



Friends of Horton Country Park

Minutes

For the meeting held on the 07/10/2008

Present

Brendan Kilby (Chair), Anne Cheshire, Alan Cheshire, Laurence Coley (Membership), Sarah Hallums (Countryside Officer), Mo Pearcey, Pam Pearcey, Ian Tilbury, Eileen Tomlin, Terry Summerfield.

Apologies

Kate Cochrane, Anne Davies, Val (English), Ray Eyres, Rosemary Eyres, Bill Facer, Brenda Hammond Gibbs, Tony Gibbs, Pat Lowe.

Matters arising from previous minutes: -

Autumn Fair

Letters have been sent out and a confirmation letter will be sent in the New Year. We will talk about this at the December meeting.

Membership

45 – in total with 10 – new ones plus some renewable ones. Laurence has sent e-mails to those who have paid.

Tasks

Information Centre has been great but unfortunately not much representation on other tasks. When we organise tasks it would be helpful if we knew numbers or at least be telephoned a few days before if by any chance members are unable to make it. Please contact:-

Office 01372 741191

Sarah 07736 630 649

Tasks in the diary: -

October 19th

25th Anniversary of the Lower Moles on
Epsom common – meet at 10.a.m at the Stew Pond
Car Park.

November 16th

Coppicing along Pond Wood stream – 10a.m meet at office.

Brendan., Ian., Alan., Anne., Mo., Pam., Laurence., Terry maybe.

Will be carrying out coppicing task on 19th., 20th., 26th and 27th November. Meet at the office at 10.a.m.

Butchers Grove coppicing with Lower Moles 9th.10th.11th.16th.17th.19th.and 21st December.
Meet at the office at 10.a.m.

Orchard

The tree that we planted that we thought had died – is alive!

ACTION – Sarah to talk to Jeremy Young re old trees and their condition.

Information Centre

Tree has gone, stump left to be made into a seat. Hopefully the info centre will stop Cracking!

Alan reminded us that we still need to remove the moss from the roof. Perhaps a task for the summer.

Bins

ACTION – Sarah to talk to operational services re location of bin near footpath from car park.

Grass in Totem Pole

Contractors are behind – this field is not a priority

Brendan Observations

Litter not too bad – good to see Ranger presence.

Fishing

Brendan has noticed fishing is getting very bad at Chessington Close balancing pond. They are breaking the fence, which makes it quite dangerous. Brendan has also been told that Golf club say it is ok.

ACTION – Sarah to inform Rangers.

Sarah and Lindsay have skimmed the brambles next to Meadow Pond so fishermen cannot hide!

Ponds

Bullrushes are swamping ponds. What can we do?

FOHCP could apply for a grant funding from 'Pond Action'.

ACTION – Laurence to investigate.

ACTION – Investigate legal control of balancing ponds. Does Environment Agency have any responsibility?

Hay cut

Weather has delayed this. Mr Anderson has cut and bailed as much as he can. Fields that have not been cut, as many as possible will just be topped by our contractor to avoid thatch build-up.

Capital Bid

Another bid has gone in for redoing the tracks. Hopefully this one will be accepted due to grant funding available.

Chessington Chat

Has been e-mailed with the Friends information.

Newsletter

ACTION – Brendan to e-mail his piece to Peter A.S.A.P – note for reminder.

A.O.B

Terry – money from EEBC came through so we now have £950.00 approx.

Next meeting 2nd December 2008 in the New Hall at 7.30 pm.

Members are asked not to park outside the hall but to use the public car park. Sarah will ensure that we are not locked in!