

FRIENDS OF WORTS MEADOW
Annual General Meeting
Thursday 8 May 2014 at Landbeach Village Hall

Present:

Frances Dipper, David Pell, Robert Humphrey, John Buckley, Ray Gambell, Dannie Gambell, Richard Taylor, Robert Stripe, Ruth McArthur, Graeme Bilton, Anna Bilton.

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies.

FD opened the meeting by welcoming those present to our third Annual General Meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Guy Warren, Phil Clark, Melanie Hale, Andrew Stevens and Judy Stevens.

2. Agreeing the minutes of the 2013 AGM.

That the minutes were agreed was proposed by RS, seconded by RG and carried by the meeting.

3. Matters arising from those minutes.

There were no matters arising.

4. Report on activities by the Chairman

Local Community Activities

During the year we organised five public events:

- Pond dipping August 31st 2013 attended by 12 adults and 13 children.
- Moth trapping August 31st 2013 attended by 6 people.
- Moth trap identification session & breakfast September 1st attended by about 13 people.
- Fungal foray October 12th 2013 attended by 5 people.
- Newt walk, March 28th 2014 attended by 17 people.

Further activities planned for this year are:

- Bat listening tonight immediately after the AGM (9pm) (postponed)
- Moth trapping 26th July (committee trial) 9pm.
- Pond dipping and moth trapping August 30th.
- Moth identification and breakfast August 31st.
- Fungal foray October 25th.

Management activities

Ongoing management during the year has involved:

- Bulb planting (200 native daffodils and 1500 bluebells) November 2013.
- Nestbox erection 14th December 2013 (18 boxes). Donated by Judy Stevens in memory of her mother; made by Emmaus.
- Ragwort control; hand pulling (summer 2013) and spot treating (Guy in March/April 2014).
- Strimming around the half-moon pond and main pond.

Monitoring and recording wildlife

We have a recording page for Worts Meadow on 'irecord' but it is not all that easy to use. So far Robert Humphrey has input bird records and I have input various records for myself and Guy Warren. However most of our records from activities are on an Excel spreadsheet on my computer. I hope that we can instigate more 'formal' recording soon. We are also planning to put up a notice board on the reserve where people can write up their sightings.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the committee members and other FOWM who turn out in all weathers to attend meetings and contribute. Special thanks are due to Elaine and Robert for providing welcome refreshments. Everyone is welcome at all meetings, indoors or outdoors.

The Chairman's report was proposed by GB and seconded by RS.

5. Treasurer's Report.

DP handed out our financial statement which showed since formation:

Income received	£2850.00
Expenditure	£ 978.49
Cash at bank	£1871.51

RS asked what would happen when our funds run out. FD said that the grant by Cambridgeshire County Council was a one off payment and it was unlikely we would have more wood to sell in the near future so it would be up to us to raise funds by introducing a membership fee. We would look at this well before our funds ran out.

The report and accounts were proposed by FD and seconded by DG.

6. Election of the Management Committee for the coming year.

RG said he would step down as a committee member. All remaining officers and ordinary members were willing to stand again.

RMcA proposed that Richard Taylor is appointed an ordinary member to replace RG and this was seconded by RS. The proposal was carried unanimously.

The Management Committee for 2014-2015 is therefore:

Chairman- Frances Dipper

Treasurer- David Pell

Secretary- Robert Humphrey

Ordinary members- Phil Clark, Robert Stripe, Guy Warren, Richard Taylor

7. Amendments to the Constitution.

None.

8. Any other business.

- FD said that our Constitution drawn up in July 2011 and adopted and signed on 18 October 2011 still carries the word 'Draft'. She will have this amended.
- RT said that there were an increasing number of rabbits in the area with myxomatosis. If anyone found one in distress let him know and he will humanely dispatch it.

9. Dates of next Friends Group meeting and next AGM.

Our next quarterly meeting is on Thursday 10 July. The next AGM will be in May 2015, the date to be determined.

The meeting ended at 8.10pm.