

The Minutes of the Lambley Reed Pond Group Meeting On Tuesday 11th August 2026 at 7pm in Lambley Village Hall.

Present

Committee:; Stephen Bird (SGB), Sarah Rhodes (SR), Christine Bridgett (CB), Gina Bajek (GB) Karen Hayter (KAH) and Ian Kassell (IK).

Guests Richard Vincent : Andy Musson – Lambley Parish Council

Apologies: Karen Hayter, Kim Hogden, Sofia Fullwood

1.0	Description	Action / Date
2.0	We welcomed Richard Vincent, Chair of the Parish Council to the Meeting and Andy Musson was present for the item on pond reed removal and silt clearance.	
3.0	<p>The Minutes of the last meeting dated 14th July 2026 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following comments from Karen Hayter.</p> <p>"</p> <p>“KAH due to her absence from the meeting had informed the Committee previously that Naturescape had been contacted by her and 4 of the pond plants were collected 17th July (Amphibious bistort, bog bean/water clover, water forget me nots and water plantain)</p> <p>It was agreed that the remaining 3 pond marginals (wild angelica, purple loosestrife and water avens) will be ready to collect end of August and the remaining meadow plants (field scabious, wild carrot, oxeye daisy and musk mallow) will be ready April 2027. Naturescape have advised that all the pond plants be planted no later than mid September.</p> <p>Karen agreed to look after the plants during this period”.</p>	

4.0	Matters Arising	
4.1	Action Plan	
	August Action Plan Sheep grazing on the Reserve KAH would contact Tony and Val Chilman to arrange the return of the sheep in either 3 rd or 4 th week of August.	
5.0	Pond De-silting / Reed Removal proposals SGB had circulated to the Committee a proposal to clear excess reed growth around the pond. The current extreme drought had identified that this work needed completing urgently as the pond was in danger of drying up. This was a once in a decade opportunity to complete the work and at the same time remove silt from the outer edge of the pond. Andy Musson was invited to discuss the practical elements involved which should be completed as soon as possible. The reeds would be removed from the western edge allowing an uninterrupted view of the pond and the debris / silt would be taken to an area near the Northern boundary and piled up allow any amphibians an opportunity to escape back in the pond area. After questions from Committee members Andy noted that this work was not without risk to the pond as the reeds would have their roots firmly located in the clay base of the pond. He would try to remove the top most growth on the reeds to limit any such damage. SGB noted that we cannot afford inaction as the pond was rapidly draining in this and last year's drought and if we took no action the problem would only get worse. It was agreed by Committee that Andy Musson should progress the work as soon as possible. He explained that it would be a 2 person job and involve heavy machinery for 2 days at a total cost of £500 per day – Total cost £2000. Access to site would be at the cattle watering area near the western bench and temporary fencing would be removed in this location while the work was occurring but be re-instated by Andy after the work had been completed.	Treas

	<p>A proposal to pump silt was not practical currently and be damaging to the ponds eco system.</p>	
6.0	<p>Pond – Wilder Trent Project – Marginal Plantings</p> <p>Due to 5 persistent heatwaves and the extreme drought affecting the pond the planting of the pond marginal plants has had to be delayed until later in the Year when the rain returned.</p> <p>KAH had kindly agreed to look after the plants at her property until we are ready to plant on the south eastern edge of the pond.</p>	PC
7.0	<p>Hedges and Boundaries</p> <p>SGB requested that the Parish Council agree a definitive boundary for the eastern area fronting Reed Pond House.</p> <p>A large length of hedging saplings had been planted in this location but this was not to be considered as the actual boundary. It would take the form of a devon style hedge.</p> <p>All hedges are suffering badly in this drought and we expect to have some losses in the stock planted earlier in the year.</p> <p>KAH also noted that the Woodland Trust would be offering hedging saplings but we will not be having any at Reed Pond this challenging year.</p> <p>Western Hedging</p> <p>We can only assess the survival rates of newly planted saplings after the sheep have left the Reserve.</p>	
8.0	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>The Treasurer noted that the current balance is £3659.53p which includes a small donation of £10. There are no outstanding liabilities</p> <p>The QR Crowd Funding code now been linked to our new bank account and the QR Codes would be placed on our noticeboards.</p>	

9.0	Record of Hours Worked IK presented his additional hours worked planting up the marginals with KAH to SR.	
10.0	Proposals for Google Drive Richard Vincent noted that a Microsoft One Drive account could be created easily with a link to the Parish Council. SGB requested Richard Vincent to investigate this proposal. All the Reed Pond correspondence from the Group would be stored on this drive since its inception.	
11.0	Information Boards. Andy Musson had kindly agreed to install the information boards when ground conditions on the Reserve permit.	AM
12.0	AGM Preparation The Treasurer noted that Eatons had kindly agreed to continue to audit our accounts for 2026. The provisional date would be Thursday 22 nd September in the village hall meeting room. IK check the availability with John Garton (Hall Management)	IK
13.0	Future Events	
13.1	Scarecrow Event The Group would be participating in the forthcoming scarecrow event. The Frame will be collected from SGB. Christine had emailed the Committee about the event.	

14.0	Any Other Business	
14.1	<p>Orchard Strimming and maintenance</p> <p>KAH noted that strimming had taken place 6 weeks earlier by KAH at the base of the trees.</p> <p>The orchard will require ongoing maintenance and before the sheep arrive on site the area where 3 orchard trees are unguarded will be strimmed and the trees protected and the wildflower area will be protected.</p>	IK
14.2	<p>Observations by Parish Council Chair.</p> <p>Richard Vincent asked how the Parish Council could help the Group. Committee members requested a pond consultant was needed urgently.</p> <p>Feedback from the village on the questionnaire in the parish magazine</p> <p>SGB informed Richard Vincent that there was a very poor response to the questionnaire from village residents and most volunteer opportunities are poorly attended by residents.</p>	PC
14.3	<p>Future of the Reserve</p> <p>There was initially a Report drafted by Frank Knowles from Gedling House Woods although he wasn't a wildlife or pond expert. The Committee did not want the Reserve to become another Country Park. It was a very important area for wildlife as recognized by the NWT selecting the Reserve for their Wilder Trent Project Grant. This involved short and long term recording of species.</p>	
14.4	<p>Village Show</p> <p>It was decided we would not be having a stall at the village show due to the large number of unavailable Committee members.</p>	

15.0	The Date of next Meeting Tuesday 22 nd September 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall Meeting Room	
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