

## Minutes of Friends of Rings End Nature Reserve Meeting

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013 at 7pm

**Present:** Dale Batterby, Tony Bennett, Philip Clark, John Claydon, Steven Fox, Spencer Holland, Albert Horton, Sandra Mortlock, Sally Pocklington, Rebecca Robinett

**Apologies:** None received

1. Phil welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made for the new attendees.

2. Actions from last meeting

- Open Day for 2014. It was confirmed as **11<sup>th</sup> May 2014**.
- Stall on March market. Rebecca said that these are free and only on Saturday markets. She will check what dates are free in November.
- Scout groups are interested in using the Reserve for their badge work.
- Phil confirmed that he will be giving a talk to the March Society the second week in January.
- Our Facebook 'Page' has been changed to a 'Group'.
- Rebecca will organise a website for the Group.

3. Finance

Sandra reported that no money has gone in or out since the Open Day and the balance is still £1,816.70

4. Logo

Although Diane Devanche has left the Group, for personal reasons, she is still working on a draft logo.

5. River Nene Dragon Finder Project update

This group restores and creates habitat for amphibians and reptiles and is interested in Rings End. Phil is to confirm training in identifying and recording at Rings End.

## 6. Reserve Management Update

- At the last work party Lizard Bank and Orchid Bank were cut and raked.
- Seed collected will be sown at the next work party.
- Roland is to do a full length cut of paths and around ponds.
- Waiting to hear back from Andy about supply of hedging to be planted around the car park.
- The bird hides, interpretation boards, cycle hoops and benches need a grant which Phil still working on.
- Motor bikes/quad bikes have been seen on the Reserve. Phil will contact PCSOs to try to put a stop to this before it becomes a problem.

## 7. Work Parties and Events

- Dates for Work Parties have been set up to Christmas. These are:
  - Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October** - cut and rake orchid bank near pond 1
  - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November** - cut and rake butterfly bays alongside cycle track
  - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December** - tree planting around car park
- Spencer suggested that newt surveys start in March 2014. He will contact Terry Moore to set date.
- The Open Day will be on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2014.
- A dragonfly walk will be in August 2014
- Next year all the Friends groups will visit Rings End and Norwood Road with Gault Wood as a separate option. This will be open to Street Pride Groups too. Suggested date **14<sup>th</sup> June 2014** – to be confirmed.

## 8. Any Other Business

- Phil to send email about a funding application workshop to be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at Fenland Hall.
- CCVS also running a photographic competition to win £150 for Groups. Phil will forward email.

## 9. Date of Next Meeting

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7pm at Fenland Hall**