

Minutes of Thorpe on the Hill Lake Management Committee (LMC)

9th April 2025 at 7pm at the Oliver Roper Village Hall

Lake Management Committee

LMC 25.01.01

Membership: Cllr Bramford, Cllr Lyons, Cllr Sheldon MBE, Mr P Firth (Featherbenders and Flyfishers), Mr O Chapple (27th Lincoln Scouts), Mr T Magri.

Deputies Mr K Marshall (Featherbenders and Flyfishers), Mr F Firth (27th Lincoln Scouts), Mrs S Lyons and Mrs A Houghton (Parishioners)

Present: Councillor's Lyons and Sheldon, Mr Chapple, Mr P Firth, Mr Magri, Kerrie Vickers (Parish Clerk)

LMC 25.01.02 Chair's welcoming remarks and apologies for absence – Councillor Lyons welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Councillor Bramford.

LMC 25.01.03 Public time no public in attendance

LMC 25.01.04 Declaration of interest and declaration of gifts and hospitality over £25: none

LMC 25.01.05 Minutes of the meeting of 30th October 2024 were accepted and signed as a true record

LMC 25.01.06 Review of outstanding agreed actions. No outstanding items.

LMC 25.01.07 Signage

Mr Chapple advised the committee on the need for new/additional signage for dog fouling issues and it was agreed that the Clerk would source new signs. Mr Chapple asked to be consulted regarding the wording and positioning of the signs.

Mr Firth advised that there had recently been incidents of people poaching in the lake and requested sign be erected to deter this. It was agreed that the Clerk would purchase 2 signs.

Action by Parish Clerk

LMC 25.01.08 Lake Maintenance Schedule

The fishing club had some concerns regarding the maintenance schedule. Mr Firth asked for this item to be covered in his verbal report which was agreed.

LMC 25.01.09 Disabled Access Request

Mr Firth asked for this item to be covered in his verbal report which was agreed.

LMC 25.01.10 Financial matters

The following items of payment and income were noted

a. Payments

11/11/2024	Lloyds Bank	Wildlife bulbs	-	197.99
27/01/2025	Chapple	gauge board + plants	-	166.35

Please be advised that these are notes of the meeting taken by the Parish Clerk and cannot in any way be regarded as official minutes of Council proceedings until approved and signed at the next meeting.

27/01/2025	North	Grass/hedges	-	540.00
------------	-------	--------------	---	--------

b. b. Income

06/11/2024	Beechmast Ltd	Tree removal at Lake - reimbursement	420.00
------------	---------------	--------------------------------------	--------

c. Financial Report Noted

Budget £2000.00 Total Spend £1499.34

LMC 25.01.11 LMC Constitution/Terms of Reference – no update to add

LMC 25.01.12 Lake Inspection Reporting System/ Forms – new reporting system going well.

LMC 25.01.13 Mr Chapple advised that there were no items of concern to note other than the amount of dog poo particularly in the long grass.

There seemed to be an improvement in the amount of litter on site and it was interesting to see the water levels changing now the gauge is in situ.

LMC 25.01.14 Report from Wildlife Group

Mr Magri informed the group of recent actions including a volunteer morning in January where the group transplanted several hawthorn saplings from an area where they are no longer needed to an area where some were accidentally cut down. Fallen branches from the areas where the grass is cut were removed, although more have fallen since. Areas were tidied up where planting had taken place to give the plants more chance of getting their heads into the light. And, for hygiene reasons, all the nest boxes were emptied to ready them for new nests. Once again, all boxes have been used (that's 4 years in a row) so it would be reasonable to argue that around 200 blue tits have been produced since the boxes were installed.

A successful application was made to NKDC for 5 fruit trees and a specimen oak tree for planting at the lake. The fruit trees were planted, as a community orchard, by volunteers who have 'adopted' a tree each, with a view watering and generally looking after their tree over the next few years. The oak was planted this week. They are all in two failed wildflower areas, so it was a good use of space.

Plans for the future, include the erection of bug hotels and more planting in the autumn. A budget of £200 was agreed for the autumn bulbs.

LMC 25.01.15 Report from Scouts Group

Mr Chapple advised that not much activity had taken place over the winter months, but the groups were looking forward to spending more time on the lake this year.

The new hedge was in place and thriving.

LMC 25.01.16 Report from Fishing Group.

Mr P Firth asked about item 3 on the Lake Maintenance Schedule regarding the areas close to the fishing groups benches and was advised that this area was the responsibility of the fishing club.

Mr P Firth asked for confirmation that when the fishing club have a working party, they are acting as agents of the Lake Management Committee, and this was confirmed by Councillor Lyons on the provision that notice is given prior to working party dates.

Mr P Firth advised that the club was struggling with their finances at the moment and would have to rely more on working parties. Councillor Lyons advised that the Parish Council would not like to see the fishing club crumble due to the lack of finances and that the licence fee could be renegotiated if necessary.

Mr P Firth advised that the club would like the LMC to consider the installation of a disabled access for the fishing group. This was discussed at length, and it was agreed that Councillor Lyons would meet with the club secretary to discuss this further. The Parish Clerk would check with the insurance company to see about the liability factors.

LMC 25.01.17 Date of next meeting 29 October 2025

Meeting closed at 8:20pm.