

edge of the woodland footpaths to create interest for those people walking there. These were sited on 16 and 17 November.

4 Min 7.4 – Wildflower planting

Crowthorne Parish Council's Projects and Events Officer, Carley Greenwood, has sourced a donation of 2kg of wildflower seeds from Squires Garden Centre which can be sown at Circle Hill, the Morgan Recreation Ground and given away in small seed packets to locals attending the VE 75 event on 8 May 2020. Initial yellow rattle sowing was undertaken at Circle Hill week commencing 11 November which will prepare the ground for further wildflower sowing in spring 2020.

5 Min 7.5 – Publicity about insect homes at Circle Hill

The Administrator will arrange to publicise photographs of the insect homes online and on social media now that the platforms are in situ.

6 Min 7.6 – Photograph collage display

Cllr Sever took some seasonal photographs at Circle Hill woods and uploaded them to the shared drive for Circle Hill photographs. Unfortunately, there are no photographs of the volunteers working on site but the Administrator will ask if the Berkshire Conservation Volunteers have any photographs they can share capturing their work in the woods.

7 Min 7.7 – Green Flag application process

Trustee volunteers are still required to form a working group to progress the Green Flag application for Circle Hill and the Walter Recreation Ground. Mr Dodd stated that he would be able to devote time to this next summer. Mr Metcalf also volunteered to get involved.

8 Min 7.8 – Cherry Laurel

Berkshire Conservation volunteers have been undertaking cherry laurel clearance and eco-plugging works to tackle this problem. Cllr Dye visited the site and marked the areas requiring cherry laurel removal. All works are in accordance with the Forestry Management plan previously agreed with the Forestry Commission. Cllr Dye expressed concern that this job was too big for the volunteers and that a contractor should be appointed to undertake the clearance. Members were in agreement with this and agreed to put an additional £1,000 in the budget for this purpose. Nick Robins would be asked if he would be able to assist with the removal of the waste.

9 Min 7.8 – Japanese Knotweed

Mr Dodd reported that the treatment/injecting program on the Japanese Knotweed appeared to have had some effect, but it will be in spring next year that the true effects will be seen. Mr Dodd was thanked for his work in trying to eradicate the Japanese Knotweed.

10 Min 13 – Complaint regarding tree works

The Administrator responded to Mr Brant's complaint on 15 July to reassure him that the removal of the tree in question had been critical and urgent for safety reasons, following the advice of an Arboricultural consultant. The Administrator thanked Mr Brant for attending the Trustees meeting on 9 July and for his offer of young trees. Once the clearance works are complete at Circle Hill there may be enough room to plant some saplings.

4 ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1 Berkshire Conservation Volunteers

The volunteers have undertaken further visits to Circle Hill woods since the last meeting and have focused on removing the Cherry Laurel and eco-plugging to prevent its regrowth. The Trustees requested that the volunteers be thanked for their work at the site.

Action: Administrator

2 Crowthorne and Sandhurst Rotary Club – Crocus planting

As previously agreed by the trustees, the local Rotary Club undertook the planting of around 600 crocus bulbs in the vicinity of the bench and 'Welcome to Crowthorne' sign on the grassy area off Bracknell Road earlier this autumn. The planting is to commemorate the works of Jonas Salk, who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis

(polio). Its total eradication has been a long-term objective of Rotary International, the World Health Organisation and other partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The bulbs are expected to provide a spectacular purple display in the spring. Purple representing the colour of the dye use to mark the finger of children who have been immunised.

3 Tree works

Mr Robins has confirmed that all the recommended tree works from the annual tree survey undertaken by Tree Assessments UK have been completed at the Walter Recreation Ground. He has carried out some of the recommended works at Circle Hill woods and expects to have completed the remainder before Christmas 2019.

4 Annual tree surveys

Lee Garner of Tree Assessments UK has agreed to undertake the annual tree surveys at Circle Hill and the Walter Recreation Ground and his charges for this service will remain the same as for last year.

5 Emergency fence repair works – Circle Hill woods

John Smith and Son have undertaken the emergency repairs to 3 damaged sections of fencing on the boundary of Circle Hill woods as sections of the fence had fallen towards the pavement thereby posing a potential trip hazard to passers-by. The works were authorised by the Administrator due their urgent nature (the Clerk from WWPC also giving authorisation of expenditure), and the cost of works agreed by the trustees prior to it being carried out. The total cost of works was £679.80. Due to the age of the fencing, trustees felt that it would be prudent to put some money into the budget for any future reactive maintenance that may be required.

5 TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2020/2021

Members studied the proposed budget for 2020/2021 and agreed that, as noted under minute 3.8, an additional £1,000 should be allocated to Maintenance/Clearance Works for cherry laurel clearance at Circle Hill. Also, additional funds as noted under minute 4.5 for reactive maintenance.

As proposed by Mr Metcalf and seconded by Cllr Thompson, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the proposed final budget for 2020/21 as presented including the changes outlined above.

6 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Members discussed whether it would be possible to show a plan of footpaths on the information board at Circle Hill. The Administrator suggested an aerial photo of the site which could be taken by a drone and agreed to speak to her son about this.

Action: Administrator

7 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDAS

- Woodland footpath update
- Review of Woodland Plan
- Planting of Alder Buckthorn

Meeting closed 10.50am

Signed

Dated