



minutes

**Meeting Minutes of the
Boughton Fen Committee
Date: 29th April 2009
Location: 'Tapestry Cottage', Boughton**

1 Present

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

2 Apologies

2.1 David Cooper (DC)

3 Matters Arising/Action List from Meeting of 11th February 2009

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

4 Budgets and Financial Report

4.1 Proposed budget reviewed and agreed by the BFC. Minor changes to be made by AH.

Action 97: AH to contact Ian Levett regarding the erroneous reference in the ESA for coppicing the bankside trees on 'Highland Fen' (grid reference and description) and to discuss bird box type for birds to be attracted.

Action 98: AH to determine what grants can be claimed from the ESA for works to date.

4.2 AF tabled latest accounts and stated that the books are currently being audited.



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5 Dawn Chorus Talk and Walk

5.1 All in-hand. Numbers so far 29 adults but no children as yet. Donations to be asked for 'purchase' of bacon buttyies/drinks.

Action 99: KJF/FR to ensure BBQ is operational prior to event and move to location evening before.

Action 100: All - Large flasks of water to be taken to Fen for making refreshments.

Action 101: AF to purchase food in advance. DEF to sort sauces.

6 Contractor Scrub Clearance

6.1 Review of the scrub clearance work by Lee Roberts, the new contractor, viewed by all as 'a good job'. Future work will need multiple quotes before re-engaging.

6.2 Scope of work for later this year and early next year needs to be agreed and contractors asked for quotations by mid-year.

Action 102: BFC to agree the scope of works.

7 Contractor Reed Cutting

7.1 AH has identified a reed cutter, Jed Andrews, and a competitive verbal price has been given. A team will be required to rake the cuttings and we will need to look at disposal. This is a very labour intensive activity. This work can commence from mid-September.

7.2 Removing the debris is recognised as being a potential problem. Could volunteers be encouraged to assist?

Action 103: AH to discuss likely scale of problem with Nigel Middleton before we engage additional volunteers.

8 AOB

8.1 The issue of creating an access to Highland Fen was discussed. It was agreed that a gate and (possibly) stile would be purchased and erected. MP would prefer to discuss the fencing of common land with 'Open Spaces' before commencing work. It was agreed that the meeting with 'Open Spaces' would be arranged within the next three weeks and that quotations for gate works would be obtained in parallel.

Action 104: MP to arrange meeting with 'Open Spaces' to discuss issue of fencing common land (other BFC members to be 'invited').

Action 105: MP to obtain contractor quotes for gate installation



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8.2 Electricity pylons are situated on Middle Fen. It was agreed to approach the Electricity Board (Eon or similar) to discuss the possibility of Way Leave payments to the BFC.

Action 106: KF to investigate further

8.3 AH requested the purchase of 'Roundup Probiactive' to treat the re-growth in a controlled manner. The BFC agreed to this purchase.

Action 107: AH to purchase 'Roundup Probiactive'

minutes



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 – Remedial works undertaken by Highways but repair not effective. NE continue to pursue on our behalf
57	AF	to pursue the idea of 'blessing The Fen'	30/04/08	30/12/09	Complete - Blessing 17 th May, meet at Church and walk to Fen as part of Rogation Day
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-hold until fencing issue resolved
75	All	to have thoughts on best options for closing Highland Fen Access to unwanted 'guests'. DC and FR will also take a look	05/11/08	31/12/08	Complete - Meet with Open Spaces and get quotation for gate and stile. See Actions 104/105
76A	AF	to forward a copy of the BFC Financial Report to Parish Clerk after each meeting	05/11/08	On-going	Deleted – Part of on-going process
83	KF	to upload Management Plan to the website	05/11/08	30/11/08	On-going – MP will be uploaded when comments back from NE
85	MP	to pursue the requirement for a felling licence with NE	05/11/08	30/11/08	On-going
87	All	to view the proposed route for creating a circular walk to assess	05/11/08	15/12/08	On-going



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No:	Name	Action description	Date of Action	To be completed by	Comments
		viability			
90	MP	to forward Environmental Stewardship Agreement to KJF for scanning and circulation	11/02/09	28/02/09	Complete
91	All	to think about budget requirements and set up a 'Budget Meeting' to formally discuss	11/02/09	28/02/09	Complete
92	MP	MP to arrange meeting with the OSS and invite BFC members as appropriate.	11/02/09	28/02/09	On-going
93	AH	to contact scrub clearance Contractors for suitable commencement date of scrub clearance.	11/02/09	28/02/09	Complete
94	MP	to discuss with Smiths Gore the proposed 'rental' income for siting Dipwells on the Fen	11/02/09	28/02/09	Complete - £120 per dipwell
95	FR	to contact the IDB to discuss arrangements for keeping vegetation down on stringside Drain throughout the year	11/02/09	28/02/09	On-going – Contact made and agreement to keep vegetation down. Contact would like to attend a BFC meeting to discuss requirements/budget. In interim BFC to help keep growth down
96	MP	to propose 'Budget' meeting date and next BFC meeting date	11/02/09	28/02/09	Deleted – Part of on-going process
97	AH	to contact Ian Levitt regarding the ESA reference and bird box type.	29/04/09	30/05/09	New



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No:	Name	Action description	Date of Action	To be completed by	Comments
98	AH	AH to determine what grants can be claimed from the ESA for works to date.	29/04/09	30/05/09	New
99	FR/KF	to ensure BBQ is operational prior to event and move to location evening before	29/04/09	12/05/09	New
100	All	to take large flasks of water to Fen for making refreshments	29/04/09	12/05/09	New
101	AF	to purchase food in advance.	29/04/09	12/05/09	New
102	All	to agree the scope of contractor works for 2009/2010	29/04/09	30/06/09	New
103	AH	to discuss scale of problem of reed debris removal.	29/04/09	30/06/09	New
104	MP	to arrange meeting with 'Open Spaces' to discuss issue of fencing common land (other BFC members to be 'invited')	29/04/09	30/05/09	New
105	MP	to obtain contractor quotes for gate installation	29/04/09	30/05/09	New
106	KF	to investigate Electricity Board Way Leave payments	29/04/09	30/06/09	New
107	AH	to purchase 'Roundup Probiactive'	29/04/09	30/05/09	New