

FRIENDS OF WEIR WOOD SOCIETY CONSTITUTION

ORIGINAL: 4th May 2007

Amendment 1: 22nd April 2010

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

Friends of Weir Wood Society

Aims & Objectives

Weir Wood is an important inland refuge which supports a rich community of breeding birds as well as a diversity and abundance of wintering and passage birds. It has become a site of national importance for Great Crested Grebes. It holds a wide variety of plants, mammals and insect species and it is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The Society has adopted the following aims:

1. To protect and promote wildlife conservation within the statutory Local Nature Reserve.
2. To restore and improve habitat with consent from English Nature (recently renamed Natural England) under the conditions of the SSSI.
3. To promote public awareness of the importance of the site and its vital role in the global environmental network.
4. To seek recognition from environmental authorities of its national importance for Great Crested Grebes.
5. To keep records of the bird species seen, breeding activity and nest box use.
6. To increase knowledge of the biodiversity of plants, mammals and insects present.
7. To set up an archive of local wildlife records and history of the site.
8. To provide information to environmental authorities and to participate in county and national data collection schemes and surveys.
9. To work with the relevant authorities and environmental agencies responsible for conservation management at Weir Wood.
10. To encourage and co-operate with appropriate research projects.
11. To publish, as appropriate, information, survey results and progress reports relating to the wildlife and its conservation.

In furtherance of the above aims, the Society will:-

1. Publicise its activities in order to attract more members and volunteers to help with maintaining and improving the habitat.
2. Seek grants and sponsorship to support practical conservation work and to improve facilities for wildlife observation and study.
3. Send a representative to the LNR Management Advisory Committee to express the independent views of the Society.
4. Assist East Sussex County Council and Southern Water Services Ltd with practical habitat maintenance and improvement also projects and surveys in accordance with the agreed Management Plan for the LNR.
5. Collect together existing records (written, oral and photographic) which relate to the site and organise surveys & monitoring of birds, plants, mammals & insects.

6. Assist East Sussex County Council with the preparation of educational material for informing the public, in order to safeguard the habitat and reduce the incidence of trespass and disturbance.
7. Involve the members of the Society in its activities and in developing ideas for improving public awareness and education.
8. Assist environmental organisations with suitable volunteers to help carry out Weir Wood survey work. NB. (Original objective amended as we have now ceased membership of the BTCV).
9. Seek the advice and help of ecological and environmental experts through contact with environmental agencies, universities and other local societies.
10. Set up a computer system to provide data input to the Sussex Ornithological Society and the Sussex Wildlife Trust.
11. Inform members of the Society of its activities via a newsletter or other publicity.

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April 1997 and Rule 8 objective amended May 2007.