Chair's Report. NFAF 11 September

• FIPL.(Farming in Protected Landscapes) 21.06.23.

A number of projects are being progressed.

In Year 2. Twenty-two projects have been given some financial support. Six of these have been completed.

The planting of 6 kilometres of hedgerows have been completed since the start of FIPL.

• Hampshire Countryside Access Forum. 4th July 2023.

This was an evening hybrid meeting and I decided to join online. The meeting was in a Village Hall and unfortunately the quality of the sound and illustrations was not good. My report on this meeting may therefore be incomplete.

• A "Theme for each meeting" has been introduced. For this meeting the theme was Volunteering.

• Work on The Rights of Way Improvement Plan will commence in October. The aim is for it to be completed by late summer 2024.

• Lost Lawns.

Site Visits. These have taken place at the following 3 sites:

30.06.23. Standing Hat/Balmer Lawn.

13.07.23. Ober Heath.

17.07.23. Stricknage/Rufus Stone.

Representatives from many organisations were invited to attend.

Each site is divided into many sub sites. All are considered separately.

In all instances agreement was made as to the actions to be taken.

The actions included removal of scrub and non-native trees.

The aim is to improve grazing and opportunities for native flora.

• The Bee Fayre. (Conservation Connections) in New Milton. We were asked to attend by Fran Carpenter of HCAF and a former member of our LAF. She has been driving this project forward. She would have liked our LAF to attend. Adam may have have been able to provide some information about us for members of our LAF attending ad part of their employment to take the information with them. Next year the Fayre will be on 20th August and we have been asked to save the date.

Ruth Croker.