

## BORDEN NATURE RESERVE REPORT JULY 2022



There has not been a meeting since the last one reported on in June.

In preparation for the Parish Council Monthly meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July 22, I will ask that Councillors consider the following paragraph which has been brought to our attention by Cllr Baldock.

***“Proportion of costs for joint facilities***

*To pay a fair proportion (to be determined by the landlord whose decision shall be conclusive) of the expense of repairing maintaining renewing or replacing all boundary walls and fences party walls (if any) sewers drains watercourses pipes wires cables access roads and footpaths and other things used or enjoyed in common by the Premises with any adjoining or contiguous property”*

KCC access the Reserve for their management of the gates, and so does that constitute a joint facility? If so, it is wondered whether we would be able to ask KCC for a contribution to the Reserve fencing.

We would like Borden Parish Council (BPC) to ask KCC for permission for FOBNR to install lecterns at the Reserve? This is in the planning stages and quotes are being gathered by FOBNR. We need to understand if BPC need the final drawing before asking or can the Clerk go to KCC direct to ask if this is feasible, as if they say no then this will save FOBNR wasting their time on quotes.

Keys to the Reserve were discussed by FOBNR. They ask how emergency services would get access, do the Fire Brigade have a key? Does the Clerk have a key?

The Environmental Compliance Officer at KCC, has been in touch with the contractor that cuts the pathways in the Reserve. Unfortunately, they have cut down docks with fiery clearwing eggs on, but it is hoped they will have burrowed into the ground before the strimmer arrived. Flags were placed where the docks were, and the contractor is now avoiding that area. The Environmental Compliance Officer has also provided the contractor with a factsheet on clearwings.

The Environmental Compliance Officer has made some suggestions/amendments to the Management Plan. I will ask Councillors to read this in preparation for the next meeting.

He also states the following

- *There is no mention of risk assessments and public liability insurance for the work proposed to be done by volunteers.*
- *Twice yearly meetings would be good initially, and once the volunteers are established then this could be yearly. With potential education / outreach, there may be a role for KCC Waste Management to explain what we do.*
- *Tools are mentioned, it may be helpful to highlight specifics as to what is needed and whether training is required. Would they be stored on or off site (in the case of the former, a storage container would be required)?*

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- *There is no mention of using yellow rattle, however there is red bartsia on site and this could be used instead for meadow establishment, as it has similar parasitic properties.*
- *Once the Committee has had a chance to digest these comments, we would like to offer ourselves for a joint site meeting to discuss matters further, including moth habitat protection, the use of herbicides, and ways in which we can work together to achieve mutual ambitions and targets.*

At the BPC monthly meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July I will be discussing the adoption of the Management Plan.

There have been more instances in the Reserve which have been reported to the PCSO, including a tent with reports that there may be drug paraphernalia present, the Clerk has asked if the PCSO would attend, and we are currently waiting on an update on this. Also, a small motorbike was seen driving through the Reserve last Sunday details of which have a been passed on to the PCSO

There has not yet been any communication from KCC regarding the Reserve lease renewal.

Cllr Nicola Butlin



