

The Minutes of Lambley Reed Pond Group (LRPG) – Committee Meeting held on 29th March 2023 in Lambley Village Hall at 7pm

Attendance:

Sarah Rhodes, Steve Brett, Karen Hayter, Christine Bridgett, Ian Kassell and Peter Smith.

1.0 Apology for absence

Peter Muir, Gina Bajek, Kim Hogden, Julie Gregory, Bonnie Bramwell, Gina Bajek and Stephen Bird

Due to the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chair agreed to host the meeting.

2.0 Minutes from the last meeting dated 22nd February 2023

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a correct record. Updates on specific actions from the last meeting were noted as:

1.0 (11/01/23) Accident Book and First Aid kit are now available for future volunteering work taking place on the Reserve. Action closed.

3.0 (11/01/23) re-positioning of the lifebuoy station will be done after the fencing repairs have been completed, to be positioned nearer the fence line on the west side of the pond.

3.0 (11/01/23) the Treasurer will visit the Burton Joyce Community Market on 8th April as a venue to for the LRPG to host a stall

4.2 (11/01/23) The Einitial invoice for the ecological assessment has been submitted for payment. Action closed.

5.0 (11/01/23) Completed risk assessments have been uploaded to the G drive. Action closed.

8.3 (11/01/23) Installation of the 2 new benches in the Reserve, anticipated to be installed after the fence repairs, Sarah will be the point of contact for the installation.

8.6 (11/01/23) The fence repairs by SP Rose Ltd will be conducted in April rather than March, Steve will co-ordinate.

8.9 (11/01/23) The Secretary and Treasurer cleared the large branches that had fallen across the east perimeter fence. Action closed.

4.4 (22/02/23) The LRPG 2023 Action Plan has been updated, issued and agreed with the Lambley Parish Council. Action closed.

4.5 (22/02/23) Purchase of seed packets for schools, this would be revisited later in the Year.

6.1 (22/02/23), A guided walk around the Reserve, this would be undertaken later.

6.2 (22/02/23) Natural England recommended dates to observe the bird nesting season; 31st March until the end of August. Action closed.

7.0 (22/02/23) Date for April meeting, to be agreed. Action closed.

3.0 Feedback from the Vice Chair's Meeting with the Parish Council on the 20th March.

The Vice Chair presented the updated 2023 Action Plan for the Nature Reserve and this was agreed by the Parish Council.

The feedback was very positive from Councillors' with our management of the Nature Reserve and the work carried out so far. It was mentioned that cutting a section of the reed bed has allowed an uninterrupted view of the pond from the footpath on the western side. This prompted discussion in respect of the management of reed beds, type of tools available etc. Pete Smith described the work carried out at Netherfield. It was mentioned that reed cutting has done at the pond at Ploughman's Wood with the suggestion that might want to have a walk to the wood and see the great display of bluebells at this time of the year.

The Council noted that the meadow area was looking untidy with CDs blown around off the strings, posts fallen over. Karen will tidy the area over the coming days, each section of wild flower meadow will be outlined by a post at each corner.

Action: Karen

The location of the benches was also mentioned, and the Vice Chair agreed to be point of contact for the Councillor installing the benches i.e. one bench on each of the west and south side of the pond.

There was also a mention of a villager wishing to make a substantial donation to the Nature Reserve for potentially a circular walkway around the pond. As a proposal this has a number of practical implications, e.g. impact on wildlife habitat, perspective from our neighbours. A possible alternative might be the installation of a pontoon/viewing platform on the north side of the pond. Pete Smith described the type of pontoons he's had experience with at Netherfield. Pete agreed to provide the Group with some information.

It was agreed that we would discuss the proposal/options in detail at the LRPG meeting in April with the intention of providing feedback to the Parish Council in June.

Action: All

5.0 The Treasurers Update

The Treasurer presented the latest financial statement as at 29/3/23 showed a working balance of £4038.08p. From the LRPG account we will be paying for i) the cost of fencing repairs, ii) payment of Einitial's invoice for the ecological assessment and iii) costs incurred by Andy Musson from the meadow work last year. After payment of these liabilities the balance in the LRPG account is expected to be about £1400.

In respect of the discussion last month concerning the decay in the trunk of a large ash tree on the north perimeter of the Nature Reserve. The Treasurer has spoken to three arborists to gain a view on the condition of the tree. All three recommended that the tree canopy should be cut back to reduce the weight on the trunk, quotations for the work are in the range of £1440 to £2050.

The Treasurer has checked with Gedling Borough Council and although the tree is not subject to a Tree Preservation Order, it is in the Lambley Conservation Area. The implication of which is that for any work on the tree an application has to be made to GBC which can be done on line.

From an ownership perspective, we have no record that identifies who owns the tree, it is considered that it sits astride the boundary of the Nature Reserve and our neighbour, Katja Watmore.

For the immediate, we will monitor the condition of the ash tree, Sarah will discuss the above with Julie Gregory (for the Parish Council) and Katja.

Action: Sarah

6.0 Fund-Raising Events for the Group.

Several proposals were put forward as fund raising ideas for the LRPG including a Lambley Garage Sale, a village Treasure Hunt, film night, whist / beetle drive, car wash, cheese and wine tasting evening, beer tasting, barn dance, 70/80s/90s Disco and village Mastermind contest.

Christine agreed to speak to the village Church group to see whether a joint garage sale would be possible. Christine has previously spoken to Elaine at the Woodlark PH who had offered to host a fund raising evening.

It was agreed a dedicated 'fund raising' meeting will be held on 12th April to agree what we take forward by way of fund raising and establishing roles and responsibilities.

Action: All

7.0 Any Other Business

7.1 Einitial's Pond water quality survey and amphibian count.

The Vice Chair informed the meeting that Einitial would be returning to complete their Ecological Pond Survey i.e., water quality/pond dip for species in April.

Action: Sarah

7.2 Wildlife Surveys in the Reserve

The Committee would like Peter Smith and Mark from Netherfield Wildlife Group to continue producing his monthly wildlife and entomological surveys on the Reserve.

Action: Pete

7.3 Identification of seed sown on the meadows and possible haven / wildlife refuges for overwintering butterflies and insects on the Reserve.

Peter Smith agreed to liaise with Bonnie and Karen to identify the seeds which were germinating in April on the newly sown meadows and to suggest areas for safe havens with the Meadow Sub-Group.

Action: Pete/Karen/Bonnie

8.0 Date of the next Group Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 27th April at 7pm in The Village Hall

Summary of Actions

Date	Item Number	Action	Action owner	Target date	Status/comments
11/01/2023	1.0	Coordinate re the RA/Accident book entry from October volunteering event	Treasurer	Next mtg	Closed
11/01/2023	3.0	Reposition life buoy station	Chair and Treasurer	April	Open
11/01/2023	3.0	BJCM – fund raising opportunity	Treasurer	Next mtg	Open
11/01/2023	4.0	Update the Parish Council with the revised LRPG Action Plan	Chair	Next Parish Council mtg	Closed
11/01/2023	4.2	Submit Einitial's invoice for payment	Sarah	Next mtg	Closed
11/01/2023	5.0	Gmail account to host Risk Assessments	Treasurer	Next mtg	Closed
11/01/2023	8.3	Installation of benches	Chair	April	Open
11/01/2023	8.6	Fencing contractors – RP meadow access	Treasurer	30 th April	Open
11/01/2023	8.9	Removal of fallen branches	Treasurer	Next mtg	Closed
22/02/2023	4.4	Update and issue 2023 Action Plan	Treasurer	By 25 th Feb'y	Closed
22/02/2023	4.5	Purchase packs of seeds for school children	Karen/Kim	TBC	Open
22/02/2023	5.0	Ash tree – next steps	Sarah and Steve	Within 1 week	Closed
22/02/2023	6.1	Guided walk around the Nature Reserve	Secretary	TBC	Open
22/02/2023	6.2	Natural England dates when work ends on Reserve	Secretary	Next Mtg	Closed
22/02/2023	7.0	Meeting avail'y of Comm'e / PC reps for w/c 24 th April	Secretary	Next Mtg	Closed

29/03/2023	3.0	Tidy meadow areas	Karen	2 nd April	Open
29/03/2023	3.0	Information re pontoon construction	Pete Smith	Next mtg	Open
29/03/2023	3.0	Review of walkway proposal and options	All	Next mtg	Open
29/03/2023	5.0	Ash tree – update to Julie/Katja	Sarah	Next mtg	Open
29/03/2023	6.0	Fund raising proposals/planning /roles/responsibilities	All	Next mtg	Open
29/03/2023	7.0	Enitial water quality check etc.	Sarah	Next mtg	Open
29/03/2023	7.2	Wildlife surveys	Pete Smith	On going	Open
29/03/2023	7.3	Meadow seed growth	Pete/Karen/Bonnie	Next mtg	Open