



BOUGHTON FEN COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

HELD: 19th May 2017 at 6.30pm

VENUE: ALL SAINTS, BOUGHTON

Present: The Chairman Cllr Mark Pogmore
 Members Cllr David Cooper
 Angela Faherty
 Cllr Tom Roberts
 Paul Smith
 Andrew Faherty

 Members of the public Sue Pogmore who minuted the meeting

1. Apologies for absence

Carole Edwards – Parish Clerk.

2. Election of Chairman

Proposed by Cllr Roberts

Seconded by David Cooper

'That Cllr Pogmore is elected Chairman of the Boughton Fen Committee.'

All in favour.

3. Minutes of the Annual meeting held on 15th June 2016 and matters arising

Proposed by The Chairman, Cllr Pogmore

Seconded by Mr Smith

'That the minutes of the Boughton Fen Committee meeting held on Friday, 15th June 2016 (pages 74 to 76) be accepted as a true and accurate record'

All in favour.

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's report

The year started well with two tawny owl, 3 barn owl and five kestrel chicks being ringed by Allan Hale during the early summer.

We were able to get our summer cuts on Highland and Lower Fen completed on programme by our specialist contractor, Stephen Eyles.

13/9/17 A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M", with the date "13/9/17" written to its left.



This enabled us to carry out scrub clearance works in early autumn, prior to the winter rains, Karl Charters was able to clear significant areas on lower fen and highland fen, including along the Stoke/Eastmoor Road.

In October, the EA were able to carry out some further bank enhancement works close to Kingfisher Bridge, to help with water level management.

Stephen Eyles was able to carry out our winter reed cutting as planned. This year we targeted Highland Fen and were able to cut the confined area of reed next to Oxborough Road, due to a very dry autumn and early winter. It may be some years before we are able to cut this area again. The remainder of the cutting was in the marginal areas of Highland Fen.

Now to our volunteers. This year we have been able to help maintain the walk, clear the cut reed, clear most areas of scrub and continue to look after the fen with a large number of successful working parties, supported by many willing helpers.

We were also assisted by two other groups, being a party from Plant Health (colleagues of Paul Smith) and a local group from Balfour Beatty, as part of their community work.

All in all, we are continuing to improve our fen which seems to be visited by an increasing number of people

5. **Financial report**

The year end 31 March 2017 figures had been circulated (Appendix 1).

6. **Annual review of health and safety information**

Andrew Faherty reported that all documents reviewed at the last meeting have been updated and are now on the website. The laminated documents in the safety box need updating. He thanked Kevin Fisher for updating the website.

7. **Terms of reference**

The existing TOR is to remain as it is.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 6.48pm.

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