

**Cinder Hill**



**Cinder Hill Fly Fishing  
8th. Annual General Meeting  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023  
3.00pm  
Chailey Village Hall**

**MINUTES**

1. Apologies for absence – R. Nathan, A. Bearchell
  - a. Those in attendance: K. Reeves, M. Orchin, J. Barker, L. Everard, T. Kaatze, J. Awcock, J. Lutkin, A. Ince, F. Dolphin, P. Stephens, R. Ransley, S. Mullins, R. Upton, L. Storer, G. Taylor, R. Yuill, M. Richardson, T. Stilwell, K. Stilwell, J. Awcock.
2. Minutes of the 7th Annual General Meeting and matters arising – the minutes were agreed and K.R. signed as a true and accurate record of the 2022 AGM.
  - a. Matters arising from 2022 AGM.
    - i. Picnic bench at C.H. still needs replacing, but using a cheaper alternative which will be fixed to a concrete base with chains to prevent theft.
    - ii. Parking at CH is still difficult, especially if members park up by the top point when busy. The alternative parking area around the pylons has been churned up by forestry machinery. M.O. / K.R. reiterated that discussions are still taking place with Rufus Clarke regarding a hard parking area near the pylons but a permanent structure will require planning permission. The same issue applies at Piplye where we have been promised chalk to repair the track.
    - iii. First Aid course – this can be accessed by members / committee online now.
3. Chairman's Report – attached.
  - a. It was noted that we now have 107 members which is a very satisfactory figure for this early part of the season and advertisements in Freshwater Informer, plus a few late re-joiners and the S.O.E. Show should complete the numbers for this season.

4. L.E. presented the treasurers report and noted thanks to Peter Negus for auditing the 2022 season accounts. The syndicate finances are in a healthy state, but reserves must be accumulated to be used in the future for major maintenance e.g. draining either top lake C.H. or Piplye Top Lake. It was noted that membership had to increase to £310 for the 2023 season in order to absorb higher stocking costs. This season we will be renegotiating our 5-year agreement with our landlords and a large increase in rent is to be expected.

5. Catch returns – M.O. detailed the 2022 season with its highlights and lows making special mention of the climate impact on the summer with high temperatures and fish loss, then the wet autumn all of which had a dramatic effect on our season. The large number of member blanks was discussed at times when others catch their limit. Some mentoring could be possible (although committee members often do this on the bank as required anyway), but the suggestion of display boards with successful fly patterns in the huts would be a good idea for this season.

M.O. demonstrated that fishing pressure on 1<sup>st</sup> weeks at both lakes can give the impression that we haven't stocked as much as members expect, only to find a couple of weeks later on fish appear in plentiful numbers. It was agreed that the continual use of early season flies (e.g. cat's whisker) will soon turn off wary trout!

6. The executive officers and committee were elected en bloc proposed by Frank Dolphin and seconded by Amanda Ince.

7. L.E. confirmed that Peter Negus is happy to continue to verify the syndicate annual accounts for 2023.

8. A.O.B.

a. Roger Upton asked if it would be possible to use his float tube at middle lake C.H. and it was agreed as a trial that this would be possible but observed by K.R. / M.O. and could be a useful way of checking water depth etc. at C.H. middle lake – a date when the weather warms up will be arranged.

b. J. Lutkin has kindly offered to take over recording the catch returns from Alan Bearchell. NB: post meeting John has been put in contact with Alan to discuss how this could be done. The amount of data to be collected and reported is to be agreed by K.R and M.O. Mike Richardson has provided examples of previous reports for review.

c. Mike Richardson asked if our annual match at Duncton could be started again. K.R. to discuss with Dan Young at Duncton to see if this would work now he has taken over the fishery and if so, at what cost. M.O. stated that we would not want to host this at C.H. as it would disrupt member visits and stocking if up to 20+ anglers descended on our lakes most likely catching limit bags.

9. The meeting closed at 4.45pm – Thanks to Mandy Reeves and Val Orchin for providing refreshments.