**South Yare Wildlife Group**

**A G E N D A**

21/07/2022 19.30 pm

Wheatfen Study Centre , Surlingham NR14 7AL

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

***Presen****t : SG, RA, PA, JZ, AJ* ***Apologies*** *: JB,CT,LT*

1. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

*Agreed as true record*

1. **Matters Arising**

*The South Yare Wildlife Group had a presence at the Surlingham and Thurton Summer Fetes with an information stall, the lawn mower game and badge making . Rodney also took the SYWG banner to the Brooke fete but there was the space to set up the game. Our attendance at these fetes was very successful and there was considerable interest in our information and the badge making machine and lawn mower game were in constant use.*

*JZ has asked Citizen Science group about doing a public talk about Large Marsh Grasshopper Re-introduction scheme in September.*

*The Bat walk around Rockland Broad on July 16th was extremely successful with over 30 people in attendance ; 4 bat species were identified by the use of bat detectors : Common Pippestrelle, Soprano Pippestrelle, Noctule and Daubenton’s -which were seen skimming over the surface of the Short Dyke.*

*3 new members have joined following these activities.*

*RA has ordered 50 nest boxes kits at £7.20 each from Peter Todd. There followed a discussion on the idea hole sizes for different bird species and RA said he would enquire if the nest boxes could have different aperture sizes.*

*JA said he was preparing drawing materials for Loddon Activity Afternoon.*

*PA said he had booked New Inn for December 4th for refreshments following Winter Walk around Rockland Broad.*

*PA reported he had purchased the badge making kit which had been used successfully at recent fetes.*

*2 Owl boxes have still to be put up at locations in Hardley . JZ and AJ outlined that the erection of the owl boxes was difficult and complex procedure; climbing ladders whilst carrying materials in inclement weather and failing light. JZ enquired if there was any form of public liability form. Any assistance with this important work would be appreciated.*

*It was noted that the website had been updated successfully by JB , but there were still some issues with some of the sections.*

*JZ reported that the Large Marsh Grasshopper reintroduction scheme was in hand and we are waiting for further contact from the Citizen Science Group.*

*CT reported that the two landowners interested in re-wilding, both called Richard had been put in touch with each other and also that a grazier may be interested in helping with one site.*

1. **Proposal from Rose Hoare for Teenage Conservation Group**

*SYWG has received a formal proposal from Rose Hoare of Wheatfen Forest School to start a specific Young Explorers Group for teenagers, with a detailed breakdown of the costings involved in employing staff trained and approved to work with young people. Rose stated that she felt there should be no charge for the young people who would be volunteering their time. There was considerable discussion amongst the committee and all agreed that engaging young people with the nature was a priority area for SYWG, but felt they needed further information before making a decision to grant the money requested. Therefore it was decided that we write to Rose Hoare stating: “ After discussion the committee has decided that we like the idea in principle and would like to discuss it further with you, in the very near future. " The committee has asked Rose to give a date when she can meet to discuss the proposal in more detail.*

1. **Schools links**

*JZ reported that the links with local schools in the Sapienta Trust was in progress but with school holidays it would be the Autumn before we can have more details.*

1. **New SYWG leaflet**

*PA had looked at the previous SYWG handout and the Wild Patch leaflet and attempted to design a new tri-fold leaflet incorporating the SYWG aims and information and a membership form. This was sent to Kaarin Wall who used her graphic skills to design a professional looking form incorporating visually attractive photos of our activities. This was approved of by the committee, although it was felt that it would be good if we could incorporate some photos and text of our other activities such as swift and owl boxes, and the Young Explorers, if that goes forward.*

*It was agreed for PA to tell ask Kaarin to finalise the leaflet and to order an initial print of 200 leaflets for the Loddon Activity afternoon . RA to talk to Roberts the printers.*

1. **Loddon Activity Afternoon 21st August**

*PA reported that a planning meeting had taken place on July 6th chaired by Carol Carpenter who had booked the Jubilee Hall and organised for many wildlife groups to attend with stalls, displays and games, as well as refreshments and posters. Everything seems to be in place for a successful afternoon and another planning meeting will take place on 27th July, 7.30 pm at Wheatfen. A SYWG publicity banner has been ordered to go outside the venue.*

1. **Future Events**

*August 21st Loddon Activity Afternoon*

*September 4th Four churches walk organised by PA for Hellington Community Nature Reserve (This was to be on August 28th but PA will be away)*

*October 19th- Wild Ken Hill talk at Poringland 7.30-9.30*

*November 16th or 17th- Joe Harkness mental health and the natural world*

*December 4th- Winter Walk at Rockland 2-4.*

1. **Poster distribution**

*Angie has very kindly organised our poster distribution for many years, picking the posters from the printers and taking them round the villages, but has now asked if it can be passed on to someone else.*

*JZ said he would be willing to pick posters up from printers in Loddon and PA will circulate the distribution list to committee members, so they can see if there are any localities which they can do.*

1. **Minutes, etc. on website**

*JM has said that he will put minutes on the SYWG website. PA said it would be a good idea to put any articles we write, (such as for Eleven Says) onto the website. The Eleven Says deadline will be on September 10th. JZ he would ask Henry Walker if he could write something about farming and wildlife as that would link in with the public talk by Wild Ken Hill manager. It was also suggested articles should go in the Thurton Thunderer and the Contact magazine for Poringland.*

1. **Any Other Business**

*JZ has yellow rattle available to distribute to members*

*PA updated the committee on the Rockland Bird Hide Action Group*

1. **Next Meeting** Tuesday 20th September 7.30 at Wheatfen Study Centre