

Consultation response by the Friends of Petersfield Heath

Petersfield Town Council should be commended for commissioning this much needed Management Plan [MP] for Petersfield Heath. Jenny Edbrooke has done an excellent job in producing a comprehensive and sensitive plan for all to follow.

The MP offers practical ways of meeting the sometimes conflicting needs of ecology, recreation, and archaeology and covers many of the issues that have been highlighted over the years.

The emphasis on the importance of supporting local wildlife has been somewhat overlooked in the past. However, it is refreshing to see that the new MP has now put this center stage with a whole raft of suggestions on how to achieve this while also supporting and managing the other important areas.

As in previous MP's there is a core suggestion here that it is imperative to encourage and engage with the local community. There is a re-occurring theme running through the MP of the need to form a Steering Group composed of the Heath's main stake holders to advise in the direction and application of the MP. With the hopeful addition of a Countryside Officer this is absolutely the right way forward and the collaborative way to decide on priorities and best practice. It is hoped that by properly utilising the talents and experience of stake holders there will be a greater sense of ownership of and commitment to decisions concerning wild life habitat and general aesthetics, resulting in a better all-round environment for both nature, history and visitors.

Page 56.... comment on barrow maintenance. Looking back on email correspondence with George Anelay (project People of the Heath archeologist) I see he agreed with FoPH to a tree maximum cutting diameter on barrows of 100mm not 300mm. Also, his recommendation for clearing beyond barrow perimeter was 2m not 10m. He presented this in relation to an 8m diameter barrow and cutting to 10m diameter. This may be where the 10m confusion has come from.

The detrimental effect on paths etc. of ever increasing numbers of visitors has been highlighted already. However, parking along Heath Road has not been mentioned and at peak times has become dangerous. Cars parking beyond the informal allocated places and on to the verge further east and beyond the corner make it impossible for road users to either see clearly or for two cars to pass each other at that point. This needs to be addressed urgently before next summer.

This Management Plan has the full support of the Friends of Petersfield Heath Committee, and we urge Petersfield Town Council to set up the recommended Steering Group as soon as possible.

Richard Warton

Chairman FoPH (29<sup>th</sup> November 2020)

## TEXT CORRECTIONS

### 2020/25 Petersfield Heath Draft Management Plan

To improve accuracy of the Management Plan, we have included suggested text corrections diligently checked by committee member Robin Hart.

All references to the water area should be in agreement to the criteria which make up either pond or lake. Since the water zone meets substantially the criteria which describes a pond and not the criteria which defines a lake, please keep to the one description and not sporadically using the lake in error.

Apostrophes should be deleted when used with dates encompassing 10 years.

It is plural and not possessive.

Page 11 Assemblage of 31 prehistoric -- should read 21

Page 12 Suction dredging was carried out in 1987 to 1988

Page 18 Spelling correction Cratageus should be Crataegus

Page 18 Spelling correction Salix cinereal should be Salix cinerea

Page 18 Direction should be corrected to south and east of pond (and not lake)

Page 18 Pond was dredged in 1987 to 1988.

Page 19 Second line. In fact that is Salix caprea Goat Willow predominately

Page 21 parallel to Heath Road should read 'parallel to Heath Road East'

Page 23 Argiope bruennichi was photographed and recorded in 2014 and has been seen since.

Page 23 If a list of birds is intended there are many more birds that could be mentioned. This list is very light weight to the actual species. Bird lists have been made for many years. The binomial nomenclature names have changed such as Wigeon is *Mareca penelope*; Shoveler is *Spatula clypeata*; Linnet is *Linaria cannabina* and the Sparrowhawk is *Accipiter nisus*. The *A. brevipes* is a Levant Sparrowhawk not the Eurasian species.

Page 26 Introduction of golf club in May 1891

Page 30 Should read 'golf course in the 19<sup>th</sup> century'.

Page 37 Addition of NERC 2006 section 40.

Petersfield Biodiversity Action Plan 2013: Responsibility – To abide by.

Page 40 Birds, butterflies and invertebrates are seasonal and need to survey/monitor according to the seasons. Annual would be pointless.

Page 44 *Rhododendron ponticum* in the woodland to the south west of the pond should read south east of the pond.

Page 55 It is either *Pinus nigra* (Black Pine) or *Pinus sylvestris* (Scots Pine)

Page 56 <30cm is a mistake. No sapling is a foot in diameter. More likely to mean <30mm as that is sapling diameter size. Imperial measure is 1¼ inches.

By adding a further 10m wide ring to the barrows this will four fold the area of the initial barrow. This will not be tolerable in the aim to maintain and enhance the habitat diversity and minimise fragmentation.

Page 64 2014 Petersfield Biodiversity Action Plan Year should read 2013

Map 1 Spelling Millenium should read Millennium

Map 10 W6b: *Atnus* (sic) should be *Alnus glutinosa*. This tree species does not exist on Petersfield Heath. W1; *Salix cinerea* is in fact *Salix caprea* Goat Willow. Mis-identity.

Robin Hart (November 2020)