

minutes

**Meeting Minutes of the
Boughton Fen Sub-Committee
Date: 12th December 2007
Location: 'Winward', Boughton**

1 Present

Mark Pogmore (MP) – Chair
Frank Reid (FR)
Angela Faherty (AF)
Allan Hale (AH)
Kevin Fisher (KF)
David Cooper (DC)

2 Apologies

None.

3 Introduction

3.1 MP welcomed David Cooper to the Boughton Fen Sub Committee.

4 Matters Arising/Action List from Meeting of 24th October 2007

4.1 No specific matters arising.

4.2 BFSC reviewed action list, updates appended to these minutes.

5 Review of Meeting Attended by BFSC and Natural England on 19th November 2007

5.1 AF has produced comprehensive notes of this meeting.

5.2 MP reviewed these with the BFSC and much discussion ensued.

Key points include:

a sum of money offered to the BFSC by Natural England;
the importance to start initial scrub clearance at the earliest opportunity;
the potential use of contractors and/or volunteer labour (MP obtaining tenders for this work);
future plans and aspirations for the Fen;

[Click here for the detailed meeting notes produced by AF.](#)

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Action 16: KF to circulate public domain documents on Common Land Management and Application for Construction Works on Common Land.

Action 17: KF to contact the RLR to enquire about registering the southern end of the Fen.

Action 18: KF to copy A3 Plans and topographical map data (2 copies A0, A2 and A3).

6 Funding/Financial Matters

6.1 MP had discussed with Paul Coultan (Parish Clerk) the feasibility of setting up a separate BFSC bank account under the 'umbrella' of the Parish Accounts. Paul was agreeable in principle and AF has offered her services as Treasurer of this account. Further discussion is required to determine if this is acceptable under the principles of operation of the Parish Council.

Action 19: MP to clarify whether it will be acceptable for AF to act as Treasurer.

6.2 A formal request is to be made to the Parish Council to provide some initial funding to the BFSC to enable ad-hoc expenditure to proceed without reference back to the PC.

Action 20: FR and MP in their capacity as PC representatives to make this request.

7 ELS/HLS Agreement

7.1 The aim is to be part of a High Level Stewardship Scheme by August 2008. To enter into this scheme application must be made to the Entry Level Stewardship Scheme.

7.2 Natural England will complete all relevant HLS forms on our behalf.

8 Management Plan

8.1 AH has made an excellent start on the Management Plan and has requested feedback from the BFSC.

Action 21: All to provide feedback/comments on the Management Plan to AH.

Action 22: KF to forward public domain document on the National Nature Reserve format of Management Plans to provide ideas of a suggested structure.

9 Useful Groups/Organisations

9.1 West Norfolk Conversation Volunteers under the guidance of John Loveless, can help with work on the Fen and carry their own insurance/public liability.

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They currently have 5 spare days, all Sundays, January 20th, Feb 3rd, Mar 2nd, 16th and 30th and they will give 3 of these days to Boughton Fen. The BFSC thought that the first three dates would be best.

Action 23: MP to speak to John Loveless to confirm the dates and request a pre-visit so that the scope of work can be identified to maximise available time.

Action 24: Once dates are confirmed ALL to assist in making this information 'public' to help encourage volunteers from the village (PC Meeting, Notice Board, Group4 News, word of mouth etc.)

9.2 AH kindly agreed to make a 'Boughton Fen' presentation to the village. It was thought that the Boughton Village Caravan would help to advertise and promote this event.

Action 25: AF to raise this as an agenda item at the next BVC meeting. Proposed dates when agreed to be advised to AH.

10 Neighbours

10.1 Boughton Fen has a number of 'neighbours'/stakeholders. BFSC to ensure appropriate communication and information is provided to our 'neighbours'. When there is public consultation, ensure that neighbours and stakeholders receive invite or personal approach.

11 Miscellaneous Documents

11.1 Covered elsewhere.

12 Visits to Similar Areas

12.1 An invite had been extended for a visit to Lakenheath Fen.

Action 26: ALL to determine a mutually agreeable date, suggest come armed to next meeting with diaries....!

13 AOB

13.1 No AOB.

14 Next Meeting

14.1 The next meeting date is 'To Be Confirmed'.

Action 27: MP to propose dates by e:mail in the new year.