

Minutes of Friends of Rings End Nature Reserve Meeting

Tuesday 16th December 2014 at 7pm

Present: Terry Annetts, Tony Bennett, Philip Clark, Rachael Garner, Spencer Holland, Albert Horton, Jennifer Lawler, Sue Lewis, Sandra Mortlock, Sally Pocklington, Sue Odlin

Apologies: Barry Follows, Steve Follows

1. Phil welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes from Last Meeting

These were read and agreed.

3. Finance

Signs asking visitors to the Reserve to clean up after their dogs have been made at a cost of £109.80.

4. Future Funding

The grant application for the power scythe is underway, Sue Lewis is helping Phil with these. There are 2 sets of forms to be completed but 4 'Friends' groups are involved in the buying of the mower.

It was suggested that a questionnaire is made available to people who visit the reserve to find out what the local community wants. This should be posted on the website or the Shape Your Place website.

5. Volunteer Recruitment

The Group will have the free charity stall on March Market to promote the Reserve and hopefully attract more volunteers. This will be on **Saturday 21st February 2015**. Phil will print off photos taken around the Reserve to make up displays.

It was agreed to meet up on **Tuesday 3rd February at 7pm at the Griffin** to plan what needs to be done.

6. Reserve Management Update

Everything seems to pretty much up to date at the moment. Trees have been planted in the woodland area and Spencer is to contact Cliff Carson from the Middle Level regarding the availability of black poplar trees.

The next work party is on Sunday 11th January 2015. Meet at 9.30am in the Car Park. The main job will be reed cutting.

Spencer said there was a course run by the Wildlife Trust about 'Managing a Nature Reserve'. He will forward the details.

7. Events Programme

The Quiz Night will be held on Friday 6th February at March Cricket Club. Half the money raised will go to the Friends Group.

Dawn Chorus Walk – Sunday 10th May 2015 – start 4.30pm.

Pond Dipping/Butterfly Walk – June – date to be confirmed.

Dragonfly Walk – Sunday 19th July? – date to be confirmed.

Heritage Walk – Thursday 10th September at 6.30pm – “Nature Along the Tracks”.

Bush Craft event – October/November – date to be confirmed. Phil to contact Fenland Bushcraft.

St Peters Christmas Tree Festival – December 2015 – will have a tree!

8. Any Other Business

Sue Lewis reported back on the cost of fleeces with the Friends of Rings End Logo. She will go ahead and place an order for those who want one, £30 each. Phil will pay the £30 set up fee.

Sue Odln said that Tesco Express was looking for local causes or charities to raise money for in 2015. Phil to look into.

Jennifer said that on the 2nd Wednesday in January, someone from the RSPB will be giving a talk at the Library. Details to follow.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 17th February 2015 – 7pm at March Library

Tuesday 21st April 2015 – 7pm at March Library

