

minutes



**Meeting Minutes of the  
Boughton Fen Committee  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010  
Location: 'The Bungalow', Boughton**

**1 Present**

Mark Pogmore (MP) – Chair  
Angela Faherty (AF)  
Allan Hale (AH)  
Frank Reid (FR)  
David Cooper (DC)  
Alan Daniels (AD)

**2 Apologies**

Kevin Fisher (KF)

Before the meeting commenced Alan Daniels of the Environment Agency gave a brief presentation of the work carried out by the EA and their commitment to maintaining the path along Stringside Drain. We agreed for the BFC and the EA to be seen and recognised as a 'working partnership' with a signed committed statement of such attached to a post at each end of Stringside Drain. This will also incorporate the logos of the BFC and the EA.

Agreed a site visit with AD on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb at 12 noon to assess condition and on-going maintenance of path.

**Action 129:** FR to provide AD with BC logo.

**Action 130:** ALL (work permitting) to attend site visit 25<sup>th</sup> Feb.

AD then left the meeting.

**3 Matters Arising/Action List from Meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009**

3.1 No matters arising.

3.2 BFC reviewed action list, updates appended to these minutes.



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## 4 Budgets and Financial Report

- 4.1 AF tabled latest Accounts Report.
- 4.2 RPA payment for February 2010 received - £2,205.90

## 5 Programme of work for working parties

- 5.1 Clear all cut scrub and continue with cut through on Highland Fen.  
**Action 131:** AF to publicise working party dates 21<sup>st</sup> Feb and 14<sup>th</sup> March.

## 6 Fencing

- 6.1 Paperwork nearing completion. AH and MP to visit NWT for assistance with finishing off application. On 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010, Andrina Walmsley of NWT stated that NWT would like Lower Fen grazed. It was therefore agreed to apply for both Highland and Lower Fen to be fenced within the one application.  
**Action 123:** MP to arrange meeting with NWT.

## 7 Meeting with NWT and NE

- 7.1 MP, AH, AF, and FR met up with Ian Levitt (NE) and Andrina Walmsley (NWT) on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010. A very positive joint meeting. Ian Levitt has a natural interest in Highland and Middle Fen – he was shown progress made since his last visit, checked on the drain problem and agreed for the clearance of a large area of brambles on Highland Fen. Andrina Walmsley has a natural interest in Lower Fen (County Wildlife Site). This was Andrina's first visit to Boughton Fen. AW has obtained £500 for scrub clearance on Lower Fen which will equate to approximately 3 days work. AW would like Lower Fen to be grazed and will pursue with feasibility studies and funding. AW also provided us with a contact to assist with the clearing of cut reed on Middle Fen – Community Pay Back Scheme.  
**Action 132:** MP to obtain quotes for removal of brambles on Highland Fen.  
**Action 133:** MP to e:mail contact details of Lee Roberts of Greenfingers to AW.  
**Action 134:** MP to follow up contact to assist with clearing of cut reed.

## 8 Visitor Parking Area

- 8.1 A discussion ensued regarding the parking of vehicles on area known as "Visitor Centre".

## 9 AOB



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9.1 Date of next meeting Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

## ACTION LIST STATUS

| No: | Name  | Action description   | Date of Action | To be completed by | Comments   |
|-----|-------|--|----------------|--------------------|--|
| 7   | MP    | to progress resolution of the council drain problem  | 24/10/07       | 5/12/07            | On-going – Ian Levitt observed situation on his visit to Boughton Fen on 05/02/10. MP to follow up.                        |
| 65  | AH    | to look at developing a quiz as a future fund raising event  | 08/07/08       | 31/07/08           | On-going   |
| 67  | MP    | to pursue options regarding sheep grazing on The Fen   | 08/07/08       | 31/08/08           | On back burner for the present until fencing issue resolved. Many willing graziers, need to consider type of animal.       |
| 85  | MP    | to pursue the requirement for a felling licence with NE  | 05/11/08       | 30/11/08           | On-going – very complex, receiving contradictory advice. Recent advice from AW of NWT to coppice. Revisit at a later date. |
| 105 | MP    | to obtain contractor quotes for gate installation  | 29/04/09       | 30/05/09           | On-going – quotation will be sought when Action 123 resolved.  |
| 111 | FR    | to contact Bill Chapman to see whether he would be able to trim the overhang at the 'Y' junction by Middle and Lower Fen | 19/08/09       | 30/09/09           | On-going   |
| 116 | AH/MP | to talk to Bill Chapman regarding proposed fence-line.   | 19/08/09       | 08/11/09           | On-going   |



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| No: | Name  | Action description   | Date of Action | To be completed by | Comments   |
|-----|-------|--|----------------|--------------------|--|
| 118 | AF/KF | to think about content and production of 2009 Newsletter with a November issue date. | 19/08/09       | 30/10/09           | Complete   |
| 120 | AH    | to investigate optimum way of working for reed cutting 2010 and onwards              | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | Appointment with Nigel Middleton of Hawk & Owl Trust in March 2010. BFC members invited to H&OT reed cutting in June 2010. |
| 121 | MP    | to write to Parish Council to obtain permission to control vermin on the fen         | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | On-going   |
| 122 | AH    | to perform an 'exploratory dig' of one or two of the gullies along Stringside Drain  | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | On-going – ACF willing to lend a hand.   |
| 123 | MP    | to complete fencing paperwork and circulate to Committee for comment and review      | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | On-going, efforts suspended temporarily for further investigation. Taking further advice from NWT. Meeting with NWT TBA.   |
| 124 | FR/MP | to investigate whether a BFC AGM is needed as part of the PC rules                   | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | Complete<br>AGM will be required to comply with PC rules.  |
| 125 | KJF   | to investigate and cost the options for a bird box webcam                            | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | Complete   |
| 126 | KJF   | to contact FR and arrange a litter picking working party                             | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | Complete   |
| 127 | MP    | to speak to Lynda Eddy of the Wereham Woodland Trust and                             | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | Complete   |



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|-----|------|---|----------------|--------------------|---|
|     |      | invite them to visit The Fen  |                |                    |   |
| 128 | AH   | to develop list of suitable activities for our upcoming working parties                         | 02/12/09       | 30/01/10           | Complete<br>Concentrate on Highland Fen<br>continue with new cut through and clear pile of old cut scrub. |
| 129 | FR   | to provide Alan Daniels with BFC logo   | 10/02/10       | 28/02/10           | New   |
| 130 | ALL  | to attend meeting with Alan Daniels of EA on 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb                               | 10/02/10       | 25/02/10           | New   |
| 131 | AF   | to publicise working party dates 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb and 14 <sup>th</sup> March                | 10/02/10       | 14/03/10           | New   |
| 132 | MP   | to obtain quote for removal of brambles on Highland Fen   | 10/02/10       | 14/03/10           | New   |
| 133 | MP   | to e:mail Andrina Walmsley with contact details for Lee Roberts of Greenfingers.                | 10/02/10       | 28/02/10           | New   |
| 134 | MP   | to make contact with Community Pay Back Scheme regarding the removal of cut reed on Middle Fen. | 10/02/10       | 28/02/10           | New   |
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