



The Friends of Horton Country Park

Minutes for the meeting held on the 14th June 2017

Present

Gareth Morgan, Ian Tilbury, Jan and James Neill, Alex Foster, Terry Summerfield, Jane Evans, Sarah Clift

Apologies

Joe Lambert and Pat Lowe who unfortunately cannot make Wednesdays.

Matters Arising

None

Membership

ACTION – edit the membership leaflet to add bank details.

The Friends were invited to attend a members evening at the Golf Club on Thursday 6th July.

Advertising for the BioBlitz – send to schools, take poster to the Old Moat and Alex will send info to 'What's On In Epsom'.

Woodland Management

John Sinclair who carried out the coppicing in Butcher's Grove last winter has been in collecting his produce.

We have found more Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) nests in Butcher's Grove and near the Equestrian Centre. The one low to the ground in Butcher's grove was removed by a contractor.

Orchard Management

Nothing to report

Grassland Management

Mr Anderson from the equestrian centre will be carrying out the hay making over the next few months.

Hedgerow Management

Nothing to report

Scrub Management

Nothing to report

Pond/Stream Management

It was agreed to donate £200 towards the de-silting of Field Pond which will be carried out by the Lower Mole Partnership volunteers.

Site Interpretation

Notice boards surrounds are being made by the Lower Mole Partnership. The metal cabinets have been purchased.

Public Access/Visitor Management

Volunteers have been opening up FP26 and they have laid a new woodchip path through the hedge at the bottom of the event field so people no longer have to exit the field through the boggy corner.

Species sightings, Surveying and Monitoring

During the last GCN survey of Field Pond, 2 adults were found along 14 efts. We carried out a survey of Dragon and Damselflies and found 8 different species around the ponds. The White Letter Hairstreak butterfly has been spotted again.

AOB

Alex wondered if we could ask for another bin as the one near the orchard has been so well received. She also suggested we lead organise a litter pick, which the group agreed to. **ACTION** – Sarah to talk to the Ranger Emma re organising one for the winter.

Our property services team have been locating unused troughs and removing as they have been leaking.

The Collier Close fencing has been tampered with and motorbikes have been seen entering the park. **ACTION** – pass info to the Rangers.

Next meeting

Wednesday 9th August 7:30 pm.