

# Minutes of Thorpe on the Hill Lake Management Committee (LMC) 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7pm at the Oliver Roper Village Hall

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## **Lake Management Committee**

### **LMC 26.03.01**

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

Deputies Mr N Greenwood (Featherbenders and Flyfishers), Mr F Firth (27<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Scouts), Mrs S Lyons and Mrs A Houghton (Parishioners)

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

**LMC 26.03.02** Chair's welcoming remarks and apologies for absence.

Councillor Lyons welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Bramford.

Mr Magri commented about the parishioner vacancy on the committee.

**LMC 26.03.03** Public time. No public in attendance.

**LMC 26.03.04** Declaration of interest and declaration of gifts and hospitality over £25: none

**LMC 26.03.05** Minutes of the meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> October 2025 were accepted and signed as a true record

**LMC 26.03.06** Lake Inspection Report

Mr Chapple was pleased to say that the lake was being well looked after at the moment and had no issues to report. The water level is high.

**LMC 26.03.07** Financial matters

a. The following items of expenditure were authorised.

10.12.2026 £240 Oliver North. Grass cutting

09.02.2026 £77.99 Wildlife Bulbs. Bulbs

c. Financial Report Noted

Budget £1000.00      Total Spend £839.43

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### **LMC 26.03.08** Report from Wildlife Group

Mr Magri reported that a lot of planting has been done and earlier in the year the group had help from several children (and their parents) which was lovely to see.

In early February volunteers from the scouts and their parents helped with planting around the scout area.

Late in February, children added more habitats to the bug hotels.

January and February continued to be wet. The depth gauge, now reading 6, is well on its way to last year's peak of 7. This is proving to be a very useful addition to the Lake.

The group would like to plant more bulbs in the autumn and a budget of £200 was agreed.

Planting has taken place at the Lake for several years and it's interesting to look at the successes and failures. Hawthorn saplings and the fruit trees are doing well but only because of the watering carried out by volunteers over the recent dry summers.

The vandalised oak sapling is showing signs of new growth.

Tenby daffodils and snow drops have been very successful and reliably give us a colourful display every year.

Less successful have been the aconites, the wood anemones and bluebells but they are slowly becoming established which, hopefully, signals better display in the future. The group would like to do some more planting in the autumn if funds are available.

Most disappointing has been the wildflower seed planting which has yielded little success. Recently, areas below the fruit trees in the first orchard were seeded, but we shouldn't be too optimistic.

It was disappointing to see that vehicles have been straying off the track and onto the planted wildlife area on the western side of the main track causing some damage.

Some residents have placed small branches in this area to prevent any further damage.

Damage to tree bark is getting worse and it is suspected that this is being carried out by a Muntjac deer.

### **LMC 26.03.09** Report from Scouts Group

Mr Chapple thanked the wildlife group for involving the Scouts in the planting, which was very much enjoyed.

The Scouts have received a donation from the Lost Village Festival and a grant from Eagle Parish Council and are due to receive a grant from Thorpe on the Hill Parish Council and these funds will be used to replace the old storage containers. 2 of the containers have now been removed and once conditions allow, the new ones will be put in place.

The Scouts are looking forward to more activity at the lake moving ahead.

### **LMC 26.03.10** Report from Fishing Group.

Mr Firth expressed his disappointment that the track the fishermen use to get their vehicles to the lake has still not had the surface addressed. Councillor Sheldon made a suggestion of where make enquiries about wood chippings and Councillor Lyons agreed to look into this.

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Mr Firth confirmed that he has checked the insurance policy and the club is covered for wading. Mr Firth also confirmed that wading would only take if it was necessary during welfare activities and a risk assessment will be undertaken and submitted to the Parish Council.

The club is planning a competition event and Mr Firth asked if they could use the section of bank which is currently classed as a wildlife group bank for the duration of the completion to give them enough space to accommodate the fishermen. This was agreed.

Mr Firth advised that the club has now introduced a lone working risk assessment and agreed to share the document.

**LMC 26.03.11** Any other comments

Councillor Lyons gave an update on the Lincoln and Witham Wildlife Recovery Project which is a collaboration of approximately 20 landowners to join up, enhance and expand the space for nature by creating nature-friendly corridors. The aim of the project is to produce ecological and social benefits alongside food production, and the Eric East Lake has been included in the application with the benefits to the residents being the potential to receive support, information and ideas from the project to enhance Thorpe on the Hill's nature-friendly ambitions. This support includes financial support.

Mr Chapple asked about water testing and was tasked with looking into the costs associated with this.

**LMC 26.03.12** Date of next meeting 21<sup>st</sup> October 2026

Councillor Lyons thanked everyone for their contributions and the meeting closed at 8:30 pm.