

Working Party Tour of Vicarage Lane Field Project - March 21st 2018

Accompanied by:

Graham Workman, Development Manager, Biodiversity and assistant Becky

Present : Ira Whiteley and Eileen Longmore

We are grateful to Graham And Becky for a very informative and enthusiastic review of the site. It has provided a wealth of useful ideas for us to consider.

Recommendations:

The area beyond car park and over the stream

Crowning of existing trees to open up the light onto the stream in summer.

Gap filling the hedge / tree line with some saplings as also recommended by A. Smallshaw.

(gapping up)

Chambree the edge of the stream... IE edge sloping downwards into water. (I think?)

Open Area

Suggestion of a stone / henge / circle perhaps with yew trees outside it .

Annual bardic ceremony! !! outdoor theatre!

Along the perimeter path Vicarage Lane side

Layering of the Hedgerow along there to strengthen and maintain the old native shrub species...and for historical interest of older agricultural practices.

Planting with native woodland flowers ... For Spring through to Autumn flowering .. Celandines, wood anemone, foxglove, campion etc.

Graham and Becky can get costings and direct us towards funding organisations.

Communal Orchard

Suggestion of linear planting of fruit trees? ... Introduce cows and pigs eventually for historical land management !!! !(they are better looking than Parish Councillors anyway!!)

Bees are important . Eileen explained the need for allotment holders to have management qualification and skills for bee keeping. (There is provision in the tenancy agreement for anyone with the appropriate skills to keep bees.)

Woodland

Wet woodlands very important for biodiversity. A very valuable resource.

Excellent for development of a nature trail.

Ponds looked good for development.

Drainage plan for pathways possible for the area.

Suggested PDF file guide on website for local teachers to download to bring children and point out the different species of birds and flowers and points of historical interest. But kingcups and marsh marigolds are just some of the exciting plants we could introduce.

Graham's team can help draw up such a plan.

Recommended two different grant seeking plans

1. Woodland

2. The Field areas and perimeter pathway.

Encouragement of Young Custodians to volunteer for clearance of areas and carry out simple development tasks.

Offer of Ecological Scoping Survey in the Spring for clearer idea of what plants and flowers are already established and what can be added . Graham and Becky will do this.

Offer to draw up a plan and give presentation to the Parish Council

Offers to help with funding grants.