Agenda 26/091 - Graveley Pond Management

Following on from last month's meeting action points; I contacted the Environment Agency and met with one of their Technical Officer's. On the morning of the visit, there were no fish present swimming on the surface of the water as it was quite cold.

The Technical officer tested oxygen levels in the pond in the following three places.

Area	Dissolved Oxygen test result
1. Left hand side of the pond, near the entrance to the The Waldens.	55%/5.8 mg/l
2. Nearer to the bench around the pond.	44%/5 mg/l
3. Right hand side nearer to the shallower part of the pond.	45%/5.1 mg/l

She was not unduly concerned with these levels, but said that if the levels fall below 40%, it could end up putting some stress on the fish, while levels at 30% may lead to fish death or struggling.

She recommended it would be best to keep an eye on the pond and look out for signs of fish gasping or fish kill, especially in spring once the weather gets warmer.

She said that if this did happens, the best course of action would be to arrange for a contractor to come and to remove the fish or having an aerator on site that can keep the oxygen levels up.

I am happy to keep an eye on the pond but I also would like to measure the dissolved oxygen levels. I asked for a recommendation of what to buy, she said the one that they use is £1,500+. She recommended the following meter tester as it seemed to have decent reviews considering the price, but she was not sure how easy it is to get an accurate reading using a cheaper device.

Amazon UK - Dissolved Oxygen Meter, Dissolved Oxygen Tester with 11.48 ft Cable, DO meter with ATC/Temp/Manually Salt/99 Memory/Data Hold, Dissolved Oxygen Test Kit for Aquarium, Fish Tank (with IRDA Port) This is available from Amazon. It costs £179.60.



D Galvan
Parish Clerk/RFO – Graveley Parish Council
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