



Fowlmere Parish Council: Pebble for the Round Moat

Cambridge Water's PEBBLE fund 2021

The Fund has kindly granted £2,000 to Fowlmere Parish Council (FPC) 'Friends of the Round Moat' for biodiversity improvements*.

<https://www.cambridge-water.co.uk/environment/biodiversity/pebble-fund>



Friends of the Round Moat - Aims:

THE ROUND MOAT, FOWLMERE IS A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE, PROTECTED SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONTAINING VALUABLE HABITATS (A MIX OF WOODLAND, GRASS, DITCHES & EMBANKMENTS) OWNED BY THE FPC. THE FPC, WITH THE HELP OF LOCAL VOLUNTEERS & GUIDANCE FROM SPECIALISTS, WOULD LIKE TO IMPROVE THE BIODIVERSITY OF THE SITE. WE WOULD LIKE TO CLEAR BACK INVASIVE IVY WHERE APPROPRIATE, IMPROVE EXISTING HABITATS & CREATE NEW NESTING AND ROOSTING OPPORTUNITIES. SCOPE TO INCLUDE OWLS & SMALLER BIRD SPECIES, BATS, SMALL MAMMALS, LIZARDS/SNAKES & INSECTS. AIMING TO CREATE A SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM INTO THE FUTURE.

General Information:

Heritage Category: Scheduled Monument, List Entry # 1014823 – IE, *No digging in the Round Moat by anyone!*
Priority Habitat Inventory is 'Deciduous Woodland' (though the Round Moat does have meadows in the centre.)

Planned Timetable 2021:

January / February

- Speak with local experts & see if more other expert parties can assist with advice/surveys. ✓
- Start 'Friends of the Round Moat' Facebook page & inform Fowlmere Sustainability Group. ✓
- Get Fowlmere Parish Council approval for *this* flier & where to distribute, as well as discussion of future tree management & a grass cutting regime to allow for growth in some areas.

March

- Source Tawny/Barn Owl, Bat boxes (as per recommendations e.g., Cambridgeshire Bat Group)
- Get quotes for professional installation of boxes. If possible; to install within the month.
- Ask for volunteers, that could work with experts, to install other bird species boxes.
- Source English grown wildflower seeds of as many species possible.
- Get quotes for the reduction of the growth along Ryecroft Lane to enable the possibility of planting wildflower bulbs.

April

- Wildflowers (April is best if it has been very wet according to the RHS.) Ask for volunteers to prepare the sunnier Northern patch of grassland for wildflowers, if within budget do the same, after reduction, along Ryecroft Lane.
- Ivy reduction; with the help of volunteers, in the area around the bench table.

May

- With the assistance of volunteers (with additional or locally sourced materials) the creation & installation of some 'bug hotels' (AKA insect habitat)



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May / June

- Funds permitting; disabled access improvements from Ryecroft Lane &/or the Northwest entrance.

July

- Fowlmere Parish Council review of the 'Friends of the Round Moat' Pebble project with suggestions for ongoing works & improvements.

Completion. October?

- Submission of FPC Report to Cambridge Water's Pebble Fund detailing fund usage & environmental gains with photographs of works & improvements.

* Species specific habitat improvement budget:

We are working to the following figures submitted to the Pebble Fund.

1. General habitat improvement work, invasive ivy reduction where required & if funds permit, disabled access improvement £1,000.
2. Wildflower groundwork & seeds £200.
3. Bat boxes (selection) including professional installation £250.
4. Owl boxes (Barn & Tawny) including professional installation £400.
5. Various bird species & small mammal boxes £140, ask volunteers to install.
6. Insect habitat frames (wooden pallets) £10.

Can you help?

- Do you have an interest in wildlife in the moat & are willing to help with funds or time & effort?
- Do you have an ecological speciality that could help with surveys of the wildlife there?
- Are you proficient in wood working or building basic habitats?
- Can you aid the project into the future?

Join 'The Friends of the Round Moat' Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1335918636770044>

Not on Facebook, but would like to help? Please contact... peterjcollinson@gmail.com

Going forward...

Would you like to assist the Fowlmere Parish Council in the future management of this wonderful resource in the heart of the village by joining Friends of the Round Moat.