

COFTON LAKE CONSERVATION LTD

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2014

Present: Diane Carr – Chairman/Director
Sue Garvey – Treasurer/Director
Colin Jones – Director
John Owen - Director
Irene Barclay
Paul Whitby
Katie and Mark Bradley
Dave Townshend – Director/White Swan Piscatorials
Geoff Smith – Director/White Swan Piscatorials

1) Maintenance:

It was agreed that Paul Yates had done a wonderful job in clearing the trees that had been marked by Wade Muggleton, Senior Community Greenspace Manager for Worcestershire County Council who kindly visited the lake back in the Spring to give us his expert advice. Wade had marked dangerous or dead trees that needed felling and trees that needed thinning in order that light could penetrate. Pathways had been widened and many e-mails and telephone calls from members had been received saying what a great improvement had taken place. Now that the bulk of the work had been done, it was hoped that the pathways could be kept clear by volunteer working parties and Paul Yates be called in on an as required basis during 2014.

2) Fishing Club:

- a) Pathways/hardcore: The Fishing Club had their first maintenance day around the lake on Sunday 23th March. Three ton of hardcore had been delivered and one ton had been taken across the lake and laid on the pathways. Drainage pipes had also been installed in some of the boggy areas. This work to continue on future maintenance dates which are: Apl 6th, Apl 20th, May 4th, May 18th, June 1st, June 15th – Anyone available to help on any of these dates please meet in the car park around 9.30am with spade and gloves. Any help would be appreciated. Dave Townshend to phone St Modwens to see if it would be possible for us to have some of the hardcore from the Longbridge site.
- b) Night Fishing: Fishing Club had requested permission to use the lake for night fishing. Strict rules will be in place i.e. no-one to enter or leave the area after 10pm or before 6am – only 8 pegs to be used during the night –

fishermen to pre register with Fishing Club their intention to fish on any particular night. Although the committee had no objection it was suggested that all residents backing onto the lake area be asked for their opinion – this to be brought up at the AGM. Chairman had contacted our Insurers and was told CLCL would not be liable for any accident or injury.

c) The Fishing Club are intending to increase the fishing subs to £15 – there was no objection.

3) Year End Accounts:

A copy of the Year end Accounts were handed to the Fishing Club for their approval. These to be signed off at the AGM.

4) Possible Summer Tea Party:

As it is 10 years since the lake was purchased, it had been suggested that some celebration might be in order. Picnic was suggested – to be discussed at the AGM.

5) A.G.M.

Please note new venue for the AGM is now The Oak Tree, Groveley Lane – 4.00 pm Sunday 27th April. It was suggested that the rules be read out at the AGM and minuted with particular emphasis on ‘Dogs to be kept on lead at all times’

6) A.O.B.

- The Fishing Club reported that the islands would be taken out of the water apart from the one that had been re planted and was flourishing.
- A lengthy discussion took place regarding the plight of the swans. They have returned again this year so the same problem will occur once the cygnets are born with them going over the sluice. Following the problems last year with C&RT with regard to the netting, it was thought that this netting should not be erected this year. This to be brought up at the AGM and members asked for any suggestions.
- Irene Barclay reported that 6 of the buddleia plants she had planted were thriving and primroses had been planted along the pathway. Chairman suggested that wild daffodils be planted in the Autumn.
- Colin Jones informed the Committee that he wished to resign as a Director and Committee member. Chairman wished him well and thanked him for all his work in the past especially in the building of the boat house.

7) Next Meeting: AGM – 27th April.