

PAXMAN'S ANGLING CLUB



INTRODUCTION

Dear All,

I wanted to write to the membership to give you an update on several things going on within the club;

MAJOR WORKS AT HOME FARM (6/9/21 to 10/9/21)

We have secured around 70T of crushed concrete to which is being used to drastically improve the track along both sides of the lake. The track on the right will only be up to 'The Point' and no further and access to the more fragile 'Back-Bank' will be controlled throughout the wetter months to prevent damage to the track. The 'bridge' on the corner leading to the back bank has been completely ripped out and re-built with larger pipe and hardcore to level it and make it much more durable. As the water level is low, we have taken the opportunity to cut in 'steps' in some of the steeper swims to aid anglers getting down to water level to land large cats, launch bait boats (etc). axman's Angling Club Angling Club requires that all people involved in organising activities, work parties and day to day management activities consider the consequences of their acts and omissions and ensure that those acts/or omissions do not give rise to a foreseeable risk of injury to any other person.

MAJOR WORKS AT WIX 2 (Q4 2021)

We have secured around 50T of crushed concrete to which is being used to drastically improve the track along the village side of the lake. We will also be installing an otter fence during the last quarter of 2021 as although we have not had any concrete proof of otter predation even after installing trial cameras etc, we did find a couple of small carp which looked as if they had been taken by an otter or mink. There has also been a known otter problem not too far away towards Bradfield and Manningtree. We are prioritising Wix 2 as the individual fish in this water are of a much greater value (financially) to the club than the smaller carp in Wix 1, losing one 20 or 30lb we leave a huge hole which will be very difficult for us to replace. We will review the situation and if we do indeed suffer predation on Wix 1 over the winter, we may need to fence this water also. Please rest assured the it was only a handful of small carp found across the whole complex with only one or two of those found in locations where they could have been from Wix 2 (or Wix 1), but it has put the doubt in our mind and we have decided to act on that to protect the large carp stock in Wix 2 as a priority. This is only possible after long discussion with the landowner and negotiation on the lease costs whilst we invest money into the water.

FORWARD PLAN FOR WIX 1 & ST OSYTH

I have secured 20+ plastic pallets from my workplace which will be perfect for new swim/platforms at the Triangle and Wix 1. I will get this moved within the month or so and once the ground softens will be looking to arrange work parted to get these installed, your support with this would be greatly appreciated. We are aware Wix 1 and the Triangle are overgrown and will address this at the same time as the installation of the new swims if possible.

DECOY POND UPDATE

We secured some stocking support of native species (not Carp) from the Environment Agency and I will post full details of this once the program is complete. I am working closely with the EA and Suffolk Police regarding the poaching problems. Suffolk Police have supported us with this and the number of reports is now one a month at most of late,

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which is great as I'm confident with the systems we have in place and support of local residents we are alerted to almost every occurrence of poaching. An EA fish survey earlier in the year highlighted a drop in Carp numbers but it did reveal a fresh stock of young, fast-growing Carp which now have more space to grow through to a larger size and in a far better condition than the stock of old.

ALRESFORD UPDATE

As usual plenty of work has been carried out this year with the support of the lake's owner. The weed has been heavy this year, as it is every year. I'm aware of an extensive surface algae, for which we will investigate options of controlling, though those options are very limited.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

In today's world we needed to update review our health and safety measures and subsequently we have implemented a health and safety policy and the use of two over-arching risk assessments. You must familiarise yourself with our policy and our risk assessment for members, both of which can be found on our website. These documents have been put in place to ensure we are compliant with relevant health and safety legislation and to ensure we are properly insured should an incident occur.

NOTICE BOARDS

Although the angling etiquette has been a vast improvement on last year, and a much more peaceful season has been had so far, we have still had some issues with members not following rules. You must be familiar with club rules, and you must check the notice board at the water you are fishing upon arrival to ensure you are aware of any temporary restrictions. Any issues should be raised to the committee via the Secretary.

BAILIFF SYSTEM

A new bailiff system has been introduced and club bailiffs have been written too, those that are able to comply have been kept on, those that cannot have been thanked for their work to date. We will now record Name, Venue, Swim, Date & Time on bailiff trips to ensure we have better traceability of our members movements allowing us to deal with any problems more promptly and effectively than ever before.

THANK YOU

As always I'd like to say a huge thank you to the rest of the committee, club-officials and members who have given their time to support the works completed and upcoming, without you we would not be in a position to improve things as we are.

Any questions please feel free to contact me.

Jack Davison
Chairman & Fisheries Officer