

Maybush Copse Consultation Workshop Report



**Landford Village Hall
14 May 2010**

Maybush Copse Consultation Workshop

50 people attended the workshop that took place at Landford Village Hall on 14th May, to discuss the future of Maybush Copse. During the evening the community members were asked to voice their concerns and collate their ideas as to how the woodland should be shaped. All of the ideas that were put forward have been considered, and those that were felt feasible are detailed below:

Who is the copse for?

The woodland is for all members of the community and will include areas of interest for all ages and abilities. Dogs will be welcome if kept on a lead and owners are expected to pick up after their dog and use the bins provided.

What will the copse look like?

Development of the copse is expected to evolve over several years as species become established and volunteers become enthused! The end result should be a sustainable natural woodland habitat with native species, areas of inaccessible scrub and minimal impact access routes with sympathetic opportunities for learning and enjoyment.

Who will maintain the copse?

The copse will be owned and maintained by the Parish Council. However, it is envisaged that much of the remedial improvements will be carried out by volunteers within the community and the establishment of a Friends of Group would be encouraged.

Environmental improvements

The following are the agreed requirements that were presented during the consultation workshop as demonstrated on the proposed site plan:

- Introduce mixed native hedge to residential boundaries
- Native planting throughout all areas
- Encourage wild scrub areas – with focus on 2 ‘no-go’ zones
- Relocate recreation ground entrance and re-establish hedge
- Willow arch made from felled trees at recreation ground entrance – combined with native honeysuckle / dog rose
- Programme of control of invasive species
- Limited management approach
- Where possible re-use waste materials e.g. logs, willow on site or within community
- Introduce a pond / bog area in existing wet area

Access and educational improvements

The following initial ideas are those put forward at the recent workshop and can be seen on the proposed site plan:

- Path to pass through central area of copse and extend to include informal education area
- Road entrance to retain existing vehicular gate in addition to publicly accessible gate

- Path to be constructed from natural materials and include boardwalk section alongside pond
- Assess options to board over existing footings if too costly to remove
- Seating to be installed in informal education area
- Install habitat boxes – birds, owls, bat, insects, hedgehogs etc
- Native species introduced could be part of a sensory trail e.g. comfrey, honeysuckle
- Install brass rubbing / sculptures to depict wildlife / species in area
- Interpretation boards to be installed at both entrances
- Dog bins to be installed at entrances
- Bird feeders near seating area – could be made by school / volunteers

Tree Survey Works

The table below summarises the immediate tree remedial work needed and suggests that some of this work could be carried out by a small team of volunteers to minimise costs!

Tree No	Species	Comments	Work Recommendations	Who
483	Willow	Leaning	Fell	Vols
484	Willow		Fell	Vols
485	Birch	Leaning towards adjacent property	Fell	TS
486	Willow		Fell	Vols
487	Willow		Fell	Vols
488	Willow		Removal of decayed stem	Vols
489	Oak	Deadwood noted throughout canopy	Removal of all deadwood where diameter exceeds 50mm	TS
490	Sycamore	Remains of tree house noted within canopy	Crown raised to 3m above ground level	TS
491	Willow		Removal of stem	Vols
492	Willow	Structural failure	Fell	Vols
493	Willow			Vols
494	Oak	Deadwood noted throughout canopy	Removal of all deadwood where diameter exceeds 50mm	TS
495	Oak	Deadwood noted throughout canopy	Removal of all deadwood where diameter exceeds 50mm	TS

Vols = volunteers

TS = Tree Surgeon

Funding of projects

Below is the latest funding bulletin which gives information of both internal and external grants schemes. Whilst there are various grants available to fund the type of projects listed below are a couple of examples related to this scheme:

- NFNPA Small Grant Scheme – funds access improvements, path surfacing, gateways, boardwalks
- NFLMS Grants – funds materials, equipment for land management

The **Small Grant Scheme**, funded jointly by the New Forest National Park Authority and Hampshire County Council, aims to help improve local countryside access and information in the New Forest National Park. The Small Grants Scheme is available to parish and town councils and land owners with ideas for projects that will improve access to, or information about, the local countryside. In addition, any organisation or group may apply to produce publicity materials.

Grants are available for up to 75% of the total project cost, up to a maximum grant of £7,500. Projects that are eligible for funding include path resurfacing and drainage, replacement of stiles with kissing gates, installation of benches, provision of a countryside access map board and the production of countryside access leaflets.

For more information about the scheme, please contact the Countryside Access Officer on 01590 646669 or email access.forum@newforestnpa.gov.uk

The **New Forest land Advice Service** can offer small grants of up to £2000 for restoration of hedgerows, restoration and creation of species rich meadows, eye sore removal, removal of non-native species, removal of invasive species. For more information contact 01590 646696 or email julie.stubbs@nflandadvice.org.uk

Awards for All is a lottery grants programme aimed at local communities. It awards grants of between £300 and £10,000 for projects which improve communities and the lives of people within them. The application process is simple and straightforward and applications can be made all-year-round. Any not-for-profit group, parish council or school can apply and you will be given a decision about whether or not you have been successful within six weeks.

For an application telephone 0845 4102030 or visit www.awardsforall.org.uk

The **Heritage Lottery Fund – young roots** - will provide funding of between £3,000 and £25,000 for projects which involve 13-25 year olds in finding out about their heritage, developing skills, building confidence or working with others in their local community. Applications can be made all year round from any partnership of organisations. Decisions on fully completed applications are given within 10 weeks.

For an application form telephone 020-75916000 or visit www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/youngroots.aspx

The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation supports charitable activities in a number of areas including cultural life, education and learning, the natural environment and enabling people who are disadvantaged to participate more fully in society. At present, the Foundation has four specialist areas of interest; Biodiversity, Food, Museum and Heritage Collections and New Approaches to Learning.

There is no maximum grant but the average grant provided is in the region of £44,000.

For further information visit www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk

The It's Your Community Conservation Foundation and O2 will provide grants of between £100 and £1,000 for local community projects which involve young people. The funding will support a wide range of projects such as cleaning up a youth centre or bus shelter, providing activity materials, developing websites, providing sports equipment, or improving green spaces.

For information and an application form visit www.itsyourcommunity.co.uk

The Veolia Environmental Trust will fund community and environmental projects under the landfill tax credit scheme. You can apply for funding if your project comes under one of the following categories:

- projects that involve reclaiming land, the use of which has been prevented by some previous activity.
- projects that reduce or prevent pollution on land.
- projects that provide or maintain public amenities or parks.
- delivery of biodiversity conservation for UK species habitats.
- projects to restore or repair buildings for religious worship, or of architectural or historical interest.

Projects must be within five miles of a site operated by Veolia Environmental Services. The average grant award is between £25,000 and £40,000.

For an application form or advice telephone 01902-794677, e-mail info@veoliatrust.org or visit their website www.veoliatrust.org

The **Central Church Fund** supports projects within parishes wanting to involve greater outreach into the community, for instance; employing a youth worker or renovating an old church hall for use as a community centre. The fund will support both capital and revenue projects, as well as some preliminary costs such as feasibility studies or professional fees. The maximum grant available is £10,000 although they are often much smaller. Grants can be awarded on a one-off basis or phased over a number of years.

For further information visit www.centralchurchfund.org.uk/applying.html

The **Ernest Cook Trust** gives grants to registered charities, schools and not-for-profit organisations wishing to encourage young people's interest either in the countryside and the environment or the arts (in the broadest sense) or aiming to raise levels of literacy and numeracy. Since the ECT is a land-based Trust, work which encourages or ensures the continuation of rural skills and crafts is of particular interest to the Trustees. All applications are expected to link in with either the National Curriculum or with recognised qualifications.

A large grants programme for awards of over £4,000 and a small grants programme for awards of under £4,000 operate throughout the year.

For further information telephone 01285-712492, e-mail grants@ernestcooktrust.org.uk or visit www.ernestcooktrust.org.uk

The **Community Spaces Big Lottery** scheme provides support for community groups to create or improve their local community spaces such as parks, informal sports areas, nature reserves, village greens, churchyards and village ponds. The scheme will provide grants of up to £49,999 (larger grants are no longer available) on a rolling basis until 2011.

For further information and the application form, telephone 0845-3671671 or visit www.community-spaces.org.uk

The **Sustainable Development Fund** is a grant scheme to encourage sustainable ways of enjoying and living within the New Forest National Park (living in a way which has a positive effect on the environmental, economic and community wellbeing of the New Forest). At present the fund is seeking to support projects that address the challenges we face from climate change.

To be eligible for the fund, your project must demonstrate that it will promote or support sustainable living in the New Forest and will further at least one of the National Park purposes:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Park; and
- To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the Park's special qualities by the public.

Applications are welcomed from individuals, businesses, organisations and community groups from the public, private and voluntary sector. The main grants programme can finance up to 75% of your project costs, although some restrictions may apply, particularly if you are a business. The Sustainable Development Fund also has a small grants scheme providing grants of up to £500 for projects which deliver the same aims as the main programme. The small grants scheme will provide 100% project funding up to the £500 limit and has a straightforward application process with a quicker turnaround.

For further information, contact the Sustainable Development Fund Officer on 01590 646664, email claire.qingell@newforestnpa.gov.uk or visit the website at www.newforestnpa.gov.uk

New Forest District Council offer a range of leisure grants for community projects and activities.

For details of the grants visit www.newforest.gov.uk and explore the area under Leisure / Funding.

The **B&Q One Planet Living Grants®** offer between £50 and £250 of B&Q materials to schools, community groups and charitable organisations for long-term sustainable projects. Projects must support at least one of the following themes; save energy, conserve nature, grow your own, support local culture and heritage. The project must be within a 20-mile radius of a B and Q store.

Contact your local B and Q store to discuss an application.

The **Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme** provides one-off donations of between £500 and £4,000. The funding we give goes towards providing practical benefits, such as equipment and resources for projects that directly benefit children, the elderly and adults and children with disabilities, living in the local communities around our stores in the UK.

Projects previously supported include; playground equipment in schools and local communities, sensory garden projects, outdoor classrooms, breakfast and after school clubs, holiday play-schemes, specialist equipment for disabled people and day trips and social trips for elderly or disabled people.

For further information visit www.tescocharitytrustcommunityawards-applications.co.uk

The **Co-operative Community Fund** will provide grants of between £100 and £2,000 for community, voluntary or self-help groups to run projects that meet the following:

- Carry out positive work in the community
- Address a community issue
- Provide a good long-term benefit to the community
- Support co-operative values and principles
- Ideally be innovative in its approach

For further information visit <http://www.co-operative.coop/ethicsinaction/communities/fundsandfoundations/>