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# SWANPOOL LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

## Minutes of the Swanpool Management Forum Meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2006, 10.00am at The Green Centre, Falmouth

**Present:** Dr Allan Lester - Swanpool & Gyllyngvase Residents Assn  
Guy Doncaster - BTCV  
Tony Hilder - Community Volunteer Officer  
Martin Woodley - Carrick District Council  
Peter Lochrie - Swanpool Lessee  
Andrew Bates - Falmouth Model Boat Club  
Dave Salmon - Cornwall Wildlife Trust

**1. Apologies:** Beth Tonkin - English Nature  
Councillor John Body - Carrick District Council  
Councillor Malcolm Brain - Falmouth Town Council  
Martin Rule - Environment Agency

2.	<b><u>Minutes of the meeting 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005 and matters arising:</u></b>	<b>Action</b>
	<p>3. <u>The Garden Waste Guidance flyer:</u> this has been completed. Copies were circulated and 30 copies made available for Cllr Brain together with an extract from the 'Good Bin Guide' on garden composting. These will be distributed to residences adjoining the reserve when the new Swanpool leaflet is available.</p> <p>5. <u>Enhancement Works:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The planning application for the new car park ticket office building has now been approved (ref: PA02/2369/05/G). The existing structure has collapsed on attempts to salvage it so it will be destroyed in due course. Footings for the new cabin structure are currently being dug and laid.</li> <li>• PL reported that phase 1 of the planting/landscaping works have commenced with the planting of 15 trees (alder, birch &amp; hazel) in the bed alongside the WC's .</li> <li>• Forum stressed that a press release will be needed on completion of the works to maintain a high profile for the reserve.</li> <li>• The issue of manning the section of the new car park building as an information centre was again discussed with concern from organisations being the difficulty in sustaining volunteers in the building. This will be reassessed when the building has been completed. The importance of the building as a meeting point needs to be enhanced.</li> </ul> <p>6. <u>Any Other Business Items:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sale of land at Swanvale - BT via an email confirmed that EN has</li> </ul>	<p>MB</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>BT</p>

<p>no knowledge of any sale of land at Swanvale.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knotweed Treatment - BT email comments reported and that BT is to liase with Adam Chell to progress treatments as soon as possible. Key issue remains the use of chemical and potential impacts on the protected species in the lagoon. Forum has serious concerns over the lack of further treatment and the spread of JKW along watercourse banks towards the lagoon itself. Whilst it is understood that research could inform future treatment methods and there is much respect for the organisations represented on the Forum, control measures are needed as a matter of priority. MW to write to BT to stress the urgency of the matter and the Forum wishes to agree a treatment programme to be implemented this summer. EN and EA consents will be essential ASAP. CWT also wish to carry out cutting of dead canes as soon as possible to make future treatments easier. - particularly at the Swanvale end of the reserve.</li> <li>• Traffic Calming Issues: No update information available.</li> </ul>	<p>MW</p> <p>BT, MR &amp; DS</p>
<p><u>Minutes of the meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2005 and matters arising:</u></p>	
<p>2. <u>Swanpool Management Forum Constitution:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emailed comments from BT and MR were circulated. The concept of the Forum becoming a company limited by guarantee was not supported by either body.</li> <li>• Following a further discussion, the Forum agreed that there is merit in becoming a constituted body allowing applications for smaller levels of funding. For larger schemes there could be reliance on partners such as CWT and EN.</li> <li>• GD will reassess the latest version of the constitution and finalise it as soon as possible in order for this issue to be completed.</li> <li>• The Forum will then need to arrange an AGM, elect the Committee and Officers and arrange for a bank account to be opened.</li> </ul>	<p>GD</p>
<p>3. <u>Previous Any Other Business:</u></p> <p><u>Swan Raft:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PL has obtained further advice from the Chief Swanherd at Abbotsbury (Dave Wheeler) on constructing the new nest on the raft. Issues such as 360-degree vision, clear access ramp and proximity to the reedbeds are important. The Penn has been attempting to build a new nest close to the northern public platform rather than on the raft. This has been discouraged.</li> <li>• AB &amp; PL will liase over the nesting issues on site and ensure that the new nest accords with advise from Dave Wheeler. Food will not be placed on the raft as this could encourage vermin and other birds.</li> <li>• Forum agreed that it might take a year anyway for the pair to attempt to nest on the raft, as it is clearly a new structure on the lagoon.</li> </ul>	<p>AB &amp; PL</p>
<p><u>Timber Edging:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further advice from Clive Pearson (Carrick Engineer) still awaited.</li> </ul>	<p>MW</p>

	<p><u>Fishing on the Lagoon:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forum acknowledged that fishing is long established on the lagoon but the main issue is that of lethal litter (such as discarded lines and tackle, hooks etc). There are at least 3 regular fishermen. PL agreed to talk to them individually about the practice, the current problems and what should be done to ease concerns and avoid conflict with the SSSI list of operations ie. avoid leaving discarded lines, tackle and hooks, all fish to be returned to the lagoon and the use of keep nets prohibited. If this proves unsuccessful the Forum should draft a voluntary code of practice for fishing and then contact Falmouth and Mawnan Smith Angling Clubs.</li> </ul>	PL
3.	<p><b><u>People's Places Funding Scheme update:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GD &amp; TH confirmed that the project has now been completed and the final follow up meeting has been arranged. The new noticeboards have been erected and the official opening was successful. Newspaper cuttings were circulated and copies made for the main file. The four keys for the boards will be allocated as follows: GD, PL, AL and one spare to be held by GD. Info. on the reserve, Forum and organisation activities will be placed in the noticeboards and will be updated regularly.</li> <li>The new leaflet has been delayed with the Graphic Designer but the final draft has now been signed off and all copies should be available in 3-4 weeks.</li> </ul>	
4.	<p><b><u>Any Other Business:</u></b></p> <p><u>Roost Rails:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PL reported that in a London park he had seen floating perch platforms comprising railway sleepers tethered with lines. The Forum agreed to seek further advice from BT on whether EN would have any objections on similar features being introduced near the lagoon edges at Swanpool (using new untreated sleepers).</li> </ul> <p><u>Publicity:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PL will contact the Falmouth Packet reporter when the Penn is on the nest so that updates and progress reports can be included in regular items on Swanpool.</li> </ul> <p><u>Events:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Funday for Summer 2006 needs to be discussed at the next meeting so that contributions etc can be organised. Members will need to bring ideas to the meeting. This may include pond dipping with MR, guided walks with BT, mammal trapping with CWT etc.</li> </ul> <p><u>Web Site:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs to be updated with the latest Forum minutes, new leaflet, garden waste flyer etc. MW to contact Rob at BTCV.</li> </ul> <p><u>Race for Life event:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AL offered to man the new information centre for part of the day of the race to promote the new leaflet etc.</li> </ul>	<p>MW &amp; BT</p> <p>PL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>MW</p> <p>AL</p>
5.	<p><b><u>Date, Time &amp; Venue of Next Meeting:</u></b></p> <p>To be held on <b>Tuesday 9th May 2006 @ 10.00am</b>. The meeting will be held in the new <b>Information Centre at Swanpool</b>.</p>	ALL