## The Friends of Firs Farm

Changes in Firs Farm over the last 18 months Thanks to numerous community and corporate volunteers Plus the working partnerships we have with LBE, Thames Water and Thames21 and too many to mention

The Friends need more "Active group members" to help with even more improvements as part of the overall transformation of Firs Farm set out on our 5 yr plan

Tonight it's not all about the Friends and our awards and what we have done but about the Celebrations.

What have we got to Celebrate? Launch of the Wetlands -

In the beginning - 2014 A flat green piece of land to a lovely vibrant wetlands.





Set in idyllic surroundings Firs Farm Wetlands is a nature haven in Winchmore Hill. Pond dipping, nature trails, educational tours, a relaxing walk or family picnic are some of the things you can do when visiting the Wetlands. To find out more about how you can enjoy this newly created local oasis contact The Friends of Firs Farm, a volunteer group who are passionate about the environment and bio-diversity and manage many corporate and community events at Firs Farm Wetlands.





## What's coming up over the next few weeks:-

- 1. New Entrance in Firs Farm due to be completed this week
- 2. The NEW path from the A10 to the car park is due to be ready before the May bank holiday
- 3. Watercourse through the woodland work starts next week weather permitting of course
- 4. The boardwalks across the wetlands will be put in place in May now (delays obtaining materials from Germany apparently)
- 5. Also happening in May/June ready for the Festival: The pond dipping platform. A wildlife Hide, Education area, Woodland walk of orchard type trees
- 6. Tomorrow you will see Thames21 and Corporate Volunteers working on planting in Firs Farm

## It's already making a difference to people's lives:-

## Health

More people walking jogging and and families out to look at the wildlife and playing along the watercourse instead of sitting in front of laptops / TV's.

The informal seating and new benches provide somewhere to sit and enjoy the peaceful surroundings, the wonderful new landscape and watch the wildlife.

This is encouraging more and more people to come outdoors especially children away from technology. .

**Education** More and more schools are now coming to Firs Farm T21 FoFF ongoing partnership working together to support local schools benefit from this wonderful educational resource on their doorstep.

THE BIGGEST SUDS wetlands of its kind in the UK possible Europe

Wildlife - Working with Scout groups and young offenders building habitats.







**Recreation** - More and more local people are using the park: families, wheelchair users, walkers joggers cyclists,

Time now for some fun... Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2016 Firs Farm Wetlands Festival to Launch the Wetlands and the NEW Firs Farm But we need your help to celebrate

The next meeting to discuss the Firs Farm Wetlands Festival is:

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April Winchmore Sports Club 7.30 pm

Put it in your diaries now please and tell friends neighbours and work colleagues

Join the Friend for Free - No Membership....

Please take a visit to the park and the web site <a href="http://www.firsfarmn21.org">http://www.firsfarmn21.org</a> if you are interested in knowing more about the Friends... Thank you