Notice of Annual General Meeting

Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all our members and partners. Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Friends of Lavell's Lake will be held on 16th January 2018 at 19:30 in the Emmbrook Room, Dinton Pastures (WBC car park charges may apply).

Agenda for A.G.M.

- 1) Apologies for absence
- 2) **Minutes** Approval of minutes of the last AGM held January 17th 2017. These are on our website.
- 3) **2017 Reports**:
 - a) Treasurer Phil Kinch
 - i) Year ending 31st December 2017, Gift Aid & Donations
 - b) Membership Les Blundell
 - c) Ringing Report Tim Alexander
 - d) Countryside Service Simon Bartlam
 - e) Chairman Fraser Cottington
 - i) 2017 review
 - ii) Lea Farm G.P. A legacy guaranteed
 - iii) Why becoming a Incorporated Charitable Organisation (CIO) is right
 - iv) Grant Applications, Fund raising, Appeal & Corporate Sponsorship
 - v) The help we need
- 4) Election of Officers & Committee members
 - a) Officers standing down/re-election
 - b) New roles and posts
- 5) AOB

<u>Notes</u>

- The present officers and committee are; Chairman Fraser Cottington, Secretary Jane Campbell, Treasurer – Phil Kinch. Committee – Les Blundell, Ron Bryant, Bob Bennett, Renton Righelato, Peter Scudamore, Kevin Burgess
- 2. Nominations for new officers or committee should be sent by Friday 12th January to: <u>The Secretary</u>, <u>Friends of Lavell's Lake</u>, c/o Dinton Pastures Country Park, Davis Street, Hurst, RG10 0TH OR simply email <u>info@foll.org.uk</u>
- 3. If subscriptions are in arrears, members are not entitled to vote at the AGM
- 4. The AGM will be followed by tea/coffee, etc., then a talk by David Massie : Birding Taiwan

2017 Reports

i. <u>Treasurer, Phil Kinch</u>

Our constitution requires an independent examination of our accounts. After changing our year end to December some time ago, it is now too short a time span to finish year-end figures and have them examined in time for a mid-January AGM. To put it simply we need to move the AGM to later in the year if we are to present accounts that have already been examined. The Committee will be looking at the options going forwards.

The big new items in the accounts this year are, of course, the grant received from Thames Water for the project at Lavell's Lake and the project costs. The year-end cash position this year is looking much higher than normal, but we have yet to incur the costs for the rest of the Lavell's project so it will fall back. We have completed the outstanding Gift Aid claims for 2014 (14 months), 2015 & 2016 and have received everything due except for the current year. The Waitrose Green Token scheme at Twyford raised a wonderful £324 which is another welcome and sizeable boost to our funds.

Mid way through 2017 we agreed a financial reserves policy to keep a contingency fund of c. £9,000 to pay for unforeseen repairs or replacement of a hide, given the increased vandalism we have seen, or other significant expenses.

Our income from donations is higher this year but that hides a worrying underlying trend. Almost £1,300 has come from four generous donors. Since moving over to fully online new subscriptions, donations from within the wider membership have fallen significantly. It appears far fewer people donate at the point of joining and renewal; when it was cash and cheques, many more people rounded up. We will be attempting to tweak the website joining and renewals page, with prompts to ask for donations. Other than this we can only appeal to everyone to add a donation.

We had an increase in costs for tools this year (including a new brush cutter funded by one of the four donations referred to above) and we also bought mink traps to try and protect our Tern colony. We also made two purchases of bird food at the start and end of the year, prices are again high but we now have a good stock for 2018.

A new member and volunteer has very recently begun a fund raising page, we would ask everyone to check out her page <u>https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/walkforwildlife</u>. Giuliana is now working hard to raise our profile and money at the same time, thanks Giuliana. If you feel inspired by this action, please talk to us, we'd love to hear from children as well as adults on what you would like to do for FOLL.

We would also like to thank Delia Allott for undertaking the independent examination of the 2016 accounts and for agreeing to do the same for 2017.

ii. <u>Membership, Les Blundell</u>

Growth of membership is just above previous years, around 380 memberships, versus 367 in 2016. Families represent about 25% of the total, around 55% are individuals. Last year's attrition rate was a rather high 14% of individual members not renewing and we hope to learn more about how our members feel and where they see the benefits of being a member. Either way in future we would certainly like to keep more members and grow our numbers to over 500.

iii. Bird Ringing, Tim Alexander

Due to weddings, house moves and extended hours at work 2017 has almost been a sabbatical. Next year though I plan to finish work and have much more time to spend at Lavell's. I have applied for the renewal of the Schedule 1 Licence that is required due to the present and presumed breeding of Cetti's Warblers in the reed bed. I hope to monitor the numbers of Reed Warbler in particular now that the reed bed is increasing in size. It will be interesting to compare figures from earlier years to see how the site habitat changes are impacting populations.

I received a late recovery report from the French ringing scheme of a Reed Warbler ringed as a young bird on 20 August 2008 at La Maziere, Lot et Garonne in the south of France close to the Spanish border on the Atlantic side. This was controlled by me at Lavell's on 20 May 2013, a distance of 788 km and a duration of 1734 days. If this was a migrating young bird bred in the UK it seems early to be found so far south in France on 20 August. This recovery is further proof that Reed Warblers travelling from Lavell's keep close to the Atlantic coastline when travelling through France.

I did ring some birds in October and was pleased to discover that Redwings were once again using the copse at the rear of Lavell's as a roost and both Redwings and Fieldfares were feasting on the sloe berries. Disappointing though was the absence of a Reed Bunting roost.

iv. <u>Countryside Service Ranger Report 2017</u>

Management Tasks

- Hay/Grass cutting Teal & Tern Meadows and after grazing of meadows
- Ride Management at the back of Lavell's and main island
- Reed cutting to created open rides
- Tree removal at the back of Lavell's (part of the TW project)

General Rangering

- General work including cutting back path vegetation, and clearing fly-tipping
- Clearance of Lavell's car park after antisocial activities on a weekly basis
- Hide clearing/painting and security. Bittern hide has unfortunately been subjected to repeated and substantial vandalism this year. The service has tried to do same day repairs of damage to minimise disruption to users but it has been a time consuming exercise
- The installation of a gate in late November to the Lavell's overflow car park has helped secure the site from antisocial behaviour and the immediate decrease in antisocial behaviour (parties, fly tipping, fires, vandalism and rubbish) is notable
- Boundary/site inspection & Make safe dangerous trees
- Liaising with Southern Electric regards programmed and reactive maintenance on power lines

Volunteer involvement

Other than the friends of Lavell's group, a variety of School and college work experience, Community Services, Probation services and Adult Training Groups have been involved in the site management.

Finally I would like to say a big thank you to all of the members of FOLL for all the hard work you put into the site. The Thames Water Project (from theory to application to installation) was a huge credit to you all and something you should be incredibly proud of. As usual too, the vigilance and wildlife recording from all of the members help make the site a very special place that is appreciated by visitors and wildlife alike, thank you all.

v. Overview of 2017 by Chairman, Fraser Cottington

Thanks - For the amazing commitment and efforts of our committee and an ever growing group of super star volunteers. To all our members thanks for your financial support and we want to keep you engaged and do all we can to give you great reasons to stay with us for the long haul.

To all the staff at Dinton Pastures Countryside Service. Simon Bartlam as always helps us constantly, but also the whole team for their support, not forgetting the office staff. Summerleaze Ltd remains a vital partner and we're grateful for their help in developing Lea Farm G.P. so far. Thanks to Tim Alexander for his ringing and to Bob Bennett for keeping the latest bird news and photographs up to date.

<u>Overview of 2017 Bitterns</u> - Now we are into our 16th consecutive year of Bitterns, right now we have 2 at WSL, which are much more 'showy' birds than we normally get, may there be more to come across the other lakes.

Overview of the birds of 2017 - Visit www.foll.org.uk & https://www.facebook.com/foll.org.uk

What an amazing year 2017 was, finishing on 142 species, equalling the record. It featured more than one mega; our 6th & 7th Great White Egrets, the first Cattle Egret to set down and a share of the Hawfinch invasion.

January - Was full of excitement from the 1st, stayers like Bittern, Ferruginous Duck, Shelduck, Jack Snipe, Barn Owl, Chiffchaff and **5** Raven over, kicked things off, but all were upstaged by our first **Caspian Gull** since 2005 (MFW et al), then again later when a **Dark-bellied Brent Goose** was found (Ian Paine, Eddie Napper et al). 30-50 Snipe graced LFGP East shore all month, just one record of Woodcock 19th at dusk over Sandford Mill (BTB).



February – Settled in with 2 Jack Snipe, the Brent Goose here for the duration, the Ferruginous Duck set up home at Heron's Water, Red Crested Pochard 3rd (SPD et al), the arrival of a pair of Oystercatcher 9th (SPD), a female Goosander 12th to 15th, 20-30 Lesser Redpoll 14th (FJC), 2 Little Owl from 18th, 46 Snipe 19th, Mediterranean Gull 20th (BTB), the 1st Green Sandpiper 21st.

March – On the 4th a ringtail **Hen Harrier** was seen flying downstream (T James), 30+ Meadow Pipit 9th and a singing Chiffchaff behind Teal scrape (PBT), the last Bittern 10th WSL (JMcG), Mandarin 11th and a male Garganey LFGP (FJC & JMcG, et al), the Brent Gooses last day 13th, Yellow-legged Gull over 15th, 2 Linnet same day, Redshank arrived 16th (R Dawson), 17th brought the same Garganey at BSL briefly, the first 5 Sand Martin (Bob Bennett), followed by **50**+/**18th** LFGP (FJC & JMcG), Blackcap 21st, another Mediterranean Gull 22nd (BTB), yet another Garganey 24th, a 1st year female staying til 29th, Willow Warbler 30th (S Hughes), Swallow also (PBT).



Garganey

Mediterranean Gull

April – Early Sedge Warbler 4th (PBT), Reed Warbler 7th (Alan Rymer), the Garganey stayed from 12th to 30th. Dunlin 8th LFGP (RNM et al), 9th a very early Cuckoo, Whitethroat (Alan Rymer) & Common Tern (Bird walk), Common Sandpiper 11th (FJC & JMcG), House Martin 12th, Nightingale 14th (BTB), **5** Little-ringed Plover 16th. An odd Red-legged Partridge 17th, when Martin Mitchell saw one near WSL reeds, then seen flying downstream, then flushed at the weir. Wheatear 20th car park field (D Hampton, RNM et al), Lesser Whitethroat, Garden Warbler & Swift all 23rd (all BTB) Yellow Wagtail 29th (B Hollands), 2 Ringed Plover 30th LFGP 06:00 only (FJC).

May – Grasshopper Warbler 3rd (GSE), a Wood Sandpiper claim 4th, 1 Arctic Tern BSL 3rd (FJC), **1 Little Tern 7th** LFGP (FJC), moved to BSL, where **2 Little Gull** were seen later (D Mackenzie), **7 Black Tern 11th** LFGP (FJC, Jack & Jules Jones), Whinchat near to the hide, Greenshank, the latter staying till 10th, Whimbrel 11th (GSE), 1 Oystercatcher chick on Sandford 30th only.



Whinchat – Jack Jones

Greenshank – Dave Rimes





Garganey – John McGowan

Pintail – Steve Day

June – Mandarin family along Loddon 4th, Med Gull 17th (A Rymer), Green Sandpiper from 23rd, 2 Common Sandpiper 24th. Little-ringed Plover displayed all month, but never settled, same for Redshank, 7 pairs Common Tern nested on the shingle island, the Black-headed Gulls took over the raft. Sand Martins finally nested at LFGP, around 20 pairs, plus 7+ double brooded.

July – Ringed Plover 1st to 7th, 8 Little Egret 8th, 9/16th, 4 Common & 4 Green Sandpiper 9th, Cuckoo 9th (JJ & P Scu), 1 Black-tailed Godwit over 11th, 1 Snipe 13th, 1 Dunlin 15th, Yellow Wagtail 15th, another Med 18th.

August – Water Rail heard 15th, 1 Whinchat 26th and possible Wood Warbler heard in car park field (FJC), 27th 7 Yellow Wagtail, 2 Whinchat (FJC, J McG, BTB), 1 Redstart & 1 Spotted Flycatcher, 3 Wheatear (MFW & TAG), Osprey 28th Lodge Wood Lake (S Bartlam).

September – Wheatear 1st, Swift 6th (FJC), 7th (JMcG & EN) & 14th (TAG), 3 Black-tailed Godwit 9th (JMcG et al), Whinchat & Meadow Pipit 9th, 1-2 Spotted Flycatcher 9th to 19th around rear of DAC, 3 Tree Pipit flew along golf course 10th (FJC, JMcG, EN), 156 Gadwall 13th, Osprey 13th (FJC & RNM), Whinchat 16th (BTB), Garganey 18th (SPD), Stonechat 19th (MFW), 1 Pintail over 22nd (FJC), Marsh Harrier 26th (RNM, JMcG), 103 Shoveler 19th.

October – 1 Lesser Redpoll over 4th, Garganey 3rd to 7th, 9 Golden Plover 8th, 1 Siskin over, **Woodlark over 17th**, 1 **Hawfinch** over 19th, 3 Stonechat 20th, 1-2 til 29th, Wheatear 3rd to 5th, then 1/23rd (FJC & JMcG), 1 Brambling over 29th, **Shelduck** 31st, also Great White Egret over BSL (Richard Stansfield), 500+ Redwing over.

November – 1 Brambling over 1st (FJC) & 5th, male Pintail BSL 6th (SPD), 2-3 at feeders later, few Siskin or Redpoll, Stonechat 6th, **2 male Ferruginous Duck** 7th Sandford (SPD et al), **3/8th** (JMcG), discovered to be re-introduced birds from Germany. The 3rd male seen on BSL by (JMcG) was not seen again, never ruled out to be from the German stock. 1 Shelduck (RD) & **Brent Goose 13th** LFGP (GSE et al), **160+ Golden Plover 22nd**.

December – Some sharp frosts, especially the 12th, a lone Goosander went over 6th (JMcG) and as always we must keep checking all the ducks, swans and geese for rarities. Hawfinch still visiting the car park field 17th. Jack Snipe also present, along with 3 Shelduck and 300+ Teal and new park record (RRi)

<u>Hawfinch</u> – We got our share of the nationwide invasion : From the first on 19th October, $1/22^{nd}$, $4/24^{th}$, $4+/25^{th}$, $2+13/28^{th}$, then $11/5^{th}$ November, $2/7^{th}$, $3/11^{th}$, after which we discovered them in the car park field each day, $3-11/13^{th}$, but settling to 2-3 each day, still 2 seen 17^{th} .

Monthly Species Count 86 in January, = 3^{rd} with 2012 & 2016 87 in February, = 4^{th} with 2013 93 in March, = 3^{rd} with 2006 & 2013 97 in April, lowest since 101 in 2007 **102 in May, New 1**st **place beating 2012 & 16 by 6** 91 in June, New 1st **place, beating 2016 by 1** 97 in July, New 1st **place, beating 2013 by 3**

Monthly Running Total

93 =3rd with 2016 104 = 2^{nd} with 2016 121 New 5th place, beating 2008 by 1 **132 = 1st with 2012** 132 = 2^{nd} with 2012 133 = 2^{nd} with 2003

96 in August, 5th place, lowest in 4 years
99 in September, 3rd place beating 2010 by 3
94 in October, New 4th place, beating 2010 & 12 by 1
90 in November, =1st with 2011
85 in December, New 3rd place, beating 2011 by 1

136 New 2^{nd} place, beating 2016 by 2 139 New 2^{nd} place, beating 2016 by 2 142 New 1st place, beating 2012 by 1 142 =1st place with 2012 142 =1st place with 2012

<u>Friends Passed & Remembered Forever</u> - We lost our friends Michael Sales, Ann Collins & Richard Price, we convey our condolences to their families and miss them.

Habitat Management, Work Parties & Events - Achievements

- One Tern raft was serviced in 2017, we hope to get two out in 2018
- Tern scrape digging this autumn has reduced the immediate appeal to Common Snipe, a wintering Jack Snipe, summer 2018 will bring back many next autumn
- We plan to stock proof fence the rest of Middle Marsh, Heron's Water and the South Sandford Lake along the old Emm brook to Black Swan Lake, this will stop hedgerow damage helping Nightingales.
- Peter Scudamore has kept going with CROW and continues to do a great job of hedge laying along the LFGP section of the Loddon. This will continue right the way along the NW corner of LFGP boundary
- Lea Farm G.P. (LFGP) North West corner Willow was more or less totally cleared of Willow
- Simon Bartlam flailed the entire East shore of weeds, this was done to allow us to spray the Crassula underneath so that we can maintain some control of this dreadful invasive weed
- Years of faithfully replacing the sand and cleaning out the wall finally paid off, over 30 pairs of Sand Martins occupied and 10+ even double brooded. We'll be back out there in February to make sure they have the best chance possible of repeating their success

Thames Water Habitat Improvement Grant

- We received the Thames Water (TW) grant and put it to work, creating the promised, and much larger new Phragmites reed bed.
- The TW project includes posting and fencing the new reed bed and transplanting Phragmites rhizomes, this will recommence March and April 2018 and continue July, August and September for 3 years.
- The TW project also involves planting several hundred berry bearing shrubs beyond the scrape, directly behind the new reed bed, starting January, or February 2018.
- The TW project allowed us to start removing the tallest Willows & Poplars. There are just a few left to fell along the North edge, then sections of 15-40 foot Willows will be pollarded, all making the site more visible and accessible to many passing species.
- The solar pump (funded by FOLL) will be installed around May 2018 and will allow us to maintain optimal water depths in very hot weather, so waders and duck families will really benefit next summer

Events

We were approached by a charity working with school groups and held a volunteer day for 19 children, supported by half a dozen of our most regular work party volunteers. It was a fabulous success in that we got work done, the children had a fantastic and fun day and the charity wants to do more with us in future.



Management Plans

- We are looking at how to best manage the cutting of our now significant Phragmites reed beds.
- Asking DPCS to weed all the islands on Sandford in February before waders and ducks get settled in
- The landfill observation area at the bottom of the car park field should still go ahead in 2018, this will mean a bench, or leaning post to make it more comfortable for people to stay longer and see more.
- The new viewing screen overlooking Tern meadow, will be commenced when the site dries out, it will include new fencing somewhat more sturdy and less easy for vandals to break. This is part of the TW project.
- The sluice door in the ditch adjacent to Teal scrape, will be repaired

Lea Farm G.P. a legacy guaranteed

I am filled with pride, excitement and humility as I report that our friend Ron Bryant is currently in the process of buying Lea Farm G.P. to ensure that the site will be protected as a nature reserve forever. In due course Ron will place the lake in Trust and FOLL will be made Trustees to protect, manage and improve it further....forever!

Why becoming a CIO is the right move

There are some legalities required for FOLL to have the legal capacity to be Trustees of land and that will mean the charity becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This will mean the creation of a new charity and dissolving of the old 'Friends' Group.

There is nothing to fear and everything to be excited about, we will be calling the new charity **'Lavell's Wetland Trust'** and it will incorporate all we stand for with the added bonus of having total say on what happens at Lea Farm G.P. We should be forever thankful to our dear friend Ron for protecting Lea Farm G.P. forever and creating Berkshire's only privately owned and finest wetland nature reserve.

Growth, Grant Applications, Fund raising, Appeals & Corporate Sponsorship

I remain personally committed to increasing our membership to 500 by 2019 and 1,000 family subscriptions by 2021, mostly because we need to a sustainable means pay for the increased overheads of managing Lea Farm G.P. but also because the demand is there for families to connect with nature. How we engage with that wider audience is the key to our long term ability to pay our bills. We expect to build on our membership pack and what we offer both online and in the field for everyone.

We will of course be focusing on the improving and managing habitats, but by developing lots of reasons to come to our website, join, donate etc. I am sure the website and social media efforts will bring new people to us. Many things are being discussed, one example is we are looking into nest box cams linked to the website, for a new Barn Owl box , Sand Martin wall and Tern raft for starters. That said streaming video from remote sites presents a huge challenge, so anyone with know how in this field please contact me directly ASAP.

We can't do everything in one go, but we must look at every means possible to grow and raise our income to cover management costs. If you have done fund raising, appeals, work for a corporate that might sponsor a path, a section, a hide, a camera, a nest box, we need to hear from you. We will by applying for grants for the big stuff.

Long term we still face challenges, Lodge Wood (SSSI) and Lodge Wood Lake were outside our budget – sadly Summerleaze wanted another £195,000 for these and it looks like a fish stocking firm has shown an interest, so we will have new neighbours but hopefully not be seeing or hearing them.

Currently we do not do any regular fund raising apart from membership and donations and if we want to be serious about facing up to considerable challenges in future, if you can help in volunteering other than work parties;

- Attending the Woodley Christmas Carnival costs £29.00 Promoting membership and selling bird food. It would get us seen by many hundreds of people. If we do start attending events we will need to invest in a proper stand banner, information boards, sturdy table etc. Cost estimates are around £500 for these basic items. No committee decision has been made on this yet, we just need willing people to get started.
- We should apply for promotion slots at local retailers, all Sainsbury's, Morrison's, Tesco, Asda, Waitrose, etc. all give free space for local charities. It costs little to give membership forms and promote ourselves, we just need volunteers, I'm sure a chair would be made available if required.

• Charities across England receive £2.5Bn in legacy donations i.e. money left in people's Wills. As an estate planning consultant, I have drafted a website page 'Leave us a legacy donation in your Will' and hope to get trustee approval early in 2018. FOLL should allow its supporters to leave legacy donations.

The vision

Lots of changes lie ahead, FOLL has work to do in creating the new charity and writing a business plan to ensure we can afford to manage the site in a highly effective and efficient way. Lavell's Wetland Trust must rise to the challenge, grow a bigger audience, be a bolder, more active and professional organisation, only through doing so can we cover the higher management costs and deliver facilities and hides unparalleled in Berkshire. Most importantly we are aiming to create the habitats that will attract numerous important breeding species such as Lapwing, Oystercatcher, Little-ringed Plover, Redshank, Shelduck, Water Rail, Teal and of course, many more Common Terns. The numbers and variety of winter and passage species will grow significantly too.

All going to plan, in 2019 I hope we can move forward and emulate the SW corner shallows, in the NE corner and much of the East shore. The NE bay needs a serious hide to overlook it, so expect a large scale appeal to fund a new hide that transcends anything seen in Berkshire, something very special to offer our valued membership. To access NE corner hide will require 120-135 metres of raised path which will cost tens of thousands and if we are to do this, while we have the diggers there we will excavate the NW corner and expand the Phragmites reed bed there and make some awesome shallow pools for Water Rail, Snipe, Teal, Bittern and much more, with a fabulous viewing platform in the deal. See my artists impression of the aerial view.

<u>The help we need</u>

You have heard from us, we are committed to a bright amazing future, now we need your help. As per the recent appeal for expertise in marketing, fund raising, social media etc. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH AND HELP US TAKE FOLL TO A NEW LEVEL. Contact us at info@foll.org.uk

Bittern Hide & Lea Farm Hide - Security measures must be taken

Many times during the year, Ron's hide was found with the locks not secured and even windows left open. Bittern hide was smashed to pieces on New Year's eve and late summer. On many occasions fence panels were destroyed. We have threatened CCTV at Ron's many times and it might still happen, but Bittern hide is about to be secured with a perimeter fence and gate, opened remotely at dawn and shut at dusk or before. Watch this space.

Lavell's car park now has a gate which is often locked at night to try and tackle the car park fires and hide vandalism. We have the code to unlock it, help us be vigilant about reporting incidents.

Trespassers on Lea Farm Landfill and vandals anywhere

Very fewer incidents of joggers and dog walkers, one incident of a naked man! ALL incidents must be reported to FOLL, so we can notify the relevant parties and take proportionate actions. If required, call the police.

<u>2018 Dawn Chorus Bird Walk</u> – 28th April 04:45 to 08:30 (£2.00 per person) check website and Facebook <u>Guided Bird Walks</u> (£1.00 per person) - Every 2nd Sunday of each month, meet at 9.00am in Lavell's car park.

Website, Social Media & WhatsApp FOLL Bird News Group

The website will be changing a little, but we will also be using Twitter more too, where all types of news is pushed out at <u>http://twitter.com@FOLLLatestnews</u> Please visit, join us and share your photographs and 'likes' on our Facebook group <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/1662435990723770/</u>

Our WhatsApp bird news group is so popular now, 81 of our members now subscribe to the £2.00 a year up to the minute FOLL Bird News service. If you are not on WhatsApp, send your news by email <u>BirdNews@foll.org.uk</u>

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

So few people are aware that there are new data protection regulations coming in May 2018 and what it means for us and all charities, is that we MUST HAVE your permission to communicate with you. This is not casual request, if we contact you without an 'opt in' consent from you, we face being fined. We are addressing this as we speak and will need everyone to tick a box before 1st June 2018. Please help us meet our regulatory obligations and respond to emails on this subject.

<u>**Car Park Charges**</u> – Are enforced all year, FOLL has no say on this.

Committee Meetings 2018

These are held every two months on the **third Tuesday** of the month at 8.00pm, usually at Dinton Pastures. We discuss and agree all ongoing management issues, so if you have anything to add, just ask. Jan 16th A.G.M, March 20th, May 15th, July 17th, September 18th, November 20th, The 2019 AGM is likely to be mid-year, not in January.

The Best birds in 2017



Cattle Egret – Roger Stansfield

Little Tern – Steve Day



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Hawfinch – Stuart Gay
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