

AGM 2013

Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook

www.friendsofcherryhintonbrook.org.uk

Held on Thursday 6 June at 7 Tiverton Way, CB1 3TU

Present: Monica Frisch (Treasurer), Sue Wells (Chair), Jón Fairbairn (Webmaster), Shona Douglas, Anne Cleasby, Stuart Newbold, Holly Anderson (all current committee members), Nicole Robertson, David Brooks, Steve Turville (Cam lakes) , Jess Hatchett and Ruth Hawksley (both Wildlife Trust)

Apologies: Jane Phillips, Nicola Fawcett, Guy Belcher, John Summers, Zoe Harris

1. AGM Minutes from 2012 were approved with no matters arising

2. Chair's report (to be attached)

There was a formal note of thanks to David Brooks for all his work on the committee, and the newsletter. The committee currently write the newsletter but it is hoped that Kim Lochen may take on the responsibility for this. Sue thanked everyone for all their help during the last year.

3. Treasurer's report (to be attached)

The committee were thanked for giving their time and some costs (eg postage) for free. Monica was formally thanked for her work as treasurer this year.

4. Election of committee

David Brooks has resigned from the committee and Zoe Harris has stepped down as secretary. Tiffany Wallace has finished her studies and is leaving the area so is no longer a member.

Current committee members willing to stand again are as follows:

Sue Wells (chair), Monica Frisch (treasurer), Jón Fairbairn (webmaster), Zoe Harris, Shona Douglas, Anne Cleasby, Jane Phillips, Stuart Newbold, Holly Anderson.

Monica proposed all to be re-elected, Shona seconded and there were no objections.

There are 3 vacancies on the committee. Nicole Robertson was proposed by Holly, Anne seconded. Nicola Fawcett was proposed by Anne, Holly seconded. There were no objections. Kim Lochen is to be invited to attend meetings, if she is happy to take on the newsletter.

5. Election of officers

Chair, treasurer and webmaster remain as before.

Secretary: Holly was proposed by Sue and seconded by Monica

Membership secretary: Nicole Robertson was proposed by Sue and seconded by Holly. There were no objections.



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6. AOB. None presented formally, but during the meeting the following were noted:

Holly is to write to Sainsburys in response to their positive letter about litter to see whether it can be included in the next newsletter.

Monica and others are collecting sightings of flora and fauna along the brook; Monica will collate these and send them periodically to the Wildlife Trust, Guy Belcher and the County Council Records Centre.

7. Next AGM to be Monday June 9th 2014

The meeting closed at 8.10 and was followed by an informative talk from Jess Hatchett of the Wildlife Trust: "The Wildlife Trusts vision for a wildlife corridor along Cherry Hinton Brook". A general discussion and refreshments followed this and the evening finished at 10.00pm.

"The Wildlife Trusts vision for a wildlife corridor along Cherry Hinton Brook". Talk on Cherry Hinton Brook, a Chalk Stream, by Jess Hatchett of the Wildlife Trust

Jess gave a most interesting talk about the Brook, the main features directly concerning Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook were as follows:

The profile of the channel (vital for the health of the stream) is, in areas, modified by:

Canalisation, vertical banks, overdeep and overwide channel, slow flow, erosion of banks, silt deposition.

Other issues are: dense overshading, invasive species, urban waste, barriers to fish passage.

The Wildlife Trust is already working with the City Wildlife Officer and FChB to counteract the above (for example some overhanging trees are scheduled to be taken down). FChB, Friends of Cherry Hinton Hall and the Environment Agency are being asked to identify opportunities to counteract barriers to fish passage. Stuart will raise this at the Cherry Hinton meeting he will attend next week.

It is hoped that a restoration project on channel modification (eg to install flow deflectors and coir roll revetments) could begin this year. The project would need to be funded and FChB have agreed to look into applying for Lottery Funding, with support from the Wildlife Trust.

A walk along the brook with Guy Belcher, the Wildlife Trust and FChB is to be arranged to look into this further. Ruth will provide FCHB with information on applying the Lottery Fund, deadlines etc

General discussion

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The Local Plan. This will be presented to the full City council AGM in June and will then be put out for consultation from 19 July to 13 September. We shall need to respond.

Cam Lakes. Steve Turville said that the Campaign is now working with the TA to look at the possibility of having a members only swimming club in the TA lake. Water quality is currently being tested. Access to the lake is being considered. FCHB pointed out that using the gate at the corner of Brookfields/ Burnside would create problems in terms of increased traffic (vehicles, bikes, walkers) down the narrow streets but it would seem more likely that the TA entrance off Coldhams Lane would be more suitable given that there is more space there. Camlakes are also keen to promote the country park idea mentioned in the draft local plan, with the possibility of wild swimming.

Anderson Group. We need to keep an eye on any planning application for the development of the area currently razed to the ground to the north of the railway line and hold Anderson Group to their written commitment of creating a park within the development and ensuring that any developments consider wildlife interests.