

## Woodham Fen Report June 2022

The two Shetland cows are enjoying their new temporary home at Woodham Fen and are popular with the locals. We will continue to monitor the sward height and looking to team them off the in the next few weeks. Andy Lean (volunteer Warden) has been conducting monthly butterfly surveys and we should start getting the emergence of marbled white butterflies soon! Reptile surveys are still ongoing also with regular slow worms making an appearance under the reptile mats.

A rapid grassland survey of the meadows will take place before the end of June and we will report on the findings once this has taken place. This will look at positive and negative indicators of wildflower species that are absent or present, to give us a good idea of how better to manage the meadow areas.

There have been several sightings of a barn owl using the Fen also.

Several bee orchids are out on the John Cox recreational site but numbers are slightly less this year due to the grass being quite dense. It would be great if the area could be strimmed from the end of July.

