

# Feldons Wildlife Group Meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025 7pm

Present: Chris and Kerri Carr, Sue Rodger, Sue Williams, Nick Holmes, Peter Stoddart, Amanda Holden, Jon Pym, Jane Upson, Annie Lewis, Sylvia Bland

Apologies: Paul Marriott, Harriet Granville, Ally Blake, Barbara Babbage, Ann Holland

## MINUTES

### Frog Watch

Sue reported that the signs had been erected on the road by herself and Chris Carr and ever since 16<sup>th</sup> February at least two members had been present at the Little Butts road crossing every night. A few frogs had been saved from the road and sent on their way to Sarah's pond, but no sign yet of the vast numbers seen in 2024. It was agreed that a Rota would be done so that two different members would be on duty each night with others 'on call' if needed.

POSTSCRIPT Since our last meeting a total of over 200 frogs have been collected and sent on their way to safety.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2025

Amanda Holden reported that she had talked to Jacey Jackson (Swifts) about her coming to the next meeting to discuss the possibility of a talk which would be open to everyone and with an entrance charge or a suggested donation.

IT HAS NOW BEEN CONFIRMED THAT JACEY WILL ATTEND OUR NEXT MEETING

It was also discussed that we could possibly have a walk and talk with the Shipston Herbalist. Jon will discuss further with her and report back. Dates in April or May were discussed. ATTENTION JON.

Picnic at Harriet's to be discussed at the next meeting when it is hoped Harriet will be able to attend.

Sue W said she would contact Fiona Nourse at Blackdowns Farm, Stretton on Fosse, re the possibility of a group walk sometime this spring/early summer. ATTENTION SUE.

Chris Carr said he would talk to David Sewell about the possibility of him taking members on a nature walk sometime in the Spring. ATTENTION CHRIS

There was a discussion about SWAN (South Warwickshire Area Network for wildlife) which provides a forum for local wildlife groups to get together. Sue Williams said she would be willing to join as the Feldons Wildlife Group Representative. It might be possible to ask Rosemary Collier (Chairman) if she could attend one of our meetings to remind members of the work of SWAN. Amanda said she would see if this would be possible. ATTENTION AMANDA

## Wildflowers

Jane reported that even though a personal letter and Christmas card had been delivered to all the families who had received boxes of wildflowers earlier in the year, not one reply had been received. There had been a refund for some of the boxes of seeds that had completely failed. It was suggested that David Sewell could be consulted re planting of wildflowers and the best soil for success.

ATTENTION CHRIS

## Bank Account

Sue Rodger reported that the Wildlife Group Bank Account had now been closed. The current balance was £107.27 which included £38.97 refund for the failed wildflower seeds.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE NEXT MONTH. £10 per person. Could members please bring cash to our next meeting.

## Road Signs Left Around the Village by Council Workmen

Peter Stoddart said that it was a shame that the village and surrounding area was littered with Road Works and diversion Signs left by various Council and Utilities workmen after a job was finished.

Annie Lewis explained that there is a section on the Stratford district Council website to report this matter to the appropriate department online.

## Group share of wildlife in January/February

Nick reported seeing a Goshawk in the sky worrying a Red Kite

A few buff bumble bees have been sighted (obviously Queens emerging from their hibernation nests)

Annie also shared a photograph of a moth she had seen and she also said there was a robin starting to build a nest by her front door

Long tailed tits have been spotted on feeders and a few Gold finches – but far fewer of these than in previous years.

Many male and female blackbirds spotted but very few thrushes.

Sue W reported finding two hedgehogs feeding together in her feeding station. Sue also reported a Sparrowhawk causing panic among the little birds in her garden.

Next Meeting on Tuesday 25 March at 7.00pm

PLEASE SEND ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA TO ALLY BLAKE