

COFTON LAKE CONSERVATION LTD
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH APRIL 2009

Present: Diane Carr – Secretary/Director
Sue Garvey – Treasurer/Director
Colin Jones – Director
Katie & Mark Bradley
Paul Whitby
Dave Townshend – White Swan Piscatorials
Geoff Smith - ditto –

Apologies: John Owen – Director
Simon Munn – Web Site
Ian Marsden – White Swan Piscatorials

1) Water Level - Concern was expressed regarding the fall in the water level due to British Waterways reducing the level in order to carry out repairs to the dam. Still no date had been given by them as to when this work might be undertaken. The fishing club were concerned about the welfare of the fish and estimated that the cost of the fish now in the lake would be in the region of £20,000. If the lake needs to be drained further the fish may have to be removed at a cost of approximately £5,000 which would be paid by British Waterways. As the fish cannot be removed from April until October it means that the water level may have to stay at the current level for the whole of the summer months. Not only is this unattractive but some of the shrubs/trees and bog plants need a constant flow of water to survive. A letter to be sent to British Waterways stating that we need to know by the AGM what their intentions are. The fishing club did state that they estimated that the lake at it's deepest is 17/18 ft and not 35-ft as originally thought.

2) Islands - The fishing club stated that no work would be carried out on the islands until it is established when the repair work is to be done. Colin said he would like permission from the fishing club to work on one of the islands as an experiment to show how he thinks the islands should have been planted. Paul offered to help. Permission was granted.

3) General Maintenance – A few members had volunteered to help with maintenance. David to let Secretary know when they expect to carry out their next maintenance day. It was pointed out that while the lake is low this is a good time to have bonfires along the shore in order to get rid of some of the fallen trees and branches. The pathways need clearing and more gravel or bark chippings laid.

4) Finance – The company have always relied on the interest received from the bank to go towards the cost of the annual public liability insurance cover and general maintenance. Unfortunately due to the current financial climate, the interest now being received has been drastically reduced. Also the cost of mowing the north bank near the car park has this year increased. It was therefore decided that as from Jan 2010 the annual subscription should be increased to £12.

5) A.G.M - It is hoped that all committee members can attend the AGM. Fishing Club to prepare their report. Graham Herbert our Accountant has agreed to attend with financial report and last year accounts. John Owen to propose the resignation and reinstatement of

the directors and committee members as called for in the memorandum and articles of association. Colin to report on general maintenance and work to be carried out in the coming year.

6) A.O.B. – Benches: Three people expressed a desire to buy a bench. Places were allocated and these to be installed in May/June. Secretary mentioned there was a waiting list for shares. Anyone wanting to sell their share to contact her.

NEXT MEETING – A.G.M. Sunday 26th April 2009 4.00 pm at Cofton Village Hall.