



THE NOAK BRIDGE NATURE RESERVE SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

Summer 2003

EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Basildon Countryside Services Events

OPEN DAY!

Sunday, 22 June 2003

12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Noak Bridge Nature Reserve



Evening Walk in the reserve

Wednesday, 11 June 2003

Start Prince of Wales Car Park, 7:30 pm



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 23 July 2003

Village Hall, Noak Bridge

7:30 pm



WORK PARTIES

Noak Bridge Nature Reserve

3rd Wednesday each month

1:00 p.m - 3:00 p.m

(meet at Eastfield Road)



OPEN DAY! Sunday, 22 June 2003 - 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Hope to see all our members at our special day! See the work of local craftsmen/women, and Peter Knight's ferrets and/birds of prey. Ice creams and snacks will be provided by Tony Leonardi and you will be able to purchase bird-food too! Pond-dipping and games for the children are to be arranged and guided walks around the reserve. You may want to buy a ticket for one of our great raffle prizes! Let's make it a great day!



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Annual General Meeting – Wednesday, ~~26~~ July 2003 in the Village Hall – 7:30pm.

An Agenda and a copy of the 2002 AGM Minutes are attached to this newsletter. Please come along and show your support for your Society!



Evening Walk, Wednesday, 11 June 2003. We are hosting a walk for the Billericay Society again and will meet their members in the Prince of Wales car park at 7:30pm.



Work Parties. 3rd Wednesday each month – 1:00 – 3:00 pm.
Come along and enjoy the fun!



Memberships. A Membership form is attached - you may renew your membership at the AGM.



Something to say? Would you like to contribute an item to the Newsletter? Contact Janet Bircham at 526344.

THE NOAK BRIDGE NATURE RESERVE SOCIETY



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

23

Wednesday, ~~16~~ July, 2003

Village Hall

Noak Bridge

7:30pm

All members are invited to attend the fourth Annual General Meeting of The Noak Bridge Nature Reserve Society. It should be a short meeting followed by refreshments.

Weed will be pleased to receive Membership renewals for 2003/4.
A form is attached to this Agenda.

Officers and Committee members will be elected for the coming year, so if you would like to serve or would like to nominate another member to serve (with their permission, of course), please forward your/their name to Janet Bircham, Secretary, (Tel. 526344) at 42 Crouch Street or do so at the meeting. We would like to have more committee members this year – we meet about 4 times a year, at Norsey Wood.

Current Officers are:

Tony Youé, Vice Chair
Ralph Chapman, Acting Chair and Treasurer
Janet Bircham, Secretary
Weed, Membership Secretary

Committee Members:

Betty Haynes, Lesley Zanco, Laetitia Lewis



THE NOAK BRIDGE NATURE RESERVE SOCIETY

23 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, ~~16~~ July 2003

Noak Bridge Village Hall

7:30 p.m

1. Welcome and Report on the year's activities – Mr. Tony Youé
2. Matters Arising from Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 11 July 2002
3. Adoption of the Minutes 11 July 2002
4. Treasurer's Report, Mr. Ralph Chapman
5. Membership Secretary's Report, Weed
6. Countryside Services Report – Paul Bown, Ranger
7. Election of Officers*
 - (a) Chairperson
 - (b) Treasurer
 - (c) General Secretary
 - (d) Membership Secretary
8. Election of Committee Members
9. Open Forum

*Current officers are willing to continue if no other nominations are received.

Refreshments



**THE NOAK BRIDGE NATURE
RESERVE SOCIETY**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, 11 July 2002

Kenilworth Place, Noak Bridge 7:30 p.m

MINUTES

Committee: Ron Francis, Chair
Ralph Chapman, Treasurer
Janet Bircham, Secretary
Weed, Communicator
Jan Francis, Membership
Lesley Zanco

Apologies: Laetitia Lewis
Yvonne Sannister

1. **Ron Francis, Chair** opened the meeting at 7:30 pm and welcomed fifteen members to our third AGM. Ron reviewed the past year in which the Society has seen the completion of the upgrading of the reserve, allowing access to most of the site to members and visitors with wheelchairs and pushchairs. The footpath approaching the Eastfield Road entrance has also been upgraded from grass to pavement. Not forgetting the wildlife we have also provided two bird tables and replaced bird nesting boxes. The bird tables have been vandalized several times and even thrown into the ponds; some of the nesting boxes have also met with similar treatment, but we make the necessary repairs and try again! Areas and features of the reserve have been given names with historical connotations. This year, way-markers will be installed by Countryside Services. The problem with dog-fouling in the reserve is still a disappointment but the Society and our ranger, Paul Bown have approached owners on several occasions. Our grant from COVER, Community Champions Fund has been spent on displays boards, a fine camera, a laminator, tables and chairs, badges and nature reference books. A grant from B&Q enabled us to construct a

notice board at the entrance to the reserve and an award from Visteon was used to construct a pond-dipping platform on Puckles Pond. The highlight of the year was our Open Day, 23 June when more than ninety visitors enjoyed a fine day, lots of attractions, refreshments and a chance to enjoy our popular site.

Ron said how much he had enjoyed his year as Chair, and regretted having to stand down due to a heavy workload as Chair to the newly-formed Parish Council. He thanked the committee for their support and Paul Bown for the support of Basildon Council Countryside Services.

2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, 4 July 2001 and Minutes of the Special General Meeting, 16 October 2001**
Matters Arising

Betty Haynes called attention to Item 4 of the 4 July AGM which stated the Work Party renovating the steps had been from Wat Tyler Country Park. The party were actually members of the Basildon Area Conservation Group and the Secretary will make the necessary changes and record.

- 3/4. **The Constitution.** The amendment to Item 5, allowing officers to serve in excess of three years if no other person was willing to assume the office was approved by the meeting. The Minutes and Constitution were adopted, proposed by Betty Haynes and seconded by Ralph Chapman.

5. **Treasurer's Report – Ralph Chapman.** Ralph provided a comprehensive report and a healthy balance of £382. The COVER grant funds have been spent and a report to COVER is due.

6. **Memberships – Jan Francis.** Jan reported about 60 members prior to 1 June 2002. Renewals are now due and 22 members have signed up.

7. **Countryside Services – Paul Bown.** Paul is pleased with the completion of the paths, nature trails and the repairs to the Spanish Steps. He designed the pond-dipping platform and supervised its construction. It was a great success at the Open Day. He thanked the members of the committee and Work Party participants for their interest and support and hoped that more members might come along this year. He reminded the meeting of the Dragons and Damselflies escorted walk on Sunday 21 July in our reserve, 10:00 – 12 noon.
8. **Election of Officers and Committee.**
Chair. There were no applicants or nominations for office of Chair. Eventually, Tony Youé offered to take the position of Vice-Chairman and Ralph Chapman offered to become Acting-Chairman to support Tony until he feels confident to assume the full responsibility. Proposed by Ron Francis and seconded by Ralph Chapman.
Treasurer. Ralph agreed to continue in this position, proposed by Weed and seconded by Jan Francis.
Secretary. Janet Bircham was elected Secretary, proposed Ron Francis, seconded by Weed.
Membership. Weed was elected Membership Secretary, proposed by Betty Haynes and seconded by Lesley Zanco.
Committee Members. Betty Haynes was elected to the committee, proposed by Tony Youe and seconded by Vera Wignall. **Lesley Zanco** was elected, proposed by Janet Bircham seconded by Joan Flynn. In their absence, **Yvonne Sannister** and **Laetitia Lewis** were elected, proposed by Tony Youé and seconded by Joan Flynn.
- 9/10. Open Forum/Refreshments. The meeting concluded with refreshments.

The Society thanks Ron Francis for his leadership and support during the past year and appreciates his contribution to the improvements to the reserve.

Our thanks also to Jan Francis for her work with membership recruitment and her support of all our activities.

We welcome Tony Youé as our Vice Chairman and he may be sure that Ralph Chapman, the committee and officers will do their best to familiarize him our Society and its aims to promote and protect wildlife making the reserve an asset our community can be proud of and enjoy.

Welcome back to the committee Betty Haynes, a long-standing founder-member of the Society and a dedicated wild-life champion and protector.

Finally, our thanks to all the members who have supported our monthly Work Parties.

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.