

Based on a design by Carly Anne Swann S W A N P O O L LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

http://swanpool.org.uk/

## Minutes of the Swanpool Management Forum Meeting held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2009 at 3.45pm at The Information Centre, Swanpool, Falmouth

Present:Malcolm Brain, (Chair)<br/>Peter Lochrie, Swanpool Lessee<br/>Esther Richmond, Community Planning - Carrick District Council<br/>David Yelland, Gyllyngvase & Swanpool Residents Association<br/>Gary Thomson, Swanpool Volunteer Warden<br/>Peter Hartley, Falmouth Model Boat Club<br/>Bob Eldridge, Marlborough School

1. Apologies: Martin Rule, Management Plan Consultant; Beth Tonkin, Natural England

2	Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising	Action
	The minutes from the 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2009 meeting were formally approved.	
	Matters Arising	
	<b>Eco Islands</b> Eco-Islands visited the site in March and did not bring any vegetation to transplant onto the islands. The Eco-island representatives removed some Flag iris and Wrack from the north west corner of Swanpool and transplanted it onto the islands. Two concerns were expressed by the Forum:	
	<ul> <li>a) The planted species will not provided the necessary cover for the Swans during the nesting period</li> <li>b) The total amount paid to Eco-Islands included the installation of live plants</li> <li>c) Natural England was not contacted to request that existing vegetation at Swanpool can be transposed onto the matting.</li> <li>The Forum agreed to wait to see if the vegetation on the islands has taken and report to the next meeting.</li> </ul>	вт
	Continued Cornwall Council Commitment	
	Due to the reorganisation of Cornwall Council structures, it is no longer possible for Esther Richmond to continue providing resources and technical support.	
	The commitment to Swanpool Management Forum was given in January 1997 and the Forum wishes to seek clarification of continued support from Cornwall Council.	ER
	Litter Pick	
	The litter pick was very successful with over 20 people involved in clearing up Swanpool. There was good publicity and photos can be viewed on the Swanpool	

	website.	
	Dog Litter Bins	
	Waste Management Services confirmed the schedule for bin emptying is once a week, however depending on where they are it can be up to 3 times. If there are concerns regarding the bins, contact Cornwall Council customer services on 01872 224400 with details of the bins location and they will take action.	
-	All other matters arising are discussed in the meeting.	
2	Site Update & Annual Action Plan	
	Monitoring	
	David Morgan, the MSc student from University of Exeter at Tremough is working on analysis of the sediment cores which he and Naomi Holmes took from Swanpool. This study into climate change is designed to Identify past storminess by studying brackish pool sediments from Swanpool. David is seeking some funding to get carbon dating analysis of the cores carried out, this would provide a start date (core base date) which would enable him to produce an accurate chronology. Natural England may be able to contribute towards the costs, however financial support has been requested from the Management Forum (see item under Finances/funding). Confirmation is needed on the total cost, however carbon dates cost around £250 each.	BT
	Chintan Purohit, a student from Plymouth University is carrying out some further research for a Masters in Research, Marine Biology dissertation into the environmental conditions (salinity and temperature) that trigger germination of the over wintering 'resting bodies' (hibernacula) of Trembling sea mat.	
	Timber Capping	
	Following a site meeting with CCC Engineers mid Nov. 2008, CCC engaged Spaldings Associates (Environmental) Ltd to assist them with the Schedule 5 licence application and the methodology. Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, in addition to the legal requirement for SSSI owners/occupiers to obtain an 'Assent' under Section 28H from Natural England the proposed work also requires a Licence as Trembling sea mat is listed on Schedule 5 of the 1981 Act. A draft method statement produced mid Jan 2009. However Natural England had concerns about water contamination and the potential adverse effects on Trembling sea mat in respect of the proposed use of asphalt for the repairs to the pathway immediately adjacent to the pool. CCC decided to postpone the works further to investigation of alternative materials. Contacts at Cornwall Council are Charles Endeen, Simon Lowry and John Haskins.	
	Willow Coppicing	
	All the allotted willow coppicing along the western shoreline was completed in March 2009. The school group attended the day and photos will be uploaded to the website. 2 information signs were installed, describing the work and highlighting the website, with Martin Rules mobile number as a contact.	
	The collection of the cut willow coppice was discussed by the Forum and it was agreed that as the willow Carr is a UK BAP habitat, local people should not be encouraged to remove the stems from the site. It should be promoted as a wildlife conservation area detailing the value of the wood as a habitat pile.	

	Further coppicing along the southern edge of Swanpool is needed and costings have been provided by Martin Rule to undertake the work (see Finances/funding for further information).	
	Monitoring Display Boards	
	Quotes have been obtained from 2 different suppliers for – See Finances/funding for further information.	
	Annual Action Plan Update	
	<ul> <li>1.4 A 'wish-list' was discussed and the following decisions were agreed:</li> <li>In line with the future coppicing it is necessary to undertake some revetment work around Swanpool.</li> <li>To ensure there is a safe area for people to feed the birds, explore the potential of installing a decking area with a sign saying 'no fishing'.</li> </ul>	
	These and other ideas are to be discussed for inclusion in the 2010 Annual Action Plan.	
	1.5 Natural England to finalise Conservation Objectives is still to be detailed at the next Forum meeting.	вт
	<ul><li>2.4 Contact to be made with BTO once the monitoring board has been purchased</li><li>3.1 The Nature Reserve Awareness day has been planned, however volunteers are needed to assist in organising the event. This will become an agenda item for the next meeting. Each Forum member is to agree to assist with one</li></ul>	MR ER
	task at the next meeting (3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2009). The event has also been advertised in the new Falmouth Bay Residents' Association booklet.	
3	Finances/Funding Report	
	<b>Swanpool Beach Firework Display</b> organisers have confirmed that Management Group Forum can be the nominated charity to receive any donations received at the display on Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2009. Volunteers are needed to collect the donations on the evening. All to put forward names of volunteers to help.	ALL
	Monitoring Display Boards	
	Quote 1: £844.60 incl VAT for post mounted board Quote 2: £695.00 incl VAT for post mounted board. Without posts £475.00 + VAT	
	It was agreed to delay the purchase of the board until further funding has been collected from the firework display event.	
	Total remaining budget £1,408.62	
	The Forum agreed that the remaining funding should be allocated in the following ways:	
	<ol> <li>£360 Martin Rule to undertake southern side coppicing work (subject to Natural England application and approval), assist on the nature awareness day and updating the annual management plan. Full work programme to be clarified with Martin.</li> </ol>	PL
	<ol> <li>A contribution of £250 for the carbon dating analysis has been agreed, once the total costs have been established.</li> <li>The Nature Reserve Awareness day – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 costs will be approximately £600 and therefore the remaining budget will be committed</li> </ol>	

	to the day.	
	Future Funding	
	The financial statement is to be updated and an application is to be submitted to Falmouth Town Council for a contribution towards the Nature Reserve Awareness day.	
	Falmouth Harbour Commissioners are to be invited to bring a display to the Nature Reserve Awareness day. The invite letter will include detailed costs of the event and a request for a contribution.	MB/PL
	It was agreed that Awards for All funding would be looked at in the future in line with the 2010 Annual Action Plan.	MB/PL
7	Any Other Business	
	<ul> <li>Ian Bennallick from Botanical Cornwall Group has fixed a date to visit the area to look for the rare plants listed previously, and to create new plant records. Date is Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup> at 9.30am.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>The Chair and Beth Tonkin (via e-mail) thanked Esther for all the help she has given the LNR group. Beth's e-mail said "we'll be sad to lose her and I hope that she will be able to stay on until her successor is in place. Also to wish her well in the new Cornwall Council.</li> </ul>	
	Date, Time & Venue of Next Meeting	
	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2009 at 3.45pm, The Meeting Room at Swanpool	