

# COFTON LAKE CONSERVATION LTD

## Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> AGM held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April at Cofton Hackett Village Hall

Present: Diane Carr – Chairman/Director

Sue Garvey – Treasurer/Director

Colin Jones – Director

John Owen – Director

Irene Barclay

Katie & Mark Bradley

Dave Townshend – Director/White Swan Piscatorials

Geoff Smith – Director/White Swan Piscatorials

Apologies: Simon Munn – Web Site Co-ordinator

Graham Herbert – Accountant

- 1) Introduction – Diane Carr** – For the benefit of new members the committee were introduced and the minutes taken at last year's AGM accepted approved and signed. Thankfully the work has now been completed on both the upper and lower valves and these valves closed and the lake is starting to fill. Colin will fill you in on the details later in the meeting.
- 2) Financial Report – Sue Garvey** – We ended last year with just over £17,400 held in the Cofton Lake Conservation account at Lloyds Bank. Subscriptions received for the year were £2022 plus £100 donation and we received little over £7.00 interest. We also sold an extra share for £1500 during last year. The funds as you know are to cover the cost of ground and boundary maintenance etc., and also our annual insurance and anything else that may unexpectedly crop up in the future. The cost of grass cutting has gone up for this year by an extra £1.00 per cut. The subscription payments received so far are considerably better than last year, although we are still outstanding several payments which are now 3 months late. Payments are due in by end January. Chasing late payers makes very hard work of something which should be so simple. Finally I would like to thank all of those who gave donations in addition to the £12 maintenance subscription.
- 3) Resignation and Reinstatement of Directors and Committee Members – John Owen**  
As called for in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, the Directors and Committee members are required to resign from office at the AGM. All were willing to stand for a further term apart from Ian Marson from the fishing club who had resigned as a Director and Committee Member. Geoff Smith from the fishing club had been elected in his place. As there were no objections from the floor, this was passed and accepted.
- 4) Trees/Hedgerows/Water Level – Colin Jones** – As previously mentioned the work on the valves is now complete and the lake is starting to fill. British Waterways had been very difficult to deal with but at a meeting with two of their Engineers two-

weekly reports were received and we were kept informed of their progress and we trust that no further problems will arise. A mooring for the boat will hopefully be constructed near the slipway which may eventually be used as a disabled fishing peg. Volunteers will be needed to help distribute gravel etc. The grass cutting contractor has been asked to cut the lower pathway as far as the boardwalk. British Waterways Engineers whilst working on the valve, reported that Cofton had a problem with Blue/Green Algae. This had been checked out by an expert who reported that although there was a small amount of Algae found, it was not of the virulent variety and should be killed off during the winter months. It had been reported in the press that British Waterways was to be disbanded and become a charitable body. British Waterways are allowed to draw water from this lake in order to replenish the canal system and Lower Bittell reservoir.

**5) Fishing Club Report – Dave Townshend** – Unfortunately the fish left in the holding pool died during the long cold winter months. However, British Waterways have reimbursed the fishing club £27,000 to cover the cost of new fish and also for storing and netting. 250 perch and 200 chub have been reinstated and more fish will be put in in the Autumn. The lake will be open again for fishing on 16<sup>th</sup> June. A working party is arranged for 1<sup>st</sup> May to clear the pathways and take out any dead trees. The islands are to be replanted as soon as they are once again afloat. The lock number will be changed, hopefully, on Monday and will once again be open to shareholders. The lock number for this year is found on the last Newsletter.

The Chairman reported that now that the lake was filling up the 3 benches bought last year would be installed. Extra special thanks to Colin and Geoff for all their hard work, thanks to the Committee Members, Treasurer and Accountant and to all members here today and your continued support.

**NEXT AGM** – To be advised in December Newsletter

Signed.....

Date.....