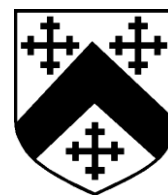


# **Minutes of the Friends of Lea Marshes**

## **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 7.30 pm The Butler's Pantry**



Present: Karen Wickenden, Russell Wallis, Claire Hill, Helen Leone,  
Emma Bailey, Jill Martin, Paul Wimhurst, Pat Cribb, Sue Allison,  
Neil Allison, Ann Wallis, Debbie Revill, Joyce Austin

Apologies: Mark Stephenson, Oliver Stephenson, Clare Holmes, John Turnbull,  
Kevin Martin, Jon Sanderson, Lyndsey Sanderson

### **1. Acceptance of minutes 27th May 2025 & matters arising**

The minutes were accepted as a true record. Visiting a working quarry was not intended as a group activity but as something people could do under their own steam.

### **2. Lea Parish Council update following their meeting 23rd June 2025**

Councillors voted unanimously in favour of the formation of Friends of Lea Marshes (FOLM). In principle, councillors agreed to ring-fence funds for meeting rooms, hall hire and potentially surveys / searches. All expenditure to be approved by Lea Parish Council (LPC) in advance.

Terms of reference have been drafted to be discussed at the next LPC meeting. Early feedback includes:

- To confirm that minutes are taken and to whom they are circulated.
- Members of FOLM speak the party line and do not employ personal opinion.
- Communication amongst individuals is shared with the wider group.

Claire to amend and re-circulate the terms of reference before the next Lea Parish Council meeting 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at 6.30 pm Butler's Pantry.

### **3. Question posed to Full West Lindsey District Council 7th July 2025**

The question asking for reassurance that SG01 would remain an unfavoured site was addressed to the leader. Currently, there is no leader. Emma awaits a written response to the question once a leader is appointed in September 2025.

### **4. Material Consideration Document**

Thanks were given to Russ and Claire for their excellent work on the material consideration document. It has been distributed to all Lea Parish councillors and will be discussed at their next meeting.

It's clear that County Council's current policy does not support the use of SG01 Lea Marshes and neither does West Lindsey District Council nor Lea Parish Council. There would have to be a seismic shift for the approach to change. The

next policy decision will become known in February / March 2026. It is not possible to predict how the owners will respond to the decision. Now that SG01 has been identified as a potential site for sand and gravel, it is likely to remain as such and would not be granted permission to be used in some other capacity. Paul to follow-up with Planning and attain any useful information.

Documentation that was submitted as part of the 'request for further information' stage of the application process is to be re-examined. Extracting information from the Lincolnshire County Council website has been problematic so it is important to carefully save and share relevant items.

#### **5.0 Next steps: Preparations for March 2026 Consultation**

Lea Parish Council has emailed the Central Lincolnshire Joint Planning Team to ask for their submitted response to the 2024 consultation. This will assist the Parish Council in their preparation for wider public consultation in relation to the Waste and Minerals Plan in 2026.

#### **5.1 Distribution of dedicated Lea Life Newsletter Autumn 2025**

The Lincolnshire Association of Local Councils expressed concern that there had been insufficient consultation with the parishioners of Lea. To ensure support for FOLM, a newsletter purely concerning the quarry will be distributed to all households during Autumn 2025. Russ and Claire to draft copy by 18<sup>th</sup> August 2025. LPC to write the foreword.

#### **5.2 Template letters if required**

Template letters can be furnished for interested parties to complete. Helen to investigate if they can be accessed through the Lea Parish Council website.

#### **5.3 Consideration towards the long-term protection of Lea Marshes**

Russ to lead the options surrounding the long-term protection of Lea Marshes using his knowledge and contacts in similar industries. The Lea Neighbourhood Plan does include information on Lea Marshes but there is room for it to be strengthened. Government funding for Neighbourhood Plans may cease from March 2026.

#### **5. Any other business and date of next meeting**

Claire highlighted that land situated very close to Lea Marshes is up for sale. Link to be circulated. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at 7.30 pm Butler's Pantry.