

Agenda Item 13 – March Meeting

Friston Pond and Green

I have attached a report of the meeting with SDNP officers which took place on Weds 18th February.

It looks likely that grant assistance will be available under the Ponds for Ponds initiative from SDNPA which is clearly targeted at projects such as Friston Pond.

Grant Assistance would cover:

- Remedial work on 1/3rd of the pond within the dormant period (significant maintenance on a 3-year rolling basis)
- Removal of overhanging willow
- Habitat creation (Hibernaculum etc)
- Reduction of the large ash by a tree surgeon. Removal of branches, stump to remain for habitat.
- Repairs to timber dipping platform
- Refresh of Interpretation Boards

It would *not* cover regular maintenance plan work (usually 4 times p.a.) gulley clearance etc.

Proposals:

1. Consider any additional work or planting around the pond/green which may be covered by the grant funding.
2. Arrange quotations from 3 contractors for the substantial annual maintenance.
3. Arrange an on-going maintenance plan (or commitment from a contractor for regular maintenance).
4. Lodge an application for grant funding

Phil Burgess

Clerk to East Dean and Friston