



SWANPOOL

LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

www.swanpool.org.uk

Minutes of the Swanpool Management Forum Meeting held on:

Wednesday 30th November, 2011
The Information Centre, Swanpool, Falmouth

Present:

PL: Peter Lochrie, (Chair & Treasurer), Swanpool Lessee
DY: David Yelland (Secretary), Falmouth Bay Residents' Association
PH: Peter Hartley, Falmouth model Boat Club
GT: Gary Thomson, Swanpool Volunteer Warden
RF: Rob Follett, Website manager (By invitation)

1. Apologies: Beth Tonkin (**BT**), Martin Rule (**MR**), Malcolm Brain(**MB**), Bob Eldridge (**BE**)

2. Minutes of last meeting (21st September, 2011)

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

3. Treasurer's report & funding update

Funds in bank account stand at £1851.21

The Forum funds will continue to benefit from the collection boxes on site and in the Café. Boxes are emptied every 4-8 weeks; the most recent one contained over £100.

4. Project identification and progress (£10,000 Wainhomes funding)

Work on the Wainhomes development has commenced, it is anticipated that the Forum will receive the £10000 funding 12-18 months from now.

Having been advised by Phillipa Hoskin that the costs in developing a new area of the lake could be prohibitively high, particularly with respect to environmental impact and other surveys, it is now proposed to develop the existing viewing area at the north end of the pool.

PL presented draft plans depicting a granite terraced area complete with decking and fencing. This would include interpretation boards and, possibly, additional seating and other facilities, depending on budget constraints. Phillipa has been informed of these outline proposals and will be viewing the area in question (if not already done so).

The Forum supported the new proposals and asked **PL** to develop them further in liaison with Phillipa. Once viability has been established the plans will be presented to **BT** for approval.

It was advised by **PL** that the project plan should include the next phase of coppicing in the schedule of work as this will add weight to the proposal.

5. Projects

(i) Coppicing :

PL related that **MR** was recovering from an operation and would be out of action for a while. The Forum extended its best wishes to Martin for a full and speedy recovery.

MR will be asked to prepare a coppicing schedule for approval at the next meeting. Additionally, a specific amount of coppicing work should be identified and costed for inclusion in the project plan to be submitted in support of the £10,000 Wainhomes grant application.

(ii) Capping works:

Nothing to report but item to be kept on agenda.

(iii) Highway works:

Monitoring to continue of the the/"anti-parking" posts along the western edge of the lake.

6. Website

Rob Follett outlined the history of the Forum website and explained that the current contract with him would expire in March next year. **PL** apologised for not responding promptly to requests for information to keep the website up-to-date. It was considered that communications and response may be improved by asking the "on-site" person responsible for the Swanpool Beach website, Martin Thomas, to also take on the Forum contract. Rob was happy with this arrangement and kindly offered to cooperate in the transfer of responsibilities. The Forum thanked Rob for all his efforts in establishing and managing the website in a very effective manner over the past 4-5 years.

7. Any Other Business

- (i) A local resident had complained about the increasing number of rats around the lake since Cornwall Council had stopped baiting the rat poison boxes. This was communicated to CC who have now agreed to re-instate the baiting programme. Don Martin, in an e-mail to **PL**, had suggested a further programme of measures,

requiring the Forum to contribute to the cost. It was agreed to defer any such initiative until the results of the re-baiting became evident.

- (ii) Tina Holland, CC Service Support Officer, had passed on a report from a resident that a young swan had become entangled in nylon ropes. On enquiry, **PL** determined that the incident happened at a lake in Helston, not at Swanpool. He has informed all parties accordingly.
- (iii) Angela Webster, a course manager at Falmouth Marine School, is keen to run a nature project at the lake involving the removal of non-native plants and general wildlife management. The Forum confirmed its general approval for this exercise. PL will now refer Angela to **BT** to outline a more detailed plan for approval.
- (iv) PL to contact Surfers Against Sewage to arrange a litter pick for early February. It is considered that two litter picks per year are necessary; to be discussed at the next meeting.
- (v) The six cygnets are doing well; they will probably leave the lake towards the end of January. The “new” cob and pen are now well established and recently chased off another pair which arrived at the lake. The old cob has now been gone for a few months but returns occasionally and is still searching for a new mate.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd February, commencing 3.45 p.m. at the Swanpool information centre.

D Yelland
Secretary