

2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE **HOCKHAM FUEL ALLOTMENT CHARITY**

ANNUAL AWARD

The annual award was paid out in early Jan 2018. Payment was made to 11 recipients at £70 per household. Letters and messages of thanks were gratefully received from a number of applicants. In 2019 payments were increased to £75, but applicant numbers reduced to 9.

FINANCES

COIF interest income continues to pay well at around 3-4%, which has given the trustees the ability to pay larger annual awards. Further COIF investment has been considered but held back on whilst the land registration continues. There will be a future solicitor's invoice to pay.

The trustees invested in a brush cutter for maintenance work.

At year end 30/06/18 the charity had a bank closing balance of £5338.38 with the COIF investment valued at £13,832.89

LAND REGISTRATION

Spires Solicitors have managed to track down all of the outstanding documents for land registration from NP Law. Registration is under way.

MAINTENANCE

Work continues on maintenance of the woodland by the trustees, including large strides to rid the area of the invasive Himalayan Balsam. Two loads of split firewood were donated as prizes for the Annual Hockham Flower Show a further load will be donated in 2019.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust were approached for a wildlife grant. In order to get the grant, the trustees would have to have made more of the land a County Wildlife Site. This was considered not to be beneficial to the future of the land, so the suggestion was declined.

The annual tree survey has been completed.

ECOLOGY

Norfolk Wildlife Trust asked if the trustees would grant permission for a free of charge ecological survey of the pingos and the survey was completed in June 2018.

Results were interesting and show that most pingos have a large variety of flora and fauna, including some rare grasses and water beetles.

The pingos nearest the A1075 not surprisingly show some levels of road run off pollution.

If anyone wants an electronic copy of the survey, please ask the clerk and we will oblige.

SCHOOL

School activities continued within the triangle portion of the woodland, but in 2019, due to concerns over liability insurance, the trustees were forced to remove the access privilege in the short term. Since then full insurance has been secured for both Trustee Personal Indemnity and Public Liability, allowing school access once more.

TRUSTEES

Barbara Breakwell resigned as a trustee in early 2019 after close to 40 years faithful service, leaving a position vacant. The trustees would like to maintain that link with the school and would like to propose that Rachael Garrod was considered for the vacancy.