



SWANPOOL LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

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Minutes of the Swanpool Management Forum Meeting held on:

Wednesday 3rd July, 2013
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
- MB:** Malcolm Brain, resident (past chairman)
- MR:** Martin Rule, environmental consultant
- EL:** Esther Lochrie, Swanpool Beach, by invitation

By invitation from Cornwall Council:

- JM:** John Mitchell, Principal Public spaces Officer
- AC:** Andy Cook, Environmental Engineer
- MRa:** Melissa Ralph, Landscape Architect

Prior to addressing the official agenda for the meeting, the three guests from Cornwall Council made representations to the committee on their proposals for the spend of the "Wainhomes 106 funding" (£10,000) and fulfilment of the outstanding capping works.

JM summarised the background to the £10000 funding and also explained the management arrangements for processing the 106 funding.

MRa outlined the surveys she had recently conducted at the nature reserve and presented a plan which showed the various activity areas surrounding the lake. She also confirmed that she had consulted with **BE** and **PL** on schools and general visitor activity at the nature reserve. In conclusion, she concurred with the previous proposal of the Forum to develop a terraced, visitor viewing and amenity area at the north end of the lake. A sketch of the proposed terraced area, presented by **MRa**, was adjudged by all present to be a worthwhile and feasible project which should be taken forward.

MRa informed the meeting that the planning authorities will require a formal planning application for the terracing works. It was noted that the estimated cost of £10000 to complete the project assumed that formal drawings and a planning application would not be required. **MRa** undertook to determine costs for the necessary drawings and submissions and would hope that the total cost could be accommodated within the available funding.

Within the concept planning work, **MRa** had identified a number of other potential improvement projects, including a children's play area. These will be discussed separately with **EL**.

AC presented plans to undertake the long awaited capping works. The basic plan is to cap over the existing structures and produce a hard, smooth tarmac-like surface. Natural England has resisted the use of standard tarmac; special tarmac with an eco-friendly plant binder is no longer available. Although other materials are being investigated there is concern that if standard tarmac cannot be used it may not be possible to complete the project within the funding limit of £25000 . It is thought that there may be a way of edging the tarmac in a manner which would mitigate any harmful impact and this option will be investigated further.

The capping works funding has to accommodate various administration costs related to environmental impact assessments, project monitoring, etc. Currently, these costs are estimated at £7000 but **AC** is hoping that savings can be achieved. Alternative quotations for this work are being sought and Phillipa Hoskin has agreed to assist with the environmental assessment work.

MR will liaise with Beth Tonkin, Natural England on the various environmental issues and report back to **MRa**

It is hoped that both projects can be progressed without undue delay, accepting that the capping works will have to be conducted with regard to the dormant season for the trembling sea mat.

The projects will be progressed by **MRa** and **AC** with update reports issued to the Forum at regular intervals.

On behalf of the Swanpool Forum, **PL** thanked **JM**, **AC** and **MRa** for all their efforts and looked forward to bringing the projects to a successful conclusion.

Swanpool Forum Meeting

1. Apologies: Beth Tonkin (**BT**),

2. Minutes of last meeting (17th April, 2013)

Accuracy agreed.

All matters arising covered by items on the agenda of this meeting.

3. Treasurer's report & funding update

Funds in bank account stand at £1313.83 with a further £120 angler permit fees to be entered (see later).

4. Viewing area/terracing update (Wainhomes £10000 funding project)

See CC report above

5. Projects

(i) Coppicing :

The most recent phase of coppicing was carried out in February. It is proposed that an allocation from the £10000 Wainhomes 106 funding be made to cover a coppicing programme over the next three years

(ii) Capping works:

See CC report above

(iii) Highway works:

Nothing to report

6. Any Other Business

In consultation with one of the anglers who fish at the lake, **PL** has drafted an angler's code of practice. Six anglers have signed the code and have been issued with permits; each paid a £20 joining fee. Permits will be renewed annually on 1st April. Issuing of additional permits will be at the discretion of the Forum.

A BBC production team visited the nature reserve last week to film and interview for a programme named "urban wildlife" to be screened at 7.00 p.m. on an unspecified date in August

EL (Esther Lochrie) was invited to become a member of the Forum. (Subsequent to the meeting **DY** checked and confirmed that **EL**'s appointment accorded with the requirements of the Constitution.)

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th September, 2013, commencing 3.45 p.m. at the Swanpool information centre.

D Yelland
Secretary
