

(Queen Thorne) Nature Watch Group (NWG)

Minutes: Saturday 13th July, 2024

Mitre Inn, Sandford Orcas

6pm-7pm

Attending: Kim Creswell (chair), Emma Etherington (treasurer) and Rowan Duffy (administration and membership), Helen D, Annabel D.

Apologies: Clare G.



“To promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in the parish of Queen Thorne in particular, but not exclusively, by undertaking research into the environment and its’ biodiversity, and disseminating the results for the benefit of the public.”

The first meeting for a while as all active members have had to take a rest from NWG duties due to altering personal circumstances. NWG feels now is a good time to reactivate the group, as there is hope that the new governmental administration will take biodiversity emergency more seriously than the last. However, it is clear that the more active members we have the more the NWG can do.

Tax return: is due. ACTION: KIM AND ROWAN

Kick testing: Helen and Annabel to run their own working group, testing at site one and two to compare. Results to be sent to Angus for Riverfly and to Kim for NWG. ACTION: HELEN AND ANNABEL TO ORGANISE AND TO REQUEST ANY SUPPORT OR EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FROM KIM ON BEHALF OF NWG.

Photometer: Testing to recommence, but requests for a space with mains water and electric within the parish have so far been fruitless. In order for the testing to be sustainable long term a dedicated space must be found.

ACTION: ALL MEMBERS TO KEEP EYES OUT FOR NWG HQ/ WATER TESTING HUB KIM TO MEET WITH CLARE TO DISCUSS TESTING GOING FORWARD.

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Lark survey: was carried out at the end of June, by Kim and member Chris R, in the same area as last year. No larks were seen to be present. Last year there were four nests spotted. In 2020 there were hundreds of breeding larks nests in this area which were ploughed up by a local farmer.

Dissemination of findings: NWG must begin to start correlating results in order to present the research undertaken.

ACTION: KIM TO SEND EXISTING RESULTS TO ROWAN

Members: The members' newsletter had been started but was on pause... NWG must engage with it's members. NWG really could do with more active members for a range of activities, and is keen to talk to anyone with an interest.

ACTION: ROWAN TO SEND NEWSLETTER DRAFT AS IT STANDS TO KIM TO TIDY.

Banking: Balance stands at £852.17 A 50ml vial is required for the photometer testing.

Meeting closed.