

Report for Information

Report to Mousehold Heath Conservators
5th December 2008

ITEM

Report of Head of Community Services

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Subject Report on recent survey, management work and events at
Mousehold Heath

Purpose

To provide an update on recent survey, management work and events undertaken on Mousehold Heath since the September 2008 Mousehold Conservators meeting.

Recommendations

That the Conservators note the report.

Financial Consequences

This report is for information only, and any costs have or will be met from existing budgets.

Strategic Priority and Outcome/Service Priorities

The report helps to meet the strategic priority Safe and Healthy Neighbourhoods and the service plan priority to ensure Norwich has a clean and safe environment.

Contact Officers

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Background Documents

None.

Report

This report provides Conservators with information on works undertaken in the previous quarter.

1. Survey Work

A brief verbal update on the summer 2008 invertebrate survey will be provided at the meeting.

The results of the 2008 butterfly transect will be collated shortly and made available to anyone interested.

2. Site Management Work

A high level of management activity has again been achieved. The Mousehold Heath Defenders have been running regular work parties, usually at least two per week, and in addition four work parties involving volunteers from Norwich Union and one with Royal Bank of Scotland volunteers have taken place. A placement student from Easton College has been assisting Mousehold Warden William Stewart with practical work. Most of the management work undertaken to date has consisted of scrub clearance and gorse cutting on the heathland areas; some work has also taken place on the St. William's Chapel site.

The Mousehold Defenders have also organised Phase 1 of the planned work on the Vinegar Pond, the removal of the invasive Reed sweet-grass. Some detailed issues need to be overcome, but work is now scheduled to take place in early December.

The Pavilion car park (including the driveway leading to Zak's Restaurant) and the Pitch & Putt car park have been levelled and re-graded.

3. Events

Public events over the review period have included a bat walk and a fungus foray. The Mousehold Wardens have spoken at school assemblies and organised school activities on the site.

Numbers of attendees will be reported orally at the meeting.