

A meeting of the Fowey Rivers Association
was held on Wednesday 17th July 2013 at Lostwithiel Social Club

Present

Bill Smith (Chairman)	John Tisdale (Treverbyn)
Roger Brake (Treasurer)	Rob Williams (River Co-ordinator)
Roger Furniss (SWRA/Glynn)	Jon Evans (secretary)
Dave Johns (LDAC)	

Apologies

Tyson Jackson (WRO)	Fred Tolman (Lanhydrock)
Giles Rickard (WRT)	Godfrey Tucker(V/C / LDAC)

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Paul Jordan from Liskeard and District Angling Club in place of Trevor Sobey.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 16th January 2013

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 16th January 2013 were agreed.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

1. Draynes signage.

Rob reported that he had agreed with the Devon and Cornwall Rescue Service and Natural England that the site could be used for training exercises. However, NE was unwilling to commit to signage. RF agreed to get in touch with Mark Taylor to emphasise the importance of the issue and public safety.

RF

2. Sanctuary

It was noted that most of the landowners had signed new contracts. There were two notable refusals and cheques have been returned to the Treasurer.

It was hoped that river and bank clearance could start in August or September.

The committee recorded thanks to Godfrey Tucker and Trevor Sobey for their help,

3. Park Pit

The next meeting of the SWW Park and Stannon restoration meeting would be held on 4th September. Either RW or JE would attend. One of the matters arising is restoration of spawning areas and TJ is sourcing appropriate gravels. £2,600 has been allocated for the two pits. Another matter arising is increasing the grating size at the Park outfall to 20 mm to support smolt escapes.

JE

4. Finance

The Treasurer tabled a statement of accounts to date. This showed a potential budget spend of £18,000 to be set against current bank balances of £18,500. It was noted that there is £6,500 in SWW accounts for the FRA which can be accessed on evidenced request. The bank balance will be increased by the return of a sanctuary cheque for £416 from Rosemary Parkyn at Wimalford. A further £12,500 will be added to the FRA holding account by SWW for 2013.

There are also hatchery assets stored at Bagstone and Anthony agreed to house these for a further year.

It was agreed that the accounts should be noted.

5. AGM

It was agreed that the AGM had been very successful with excellent pasties.

6. FRA 2013 work programme

RF had very helpfully prepared a schedule of work to be undertaken in the Catchment in 2013.

1. Walkover surveys. The Draynes Valley, Trenant stream and remainder of the Warleggan would be completed by WRT using funding from previous work. There may be a need to FRA to pay for the enhanced pdf mapping.
2. Coppicing. RW will oversee the coppicing work to be undertaken by CJ in October November. Budget sum of £2,000. N.B. This is not to be confused with Lewarne Wood project and WRT grant funding. Martin Harmer will guide both projects.
3. Trash clearance on Clinnick Stream. RW to oversee voluntary work with Forestry in summer 2013.
4. Tree removal and coppicing Ashford to Doublebois Bridge. Being undertaken by Charlie Bettinson for firewood.
5. Upstream Thinking. WRT has been contracted by SWW, Lawrence Gouldrick is managing the programme at the top end of the Warleggan. There are four farms currently under consideration.
6. Gravel introduction on St Neot. GR from WRT is looking after this, funded by Catchment Restoration Fund.
7. Juvenile survey. To be undertaken by WRT. Budget allocation of £5,000.
8. Cardinham. RW has liaised with John Ebsary from Forestry. Further meeting being held August. Ladyvale Bridge should be replaced because it is a known blocker. EA may be asked to consider prosecution under SFWFA. Forestry unlikely to have immediately

available funding but may have engineering expertise.

9. Netherton and Treverbyn weirs may not be blockers even in medium flows, and may not need to proceed.
10. Trenant gravels. To be funded by Park Stannon group and SWW.
11. St Neot restoration. The Chairman's paper proposing the use of JRK and Trafalgar Farm to provide juveniles for the St Neot was considered.

It was agreed that Trafalgar Farm should be used for one year only for producing and maturing up to 80,000 juveniles for restocking in the St Neot in September 2014.

After considerable discussion it was agreed to go ahead with the project, contract the Trafalgar labour with Richard Grieve from mid September 2013 to mid September 2014 with £1,000 for Pyceze and contingencies. RG and RW would start the broodstock catching with effect from October 2013 by which time Trafalgar would be set up and discussions would have taken place with Irene Eliot about using the Wainsford holding tanks for Wainsford guests.

If there was insufficient work on hatchery business at any time, other FRA work should be undertaken by RG.

RG would report to BS or JE if unavailable, and make quarterly reports to the FRA meetings with intervening information on the website or hatchery blog.

This timing would enable the OFWAT decisions to be known and the Colliford development started.

It was agreed that the Chairman should formally make the offer to RG

It was agreed that RF would recast the schedule of works.

BS
RF

7. **FRAL annual return**

The Secretary reported that the first annual return had been completed for Companies House. The company accounts were due by 13th March 2014.

8. **FFRG**

The FFRG minutes from 13th February 2013 had been circulated to members for information, particularly about APEM and the St Neot restoration.

It was noted that Neil Whiter retires in November 2013 but also that Dylan Bright from WRT had been appointed to the senior management team at SWW, starting in September 2013. This could be most advantageous to the FRA.

9. **Walkover surveys**

This was covered earlier in the agenda.

10. **Cardinham pollution**

It was noted that there had been a pollution incident at the top of the Cardinham. This is being investigated by the EA. There is no detailed

information available but it appears that the whole of the river may have been damaged.

11. **SWRA**

The Chairman reported that SWRA meetings held in March and June 2013. There were main two items for report

1. CEFAS has a proposal for a 10 year pilot project to rear 1,000 tonnes of wild rainbow a year in partnership with a commercial operator and the Crown Estate in an undecided location off the south Cornwall coast. Chairman, RF and JT had attended a CEFAS presentation and raised a number of queries and followed up with a letter setting out the concerns and questions. The scheme poses a significant risk to wild salmon and sea trout and SWRA will be active. There is a clear conflict of interest between the CEFAS regulatory and food production responsibilities.
2. UDN and *Saprolegnia* has been found in significant amounts on the Lyn, The Lyn fishery has been closed. The EA will publish more specific information when the laboratory results are known. The Fowey seems not yet to have the problem but anglers are asked to keep a sharp eye.

12. **Fowey Harbour Commission**

It was noted that the Secretary had been asked by Sir Michael Thompson to represent the FRA on the FHC Consultative Group which meets six monthly. The next meeting would be in November.

13. **Dates of 2013 meetings**

Committee	16 th October 2013
Committee	15 th January 2014
AGM	16 th April 2014
Committee	16 th July 2014