

Friends of Cherry Hinton Brook: Occasional Titbits, No. 26, June 2012

www.friendsofcherryhintonbrook.org.uk

Chair: Sue Wells Secretary: Zoe Harris

Please forward or print out and pass on to anyone else who may be interested. If you have items suitable for inclusion please let me have them as they arise. If you wish to be taken off this group email list let me know.



Jón Fairbairn

AGM 7 June 2012 There was some serious but not solemn scrutiny of documents. Allan Brigham (centre), local historian and Cambridge Blue Badge Guide, brought his charm and erudition to bear on the growth of Cambridge, in the 19C, along Mill Road as far as Brookfields where it reached the zone devastated, both contemporaneously and later, by the quarrying of coprolites and the Chalk. This zone, of course, now provides, with its lakes, the enormously important green corridor of the Cherry Hinton Brook. Allan presented his vision of Brookfields (see photo below left) as the gateway, for the people of Romsey, to this green open space, bemoaning the prohibition of public access to the lakes and the horror of the Brookfields/Perne Road cross-roads where car is king. Some county councillors agree with him that the junction and its environs could be improved, but not without the help of money.



Romsey residents' gateway.....to open green space.

The business of the AGM included the **election of the following new officers:** Chair - Sue Wells; Secretary - Zoe Harris (second from right in top photograph); Treasurer - Monica Frisch (third from right); and new committee member - Jane Phillips (second from left).

Cambridge Local Plan Towards 2031 The City Council has just published an *Issues and Options Report June 2012* (which can be Googled) to invite members of the public to engage in a consultation process (deadline 27 July) to help follow the *2006 Local Plan* with the intended *Local Plan Towards 2031*.

At the 25 June FCHB committee meeting it was agreed to make a formal submission with particular reference to Option 40 relating to the Cherry Hinton Brook and the lakes, and the land between Coldham's Lane and the railway. To this end wildlife and nature conservation, access and recreation were discussed. Any FCHB members who would like to participate should get in touch. Watch this space.

BBC Radio Cambridgeshire: Remember the drought? Tiffany Wallace (FCHB and ARU President of the Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Society) with Paul Sales (county councillor and local resident) met Johnny Dee from Radio Cambridgeshire to discuss the effect that the very low level of the Brook was having on flora and fauna. The three of them walked the course of the Brook, broadcasting live interviews during the Jeremy Sallis morning news programme from 7 to 9am. Ian Webb from the Wildlife Trust joined them when they reached Sainsbury's. A duck waddled past in the mud, illustrating beautifully the lack of water and Paul collected a wide variety of cans, packets and wrappers that had been discarded in the Brook, enabling Tiffany to make a plug for the FCHB litter picks to maintain the health of this important Chalk stream. (Holly Anderson)

David Brooks (01223 244528), 30 June 2012