

Press Release

Canvey Lake

The Town Council held a Common Liaison Committee meeting on the 13th December 2023 which made recommendations to the Town Council to consider. Following a meeting on the 22nd January 2024 the Town Council approved the recommendations that the Town Council seek renegotiation of the existing lease and management agreement arrangements with the Borough Council to consider and recognise all stakeholders that have an interest in the function of the Lake and to replace the Common Liaison Committee meetings with a Stakeholder group which will be formulated from various expert organisations

Work will commence with the Essex Wildlife Trust to prepare a Biodiversity Survey and Management Plan to establish how the Town Council can use its existing natural resources to help the biodiversity of the lake with expert ecologists assessing existing habitats, current management issues and potential enhancement / management options whilst also providing a future management plan.

The 2nd round of fish removal will take place in February 2024 and will continue until 2025. An electric supply has now been installed at the Denham Road bridge with investigations being made into adequate aeration systems to be installed in the summer of 2024. With the removal of fish, it is not anticipated that the aeration equipment will be required at the Oysterfleet end this year as this area is far deeper than Denham Road. The Town Council will be reimbursing the Oysterfleet Pub for the electric used in 2023 for the use of aerators kindly provided by the residents.

The Town Council will continue to investigate options for a sustainable habitat for wildlife with the help of the Stakeholder Group and will keep the public informed of its actions through press releases and its website whenever possible.

Cllr Elaine Harvey, Town Mayor from Canvey Island Town Council, said: “Our primary aim is to protect the wildlife from further harm. “It must be remembered that the primary function of the Lake is to provide surface water attenuation and forms part of Canvey Island’s surface water drainage system and is not a natural lake environment. We must continue to strive to consider the balance between this reality and the desire to improve biodiversity and retain the lake as a public amenity.”

For more information, please see the Councils website www.canveyisland-tc.gov.uk.

Ends.

Date: 24th January 2024