



Moor Green Lakes Group

January 2026 Special Newsletter

Sale of Moor Green Lakes

I am very pleased to confirm that on Friday the 19th of December 2025 the sale of Moor Green Lakes has at last been completed. The sale was agreed in principle back in May, but legal processes have inevitably delayed matters. The freehold was transferred by Cemex to the purchasers, a long-standing local Finchampstead family. This family then generously gifted the entire freehold to Finchampstead Parish Council, who now own the freehold outright. Finchampstead Parish Council is setting up an independent Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) the Moor Green Lakes Trust. This charitable body will oversee the relationship between FPC as freeholders and the existing Moor Green Lakes Group (MGLG) as lessees. Trustees will be appointed early this year and will include members of both Finchampstead Parish Council and Moor Green Lakes Group.

Additionally, I am pleased to confirm that Finchampstead Parish Council will provide

future financial security and certainty for the reserve. In addition, the newly established Moor Green Lakes Trust with its charitable status, should enable and facilitate access to new sources of funding.

Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership (the rangers) will continue to perform an important role supporting our management and maintenance of the reserve.

Obviously, we are entering a transition phase with many details still to be worked out, however in the Q&A section below, typical questions are addressed as best as possible.

I must express my gratitude to the generosity of the local donor family, who as benefactors, have made securing the future of this valued community asset possible.

I hope you will agree that these changes will provide essential certainty and security as we move forward together to the next chapter of the Moor Green Lakes story.

Simon Weeks - Moor Green Lakes Chairman



Q&A

How will the new Moor Green Lakes Trust (MGLT) be organised?

The Moor Green Lakes Trust will be a board of trustees, with trustees from both Finchampstead Parish Council and the Moor Green Lakes Group. This board will provide governance to ensure the Trust is operating in accordance with its charter, handle administration that is legally required of a charity, and act as liaison between FPC and MGLG.

How will the Moor Green Lakes Group change?

No significant change except oversight will be provided by MGLT rather than Cemex.

Will volunteers still be needed?

Absolutely. The actual work on the reserve won't significantly change and the value of the volunteer effort cannot be overstated.

Will wildlife recorders still be needed?

Again absolutely and this will continue to feed into our Annual Report. Incidentally we still have several openings for more recorders.

Will the annual subscription change?

No immediate plans and if we do change, it will only be a modest increase. However, the donations people make on top of their subscription will become more valuable.

Will the objectives of the Moor Green Lakes Group change?

There may be a little change to the wording, but the general intent will remain the same, running Moor Green Lakes as a wildlife nature reserve.

Will access to the reserve change?

No. Public access will still be limited to special organised events, work parties and MGLG wildlife recorders.

Does this include Manor Farm and Fleet Hill Farm?

No. Manor Farm (the new workings) and Fleet Hill Farm (area to the West of Longwater Road) are still owned by Cemex. It is still hoped that in the future these will become joined with Moor Green Lakes to form a larger nature reserve. This is dictated by Cemex's disposal timescales.

