

# East End Pond Restoration – update 20/11/23

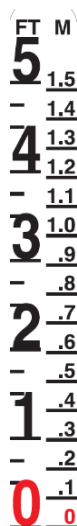
## 1. Tree felling/pollarding

Stage 1 tree pollarding as covered in planning application S23/0266 was carried out 11/12<sup>th</sup> October. Brash was chipped and removed from site to go for biomass fuel. The timber was left on site to be used for habitat creation. Volunteers have since created a log pile and stag beetle pyramid from the timber. A planning application for further tree pollarding will be submitted early 2024 (Further work will be undertaken on the log pile using that pollarded timber).



## 2. Seasonal water level monitoring

Water started appearing in the pond on October 22nd more than 7 weeks before the date of last years arrival. Currently the water is just under 4' deep. From a health and safety viewpoint a water depth gauge has been ordered and will be installed next year



## 3. Other Activities

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust provided 4 bales of green hay which were spread around the site to enable the captured wildflower seeds to be distributed and hopefully germinate next year. The hay was then raked up and used to cover the log pile improving the habitat for reptiles etc.

Plans to get a digger in this year to redistribute the silt were postponed due to the unexpected early arrival of water into the pond.....

A4 Information boards are being ordered and will be put in place before Christmas (see below)

No more planned work for EEP now until the water level drops next year. Volunteers will instead be active undertaking habitat management in Penfield.

## East End Pond

*"A large sub-rectangular pond south of the farmhouse at Langtoft Hall is probably a late C18/early C19 landscaping feature. Not marked on the 1792 estate map, but appeared on the 1813 enclosure map" (Lincolnshire Historic Environment Record).*

Langtoft Parish Council purchased the pond in 1980 and completed restoration of the site in 1984. Water levels rise and fall seasonally dependent on the underlying water table. Over the years its been home to fish, swans, ducks and newts and in 1989 won a top conservation award.

The pond circa 1980



Langtoft Parish Council

## Log Pile (Hibernaculum)

A log pile is the perfect habitat for a range of invertebrates, small mammals and amphibians. The damp environment of logs, bark and leaves provide small places to shelter in and interesting food sources.

Some creatures will take up permanent residence, while many animals are active at night, so need a safe space during the day. Others may use it as a frost-free location to overwinter.

Over time, as the wood decays and softens, more animals will be able to make their home in it. Log piles may also grow visible fungi and mosses.

What animals might live in a log pile?



More information: Natural History Museum

Langtoft Parish Council

## Dead Hedge

In nature, dead sticks, logs and leaves teem with life – they're as much a part of the ecosystem as the flowers, leaves and new growth we prize.

A dead hedge is an upright structure of woody cuttings woven between vertical stakes. The stakes are usually the sturdier branches cut from trees or shrubs. They provide a tangled maze and a perfect hideaway for birds such as Blackbirds, Robins, Wren and Dunnocks to nest and forage within.

As it rots down, the nutrients are recycled back into the earth below, meaning your garden 'waste' needn't go into garden bins or bonfires. Creating a dead hedge is an ongoing activity, which can be added to every time you prune a tree or cut back a shrub.



More information: RSPB

Langtoft Parish Council

## Stag Beetle Pyramid

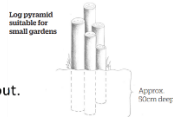
### Stag beetle facts

- They are Britain's largest native terrestrial beetle.
- The larvae develop underground in rotting wood for several years.
- The adult only lives for a few weeks in the summer with the sole purpose of finding a mate.
- Adult beetles don't eat but rely on the fat stores built up during their larval stage.
- The male's antler-like jaws are used to fight off rival males.



### Make a log pyramid in your garden

- Log pyramids can be built at any time of year.
- Use wood from any broadleaved tree.
- The logs should be at least the thickness of an adults arm.
- Site the logs in partial shade if possible to prevent them drying out.
- Partially bury the logs in the soil so that they don't dry out.
- Allow plants to grow over the log pyramid to retain moisture and provide shade.



More information: Peoples Trust for Endangered Species

Langtoft Parish Council