



Report for 2022 Annual General Meeting

The charity is required, under the charter, to hold an Annual General Meeting, normally in July, for the purposes of reporting the activities of the charity and to allow the people of Watton to elect new trustees. Anyone over the age of 18 who resides in Watton may vote.

It is a requirement of the charities governing document that all trustees stand down at the AGM and then seek re-election if they wish to serve again. Trustees are unpaid and may not sell any commercial services or goods to the charity or otherwise have any financial benefit from their work with the Loch.

The board is comprised of four elected trustees and up to three additional trustees who may be elected or seconded. There are also four local organizations who are each permitted to appoint an additional trustee if they choose to do so.

The present board consists of four elected trustees, who were elected at the last AGM, one appointee from Watton Town Council and two seconded trustees.

Watton Town Council exercised their right to appoint a trustee, but the other bodies did not choose to take up this option.

The work of the trustees is important in both the physical care of the Loch but also the administration, fund raising and liaison with local authorities.

The 2021 / 2022 year, where covid lockdowns and restrictions were relaxed, enabled us to resume much of the work that had to stop during the lockdowns.

Watton Town Council kindly sponsored the pollarding of a large diseased beech tree and cutting back some of the problem trees on the railway embankment. Our own volunteers also cut down some problem trees that were causing a potential hazard to one of our neighbours.

Our volunteers also completed the building of the new boardwalk at the Dereham Road end of the Loch. Funding for the materials (£3000 approx) for this came jointly from Tesco, Norfolk Community Foundation and Kingsley Healthcare



Loch Neaton Management Committee

Group. All labour was by trustees and volunteers, and we would like to thank all those volunteers that give up their time to help us look after the Loch for our community.

We are always happy to welcome offers of help from volunteers. Although some of the work is quite physical there are also gardening opportunities which do not require a lot of physical strength.

In the spring of 2022, we started to add dye to the Loch. This dye is a harmless vegetable dye that won't affect the fish, birds or water lilies but cuts out red light from the light spectrum. This red light is needed by some species of seasonal water weed to photosynthesise and grow. Although it does not completely eradicate the problem (some species grow in virtually no light) it did reduce some of the most troublesome weed. We have been undertaking regular raking of the Loch to remove the weed that is still growing. The removal of this weed is important as when it dies off at the end of the summer it reduces oxygen levels and increases ammonia levels which can kill the fish.

Again, we are very grateful to the volunteers that help with this task as it is very physical!

Apart from helping with the weed issue many visitors have remarked how pretty the Loch is looking with blue water!

Keeping the weed at bay also helps with angling, and selling day and season tickets, which is an important income stream for us. Many people ask about whether we still have any Carp and the answer is yes! It is quite common to see them cruising in twos and threes just below the surface near the lily pads. Seeing them isn't so difficult. Catching them is! Roach and Perch are plentiful and there are also Bream and Pike.

On the subject of wildlife our swans come and go but our resident moorhens and ducks have been breeding successfully with several broods so far this year. We also have a resident kingfisher who many visitors have seen around the embankment side of the Loch.



Loch Neaton Management Committee

Watton Town Council requested us to light the Beacon for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. The existing location was potentially a problem to the Sports Centre Hockey Pitch and one of the floodlights, so we moved it down to the picnic area and we believe this worked much better for visitors as they had a much better view. We also decided to light the Beacon again for mid-summer night and again this event was very well attended.



Long term residents tell us that they believe that it is some 30 years since the last time it was lit. If anyone has any old photos of it being lit, we would love to copy them for our archive.



Storm Eustice did a lot of damage to our neighbours at the Bowls Club but in the resulting clear up they discovered the sun dial that had been in place on the old Loch Neaton bowling green from 1922 until it was removed a few years ago.

It's now back at the Loch. The small fence (erected after this photo) is to prevent the grass cutting machinery accidentally clipping it.

Sharp eyed shoppers in Tesco will have noticed that the Loch is part of the latest blue token scheme. This is to raise funds to build a small hare shaped pathway for young children to run around and we hope to build this during the autumn.

The Loch is one of the chosen charities of the outgoing Mayor, so we also received funds from the Mayor's charity fund. This money will be shown in the 22/23 accounts as it was received in the current financial year.

Our finances remain healthy and our accounts for the Financial Year 21/22 are shown below.



Loch Neaton Management Committee

Loch Neaton Recreation Ground 31st March 2022 Trial Balance		
Account	Net Debit	Net Credit
Assets		
Loch Neaton Investment A/C	5393.06	
Loch Neaton Treasurers A/C	2807.1	
PayPal Bank	184.64	
Petty Cash	67.48	
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		30.94
Opening Balance Adjustments		6475.87
Equities		
Opening Balance Offset		48.98
Retained Earnings		3053.86
Income		
Direct Public Support – Business Contributions		104.8
Direct Public Support – Corporate Contributions		3660.01
Direct Public Support – Individual Contributions		136.8
Fishing Ticket Sales		890.48
Interest Income		0.64
Miscellaneous Revenue		200.51
Expense		
Broadwalk Project	2849.13	
Cost of Goods Sold	72.5	
Insurance - Combined Liability	535.84	
IT and Internet Expenses	86.4	
Janitorial Expense	12.95	
Other Expenses	76.91	
Plant and Equipment	525.03	
Printing and Reproduction	102.48	
Printing and Stationery	11.09	
Repairs & Maintenance	1188.24	
Uncategorized Expense		0.66
Utilities (Waste Disposal)	660.75	
Web Site Costs	29.95	
Total	14603.55	14603.55