

Balancing Pond adjacent to the Distributor Road.

Summary of a meeting/ discussion held on the 18th September 2008. at 2.00pm

Attending were : Dick Downs CPRA, Terry Willington MSDC, Councillor Gary Green , PC Jon Eaves & PCSO Emma Hollis

The meeting was arranged due to the likelihood of adoption by MSDC, and what could be done prior, or after this. Input to be shared by interested parties. We would like to thank TW and the police for their time, interest and advice.

During the course of this meeting we walked the area whilst TW outlined the extent of it.

Ownership

Terry informed us this is still owned by the developers: Crest. Anglian Water have no involvement.

Adoption.

No date is yet finalised, there are still legalities to clear up. Terry Willington is equally frustrated by the protracted time it is taking and wants to get on with it.

Bins

We have asked for more rubbish bins to be put in place, and if possible larger ones. TW has four bins from a previous site and will chase up putting these around the site. He has however expressed reservations about placing one at the far end as there is no hard track for a vehicle to get to it. May cause problem when ground is soft. It is important that there are these around and should encourage use and hopefully cut down on litter.

Seats

More seats around the pond would be a useful amenity, allowing people other than anglers to make more use of the area . CPRA to contact Crest to supply these.

Fishing

Although no one wants this to be other than an amenity for all, there will have to be a degree of control. At present we understand that fish are being taken away and some barbecued on site. Either of these activities will clearly have the effect of leaving no fish in the pond and ruin it.

At this stage we are suggesting fixed notices to be installed clearly stating that either of these activities is prohibited. This will assist police when or if called upon to deal with such matters. Jon Eaves explained about advisory and enforceable notices and suggests also they are also in Polish.

TW is having bye laws looked into re these and is talking to Needham on how this is done at Needham Lakes

Anglers could well be reminded about the detrimental effect to wildlife and the area in general that leaving discarded tackle or bait can do.

Other improvements and safety.

TW explained that he sees some areas being left to grow to give a natural effect to surrounds and at the same time install proper fishing platforms. The present situation leads to slippery parts which could cause falling into the water. TW explained that he would like a different type of lifebelt installed (Torpedo like) which are easier to throw.

Cutting and maintenance of surrounding bushes/ hedges would take place to keep the area generally tidy, and improve growth; but not to an extent that would detract from a natural feel.

Meeting finished approx 3pm