

# **APPENDIX G**

## **WAVERLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**EXECUTIVE – 10TH JUNE 2008**

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**Title:**

**FARNHAM PARK: CREATION OF TWO NEW PONDS**

[Portfolio Holder for Leisure: Cllr R J Steel]  
[Wards Affected: Farnham Castle & Farnham Upper Hale]

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**Summary and purpose:**

To seek the approval of members to submit a planning application for the creation of two ponds within Farnham Park for biodiversity and environmental education purposes.

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**Environmental implications:**

There are positive environmental benefits through habitat creation and delivery of the Council's duty for Biodiversity.

**Social / community implications:**

Creation of additional ponds would benefit conservation of Great Crested Newts.

**E-Government implications:**

There are no e-government implications arising from this report.

**Resource and legal implications:**

The project is estimated to cost £4,000 and would be funded from existing resources and a grant bid. Annual maintenance costs will be minimal. A risk assessment is attached as Annexe 1.

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**Background**

1. Farnham Park supports an important population of Great Crested Newts which a listed species under Appendixes II and IV of the EC Habitats Directive and Appendix II of the Berne Convention and protected under Schedule 2 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) Regulations 1994 (Regulation 38) and Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Management of the 5 existing ponds and surrounding terrestrial habitat within the park is focused towards the conservation of this species. The Farnham Park Historic Landscape Survey and Restoration Management Plan (adopted by Council in October 2004) recommended the creation of additional ponds within the park would benefit the conservation of this species. Ponds were designated as a Priority Habitat Under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan Review in 2007.

## **Proposal**

2. It is proposed to create two new ponds within the next three years as additional habitat for Great Crested Newts and other aquatic species and as an educational facility (local schools use the park to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum). A dipping platform would be constructed on Pond 1 to facilitate its use by local schools under ranger supervision. Both ponds would be fenced to prevent access for dogs and a gate would provide access for educational visits and monitoring of the Great Crested Newts. Surrey Archaeological Society and English Heritage will be consulted due to the archaeological sensitive nature of the site and it's inclusion on the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest.

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that a first resolution be made in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning (General) Regulations 1992 to allow a planning application to be submitted for the construction of two ponds in Farnham Park.

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### **Background Papers (DoLR)**

Location plan of new ponds.

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### **CONTACT OFFICER:**

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