£248:19:8

Fires

The Clerk reports that since the last meeting 22 fires have occurred on the Forest, consuming about 22a. 1r. 13p.

Forest Row Camp restoration of site

The Forest Row Committee report that they are continuing the work of restoring the site of the Forest Row Camp and have expended to date:-

In wages including the fencing round	
2 dangerous quarries	£50.6.4
On other accounts	<u>£2.10.0</u>
	£52.16.4
against which they have received	<u>£20.12.0</u>
	£32.4.4

And they anticipate that when the work is completed the total net cost will be about £30.

3 Forest Gates erected

The Maresfield Committee report they have completed the erection of the 3 Forest Gates and palings and present the bills for materials and cartage namely £16:13:11 and £1:3:0.

It is Resolved that the amounts be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund and that the Gates be painted with creosote.

Superintendent of Fairwarp Recreation Ground

They further report that the Fairwarp Recreation Ground is so little used that it seems unnecessary to appoint a Superintendent.

Application to make pathway from Fairwarp Village to new Recreation Hall

They also report an application to them by Mr. Alan Tyler of the Maresfield Parish Council on behalf of the Fairwarp Ex-Servicemen for permission to make a footpath from Fairwarp Village to the new Recreation Room which they are erecting.

It is Resolved that permission be granted for making up a footpath only for a length of about 200 yards as pointed out by Ranger Kirby on the Map.

Fairwarp Recreation Ground Superintendent

It is Resolved that as the Superintendent of the Fairwarp Recreation Ground is also responsible for the management of the piece of land nearer the Fairwarp Village which was set out some years ago by the Board for cricket and other recreation it is desirable that a Superintendent should be appointed and that it be referred back to the Committee to recommend a suitable person for appointment.

Colonel Glasfield application to bay pond

The Clerk reports that he received from Colonel Glasfield an enquiry whether if he purchased a house near the Golf Course at Colmans Hatch he would be permitted to bay a stream near the house to form a trout pond. The Clerk replied that without a plan of the property he could not give him any definite information but if the stream were bayed within the property it would be a question for riparian owners lower down the stream, but if it was proposed to form a pond on the Forest outside his boundary the Conservators could not sanction it. The Clerk received no further communication from him.

Major Ormond telephone line

The Clerk reports that an underground telephone line is being laid from the high road to Major Ormond's house known as "Fairview" at Fairwarp as sanctioned at the Meeting held 26th August 1921.

Mr. Thomas Shannon diversion of stream

Mr. Shannon's of "The Nook" Fairwarp attends and complains that the tenant of Mount Pleasant has diverted the stream of water which flowed past his holding and from which he drew a supply through his Mount Pleasant property and so cut off his (Mr. Shannon's) supply and he produces a plan. It is Resolved that Ranger Kirby do inspect the spot and report the facts to the Clerk.

Bridge at Water Farm repair of

The Forest Row Committee report that the bridge over the stream adjoining Water Farm is in a decayed conditions and will probably require a new bridge, it is Resolved that the Committee be requested to report fully on the matter to the next Meeting with their recommendations and that in the meantime they be authorised to expend not exceeding £5 out of the Protection and Improvement Fund in making any necessary temporary repairs.

Repair of desk

Ranger Kirby reports that as directed by the Board he has had the desk used in the Board Room repaired and re-polished by Mr. Hy Walter at a cost of 17/6.

It is Resolved that the amount be paid out of the General Account.

The Clerk reports that the rate made on the 11th November last will be practically exhausted by the next Meeting it is 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. It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Kirby Herbert 12 weeks salary as Ranger at

£2 to 24th inst.	£24:0:0
Bonus at 5/-	£3:0:0
House rent	£3:0:0
Employers Insurance @ 1/3	<u>£0:15:0</u>
	£30:15:0

Brown William 12 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger

at 30/- to 24th inst.	£18:0:0
Bonus @ 5/-	£3:0:0
Employers Insurance @ 1/3	<u>£0:15:0</u>
	£21:15:0

The Clerk

half years salary to 30th June	
Last	£75:0:0

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 29th September next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 29th day of September, 1922 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson Esqre in the chair
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley C.J. Colville G.C.V.O. K.C.B
Colonel Needham
Lieut. Col. Loftus
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. William Mitchell

Mr. Martin's illness

Mr. Freshfield states that Mr. Edward Martin is prevented by illness from attending but is making satisfactory progress. It is Resolved that the Clerk do convey to Mr. Martin the satisfaction of the Board that he is making good progress and their sincere wishes for his speedy and complete recovery.

The minutes of the last Meeting are read and confirmed.

Pathway from Fairwarp Village to new Recreation Hall

A letter is read dated 21st inst. from Mr. Alan Tyler stating that a pathway for which consent was granted at the last Meeting would not be satisfactory and asking assistance to make up the road from Fairwarp Village to the Recreation Hall by digging 50 yards of gravel for the purpose the men doing the cartage and levelling.

It is Resolved that the Board can only consent to the making of a pathway direct from the south point of Ordnance No. 757 to the north west corner of Ordnance No. 788 and thence outside the west boundary of that inclosure to the road passing Fairwarp Vicarage and will be prepared to contribute a sum not exceeding £5:0:0 out of the Protection and Improvement Fund towards the cost thereof.

Mr. Thos. Shannon diversion of stream

Ranger Kirby reports that in accordance with the instructions given at the last Meeting he has again inspected the diversion of the stream of which Mr. Thomas Shannon complained and that the diversion was made on private property and does not affect the outflow on to the Forest.

Finance

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the following sums stand to the credit of the several accounts viz:-

General Account	£41:10:10
2nd Ranger Account	£46:18:8
Protection and Improvement Fund	£185:9:7

Taylor F. Deposit

The Clerk reports that since the last Meeting he granted Mr. F. Taylor of Crowborough consent to deposit 3 loads of poles temporarily for removal and received 1/- acknowledgement.

R.A.F. Golf Club application to tar track and stand

The Forest Row Committee report that they considered an application from the R.A.F. Golf Club for sanction to tar the track across the Forest from the top of Chapel Lane to the Club House including the car stand near the Club House and with the assent of the Chairman of the Board they instructed the Clerk to grant assent on the understanding that such consent it not to be taken as a precedent in the case of other Forest tracks.

It is Resolved that the action of the Committee be approved and confirmed.

The Forest Row Committee present the following further report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes. It is as follows:

The Committee met on September 27th Mr. D. Freshfield, Colonel Needham, Admiral the Honourable Sir Stanley Colville present.

Forest Row Camp – restoration

The Statement of the expenses incurred up to date and the receipts for sales in regard to the camp reparations at Forest Row was laid before the Committee and approved.

It showed that out of the grant of £70 made by the Board £25:5:5 had been expended up to date.

Clearing corner of road Forest Row to the Goat

It was Resolved to recommend that brushwood obstructing the view at the corner of the road from Forest Row to the Goat above the Kidbrooke Park paling and also at the meeting of the roads opposite the Goat be cut back so as to allow a free view to persons using the road. It was decided that the bridge on the Forest close to Water Farm should be repaired at a cost not exceeding five pounds in accordance with the authority already given by the Board.

T.O. Hart alteration of cart track

The application of Mr. Hart to make a metalled road 12 feet wide from near the top of Kidd's Hill to Tile Lodge a portion of the late Pippingford Estate and to erect a sign post was considered.

The Committee think the application, which is similar in character to others already agreed to (e.g. Lady De La Warr's, Major Darwin's, Sir Stuart Samuel's) is reasonable and should be allowed by the Board, but that the words "private road" cannot be allowed on the signpost.

Ladies Golf Club – alteration of Course – Cutting litter

A letter from the Ladies Golf Club with regard to cutting of litter and to a proposed alteration in the course was brought before the Committee. It suggests that the Ladies Golf Club be informed that it is desirable that litter should not be cut before the legal date. It sees no objection to the small alterations proposed in the course as per plan submitted.

The Committee heard with regard of the death of Mr. Hudson the Lord's Reeve. It suggests that his successor when appointed should be asked to insist on the removal of the branches and treetops left by persons recently licenced to cut on the Forest.

Preservation of old trees

It also ventures to suggest that the Board might appeal to the Lord to give instructions that none of the few relics of the old timber on the Forest, e.g. the beeches at Legs Heath, should be cut and that the new Reeve should be instructed to inform the Rangers when and to whom he grants licences for cutting wood on the Forest.

Cutting brush wood

Mr. Follett assenting on behalf of the Lord it is Resolved that the brushwood at the corner of the road from Forest Row to the Goat be cut back as recommended.

Hart, Mr. T.O. application to alter track over Forest

Also that a revocable licence be granted to Mr. T.O. Hart the owner of Tile Lodge to make and metal a straight track (in lieu of the present irregular track) as recommended the licence to be in similar terms to that granted to Mr. Claude Johnstone the licensee to pay a yearly acknowledgement of 10/- to the Lord and 10/- to the Conservators during its continuation and the proper charges of the Clerk for preparing the licence.

Ladies Golf Club alteration of Course – cutting litter

Also that consent be given to the alterations which the Ladies Golf Club desire to make in their Golf Course but that they be informed that litter can only be cut during the months prescribed by the Bye Laws.

Preservation of old trees

Also that the Clerk communicate with the Lord's representative with reference to the matters suggested when he appoints a Reeve in succession to the late Mr. Hudson.

Maresfield Committee Report

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be enrolled on the minutes. It is as follows:-

September 16th 1922

To Conservators of Ashdown Forest

Gentlemen,

I beg to report that in the opinion of the Maresfield Committee it is now at this distance of time useless to expect any contribution from Messrs. Turner towards doing up the Brown Brook Road.

That Colonel Arthur Barchard of Campfield Rough Fairwarp will undertake to look after the Recreation Grounds at Fairwarp.

That the gates at Nutley have been creosoted and I beg to enclose the account for creosote 12/-.

Wm. W.S. Follett

Chairman

It is Resolved that the report and recommendations therein contained be approved.

Fairwarp Recreation Ground appointment of Superintendent

That Colonel Arthur Barchard be appointed Superintendent of the Fairwarp Recreation Ground with management of the cricket ground near the village.

Nutley Forest gates creosoted

And that the cost of the creosote, 12/- be paid out of Protection and Improvement Fund.

Rate

The Clerk having reported that the funds in hand are now exhausted and having produced an estimate of the annual expenses, It is proposed by Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley C.J. Colville G.C.V.O. etc. seconded by Mr. William Webb Spencer Follett 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 – 1878 and the Commons Regulation (Ashdown Forest) Provisional Order Confirmation Act 1885 to be levied upon the respective owners of the Right of Common upon Ashdown Forest at the rate of 6d 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 hereinafter set forth namely:-

Name	Address	Acreage	Amount £	s	d
Abbey & Sons	Kemp Town Brewery, Seymour Street, Brighton	15	0	7	6
Allfrey, The Misses	Stoney Cross, Oxted (late Col. Ferris)				
Amps, James William Esq.	Khartoum, Magdalen Road, Bexhill	65:2:24	1	13	0
Appleby Mr. Horace	Nutley Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Arbuthnot, Miss Dorothy	Forest Lodge, Sharpthorne, East Grinstead	12:1:8	0	6	6
Arbuthnot W.R. Esq.	C/o James McFarlane Esq., Great Bentley,	114:2:0	2	17	6

Decd. The Repres, of	Cuckfield				
Ashdown, Mr. Thomas	Ivy Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham	1:2:0	0	1	0
Avis, Mr Obadiah	The Hollies, Fryars Gate Withyham	1:2:0	0	1	0
Bailey, Sir Abe, K.C.M.G.	c/o A.E.N. Ward Esq., 65 London Wall, London E.C.	3:0:0	0	1	6
*****, Mr. W.H.	Pritchetts Hatch, Nutley (late W. Carr)	19:3:31	0	10	0
Baker, Mr. Charles	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	3		1	6
Baker Mr. Matthias	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Baker Mr. William	Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Ballard & Co. Messrs.	Brewers, Southover, Lewes	2:2:0	0	1	6
Barchard, Misses. A.E. & E.E.	Campfield Rough. Fairwarp, Uckfield	1:0:15	0	1	0
Barnard, Mr. Henry	Woodlands Nursery. Maresfield (late Wood)	12:0:0	0	6	0
Bashford, Mr. George	Forest Row, Sussex	6:0:19	0	3	6
Bashford, Mr. Wm. W.	"King Edward VII", Peel Street, Luton, Beds.	4:3:36	0	2	6
Bellairs, A.E. Esq.	Stone House, Forest Row	37	0	18	6
Bellingham, Mrs. Elizabeth	Salisbury House, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	5:2:37	0	3	0
Benn, S.H. Esq.	Pixton Hill Farm, Forest Row (late Waters)	24:0:0	0	12	0
Bennett, Mr. George	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	0:2:4	0	0	6
Bennett, Mr. J.	Furners Green, Dane Hill, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Bibby, H.C. Esq.	Chelwood Corner, Nutley, Uckfield	9:1:0	0	5	0
Birch, Fredk. Peregrine	C/o Messrs. Birch & Co., Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC	3:3:12	0	2	0
Birch, Francis J.P. Esq.	c/o E.P. Whitley-Hughes Esq., East Grinstead	30	0	15	0
Blacker, Alfred Esq.	Ulverstone, Marden Hill, Crowborough	2:0:0	0	1	0
Box Mr. Richard	Rozell Lodge, 329 Hainault Road, Leytonstone, London	3	0	1	6
Brailey, W.H. Esq. M.D.	21 Landsdowne Place, Hove	1:3:0	0	1	0
Bridgwater, Miss	Forest Row, Sussex	1:0:0	0	0	6
Britt, Mrs	Greylands, Nutley	1:0:0	0	0	6
Brown, Mr. Alfred	Bank Farm Cottage, Forest Row	0:0:39	0	0	06
Browning Mr. William	Chelwood Common Dane Hill Uckfield	9:2:0	0	5	0
Bull, The Reverend R.A.	Yewhurst, Forest Row (late Sir A. Bailey)	36:1:20	0	18	6
Burgess, Mr.	(late Durrant)	6:3:4	0	3	6
Burns, L.B. Esq.	Landhurst Cottage, Hartfield	5:0:14	0	3	0
Burns, Mrs. Clementine	Andrews Bank, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Card, Mr. Abraham	Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	1	0	0	6
Card, Mr. James	Golf View, Ashdown Forest, Forest Row, Sussex Ditto (late Hale)	4:2:0 3:2:0	0 0	2 4	6 0

Carr, Mr. Henry	Fords Green, Nutley	0:2:0	0	0	6
Carr, Mr. W.J.	Woodcock, Fletching (late Miss Cook)	0:0:28	0	0	6
Carter, Mr. A.S.	(late Joseph Ridley)	1	0	0	6
Carver, P.W	(late Cohen)	57:2:0	1	9	0
Case, Gerald Esq.	Putlands, Fairwarp (late A.J. Thomas)	11:3:20	0	6	0
Champneys, Sir F.H. Bart	Littlemead, Nutley, Uckfield	7:3:0	0	4	0
Cholmeley, H.P. Esq. M.D.	Forest Edge, Forest Row (late Hyde)	1:2:0	0	1	0
Clarke Stephenson, Mrs. Decd. The Repres of	C/o Daniel Watney & sons 4a Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, EC2	133:3:13	3	7	0
Clarke, Lt. Col Stephenson R. C.B.	4a Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, EC2	56:2:0	1	8	6
Clarke, Chas Bridges Orme Esq.	London SE2	595:1:7	14	18	0
Clough, A.H. Esq.	C/o J.T. Marriott Esq., Estate Office, Brockenhurst, Hants	392:1:24	9	16	6
Colchester The Rt. Hon. Lady		213	5	6	6
Colville, Admiral The Hon Sir Stanley	Pixton, Forest Row, Sussex	38:2:34	0	19	6
Constable, Mrs. Lucy S.	Fords Bank, Horney Common, Uckfield	2:2:28	0	1	6
Cook, J.R. Esq.	Sharpthorne House, West Hoathly (late Stenning)	5:1:4	0	3	0
Cooper, Ernest Esq.	C/o Turner Rudge & Turner, East Grinstead	140	3	10	0
Corbett, Chas. Henry Esq.	Woodgate, Dane Hill Park Uckfield	248:1:24	6	4	6
Cottingham, Mr.	***** Bridge Farm, Chailey (late Syl. Ridley)	3:1:10	0	2	0
Cowan, W.H.	Crows Nest, Fairwarp, Uckfield (late R.J. Streatfeild)	6:2:20	0	3	6
Dadswell, Mr. R..	C/o Miss Fullegar & H. Watson, Ballards Hill, Goudhurst, Kent	1	0	0	6
Darwin, Major Leonard R.E.	12 Egerton Place, London SW 3	33:2:0	0	17	0
Davis, Mr. S.	Redcot, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7:2:16	0	4	0
De Lutteshaw, Miss Celina and Meyer, Miss Katherine	Solvane, Birch Grove, East Grinstead	6:3:1	0	3	6
Dennett. Mr. Wm.	Piltdown Nursery, Uckfield (late Wilson)	9:3:8	0	5	0
Dennis, Mrs. Langton	Stone Hill, Nutley	2:2:0	0	1	6
Dodge, Mrs. Mary Hoadley	C/o W.W.S. Follett Esq., Broomhill, Crowborough	11:1:30	0	6	0
Douglas, Miss Charlotte Amy	Harlie, Forest Row, Sussex	0:2:1	0	0	6
Dowson, Hugh Emerson, Esq.	Landhurst Wood, Hartfield, Sussex	8:0:24	0	4	6
Duckworth, Geo. H. Esq.	Dalingridge Place, East Grinstead	61:3:23	1	11	0
Du Croz, Charles	Court Lands West Hoathly E. Grinstead	55:2:0	1	8	0

Grant Esq. decd. The Repres of					
Eason, E. Hy Physick Esq.	192 Bishopsgate, London	1:1:8	0	1	0
East Sussex County Council	The County Accountant, County Hall, Lewes (late Maryon-Wilson)	83:1:13	2	2	0
Eckstein Frederick Esq	c/o Messrs **** & Martin, Lewes	285	7	2	6
Eden, A.F. Esq.	The Crossways, Hartfield	5:3:**	0	3	0
Faber, Alfred Esq.	Offerton, Forest Row, East Grinstead)	3:0:16	0	2	0
Fellows Miss * & ***** Miss S.	Summerford House, Fairwarp (4:0:0	0	2	0
Ferris, Col. W.B.	Wilmshurst, Fletching, Uckfield		0	0	0
Ffolliott Esq.	9 Montague Gardens, Tunbridge Wells (Lot 5. Late Spencer)	26:8:8	0	13	6
Follett, W.W.S. Esq.	Broomhill, Crowborough, Sussex	5	0	2	6
Freeland, Mr. P.H.	Nutley, Uckfield	2:3:0	0	1	6
Freshfield, Douglas, W. Esq.	Wych Cross House, Forest Row	270:3:3	6	15	6
Fuller Miss Millicent	Vaughans Fletching Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Funnell, Mr. Trayton	Oakhouse Farm, Dane Hill, Sussex	18:1:13	0	9	6
Fyfe, Miss Alice	Homesdale, Grove Park, Lee S.E.	5	0	2	6
Gasson Mrs. Agnes	Chelwood Gate, near East Grinstead	3:2:0	0	2	0
Gasson, Mr. Thomas	Chelwood Gate, near East Grinstead	0:2:32	0	0	6
Godbee, Mr. H.E.	St John's Almshouses, Crowborough	3	0	1	6
Godley, The Rt. Hon. Hugh John	29 Chester Street, London SW Ditto (late Darling)	65:2:26	1	13	0
Goldsmiths' Company	Goldsmith's Hall London E.C.	117:3:10	2	19	0
Gordon, Mrs. .	Domaha, Forest Row East Grinstead	5:1:36	0	3	0
G*****, E. Esq.	211 Longley Road, Tooting Junction SW (late Leeland-White)	0:0:20	0	0	6
Grover, Mr. Bernard	Nutley, Uckfield (land opposite The Limes, Nutley – late A. Turner)	5	0	2	6
Hale The Misses	c/o Messrs. Turner, Rudge & Turner. East Grinstead				
Hardinge, The Rt. Hon. Sir A.H. GCMG, KCB	Cold Harbour, Forest Row, Sussex	5:3:19	0	3	0
Hardy, Guy C. Trustees of Will	C/o Mr. John German, Ashby-de-la-Zouch	256:3:35	6	8	0
Harman, Mr. G.	Butcher, East Grinstead (late Spencer)	499:1:35	12	10	0
Harrison, Miss Marion	Holly Grange, Forest Row	4:0:16	0	2	6
****, Mrs Katharine	“*****” Hartfield (late Young)	3	0	1	6
Haslam, George D. Esq.	Danehurst, Uckfield (late Messel)	44:2:35	1	2	6
Head, F.H.	Goldstrow, Piltdown, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Head, Mr. John	Great Surreys Farm, Ashurst Wood, East Grinstead (late Abe Bailey)	25:0:22	0	13	0
Heasman, Mr. Christopher	Quabrook, Colemans Hatch (late Bishop)	3:2:20	0	2	0

Heasman, Mr. Philip	The Homestead, Friars Gate, Sussex	2	0	1	0
Heasman Mr. William	Little Furnace Farm, Colemans Hatch	3	0	1	6
Heasman, Mrs. C., Heasman Sarah. Heasman Mrs Isabella	C/o Mrs C. Heasman, Holly Cottage, Friars Gate, Withyham, Sussex	2:2:0	0	1	6
Heath, Mr. Joseph Benjamin	Hamilton Terrace, Forest Row (late A. Card)	1 2:3:0	0	2	0
Hewitt, H.B.	Perrymans Hill, Furners Green, Uckfield	8:0:36	0	4	6
Hoare, Alfred	37 Fleet St. London E.C	101	2	10	6
Hoath, Mrs. Lydia	Moorlands, Withyham	4	0	2	0
Hobbs, Mr. James	Blackven Farm, Horney Common, Uckfield (late A. Turner)	0:2:0	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. W.	Forest Row	0:0:16	0	0	6
Hollamby, Mr. J.	Sillwood Place, Forest Row	0:0:11	0	0	6
Hope, James F. Esq. M.P.	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes	520:3:0	13	0	6
Horne, Mr..	Wayside, Forest Row	0:2:0	0	0	6
Hounsom Wm. Allin Esq.	41 New Church Road, Brighton	28	0	14	0
Hyde, Thos. Esq. Decd. The Trustees of	C/o E.M. Challenor Esq., Solicitors, Abingdon	33:2:0	0	17	0
Ince, Revd. J.B.C.	The Vicarage, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Inns, Mr. Alfred George	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Izzard, Mr. William	3 Gladstone Road, Crowborough	1	0	0	6
Johnson, W. Claud Esq.	Broadstone, Colemans Hatch, Sussex	32:2:38	0	16	06
Kent, Sir Stephenson KCB	Chapelwood Manor, Nutley	322:1:31	8	1	6
Kenward, Mr. Hercules	Budletts, Maresfield, Uckfield	2	0	1	0
Kenward, Mrs. J.	Piltdown, Uckfield	100:0:0	2	10	0
Kenward, Mr. Robert	Fletching, Uckfield	74	1	17	0
Killick Mr. Henry	Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	0:1:0	0	0	6
Kindersley, Sir R.S.	16 Charles Street, Berkeley Square W1 (late Harper)	70	1	15	0
Knight, Mr. J.	Railway Inn, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:2:2	0	0	6
Lack, Dr.	Brown House, Forest Row	1:1:29	0	1	0
Lambert, G.N. Esq.	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Sussex	4:2:0	0	2	6
Langridge, Mr. Enoch	Dane Hill, Uckfield	1:2:0	0	1	0
Larnach, Capt. Nevill	C/o Stanley Pott Esq., Brambletye Estate Office, East Grinstead	647:3:10	16	4	0
Laver Miss Elizabeth Fielder	Greystones, Crowborough	5:2:0	0	3	0
Longley, Mr. C.	Oakhurst, Golf Road, Forest Row	0:1:1	0	0	6
Longley, Mr. C. J.	Ruthcote, Crawley, Sussex (late Du Croz)	[blank]			
Loveday, Mr. Charles	Primrose Alley, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Lucas, F. R. Esq.	Streeters Rough, Chelwood Gate, Uckfield	29:1:13	0	15	0

Macmillan, Maurice Esq.	Birch Grove House, nr. East Grinstead	13	0	6	6
Macmillan, Mrs. Helen Artie	Birch Grove, nr. East Grinstead	44:1:11	1	2	6
Manners, Mr. James Thomas	Bankside, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Marchant, Mr. Thomas	Cackle Street, Maresfield, Uckfield	5	0	2	6
Maresfield, The Rector of	The Rectory, Maresfield	100	2	10	0
Marriott, Mr & Miss Cordelia Isabella.	c/o Messrs. Hasties, 65 Lincolns Inn Field, W.C	65:0:17	1	13	0
Marsden, James.	Hurst Wood House, Hurst Wood, Buxted	3:2:0	0	2	0
Martin, Edward	Woodcote, Forest Row	1:1:28	0	1	0
Martin, Mr. William	Coach & Horses, Dane Hill, Uckfield	8:1:0	0	4	6
May, Paul Stanley Esq. & others.	C/o Messrs Finnis Downey Linnell & Chessher, 5 Clifford Street, London	79:2:3	2	0	0
McAndrew, John Esq. J.P.	Holly Hill, Colemans Hatch	305:1:39	7	13	0
McLachlan, J.M. Esq.	Forest Lodge, Horney Common, Uckfield	16:1:5	0	8	6
Mc Leod, Addison Esq.	C/o Alfred Savill & Sons, 51 Lincoln's Inn Fields	8	0	4	0
M**** H.E. Esq.	29 Lamb Street, EC (late Miss Cook)	4:2:16	0	2	6
Miles, Mrs. L.A.G.	Danehill, Uckfield	15:3:26	0	8	0
Mitchell, Mr. William & Eliza Brett	Forest Row,	1:1:0 0:1:10	0 0	1 0	0 6
Morris, Miss J.V.	Bracklay Cottage, Fairwarp. Uckfield	14:2:30	0	7	6
****, Major John	Fords Green, Nutley	0:1:0	0	0	6
Needham, Colonel	Tylehurst, Forest Row	58	1	9	0
*eild, Dr.	Shaw Cottage, Hartfield (late Slough)	[blank]			
Norman, Mr. Henry The Repres. of	Fairwarp	6	0	3	0
Osborne, Mr. Albert	Oaklands, Duddleswell, Maresfield	0:3:15	0	0	6
Osborne. Mr. George	Hill End Farm, Nutley, Uckfield	2:2:0	0	1	6
Osborne, Messrs.	Ditto (late Wilson)	48:3:24	1	4	6
Osborne, Mrs. Mahala	Gt. Bucksteep Farm, Bodle St., nr. Hailsham	4:0:11	0	2	6
Osborne, Mr. William and Elizabeth his wife	Foresters Arms, Fairwarp, Uckfield, late Jas Bennett	14:2:0	0	7	6
Osborne, Mr. William	Ditto	15:2:18	0	8	0
Osborne, Mr. Thomas and Harriet his wife	Nutley, Uckfield	17	0	8	6
Osborne, Mr. Thomas	Ditto	12:2:0	0	6	6
Oxley, William	38 Queens Road, Tunbridge Wells	28:1:8	0	14	6
Parsons, Miss Muriel	Mouse Hole, Forest Row, Sussex	1:2:19	0	1	0
Peckham, George	Sunnyside, Hartfield	0:1:16	0	2	0
Penfold, Mr Harry.	Lisburne, Nutley	2:1:8	0	1	6
Philcox, Mr. George decd. The Repres of	Newbridge, Maresfield, Tunbridge Wells	2:2:0	0	1	6

Phillips The Rev. J.S. MA	The Vicarage, Nutley	4	0	2	0
Playford, Miss Agnes	Harlie, Forest Row, Sussex (part Bank Farm late G. Martin)	0:0:16	0	0	6
Plevins, G.S. Esq.	Broadstone, Forest Row, Sussex	3:3:20	0	2	0
Portman, the Hon. Henry Oakeley	C/o Messrs. Powell & Co., Lewes (l	[blank]	0	0	0
Powell, Mrs. V.N.W.	Bledlour, Bucks	2:1:26	0	1	6
Public Trustees, the	C/o Major Waller, Maresfield Park, Uckfield (late Munster)	2401:2:23	60	1	0
Raven, W.J. Esq.	The Bungalow, Parrock Wood, Colemans Hatch Ditto (late Burns)	3:3:5 12	0	8	0
Rawlings, G.H. Esq.	Garden House, Forest Row (late Francis J.P. Birch)	2	0	1	0
Reed, Mrs Emma	Bank Cottage, Forest Row	2:2:0	0	1	6
Ridley, Mr. Spencer	Millbrook, Nutley	12:2:0	0	6	6
Ridley, Mr. A.J.	Horney Common, Maresfield (late Joseph Ridley)	1	0	0	6
Ridley, Mr. Sylvanus	Nutley, Uckfield	29:1:16	0	15	0
Ridley, Mrs. Lucy Rose	Whitehouse Farm, Horney Common	19:2:26	0	10	0
Ridley, Mr. Henry	Nutley	0:1:32	0	0	6
Ridley, Mr. F.T	Nutley (late Barolet) Ditto (late Miss Cook)	0:1:0 0:0:16	0	0	6
Ridley, Mr. Harry	(late Mitchell)	0:1:8	0	0	6
Riley, W.J. Esq.	Nutley	3:1:28	0	2	0
****, John Esq.	R.A.F. Golf Club, Forest Row (part site Forest Row restaurant)	0:1:13	0	0	6
Rumbold, Miss Katharine	Yew Tree Hall. Forest Row	4:2:0	0	2	6
Salzmann, Louis Francis Esq.	Hope Park, Bromley, Kent	6:3:20	0	3	6
Samuel, Sir Stuart M. Bart. M.P.	12 Hill St., Mayfair, London W	5:1:29	0	3	0
Sargeant, John Esq.	“Arnolds”, Fairwarp, Uckfield	7	0	3	6
Saunders, Mr. Harry	Hawthorn, Forest Row, Sussex	0:1:3	0	0	6
Sayers, Mr. Frederic decd. The Repres of	Post Office, Forest Row, East Grinstead	0:1:0	0	0	6
Sclater, Rev. J.S.	Newick Park, Newick, Lewes	69:0:14	1	15	0
Scott, Mrs. Hannah	Duddleswell, Uckfield	0:2:0	0	0	6
Seymour, Mr. Mark	Post Horn Lane, Forest Row	0:1:0	0	0	6
Shakerley Ackers, S.H. Esq.	Moreton Hall, Duddleswell, Uckfield	12:0:0	0	6	0
Sharpe, Miss	Mount Pleasant, Fairwarp	3:0:0	0	1	6
Shelford, W.H. Esq.	Horncastle, E. Grinstead	22:2:26	0	11	6
Shoebridge, Mr. Thomas	Nutley Ditto (late Miss Cook)	11:0:37 2:1:24	0	7	0
Shoebridge, Mr. Owen	East Croft, Nutley	2	0	1	0
Shute, E.P. Esq.	Spring Meadow, Forest Row, Sussex	1	0	0	6
Soames, Arthur Gilstrap Esq.	Sheffield Park, Fletching, Uckfield	950:0:10	23	15	6
Stanbridge, Mrs.	5 Benthall Grove, West Croydon, Surrey	0:0:31	0	0	6

Steel, Major F.B.	Pricketts Hatch, Nutley (late W. Carr)	8	0	4	0
Sterling, Miss F.M.	Home Wood, Hartfield	48:2:32	1	4	6
Stevenson, Mrs. Mary Ann	Collingford, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5:2:0	0	3	0
Stevenson, Mr. Frank	Marlpits, Nutley	1:0:0	0	0	6
Stevenson, Mr. Stephen	Little Shelf, Nutley	3:1:0	0	2	0
Stevenson, Mr. R.	Millbrook Farm, Nutley	14:2:21	0	7	6
Streatfeild, R.J. Esq.	c/o Messrs. Powell & Co. Lewes	[blank]			
Swan, Edw. Arthur Esq.	The Grove, Woodhurst Road, Oxted, Surrey Ditto (late Freshfield)	0:0:24	0	0	6
Sydenham, Dr. Geo. Mervyn	Chelwood Common, Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Tamplin & Sons Brewery Brighton Ltd	Phoenix Brewery, Brighton Ditto (late Southdown Breweries Ltd.)	0:2:0 4:2:30	0	3	0
Taylor, The Devises of J.S. Esq. Decd.	C/o W.B. Bond Esq., Aegen Gill, Forest Row	3:2:26	0	2	0
Taylor Mr. George	Old Workhouse, Fairwarp, Uckfield	10	0	5	0
Taylor, Mr. James	Barnfield, Hoadley Lane, Crowborough	0:1:16	0	0	6
Thomas, Augustus A. Esq.	Rutlands, Fairwarp, Uckfield	11:3:20	0	6	0
Thomas, G.H. Esq.	Oakcroft, Hartfield, Tunbridge Wells	2:0:38	0	1	6
Turner Albert Esq.	The Limes, Nutley, Uckfield	63:3:1	1	12	0
Turner Mrs. James	Hugletts Pit Farm, Maresfield	2	0	1	0
Turner. Mr. Nelson	Nutley (late Miss Cook)	0:1:24	0	0	6
Tyler, Mr. Allen	Horney Common, Uckfield	4:2:0	0	2	6
Tyler Mr. Enoch	Horney Common, Uckfield	5:3:0	0	3	0
Verner, Mrs.	Chuck Hatch, Hartfield (late J.B. Burns)	12	0	6	0
Villeneuve-Smith, F. Esq.	5 Sussex Mansions, South Kensington, London SW 1 (late Neatby)	3:0:0	0	1	6
Walker, Miss Alice B.	Briar's Field, Forest Row (late Birch)	1:2:0	0	1	0
Wallis Mrs Reginald.	The Forge, Rotherfield	2	0	1	0
Walls, Mrs Annie	Cackle Street, Nutley	4	0	2	0
Walsham, Mrs.	Warrenside, Forest Row	2	0	1	0
Walter, Mr. Alfred decd. The Reps of	Marlpits, Fairwarp, Uckfield	3	0	1	6
Walter Mr. John	Dodds Bank, Nutley (late A. Turner)	3	0	1	6
Ward, F.H. Esq.	308 Regent Street, London, W1	0:3:0	0	0	6
Warwick, Charles Esq.	c/o C.J. Parris Esq., Tunbridge Wells (late Spencer)	91:3:0	2	6	0
Waters, Mr. L.A.	Marlpits Farm, Nutley	26:0:7	0	13	6
Waters, Messrs. H. & E.	Forest Row, Sussex	57:0:23	1	9	0
Waters, Mr. Henry J.	Shepherds Well, Tompsetts Bank, Forest Row	1:3:0	0	1	0
Waters Mr. James	Forest Row	0:2:8	0	0	6
Waters, Mr. John	Forest Row (late Lord Colchester)	51:0:0	1	5	6
Weeks, Mr. Fredk Robt	Forest Hotel, Forest Row	0:3:20	0	0	6
Welfare Mr. William	Ocklye Farm, Withyham, Sussex	3	0	1	6
Wheatley Mr. Joseph	Colemans Hatch, Hartfield. Tunbridge	4	0	2	0
Wheeler Mr. Charles	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	5	0	2	6

White, Mr	Norlington Villa, London Road, Burgess Hill	0:0:11	0	0	6
White, Mr. Samuel	Whitehill Cottage, Forest Row (late Reed)	0:1:0	0	0	6
*****	Fishers Gate, Portslade	1	0	0	6
White, W. Leeland Esq.	Atherton, East Grinstead				
Whitewood, Mrs. Clara Sophia	Nutley, Uckfield Ditto (late Miss Cook)	2 0:1:0	0	1	0
Wickens Mr. J. H. decd. The Repres of	C/o Messrs. Hunt, Currey, Nicholson & Co., Lewes	11	0	5	6
Wickens Mr. Spencer Snr. Exors.	C/o Messrs. Hunt, Currey, Nicholson & Co., Lewes	15	0	7	6
Wickens Mr. Simeon	Chelwood Common, Dane Hill, Uckfield	55:1:0	1	8	0
Wickham, Mr. Humphrey	Pock Hill, Forest Row	7	0	3	6
Wickham, Mr. Arthur	Forest Bank, Nutley, Uckfield	4:1:25	0	2	6
Willett, Arnold T. Esq.	C/o Mrs. Sargeant, "Arnolds", Fairwarp, Uckfield	5:2:0	0	3	0
Willett, Dr. E.W.	Spylands, Hartfield	5	0	2	6
Williams, Esq.	Ashdown, Hartfield (late Mappin)	5:0:15	0	3	0
Wilson Mr. Edward	Mount Pleasant, Oldlands, Maresfield. Uckfield	1	0	0	6
Wilson Geo. M. Maryon Esq. JP	Searles, Fletching, Uckfield	1214:3:26	30	7	6
Wood, Mr. Jesse decd. The Repres of	C/o Frederick Turner Esq., Solicitors, East Grinstead	11:2:0	0	6	0
Wood, Mr. Ephraim	Duddleswell, Uckfield	10:0:16	0	5	6
Wood John Edgar	Glenville, London Road, West Malling, Kent	4	0	2	0
Wood, Mr. F.	Fair Place Farm, Nutley (late Wilson)	26:2:5	0	13	6
Wood, Mrs. E.M.	The Hollies, Bennett Park, Blackheath, Kent	30:3:0	0	15	6
Worthington, Godfrey Esq.	Pickridge, Forest Row (late Birch)	[blank]	0	0	0
Young, Mr. H.A.	"Cazenose", Stoke Newington (late Misses Cook)	0:1:19	0	0	6
Young, Mr. Wm. decd. The Repres. of	C/o Mrs. E. Young, Fincham, Hartfield	20	0	10	0

Hewitt Miss

A letter is read dated the 19th inst. from Miss Alice J. Hewitt of Old Forest Farm. The Warren, Crowborough, asking permission to erect two thin posts and rails on St. Johns Common for jumping practice. It is Resolved that she be informed that the Board cannot grant the permission asked for.

Audit Committee

It is Resolved that Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart, Mr. Follett and Mr. Kenward be appointed a Committee to audit the accounts of the Conservancy for the current year and to report.

Pease and Son deposit of van

Ranger Kirby reports that for some time past a large van belonging to Pease & Son of Wandle Wharf, Wandsworth, has been repeatedly left for a night standing on the Forest adjoining the Road opposite Fords Green while the

Tractor goes on to Eastbourne and that he has repeatedly warned the men without result not to leave it there. It is Resolved that the Clerk deal with the matter.

Rangers Authorities

It is Resolved that the Rangers be supplied with Certificates that they are the duly authorised Rangers employed by the Board of Conservators to see (amongst other things) that the Forest Bye Laws are complied with.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Kirby Herbert	10 weeks salary as Ranger	
	at £2 to 2nd prox.	£20:0:0
	Bonus @ 5/-	£2:10:0
	House rent @5/-	£2:10:0
	Employers Insurance @ 1/3	<u>£0:12:6</u>
		£25:12:6
Brown William	10 weeks salary as 2nd	
	Ranger at 30/- to 2nd prox.	£15:0:0
	Bonus @ 5/-	£2:10:0
	Employers Insurance @ 1/3	<u>£0:12:6</u>
		£18:12:6

Annual Meeting

It is Resolved that the Annual Meeting of the Commoners be held on Friday the 15th December next at 11 a.m. and that the next Meeting of the Board be held on the same day immediately after the Commoner's Meeting or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 4.10 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

The Annual Meeting of the Commoners interested in Ashdown Forest duly convened by the Clerk by notice on the principal door of the Church of each of the Parishes and Ecclesiastical Districts into which the Forest extends, by advertisement in two newspapers circulating in the neighbourhood, to wit, "The Sussex Express" and "The Sussex Daily News" at least fourteen days before this date and by notice sent by post to carry Commoner and held at the Nutley Inn, at Nutley, on Friday the 15th day of December 1922, at eleven o' clock of the forenoon.

Present

Mr. Douglas W. Freshfield in the Chair
Admiral Sir Stanley Colville G.C.B.
Colonel Needham
Captain T.B. Beamish R.N.
Major Steel
The Reverend J.B.C. Ince
The Reverend J.S. Phillips
Mr. William Carr
Mr. James Card
Mr. F.G.J. Eckstein
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson

Mr. William Mitchell
Mr. Thomas Osborne
Mr. Albert Ridley
Mr. F.T. Ridley
Mr. Sylvanus Ridley
Mr. John Rowe
Mr. S.D. Sheppard

Chairman

On the proposition of Mr. Maryon-Wilson seconded by Mr. Kenward, Mr. Douglas William Freshfield is chosen Chairman and he having taken the Chair the Clerk reads the notice convening the Meeting and reports the due publication and circulation thereof as above mentioned.

The Minutes of the last meeting of Commoners are then read and confirmed.

Election of Conservators

The Clerk reports that the Conservators who retire by rotation on the 31st inst. are Mr. James Card, Mr. Robert Kenward, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson and Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Cecil James Colville G.C.B. and that there is a fifth vacancy in consequence of the death of Mr. Joseph Ridley.

It is proposed by Mr. Thomas Osborne and seconded by Mr. William Carr that Mr. James Card be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. Edward Martin and seconded by Mr. W.W.S. Follett that Mr. Robert Kenward be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. F.G.J. Eckstein and seconded by Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley Cecil James Colville G.C.B. that Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson be re-elected a Conservator.

It is proposed by Mr. W.W.S. Follett and seconded by Mr. Edward Martin that Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Cecil James Colville G.C.B. be re-elected a Conservator.

No other Commoner having been nominated to fill the first four vacancies the Chairman declared the above four gentlemen duly elected Conservators for the ensuing three years.

The Chairman then invited nominations to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Joseph Ridley.

Mr. Robert Kenward proposed and Mr. [blank] seconded that Mr. F.T. Ridley be elected a Conservator.

Mr. James Card proposed and Mr. Sylvanus Ridley seconded that Mr. Thomas Osborne be elected a Conservator.

The Proposer and seconder of Mr. F.T. Ridley thereupon with his consent withdraw his nomination.

And no other Commoner having been proposed the Chairman declares Mr. Thomas Osborne duly elected a Conservator for the ensuing two years.

Forest Gate at Oldlands repair

Mr. Thomas Osborne draws attention to the condition of the Forest gate at Oldlands which is out of repair

Proposed gate across District road at Old Forge

Mr. Sylvanus Ridley urges that a gate should be put across the Rural District Road at Old Forge to keep the Commoners cattle from straying on to the highroad.

Road from Fairwarp Church to village repairs

The Reverend J.B.C. Ince desires the consent of the Conservators to the repair of the direct road about 400 yards long by 9 feet wide from Fairwarp Church to the Village the cost of which he estimates at ten pounds and invites a donation towards the expense for which he is making a collection.

Quarry Stone Hill dangerous

Mr. Thomas Osborne draws attention to the dangerous state of the quarry at the top of Stone Hill where a drop of 8 to 10 feet is unprotected.

Pit near Church Hatch dangerous

It is also stated that there is a pit near Chuck Hatch which is equally dangerous.

Pit at Dodds Bank repair of fence

Attention is further drawn to the condition of the fence round the sand pit at Dodds Bank lately used by Messrs. Turner. Mr. Follett on behalf of the Lord undertakes to see to its repair.

The Chairman assures the Commoners that all the matters brought forward shall receive the consideration of the Board.

The Meeting then terminates with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Friday, the 15th day of December, 1922 at 12 noon.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley C.J. Colville K. C.B
Colonel Needham
Lieut. Colonel D. Loftus
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. William Mitchell

The minutes of the last meeting are read and confirmed.

Conservator's election of

The Clerk produces and reads the following Certificate and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes viz:-

To Mr. W.A. Raper
Clerk to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

As Chairman of the Meeting of Commoners duly convened and held this day at the Nutley Inn, Nutley for this purpose of electing five Conservators in the place of the four Conservators who retire from Office by rotation on the 31st day of December instant and of Mr. Joseph Ridley deceased I hereby intimate to you that at the said Meeting Mr. James Card, Mr. Robert Kenward, Mr. George Maryon Maryon-Wilson and Admiral Sir Stanley Colville G.C.B. were elected Conservators for the ensuing three years and Mr. Thomas Osborne was elected a Conservator in the place of Mr. Joseph Ridley deceased for the ensuing two years.
Dated this 15th day of December 1922,

Douglas W. Freshfield,
Chairman

The matters brought forward at the Commoners' Meeting held this morning are then considered.

Forest Gate at Oldlands – repair

As regards Mr. Thomas Osborne's complaint that the Forest gate by Oldlands is out of repair it is Resolved that the matter be referred to the Maresfield Committee with power to Act.

Proposed gate across R.D.C. road at Old Forge

As regards Mr. Sylvanus Ridley's request that a gate be erected across the Rural District Council Road where it leaves the Forest at Old Forge it is Resolved that the Clerk apply to the Rural District Council for their consent.

Repair of track from Fairwarp Church to village

As regards the application of the Reverend J.B.C. Ince for permission to repair the cart track about 400 yards in length and about 9 feet in width from Fairwarp Church to Fairwarp Village now in a very bad state and for a contribution towards the expense which he estimates at about £10 towards which he is collecting subscriptions it is Resolved that the matter be referred to the Maresfield Committee to view and to make such recommendation as they think proper.

Quarry at Stone Hill, pit at Chuck Hatch

As regards Mr. Thomas Osborne's complaint of the dangerous state of a quarry at the top of Stone Hill with a drop of 8 or 10 feet unprotected and of the dangerous condition of the pit at Chuck Hatch it is Resolved that the Rangers report to the Clerk.

Pit at Dodds Bank

As regards the defective fence round the sand pit at Dodd's Bank lately worked by the Messrs. Turner, Mr. Follett on behalf of the Lord undertakes to inquire into the matter.

Path to Fairwarp Recreation Hall

The Maresfield Committee report that the pathway to the Recreation Hall has been completed and it is Resolved that the sum of £5 be contributed to the expense out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Rangers' employment as Lord's Reeve

Mr. Follett report that the suggestion he made at the last meeting that the Rangers might be employed to undertake the duties of the Lord's Reeves has been approved by Lord De la Warr and that the proposal is that their duties in their respective Districts should be (1) The General Supervision of the Lord's interest on the Forest, (2) the management of the sale of underwood and supervision of the cutting, (3) the collection of the Manor quit rents and rents of small holdings in the Forest and the rents or royalties arising from quarries and sand pits on the Forest but not of sporting rents and (4) the issue of licences on behalf of the Lord for cutting undergrowth and trees, and that their remuneration should be a sum equal to the whole of the quit rents accounts except compositions for heriots for which they shall receive a fee to be fixed by Mr. W.W.S. Follett.

It is Resolved that the proposed arrangement be approved to be tried tentatively for one year commencing on 1st January next but on the clear understanding that their work as Reeves be carried out as far as possible in the course of their work as Forest Rangers so as not to interfere with their duties as such, that the terms be embodied in a written memorandum to be approved by the Chairman of the Board.

Kingstanding rifle range, application to re-open

A letter is read dated the 4th October last from the Sussex Territorial Army Association stating that they have failed to obtain possession of the Parkwood rifle range and enquiring whether the Conservators are prepared to grant the Association a licence to reconstruct and use the Kingstanding range and pointing out the necessity of securing a range in the neighbourhood. The Maresfield Committee report that they have examined the Range and are of the opinion that there is no proper safety zone behind the range having regard to modern rifles, that when the Crowborough camp was first established the General Commander agreed that there was no safe position except by

fixing across Lady De La Warr's front drive from Old Lodge which was then adopted but can no longer be used. They therefore recommend that the application be not granted.

It is Resolved that the report and recommendation of the Committee be approved and adopted and that the Clerk in informing the Secretary of the Association thereof do mention the views expressed by the General Commanding.

Post Office phones, proposed to construct overhead line from Chelwood Gate to Wych Cross

The Clerk reports that having received a letter dated the 29th September last from the Post Office Sectional Engineer stating that application was being made to the East Sussex County Council for the erection of an overhead telegraphic line between the "Red Lion" at Chelwood Gate and Wych Cross and between Wych Cross and a point opposite a house known as "Garde" on the Uckfield Road, he referred the letter to the Chairman of the Forest Row Committee and also wrote to the County Surveyor pointing out that the proposed line would be visible for long distances and would seriously injure the beauty of the Forest and was strongly objected to by Lord Robert Cecil and other residents in consequence of which the County Surveyor informed the Post Office Authorities that owing to the objection from the residents the County Council could not give their consent. The Superintending Engineer however pressed the matter.

The Forest Row Committee present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes. It is as follows:

The Forest Row Committee met on the 7th December

Present: - The Chairman, Admiral The Honourable Sir Stanley Colville, Colonel Needham.

The Chairman reported that the corner near Tylehurst and the Goat had been cleaned as authorised and made less dangerous.

Ranger Brown reported that sales of material from the camp continued and that after paying cost of labour there would be a profit of over £5. The payments not having all come in, he was instructed to hand over the balance to the Clerk when the transactions were complete.

He also reported that he had repaired the bridge on the links as instructed and sent in the account to the Clerk. It was under the sum authorised £5, namely £1:18:7.

He had further provided a handrail for a footbridge on the links at a small cost.

He presented a bill for £3:9:6 for repairs to his bicycle which the Committee recommend should be accepted.

The recent correspondence between the Clerk to the County Council, Mr. Freshfield and the Post Office with regard to a proposed telephone line from Chelwood Gate to new houses on the Pippingford Estate about ½ mile south of Wych Cross on the Nutley Road, was considered and the Committee viewed the course suggested (after discussion with Mr. Freshfield) by the Post Office representative, as meeting the Board's requirement that it should be as far as possible out of sight. Mr. Freshfield submits a plan of the proposed line which runs from the Red Lion along the hedge of the Isle of Thorns and through a wooded hollow in Rushy Bottom to the Nutley Road. The Committee is of opinion that it is the best obtainable, as it leaves the high road free and recommends its sanction.

The Committee had before it an application for an extension of the ground railed in as a cricket ground at Colemans Hatch. The Committee viewed the spot and recommends that additional ground be allowed to be railed in not exceeding one acre and so as not to interfere with any right of way, subject to the removal of the rail at any time if called for a nominal rent to be reserved.

Bridge at Water Farm – repair; bicycle

It is Resolved that the cost of repairing the bridge viz. £ 1:18:7 be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund and that the cost of repairing the 2nd Ranger's bicycle be paid out of the 2nd Ranger Fund.

P.O. Telephone Line from Chelwood Gate

Mr. Freshfield having explained that an underground telephone line from Chelwood Gate is impracticable, it is Resolved that the proposed telephone line which he had agreed at an interview with the Superintending Engineer as indicated on the plan deposited with the Clerk be assented to subject to the payment of a yearly acknowledgement of 5/- in respect of the poles to be erected on the Forest land some 2 in number of which only 2 would be at all conspicuous.

Coleman's Hatch Cricket ground enclosure

It is also Resolved that permission be granted to the Colemans Hatch Cricket Club to fence in the land as proposed subject to the approval of the boundaries by Ranger Brown on the Club undertaking to remove the fence if and when required and to pay an acknowledgement of 1/- on every 1st day of January while the inclosure remains.

Military Telephone signalling

Ranger Kirby having reported that a telephone line had been erected by the Military at Maresfield Camp across the Forest from Fairwarp cross roads to the Beacon. The Clerk wrote the Commanding Officer pointing out that it was a breach of Bye Law No. 2 upon which the commanding Officer applied for the sanction of the Board to the temporary line in question and to laying further lines from time to time for training purposes in the vicinity of Camp Hill and Gills Lap which lines in some cases would be removed the same day. After consulting the Chairman of the Board and the Maresfield Committee the Clerk on 16th November wrote to the Officer Commanding that his application would be submitted to this meeting of the Board and giving provisional assent to the existing line on the understanding that it was purely temporary.

It is Resolved that the Clerk ask the Officer Commanding for definite information as to the longest period it is desired to retain any line and that on receiving a satisfactory reply a consent be granted to be approved by the Chairman to erect from time to time temporary lines for signalling training only.

Mr. Langton Dennis repair of track

A letter is read dated the 14th October from Mr. Langton Dennis of Stone Hill, Nutley, asking for permission to repair a track on the Forest leading to his house. Ranger Kirby reported that the track leads from the Duddleswell Nutley Road and is about 50 yards in length.

The Maresfield Committee report that they viewed the track and recommend that Mr. Dennis be authorised to fill up the ruts. It is Resolved that their recommendation be approved.

East Sussex County Council application to take road materials

East Sussex County Council having applied for the consent of the Board to their taking from the Forest for repair of their roads during the year ending 31st March 1924 the same quantity of material and from the same places as in the past 3 years. It is Resolved that consent be granted subject to the same conditions as in past years.

Mrs. Emma Reed complaint

A letter dated the 23rd October last from Mrs. Emma Reed of Bank Cottage complaining that the Golf Club cut all the litter in her neighbourhood. Ranger Brown reports that Mrs. Reed's complaint refers to litter which the Forest Row Committee authorised the Ladies Golf Club to cut.

Mr. Martin cutting holly

Ranger Brown reports that having found Mr. Martin of the Isle of Thorns cutting holly on the Forest near Three Chimneys Cottages Twyford he by direction of the Forest Row Committee stopped his cutting.

Audit Committee Report

The Committee appointed at the last meeting to audit the account for the current year present the following report which is read and it is Resolved that it be entered on the minutes, viz:-

To the Conservators of Ashdown Forest

In the unavoidable absence of Sir Francis H. Champneys we have examined (1) The General Account (2) The Second Ranger Account and (3) The Account of the Protection and Improvement Fund, each for the year 1922.

We have checked the balances brought forward from last year and the various receipts and have compared the payments charged each account with the Vouchers for some and have checked the casting of the Accounts and find them all correct and we recommend that the following cheques be drawn to close the accounts for the year viz:-

Account No. 1 General

The Clerk	½ years Salary to 31st inst.	£75:0:0	
	Disbursements during year	<u>£32:2:11</u>	
			£107:2:11

Kirby Herbert	12 weeks salary as Ranger		
	at £2 to 25th inst.	£24:0:0	
	12 weeks bonus		£3:0:0
	12 weeks rent of cottage to		
	25th inst. @5/- per week	£3:0:0	
	12 weeks Employers		
	Insurance @ 1/3	<u>£0:15:0</u>	
			£30:15:0

Account No. 2 Second Ranger

Brown William	12 weeks salary at 30/-		
	to 25th inst.	£18:0:0	
	12 weeks bonus to do	£3:0:0	
	12 weeks Employers Insurance	<u>£0:15:0</u>	
			£21:15:0

The Clerk	Disbursements during the year	£7:15:0
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The new Rate is coming in but as yet there is only £112:3:4 to the credit of the General Account, the Clerk however anticipates that he will receive sufficient before the end of the year to meet the cheques.

The balances standing to the credit of the other accounts after the above cheques have been paid will be as follows:-

The Second Ranger Account	£3:4:8
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The Protection and Improvement Fund	£139:10:9
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The sum of £159:5:4 Consols and the sum of £150 5% war stock 1929-47 represent the investments held on account of The Protection and Improvement Fund.

We found the accounts well kept and correct.

Wm. W. S. Follett

Robt. Kenward

It is Resolved that the report be approved that the accounts be signed by the Chairman of the Board and that cheques be drawn as recommended. Also that the thanks of the Board be accorded to the Audit Committee for their valuable services.

Mr. F. Wood enclosure on Forest

Ranger Kirby reports that Mr. Fred Wood of Fairplace Farm has enclosed a piece of Forest Land with poles and rails from his hedge down to the stream.

It is Resolved that he be permitted to continue the same subject to his giving a written undertaking to remove the fence when required by the Conservators and meanwhile to pay an acknowledgement of 1/- per annum.

Fires

Ranger Kirby reports that several fires occurred on 6th November last between 6 and 10 p.m. near Fairwarp and Nutley which burnt only a few yards and which he attributes to Bonfire boys.

Thanks to Chairman

On the motion of Sir Stanley Colville a hearty vote of thanks is tendered to the Chairman for his valuable services during the year.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 2nd February next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The meeting terminated at 1.25 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson Chairman

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn at Nutley, on Friday, the 16th day of February, 1923 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley C.J. Colville K.C.B
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart
Colonel Needham
Lieut. Col. D. Loftus
Mr. James Card
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. William Mitchell
Mr. Thos. Osborne

Chairman election of

Mr. D. W. Freshfield is voted into the Chair and on the proposition of Mr. Follett seconded by Mr. James Card, Mr. Geo. M. Maryon-Wilson is unanimously elected Chairman for the current year, being the 24th year.

Mr. Maryon-Wilson having taken the Chair, thanks the Board for the compliment they have paid him in electing him to the Chair for the 24th time. He states that he accepts it with pleasure having regard to the great interest he has so long taken in the work of the Board, but in view of the large amount of County work he now has, he doubts whether he can continue the position beyond the current year, should the Board wish him to continue.

The minutes of the last meeting are then read and confirmed.

The following Committee are then appointed for the current year, namely:-

The Forest Row District Committee - Mr. Freshfield, Admiral Sir Stanley Colville, Mr. Edward Martin and Colonel Needham.

The Maresfield District Committee - Mr. Follett, Sir Francis H. Champneys, Colonel Loftus, Mr. Kenward and Mr. Osborne.

The Fire Committee – The Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of each of the two District Committee s.

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances standing to the credit of the several accounts are:-

General Account	£126:7:11
2nd Ranger Account	£10:1:2

and states that the subscription to the 2nd Ranger Fund are now coming in.

Maresfield Committee Report

The Maresfield Committee present the following report which read is and it is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes, viz:-

The repair of the Forest Gate near Oldlands will shortly be taken in hand.

The track from Fairwarp Church to the Village was inspected on the 2nd January last. The Committee found the Vicar and his Committee already dealing with the repairs and stone had been dug and was being put on the track and your Committee suggest that a donation not exceeding two guineas be given to the fund which the Vicar is raising for these repairs.

Dodds Bank Quarry needs 12 7 foot rails and 6 intermediate posts to make the fence good and Mr. Follett undertakes to see to it on behalf of the Lord.

Stone Hill Quarry – The fencing of the Quarry [will] be a very expensive matter. 60 yards of fence a*** wanted. It has been in its present condition a long time and is hardly ever used. It is a long way from any habitation being just under Gills Lap, and there can be hardly any danger for children. As regards the Commoners' cattle, Mr. Follett suggests that if any accident happens there the Lord of the Manor must make any such loss good.

Wm. W.S. Follett.

Road from Fairwarp Church to Village, Gills Lap Pit, Fence

It is Resolved that the report be approved, that a contribution not exceeding £2:2:0 be made out of the Protection and Improvement Fund toward the repair of the Track from Fairwarp Church to the Village and that the matter of fencing the Quarry below Gills Lap be left to the discretion of Mr. Follett.

Gate across road near old Forge

The Clerk reports that he applied to the Uckfield R.D.C. enquiring whether they could see their way to authorise the erection of a gate across the road running from Horney Common to the Old Workhouse at the point where it enters the Forest in order to prevent the Commoners' cattle straying on to the high road outside the Forest Pale and received a reply dated the 3rd ulto, that the Council have no power to agree to the erection of the gate.

Stone Hill Quarry, fence

Ranger Kirby reports that he has sloped down the dangerous bank of the Quarry at Stone Hill.

Post Office telephone line from Chelwood Gate

The Clerk reports that the assent of the Board to the proposed telephone line from Chelwood Gate along the western boundary of the Isle of Thorns thence through Rushey Bottom to the Nutley Road has been granted, the Postmaster General undertaking to pay a yearly acknowledgement of 5/-.

Colemans Hatch cricket ground

Also that a revocable Licence has been granted to the Colemans Hatch Cricket Club to fence the area of the Cricket Ground as approved by Mr. Freshfield and the Club has paid the first annual acknowledgement of 1/-.

Improvement of tracks at Highgate

The Forest Row Committee recommend that an application made by Mr. Abraham Card and Mr. A. E. Swan for permission to improve the two cross tracks near the Ashdown Forest Hotel be granted and that they be allowed for the purpose not exceeding 25 yards of stone from the site of the Forest Row Camp free of charge.

Forest Row Recreation Ground – repair of fence

Also that a contribution be made to the Superintendent of the Forest Row Recreation Ground for the repair of the Fence thereof.

It is Resolved that the report and recommendations of the Committee be approved and that a contribution out of the Protection and Improvement Fund be made toward the repair of the Recreation Ground, the amount to be suggested by the Forest Row Committee.

Rangers employment as Lord's Reeves

Mr. Follett states that on behalf of the Lord he proposes to pay the Forest Rangers for their services as Reeves to the Lord 50% of the amounts to be collected by them for Manor quit rents, royalties for stone and stand Lord's fees for licensing the cutting of cordons or protective zones against fire and rent of the tenancies at will occurring due during the current year but so that their total remuneration shall not exceed £60, to be divided equally between them, the remuneration for collecting arrears and seizing heriots to be arranged with the Lord.

The whole question having been discussed, it is Resolved that the Board do assent to the arrangement tentatively for one year subject to the agreement with the Rangers being approved by the Chairman of the Board.

And that the bonus of 5/- per week now paid to each Ranger be discontinued from the 26th March next.

Military telephone signalling

The Clerk reports that he wrote to the Colonel Commanding the camp at Maresfield Park as directed at the last meeting and received a reply stating that there are two categories telephone lines. (1) Temporary lines connecting the houses senior officers with the Exchange at the camp which it desired to retain till March or April next and (2) Lines laid down for practice in construction usually removed the same day, but in any case within a week.

It is Resolved that under the circumstances no action be taken if the lines are all removed by the end of April next.

F. Wood temporary enclosure

The Clerk reports that Mr. Wood has signed an undertaking to remove the fence referred to at the last Meeting when required and has paid the first acknowledgement of 1/-.

H. Miles, claim to rights

Mr. H. Miles attends to claim rights of common in respect of certain land recently purchased by him near Ave Maria Wood in Hartfield. It was arranged that he should send his documents of Title to the Clerk to investigate and report thereon.

Miss Sturdy application to other fence

Miss Sturdy of Shepherds Gate, Colemans Hatch having applied for the permission of the Board to alter the fence on the east side of Shepherds Gate, the Clerk requested her to submit a plan of what she desires, pointing out at the same time that no portion of the Forest can be enclosed without the express authority of Parliament. He subsequently received from her a plan (produced) which shows that she desires to enclose a small strip on the East side and to acquire a substantial piece of land on the south side including the Quarry and querying the cost of an Act of Parliament.

It is Resolved that as the application entails enclosing Forest Land the Board regret that they have no power to sanction the application.

Fire, prevention, provisions

On the motion of Sir Stanley Colville, seconded by Sir Francis Champneys, it is Resolved that having regard to the success attending the action taken by the Fire Committee last Spring with regard to the protection of the Forest from fire, the Fire Committee be instructed to carry out similar measures in the coming Spring, the Clerk to call the Committee together for the purpose early in March next.

Deposits of rubbish

Mr. Freshfield having drawn attention to the great disfigurement of the Forest by visitors scattering paper, bottles, etc. about the Forest, it is Resolved that he be authorised to take steps for the erection of four notice boards at

suitable points on the Forest appealing to visitors to respect the amenities, first settling the inscription with the Chairman

Crowborough Football Club

Ranger Kirby having reported that on the 12th inst. he found Jesse Pratt of Crowborough cutting furze and brushwood on the Forest near St. John's Church about 100 yards north of the Cricket Ground to prepare it for a football ground, the Clerk wrote to Mr. Frank Humphrey the President of the Club, who apologized for the trespass which was committed without his knowledge and applying to the Board for a licence to play football on the ground in question.

It is Resolved that Mr. Follett be requested to interview Mr. Humphrey and if he deems it reasonable that he set out the site and authorise the Clerk to grant a revocable licence subject to the payment of an acknowledgement of 1/- per annum.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the following cheques be drawn:-

Kirby Herbert 8 weeks salary as Ranger		
at £2 to 19th inst.	£16:0:0	
Bonus @ 5/-	£2:0:0	
Cottage rent	£2:0:0	
Employers Insurance	<u>£0:10:0</u>	
		£20:10:0
Brown William 8 weeks salary as 2nd Ranger		
@ 30/- to 19th inst.	£12:0:0	
Bonus @ 5/-	£2:0:0	
Employers Insurance	<u>£0:10:0</u>	
		£14:10:0
Dunn and Duncan for new minute book	£1:8:6	

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 11th May next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The meeting terminated at 5 p.m.

A Special Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Thursday, the 15th day of March, 1923 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Sir Francis H. Champneys Bart
Colonel Loftus
Mr. W.W.S. Follett
Mr. William Mitchell
Mr. Thos. Osborne

Telephone Line Quabrook Gate

A letter dated the 1st March 1923 from the Sectional Engineer, P.O. Tunbridge Wells, applying for the consent of the Board to the erection of a telephone line with fourteen poles from the County Road at Quabrook Gate to Yew Tree Hall is considered. It appeared from the plan that it was proposed to carry the line across the open Forest and the Golf Links for a distance of about 200 yards by means of three poles.

It is Resolved that the Sectional Engineer be notified that the Board cannot consent to the application unless this section of the work embracing the Forest and the Golf Links is carried underground.

It is Resolved that in the event of further developments the Chairman be authorised to take such action in the matter as he may deem necessary.

Road at Dodd's Bottom, footpath to Mount Pleasant cottages

It being reported that the road leading to Dodd's Bottom and that the footpath from the Nutley Street towards Mount Pleasant Cottages each about 200 yards in length require repair.

It is Resolved that a contribution not exceeding £10:0:0 be made out of the Protection and Improvement Fund for the necessary reparations and the appointment of this amount be left to Mr. Follett and Colonel Loftus.

Forest gate Woodlands

Mr. Follett reports that the old Forest gate at Woodlands has been broken by a motor car and requires renewal.

It is Resolved that the Maresfield Committee be authorised to erect a new Gate with one post at a cost not exceeding £ 1:15:0.

Scouts camp

A letter from Mr. D.W. Freshfield is read submitting an application from the 119th N. London Troop of Boy Scouts to hold a camp on the Forest and asking if he may grant permission on the usual conditions fixing a suitable date.

It is Resolved that Mr. Freshfield be authorised to do so.

The Meeting terminated at 3.40 p.m.

A Meeting of the Fire Committee duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Thursday, the 15th day of March, 1923 at 3.45 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon–Wilson in the chair
Mr. W.W.S. Follett

The Committee had before them the Resolution passed by the Board at their last Meeting (p.485) together with a suggestion from Mr. Edward Martin that two additional Rangers should suffice and that the amount of gorse cutting be restricted.

After consideration it is Resolved that each Ranger be instructed to find a suitable applicant for interview by the Committee on the 19th March 1923 and that the terms and duration of employment be settled at that Meeting.

The Meeting terminated at 4.10 p.m.

A Meeting of the Fire Committee duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn, Nutley, on Monday, the 19th day of March, at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon – Wilson in the chair
Mr. W.W.S. Follett

The Committee interviewed Peter Tullett and J.W. Hopkins and engaged them for the work of cutting gorse and watching and extinguishing fires for six weeks from Good Friday, 30th March, at a salary of £2.50 per week each

A Meeting of the Conservators of Ashdown Forest duly convened and held at the Nutley Inn at Nutley, on Friday, the 15th day of June, 1923 at 3 p.m.

Present

Mr. George M. Maryon-Wilson in the chair
Admiral The Hon. Sir Stanley C.J. Colville K.C.B
Colonel Needham
Lieut. Colonel D. Loftus
Mr. James Card
Mr. D.W. Freshfield
Mr. Robert Kenward
Mr. Edward Martin
Mr. William Mitchell
Mr. Thos. Osborne

Postponement

The Chairman explains in consequence of his taking a short holiday, he had found it necessary to postpone the Meeting to this date and trusts he has caused none of the members inconvenience.

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 16th February last and of the Special Meeting held on the 15th March are read and confirmed.

Road from Fairwarp Church to village

The Clerk reports that the contribution of £2:2:0 out of the Protection and Improvement Fund towards the repair of the track from Fairwarp Church to the Village had been paid.

Rangers' agreement as Reeves

Also that the agreements with the Rangers in connection with their acting as Lord's Reeves have been signed.

H. Miles claim to rights

The Clerk reports that on examining Mr. Miles title to the property referred to at the last Meeting, he found it was purchased from Earl De La Warr and he has informed Mr. Miles that it has no rights of common.

Fire Committee Report

The Fire Committee reports that they engaged the services of two men, Peter Tullett and J.W. Hopkins, to assist in watering and extinguishing fires on the Forest for six weeks commencing from Good Friday, 30th March last, at a salary of 45/- per week each, which afterwards, on the representation of the Rangers that it was desirable to extend their services over Whitsuntide, was extended for two weeks further. The Committee are of opinion that the result justified the expenditure and the total outlay including men's insurance amounted to £36:13:4.

It is Resolved that the Committee be thanked for their trouble in the matter and that the amount be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Telephone line Quabrook Gate

The Clerk reports that the licence for carrying a telephone line from the Quabrook Gate to Yew Tree Hall, part underground and part over head, has been granted.

Finances

The Clerk produces the Bank Books which show that the balances are as follows:-

General Account	£126:4:5
2nd Ranger Account	£1:11:2
Protection and Improvement Fund	£171:9:0

The Forest Row Committee present the following reports which are read and It is Resolved that they be entered on the Minutes. They are as follows:-

A Meeting of the Forest Row Committee held May 10th 1923

Present Chairman, Admiral the Honble. Sir Stanley Colville, Colonel Needham, Mr. E. Martin

A letter from the Clerk asking the Committee's Consideration of an application for the use of the Forest for manoeuvres by Territorials from July 29th to August 12th was considered. It was recommended that leave be granted.

The matter of telephone poles erected by the Post Office near Yew Tree Hall in pursuance of a Licence from the Board was considered and it was resolved to allow them to remain in their present position.

The Ranger presented his account for the repair of a Bridge at Shepherd's Gate amounting to £1:2:2 which had been paid by the Clerk.

He stated that the liabilities on the camp account amounted to £3 for work done but that he had not yet obtained payment from Messrs. Waters or Messrs. H & E. Waters for cinders etc., which would place a balance to the Board's credit. He was ordered to obtain the accounts and payment for the goods supplied before the next Board Meeting.

The Ranger reported 8 fires, 4 near Forest Row, 4 near Colemans Hatch, none of any extent, total acreage burnt under three acres.

The Chairman undertook to write to the Police Superintendent, East Grinstead, requesting that the Constables under his control should be instructed to assist the Ranger as in previous years in watching the Forest and preventing fires.

D.W. Freshfield

A Meeting of the Forest Row Committee held on June 13th 1923

Present The Chairman, Admiral The Honble Sir Stanley Colville, Colonel Needham and Mr. Martin.

Ditch cut by R.A.F. Golf Club

A complaint from Mrs. Reed with respect to a ditch cut by the Golf Club on the Forest was considered and after inspecting the spot the Committee recommend that a pipe be laid and the ditch filled in.

Ladies Golf Club – complaint

A complaint was received from the Ladies Golf Club that cows wandered over their greens. The Committee suggested it should be pointed out to the complainants that the cattle are by right on the Forest while the Ladies are there only by sufferance. It would be well however for the Ranger to ascertain if some person or persons is not turning out more cattle than he has a right to in respect of his holding.

Cross tracks Forest Hotel

The Ranger reported that the cross tracks near to the Ashdown Forest Hotel had been repaired and the 25 yards of stone granted used in the work.

Road to Golf Club House Tarring

The Committee considered that the Golf Club might be authorised to tar the road to the Golf House without further delay.

Forest Row Recreation Ground - fencing

The Committee resolved to defer any decision on making a contribution to the fencing of the Cricket Ground until they had received a report on the necessity of its enclosure and also if its enclosure was necessary, of the cost.

Refuse deposited near Forest Row

The Committee Resolved to erect three boards prohibiting the deposit of refuse on the Forest on sites indicated to the Ranger.

They desire to call the attention of the Board to the increase of such deposits and to the failure of the Sanitary Officer and Local Authority to take any steps to furnish Forest Row with any place where such refuse can be legally deposited.

Yew Tree Hall water pipe to

The Committee recommend the application of Miss Rumbold to lay a water pipe from Rist Wood to Yew Tree Hall across the Forest be granted subject to the usual conditions and the payment of 10/- per annum.

Forest Row camp – clearing

Ranger Brown brought up the accounts for the Camp Restoration showing a further balance of £13:11:1 in favour of the Board and also paid in 1/6 from sale of rough litter.

Scout camp authorised

The Chairman reported he had granted applications for camps for one or two weeks on the Forest from the following Scout Companies:-

The Fourth Brighton Troop
The 119 North London 221 Troop
The 20 Clapham Troop
The Mansion House Troop
The Fifth Greenwich Girl Guides

The Chairman and the Ranger have indicated suitable camping grounds and dates for each party and have received the customary assurances as to avoidance of damage of any kind.

Telephone line application for Forest Row to Pippingford

The Chairman reported that the Clerk had sent him an application made by the Post Office to the County Council for the approval of a plan for laying telegraph posts up the Eastbourne high road from Forest Row Post Office to the Pippingford Estate which had been referred to Sir B. Champneys by the County Council and on his advice refused by that body.

The Chairman had in reply pointed out to the Clerk that the application was not one that could have been made by any official acquainted with the locality or previous arrangements with the Post Office, since in the first place.

A line of posts and wires already connects Forest Row Post Office and Wych Cross crossroads, having been carried by his consent through Broadstone Warren. And further the new houses on the Pippingford Estate had at the special request of the Post Office been connected by a line of posts sanctioned by the Board with Chelwood Gate Post Office.

In arranging the details of the line taken the Post Office representative particularly insisted on the desire of his superiors in every case to connect with the nearest Post Office and therefore with Chelwood Gate not Forest Row in the case in question.

The application therefore should it ever reach the Board should be met by a statement of the facts that under it preposterous and extravagant.

D.W. Freshfield

It is Resolved that the acts, proceedings and recommendation of the Committee as reported be and are hereby approved and confirmed.

Ladies Golf Club complaint

The Clerk reports that on 5th April last he received a complaint from the Ladies Golf Club as referred to in the above report and replied to the Honorary Secretary that the Board cannot interfere with the cattle of the Commoner referred to and suggested the employment of friendly persuasion.

Refuse, deposit of near Forest Row

The Clerk is directed to write to the East Grinstead Rural District Council urging them to make provision for the collection of domestic refuse at Forest Row.

Application for telephone line from Forest Row to Pippingford withdrawn

The Clerk reports that he this morning received a letter from the Post Office Authority withdrawing their application for a consent to the proposed telephone line from Forest Row to houses on the Pippingford Estate.

Maresfield Committee Report

The Maresfield Committee furnish the following report which is read and It is Resolved that it be entered on the Minutes. It is as follows:-

The Maresfield Committee have to report as follows:-

They have put up a new Forest gate at Oldlands as authorised by the Board on 15th December last at a cost of £1:8:0.

They have also put a new Forest gate at Woodlands and one new post as authorised on 15th March at a cost of £1:15:0.

The footpath from Nutley to Marl pits has been repaired at a cost of £4:4:0.

And the road at Dodds Bottom has been repaired at a cost of £2: 0:0.

W.W.S. Follett

It is ordered that the acts and proceedings of the Committee as reported be approved and confirmed and that the expenditure incurred, viz. £9:17:0 be paid out of the Protection and Improvement Fund.

Scouts Camp at St. John's Common

It is Resolved that the application of Mr. F.L. Gales of Crowborough for permission for a London Troop to camp on St. John's Common in July be granted subject to the usual conditions.

C.H. Pelham licence to cart

The Clerk reports that Mr. C.H. Pelham of Uckfield applied for permission to cart building materials over a short track of Forest to the farm gate at Pippingford, and after consulting the Chairman he granted a licence on Mr. Pelham undertaking not to deposit any materials on the Forest and to make good the surface after the work was completed. Mr. Pelham depositing with the Clerk £10 as a guarantee for due performance. It is Resolved that the action taken be approved.

Mr. R.H. Stevenson application to improve cart track to Millbrook Farm

Mr. R.H. Stevenson of Millbrook Farm, Nutley, attends and applies for permission to improve the cart track across the Forest about 200 yards in length from the Forest Row to Nutley main road near the point 402 on the 25 inch Ordnance Map XVI.15. to his house.

After going fully into the matter it is Resolved that a revocable licence be granted to Mr. Stevenson to widen the existing track between the points indicated to 10 feet and to repair it sufficiently for light traffic on condition that he inserts any drains necessary for preventing water lying on either side of the track and he abandons in future the use of the lower track for vehicular traffic and subject to other usual and necessary conditions and the payment of a

yearly acknowledgement of 2/6 during the continuance in force of the licence and the payment of a reasonable fee to the Clerk for the preparation of the licence and stamp duty.

These terms being read to Mr. Stevenson, he assents thereto and thanks the Board for the concession.

John Stenning & Sons, deposit

The Clerk reports that on the 18th April a licence was granted to Messrs. John Stenning & Sons for temporary deposit of timber on the Forest outside the Five Hundred for removal on their signing the usual undertaking and paying an acknowledgement of 10/-

Nutley Cricket Ground repairs

Also that permission was granted to the Nutley Cricket Club to take turf for repair of their Cricket pitch from such locality as Ranger Kirby should point out.

Telephone line The Hermitage

The Clerk submits an application from the Post Office (with plan) to construct an overhead telephone line with four poles from the line at Duddleswell main road to a house called "The Hermitage" a distance of about 260 yards.

It is Resolved that as the line would occupy a conspicuous position the Board can only consent to the line being carried under the Forest subject to payment of a suitable yearly acknowledgement.

Telephone line Marden Hill

The Clerk submits an application from the Post Office to construct an overhead line up Marden Hill, St. John's Common, a distance of nearly a mile. It is Resolved that the matter be referred to a Committee composed of Mr. Follett, Mr. Freshfield and Admiral the Honourable Sir Stanley C.J. Colville with power to act.

Military manoeuvres

The Clerk submits an application from the War Department (Woolwich and Sussex Districts) for certain Territorials to carry out their training on the Forest. They will occupy the camp at Crowborough and will merely manoeuvre and not interfere with the soil. They have undertaken not to go on the Golf Links, to take every precaution against fire, and to extinguish any fire that may break out in the vicinity of their manoeuvres.

It is Resolved that permission be granted on the usual conditions.

Ranger Kirby repair bicycle

Ranger Kirby reports that his bicycle, which was a second hand one purchased eleven years ago, is completely worn out.

It is Resolved that a new bicycle be purchased and that the Chairman be requested to select a suitable one.

It is Resolved that Ranger Kirby be refunded 5/- paid by him for hire of a machine since his bicycle broke down.

Licences granted during past year

The Rangers present their reports of licences granted by them during the year ending 25th March last.

Annual return of Ministry of Health

The Clerk lays on the table a copy of the return furnished to the Ministry of Health of receipts and expenditure for the year 1922.

Telephone to Water Farm

An application is then considered from the Post Office to connect Water Farm with the telephone and to make certain modifications in the existing line to Yew Tree Hall by which route it will pass.

It is Resolved that the application be referred to the Forest Row Committee with power to act.

Superintendent of Ford's Green Recreation Ground

It is Resolved that Lieutenant Colonel St. John Loftus be appointed Superintendent of the Ford's Green Recreation Ground in the place of the late Mr. Wm. Turner Riley.

Cheques

It is Resolved that the cheques be drawn as follows:-

Kirby Herbert 17 weeks salary @ £2

to 18th June £34:0:0

House rent @ 5/- to Do. £4:5:0

Employers Insurance @ 1/3 £1:1:3

5 weeks' bonus @ 5/- to

26th March last £1:5:0

£40:11:3

Brown William 17 weeks' salary @30/- to

18th June inst. £25:10:0

Employers Insurance £1:1:3

5 weeks' bonus @5/- to

26th March last £1:5:0

£27:16:3

Meetings notice of alteration

It is Resolved that in case of any alteration being made by the Chairman in the date of a meeting of the Board the Clerk do at once notify each member of the Board.

It is Resolved that the next Meeting of the Board be held on Friday the 17th August next at 3 p.m. or on such other day and hour as the Chairman may consider necessary.

The Meeting terminated at 5 p.m.

G.M. Maryon-Wilson

Chairman