

**Mousehold Heath Conservators – management sub group meeting**

**Monday 7 April 2014**

**Present**

Cllr David Bradford

Cllr Stephen Little

Chris Southgate

Bob Cronk

Nigel Hales

**Apologies**

Lenny Stamp

**Annual report**

Conservators asked that the next annual report includes points previously highlighted at the Conservators meeting and include a section looking forward that will cover:

- current issues that Conservators will need to take into consideration when making decisions
- issues that require monitoring

Conservators saw the purpose of the report to:

- Showcase the work of the Conservators
- Explain the importance of the heath and the work undertaken to maintain and improve it
- To provide an opportunity to reflect and plan for the following year

Specific points that should be included for the 2013-14 annual report are:

- The new cycle route, how it is being used and if it meets the original specification
- The development of the Pink Pedalway which might increase cycling on the heath
- The increasing use of social media that is used to promote activities on the heath some of which may be anti-social
- The role of the Conservators
- The challenging working environment and the impact that this may have on the work of the Conservators
- A section that asks for people's input e.g. species lists, photographs or volunteer time

A final draft to be reported to the Conservators June meeting

- An invitation to be made to an officer of the Communications team to attend the Conservators meeting to discuss the promotion of the annual report.

### **Conservator's induction**

Officers to review the format for the induction of new Conservators and bring to a future meeting of the management sub group.

### **Woodland management**

In recent years heathland restoration has been the priority action to enhance biodiversity. However, woodland management is one of the management plan objectives and there is a need for the Conservators to consider how they wish to take this forward.

The woodland grant scheme is currently closed to applications so there are no external funds available from that source.

However, there is an option to progress this in conjunction with Easton College who are interested in collaborating with the Conservators.

Conservators asked that a report is brought to the June meeting outline a brief for this work and in the meantime officers continue to explore the opportunity with the College.

### **Mousehold Risk Plan**

Conservators reviewed the current risk plan which is attached and requested that this is brought to the June meeting of Conservators for approval.

<\\\\sfil2\\Shared Folders\\Environmental protection\\Natural areas\\Mousehold Heath\\Risk management\\Risk plan template - 2014.docx>

### **Britannia Road car park**

Conservators reviewed the request from Britannia Enterprises to site advertising "A board" in the car park.

In answer to a question, the Mousehold warden thought that this had increased the amount of car parking occurring.

Conservators asked that the wardens:

- approach the company and ask what mutual benefit might be achieved from the business using the car park and helping to maintain the facility
- put on hold the surface treatment for the time being but to ensure it is completed for the summer

### **The Pink Pedalway**

Conservators would like to receive information on the proposals as soon as it is available and if required will meet formally if there are decisions required.