

**Minutes of a meeting of Scarning Water Meadows  
Sub-committee held in the Scarning Village Hall on 20th May 2013.**

Present            Mr R Walton, Mrs W Brown, Mr. S Faulkner, Mr. A Howell  
                         Mr. J Walker,  
                         In attendance Mr N Hartley

1. Apologies for Absence

Mrs. F Bradford who was working.

2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 05<sup>th</sup> March 2013 were agreed.

3. Update of the Lease: Conduits and Dangerous Trees.

- a. Breckland District Council stated that they have no records to confirm which (if any) utility companies are responsible for these conduits. Committee members agreed to accept the BDC response.
- b. Breckland District Council (Environmental Services Team) has agreed to ask their local tree surgeon to look at the trees on the areas proposed to be leased and report back with his findings. Depending on the costs BDC may be prepared to do some necessary work to the trees.

**Still awaiting this report.**

**Committee members stated that one solution might be to alter the boundary of the draft lease to exclude those trees near Washbridge within close proximity of the power transformer / power lines. It was agreed to await the report from BDC before making any further decisions.**

4. Update of the erection of the Sign at Lucy's Meadow.

The request to erect a sign on Lucy's Meadow was chased and an answer was received.  
BDC requested that information (map) giving the exact location that the sign was going to be placed be forwarded to them again.

**The map and email was sent 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013. Still awaiting a reply from BDC.**

5. Insurance Cover for the Scarning Water Meadow.

- a. Insurance to cover Volunteer Groups working on the Water Meadow.

The insurance to cover Volunteer Groups working on the Water Meadow was investigated through the Insurance Company used by the Scarning Parish Council. The company agreed to add the cover to the Parish Councils Policy for an additional cost of £57.54 per annum.

**This was agreed on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and the cover implemented.**

- b. Insurance to cover injury to members of the public on the Water Meadow.

The question of how the Parish Council would stand if a member of the public was injured by a falling branch or tree.

The Parish Council has public liability cover which will cover the council for any accidents caused by their negligence. Regular checks and maintenance must be carried out to minimize the possibility of damage or injury.

**It was agreed that regular checks of trees on the water meadow would be undertaken by the PC when the lease was agreed. To establish a base-line an inspection of the trees has been requested of BDC and work to rectify those found dangerous. The SWMC would then, when satisfied, introduce their own inspection programme and findings recorded at their meetings.**

6. Work on the Water Meadow .

Work commenced on the bridge( large playing field) on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013 by the BDC contractors.

**On completion of the work :**

**a. An inspection will be carried out to determine any damage caused to the area already leased to SPC.**

**b. Liaison with BDC to rectify as discussed at the meeting with BDC on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2012.(see minutes of this meeting)**

7. Consultant Guidance and Expenses.

To ensure that the Scarning Water Meadow is managed in a professional manner a Countryside Management Consultant is required to oversee work carried out. Steve Dalliston who is very familiar with the Water Meadow and has co- written the current Scarning Meadow Management Plan(June 2012) has offered his services.

Steve's rates are as follows: £9.00 per hour and 32p per mile travelling expenses.

This works out at £65 per 4 hour session.

**The Committee agreed to accept Steve Dalliston's quote and ask that he submits any invoices direct to the Clerk of Scarning Parish Council for payment.**

8. Any other Business

Mr Walker noted that Andrina Walmsley is in discussion with the Hawk & Owl Trust regarding an area of land on the meadows with a particularly diverse fauna. It was noted that this area is outside the subcommittee's remit. It was agreed to keep the matter on the agenda and not to preclude working with other groups on the meadows.

**No update from Andrina Walmsley .**

A Village Litter Pick was organized for 18th May 2013.

This attracted ten volunteers who spent about an hour gathering an assortment of rubbish.

Thank you to those willing persons.

9. The date and time of the next meeting of the Scarning Water Meadow Sub Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for 16<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at 1900hrs . The meeting point is at the bottom of Steward Way.