



## **The Friends of Horton Country Park**

Minutes for the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 AGM

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### **Present**

Alan Cheshire, Anne Cheshire, Brendan Kilby, Terry Summerfield, Ian Tilbury, Keith Partridge, Jan Partridge, Catherine Thompson, Will Thompson, Stewart Cocker.

### **Apologies**

Ray Eyres, Rosemary Eyres

### **Re-election of officers**

Brendan Kilby – Chairman

Anne Cheshire – Secretary

Terry Summerfield – Treasurer

### **Chairman's Report**

Noted the following matters:

- Lambert's Pond de-silting work was carried out by The Lower mole Project.
- The Friends held a litter pick at the weekend.
- Increasing members is seen as a challenge and priority for this year.
- Noted the delay with the balancing ponds for the West Park development.

### **Treasurer's report**

No issues reported.

Accounts proposed by Will Thompson and seconded by Ian Tilbury.

### **Members Secretary Report**

There are currently 28 members which are down by 10 from the year before.

BK asked AC if she could send out a reminder to those who had not renewed, even though this was done last year.

As a way of recruiting new members, BK suggested the idea of summer evening walks.

KP suggested an article in West Ewell and Ruxley Newsletter.

CT suggested a Facebook page and KP suggested plugging in to the EEBC Facebook page.

BK proposed the membership notes which were seconded by TS.

### **Woodland Management**

SC updated on Woodland management.

### **Orchard Management**

BK suggested those who took part in the training courses and tasks were

updated about the progress of the orchard, along with suggesting keeping a watch on the condition of the trees.

### **Grassland Management**

Nothing to report.

### **Hedgerow Management**

Nothing to report.

### **Pond/Stream Management**

SC suggested that the letter BK was going to write about chasing progress with the balancing ponds was sent to EEBC and the Developer.

SC reported the SITA pond bid was unfortunately unsuccessful, meaning work to de-silt Pond Wood Pond would not happen.

### **Site Interpretation**

305 leaflets by autumn?

### **West Park Development news**

See chairman's report

### **Visitor management/Site security**

Nothing to report

### **Species sightings**

KP had noted a rough-legged buzzard circling the Orchard.

### **AOB**

Collier's Close ditch – Keith Partridge enquired about it. SC outlined his knowledge of drainage in the north-west corner of HCP. This included the issues caused by the re-landscaping of the golf course 10 years ago, the flooding it caused at the Ruxley Lane entrance, the work carried out by the Lower Mole Project to relieve said flooding, and the issues associated with the ditch outside of HCP to the rear of Collier's Close and its tendency to now also cause a flooding issue at the Ruxley Lane entrance.

### **Next meeting**

**3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014**