



WINDERMERE & BOWNESS TOWN COUNCIL

Representing the interests of the communities of Windermere, Bowness and Troutbeck Bridge

Notes of Site Visit and Meeting held at Elleray Woods and Orrest Head on woods on 6th September 2023 at 3pm

Present: Deputy Mayor Lisa Greasley (Lead), Cllr Adrian Legge, Gary Hancox (Town Steward), Sally Parkyn (Town Clerk) & Marian Jones, LDNPA

Apologies: None.

1. Items Outstanding from the previous meeting in March 23:

These are all included in the notes below.

- 2. Access Road re-surfacing:** Update from Town Clerk/Town Steward. This began on Monday 4th May and should take 5 days. The residents were all informed and signs put up warning about the work. The price of labour has been held but the cost of tarmac has increased 5%. Contributions from the homeowners and LDNPA has been agreed.

3. Update from Marian Jones (LDNPA)

The recent work carried out by LDNPA was appreciated as it has made improvements to path surfaces and the new bench is very comfortable. There is still some uncertainty about the accuracy of the people counter but there has definitely been an increase in visitor numbers since the new accessible footpath was put in.

Marian will follow up with Windermere School about the missing signs near their carpark gate.

- 4. Collection Box agreement:** There was a discussion regarding the need for clarification about LDFs costs and that the contract reflect the verbal agreement from the previous meeting.

- 5. Update on required tree work:** Advice from the tree survey has been used to plan the work required. In addition, dangerous trees identified in the new compartment and the large tree that has fallen into the National Trust farmland will need a tree surgeon to remove. The OH&EWAG note that it is important that this work is undertaken as soon as possible.

- 6. Update on work in new compartment:** Gary has been working hard putting in safety fencing, log track edging and steps. It is hoped that the compartment will be opened to the public by the end of the year.

Adrian will look into some chainsaw artists at the county show.

The clerk is to write to Simone requesting that the Lakes School be asked if they could make more bat boxes as they have raised a lot of interest.

There has been a request to increase the budget for next year as inflation and the increase in the area actively managed mean a larger budget is required.

- 7. Update on general issues from Town Steward:** Coppicing is to be done around the millennium yews to increase light.

The topic of memorial benches was discussed. The woods are almost at capacity, however the opening of the new compartment will provide space for two more benches which have been requested. The clerk will write to Marian to

find out the make of the bench they put in as it is ideal for the situation. Marian noted that LDNPA now ask for people to give other things like gates and bridges as memorials. There is therefore the possibility that people might be encouraged to donate sculptures to the woods.

8. Any issues regarding the summit

None noted but Marian reported that extra material where it was wearing away in front of benches had been put in.

9. Blub Planting

Native bluebell bulbs to be planted on bare earth across the path from the Gruffalo. Native daffodils to be planted on the tarmac track verge past Orrest Howe. Clerk to liaise with Simone regarding the planting by pupils from Windermere School.

10. Any other business

None

11. Date of next meetings: Wednesday 27th March 2024

Wednesday 6th September 2024