



SWANPOOL LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

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Minutes of the Swanpool Management Forum Meeting held on:

Wednesday 23rd March, 2011
The Information Centre, Swanpool, Falmouth

Present:

PL: Peter Lochrie, (Chair & Treasurer), Swanpool Lessee
DY: David Yelland (Secretary), Falmouth Bay Residents' Association
GT: Gary Thomson, Swanpool Volunteer Warden
PH: Peter Hartley, Falmouth Model Boat Club
BE: Bob Eldridge, Marlborough School

1. Apologies: Beth Tonkin (**BT**), Donald Martin (**DM**), Martin Rule (**MR**),
Malcolm Brain (**MB**), Phillipa Hoskin (**PH**)

2. Minutes of last meeting (26 January, 2011)

Accuracy agreed. Matters arising taken under today's agenda headings.

3. Treasurer's report & funding update

Funds in bank account stand at £1742 after adding latest contents of collection box (£114) .

The anticipated £10,000 from the Wainhomes "106 agreement" relating to the Swan Vale development has not been officially confirmed as Wainhomes have yet to sign the agreement. However, there is every expectation that the agreement will be signed shortly. The money will be released when the first houses have been sold (12-18 months time). Note: Once the agreement has been signed, Phillipa Hoskin (Cornwall Council) will attend a Forum meeting to discuss the release and spend of the money.

4. Projects:

(i) Coppicing :

MR reported that the coppicing work was carried out safely and successfully on 18th Feb. BTCV were not involved in this work but may participate in future projects Cost of this work was contained to just £136.

(ii) Capping works:

Nothing to report but item to be kept on agenda.

(iii) Highway works:

Funding has been agreed, via Mayor's Cornwall Council ward allocation, to proceed with "anti-parking" posts along western edge of the lake

(iv) Platforms (£10,000 funding)

It was agreed by the Forum that the majority of the "106 agreement" funding of £10,000 would be spent on a viewing platform area and that this should, in particular, be designed to meet educational needs. With input from **BE** it was proposed that the platform should have an extensive fenced walkway and viewing area large enough for a school group of 30. A seating/picnic area is desirable together with a lectern, interpretation boards, etc. Bird feeders and other wildlife features should also be considered. A more detailed specification, with cost estimates, will be developed once the funding time scale has been confirmed.

5. Constitution & responsibilities

The responsibilities for managing the Forum were discussed and the contents of the Constitution briefly reviewed. It would appear that legislation concerning SSSIs requires owners to be responsible for implementing appropriate management plans. Further investigations will be made to ensure that the Forum is fully aware of its remit and responsibilities and that it is receiving the appropriate level of support from the local authorities and other agencies. **Action DY**

6. Any Other Business

(i) A meeting will be held with anglers to discuss and implement the fishing permit scheme discussed and agreed at the last meeting. **Action PL**

(ii) A guided nature tour, organised and run by **MR** as part of the Falmouth Spring Festival, will take place at 10.30 a.m, on Sunday 27th March

(iii) Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) performed a beach clean and nature reserve litter-pick on 5th Feb. Approx. 80 people were involved. The event was featured in both the West Briton and Packet; this was good publicity for both SAS and Swanpool. This is now planned to be an annual event.

(iv) A request has been made by **PL** to Cornwall Council for additional dog litter bins along the back (western) road.

(v) A local wildlife photographer and author, David Chapman, has visited Swanpool to prepare a major article for the Cornwall Today magazine. A draft of the article will be sent by **PL** to Forum members for comment.

(vi) For the first time in over thirty years there are two nesting pairs of Swans on the lake. The original Cob and new Pen are nesting on a raft at the north end and the new pair have built a

substantial nest in reeds at the south end . Eggs are being laid and two broods of cygnets are expected in mid-May. Local press will be informed. **Action PL**

(vii) Reed cutting will be considered when coppicing work is next undertaken.

(viii) A new charity will benefit from this year's firework events. Any additional funding necessary for maintenance work will be allocated from the "106" grant.

7. Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 18th May 3.45 p.m. Swanpool information centre

D Yelland
30/03/2011