

**OUTWOODS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, 31ST JULY 2019 AT 6.00PM  
COMMITTEE ROOM 2, SOUTHFIELDS, LOUGHBOROUGH**

To: Councillors Bailey, Campsall (Vice-chair), Fryer (Chair), K. Harris, Morgan, Parsons, Poland, and Tillotson

PB, RE, GM, CN, JN

**AGENDA**

1. CHARNWOOD FOREST FOSSILS

A talk about the fossils of Charnwood Forest by Dr. Phil Welby from the British Geological Survey.

2. APOLOGIES

3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

4. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY AND PERSONAL INTERESTS

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Pages 3-8

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2019.

6. OFFICER UPDATE REPORT

Pages 9-13

An update regarding issues raised at previous meetings and information concerning new issues.

7. OUTWOODS CONIFER FELLING PROGRAMME – PHASE 1

Pages 14-29

A report providing details of the conifer compartment felling phase 1.

8. CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP BID UPDATE

Pages 30-31

A report providing an update regarding the three projects.

9. FINANCE UPDATE

Pages 32-34

An update regarding finance including year end data.

10. ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT AT THE OUTWOODS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

Pages 35-38

An update regarding activities and operational management at the Outwoods.

11. A.O.B

## DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates proposed for future meetings are as below:

9th October 2019  
29th January 2020  
15th April 2020

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

A visit to the Outwoods will take place prior to the meeting. Members of the Committee are asked to meet in the Outwoods Car Park at 4pm.

**OUTWOODS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
10TH APRIL 2019**

PRESENT: Councillors Campsall (Vice-chair), Fryer (Chair), K. Harris, Morgan, Poland, and Tillotson.  
PB, RE, CN and JN.

Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces  
Monitoring Officer  
Democratic Services Officer (NC)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Parsons, GM

1. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY AND PERSONAL INTERESTS

Disclosures of personal interests were made as follows:

- (i) by PB who farmed land adjacent to the Outwoods.
- (ii) by RE whose wife was a member of Artspace Loughborough.
- (iii) by JN who lived on land adjacent to the Outwoods.
- (iv) by Councillor Fryer, Morgan and Poland as Leicestershire County Councillors during item 5.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2019 were agreed.

**AGREED** by the Committee to consider item 5 - Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership Bid Update, before item 4 – Officer Update Report, to allow the Monitoring Officer to attend.

3. OFFICER UPDATE REPORT

A report of the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces was submitted (item 4 on the agenda) updating the Committee in respect of the following:

- (i) Natural Play Area – it was anticipated to be open by the middle of the following week in time for Easter. There would be minimal press publicity to reduce the chance of a spike in visitor numbers.
- (ii) Events Barn – this would become available for use once the landscaping had been completed and the surrounding area was seeded with wild flowers. It was hoped that the Sculpture Trail would be the first event to use the barn. As part of the funding for the barn from ESIF, the Council had committed to holding 20 events per year, but would not be charging for its use during the first 5 years.

- (iii) Septic Tank – this had nearly been completed and had been funded entirely by the Council.
- (iv) Entrance Works – this was proceeding as indicated in the report. The wall on one side had been hit by a car and partially demolished, so it had been completely dismantled for safety reasons.
- (v) Visitor Centre/cafe – it was expected to open by the end of the calendar year. Café operators were already showing an interest in its lease and volunteers could oversee the visitor centre once it opened. The British Geological Survey had offered to create a mould of fossils to complement the interpretation boards which would explain the geology and history of the site.

Trustees requested that the cast iron plaque on the side of the entrance gates be re-located to the Visitor Centre/Café wall.

- (vi) Compartment Felling – the first two compartments would be felled in September and the timber sold. The five-bar gate area would require upgrading for access. There would be significant press communication regarding the felling to reassure the public about the reasons for the felling and that the trees would be replaced with native species. Some of the good Scots Pine specimens might be retained.
- (vii) Sculpture Trail – the dates of the event had been slightly extended to finish on Sunday 9th June. It was hoped that visitor numbers would be managed more effectively this year by extending the event over a longer period.
- (viii) Green Flag/Site Information boards & Bluebell walk – information noted.
- (vix) Future meetings – the Committee agreed it would be beneficial to invite guest speakers to future meetings. The fossils in the area were of national importance and a protection plan was being created.

## **AGREED**

1. that the Senior Green Spaces Officer attends the next meeting to present the programme of works with respect to compartment felling;
2. that the Officers of the Council and the team at idverde be thanked by email for their excellent work in maintaining the Outwoods;
3. that the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces invites a member of the British Geological Survey to speak about fossils at the next meeting of the Committee;
4. that the report of the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces be noted.

## 4. CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP BID UPDATE

An update regarding the project proposals for the Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership bid was submitted (item 5 on the agenda).

The Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces summarised the proposals and the estimated costings of the three projects. He drew the Committee's attention to the number of concerns regarding Project One and its compliance with the Trust Deeds.

*Councillor Poland joined the meeting.*

The Monitoring Officer explained that he wished to make the Committee aware that, with respect to its consideration of the proposal of a multi-function path in Project One, a clause in the Trust Deeds stated paths should be for 'on foot' only and that Bye-Law 15 stated that persons should not enter the woods by cycling or riding a horse. The use of wheelchairs in the woods were unlikely to be challenged in terms of the Trust Deeds.

He stated that legal advice previously obtained had clarified that the Trust had been created in perpetuity and currently the law stated that trusts created in this manner could only be charitable trusts, (which the Outwoods Trust was not). It was possible that if the Committee approached the Court to modify the Trust Deeds to enable Project One to proceed that the Court could say the Deeds had failed and the land revert to the National Trust or that the Trust needed to convert to a Charitable Trust.

During the discussion regarding Project One, Trustees raised the following points:

- Introducing cyclists into the woods could create issues with keeping cyclists to one area only and be perceived as encouragement to cycle elsewhere in the woods. It could be possible to cycle up the bridleway and place cycle racks by the entrance to the Outwoods and then to walk to the carpark using the path.
- if the Trust became a Charitable Trust (like Bradgate) it could be expensive, particularly to continue to maintain the woods, and the Committee might be expected to finance any deed alterations. There could be issues over whether the Council could legally support a charity and the Trust would need to be totally self-resourced and self-governed. Income raised at present was re-invested into the Outwoods by the Council.
- the path could be created for foot traffic only and not for cycling or equestrian purposes, with signage asking people to dismount.
- an alternative option could be to create a path alongside the road outside of the Outwoods boundary, but safety was of a concern.

The Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces responded by stating that the aim of the project was to improve access to the woods without using cars. Bridleway K19 was being improved to support this aim, although there was a parcel of land to cross that the ownership of which was uncertain. The existing path would be upgraded, was inside the Outwoods boundary wall and part of the SSSI so approval from Natural England would be required. Creating a pathway alongside the road was not within the remit of the project funding and would require input from Leicestershire County Council, which could be sought. There was a project to link the lower Beacon carpark to the Outwoods carpark by footpath but this would be on the opposite side of the road to the proposed path.

He stated that the purpose of the projects were to improve resilience in the Outwoods for visitors and that as Project One was complicated to deliver, prior to the meeting he had consulted Julie Attard from the National Forest, and now proposed an alternative project to upgrade and improve the toilets in the Outwoods carpark. The Bid was at the stage where the project details were being finalised so there was an opportunity to alter the proposal.

There were no questions with respect to Project Two and Project Three.

It was proposed that Project One be discontinued and that a project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets in the Outwoods carpark be costed and submitted.

10 votes in favour

None voted against or abstained.

The proposal was carried. Trustees noted that as the funding had been obtained it was advisable to use it, that it would be worthwhile to improve the toilets and that the proposal for the multi-function path could be revisited in the future with consultation with other partners.

## **AGREED**

1. that Project One to create a walking/cycle/equestrian path from junction of Woodhouse Lane to Bridleway K19 to the Outwoods carpark be discontinued and replaced with a project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets in the Outwoods carpark;
2. that the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces investigates the costs and details of the project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets and that the decision on this project submission as part of the HFL bid be delegated to the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces and the Chair and Vice-chair of the Outwoods Management Committee;
3. that Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces communicates the decision regarding the project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets to the full Committee and provides the information of its costs and details to the Committee at its next meeting;
4. that Projects Two and Three are approved for consideration and that the decision on the final projects submission as part of the HFL bid be delegated to the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces and the Chair and Vice-chair of the Outwoods Management Committee.

## 5. FINANCE UPDATE

An update regarding finance issues for the 2018/19 year was submitted (item 6 on the agenda).

In response to queries by the Committee, the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces stated that:

- (i) the report detailed the financial situation almost at year end. There had been no further expenditure since the date of the report.
- (ii) the car parking charges had provided 20% of the annual costs. It was hoped that the income from the visitor centre/café and increased visitor numbers resulting in more carparking fees would enable the Outwoods to start funding its maintenance by itself.
- (iii) charging for carparking had not appeared to have reduced the numbers of visitors and the improvements made to the site using this money could be seen.

**AGREED** that information be noted.

8. ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT AT THE OUTWOODS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

An update regarding activities and operational management at the Outwoods was submitted (item 7 on the agenda).

The Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces presented the report and stated that a High Winds Policy was being drafted and would be presented to the Committee for approval. In response to queries by Trustees he stated that if gusts went above 45mph signs would be placed at the entrances advising members of the public not to enter for their own safety. It was not possible to prevent access if people disregarded these signs. Once the entrance had been improved the gates could be closed and the potential impact on the café income would be considered as part of its contract. The use of CCTV and mobile cameras could be investigated to identify where the motorbike rider was accessing the woods.

Trustees noted that it had made a significant difference clearing the rhododendron.

**AGREED** that the report be noted.

9. A.O.B

There was no other business.

## ADDENDUM - DECISIONS WHEREBY A VOTE WAS TAKEN

At the meeting of the Committee held on 6th September 2017 it was agreed that when the Committee voted by a show of hands on decisions made by the Committee that this information was documented as an addendum to the minutes (minute 2.2 refers).

### Item 5. CHARNWOOD FOREST LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP BID UPDATE

It was proposed that Project One be discontinued and that a project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets in the Outwoods carpark be costed and submitted.

10 votes in favour  
None voted against or abstained.

The proposal was carried.

### **AGREED**

1. that Project One to create a walking/cycle/equestrian path from junction of Woodhouse Lane to Bridleway K19 to the Outwoods carpark be discontinued and replaced with a project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets in the Outwoods carpark;
2. that the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces investigates the costs and details of the project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets and that the decision on this project submission as part of the HFL bid be delegated to the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces and the Chair and Vice-chair of the Outwoods Management Committee;

## OUTWOODS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 31ST JULY 2019

### ITEM 6                    OFFICER UPDATE REPORT

#### Purpose of Report

To update the Outwoods Management Committee on issues raised at previous meetings of the Committee and to bring new issues to the attention of the Committee.

#### Background and Update

At the meeting of the Committee held on 16th April 2019, a number of matters were raised that are ongoing. Specific reference was made to the following matters:

#### Green Flag Judging

Green Flag judging took place on 16th May. The judges have decided not to award a Green Flag for the site for this year as they did not like the format and contents of the new Outwoods Management Plan. Judges considered that the site itself was considered to be of sufficient standard. This decision is incredibly frustrating for everyone.

**Recommendation:** the Committee should consider how to proceed in future with the Green Flag award. The main options are:

1. Rewrite the Management Plan and apply for Green Flag status next year;
2. Forget Green Flag status and work towards designating the Outwoods a Local Nature Reserve. Officers consider this to be a more appropriate designation for the site;
3. Work towards Local Nature Reserve status and apply for Green Flag status next year;
4. Don't apply for either the Green Flag Award or Local Nature Reserve status.

#### Natural Play Area

The natural play area was opened in time for Easter and has proved to be very popular with young children. Officers are undertaking daily inspections to ensure that the play equipment is well maintained and looked after.



### Events Barn

The events barn has also been completed and is ready to use. Officers are working with several organisations, including the Sustainable Land Trust, to ensure that the facility is well publicised and used. Retrospective planning permission was granted following the discovery that the final structure exceeded our permitted development rights.

### Septic Tank

The Septic Tank has been installed successfully underneath the car parking area.

### Entrance Works

Work to reinstate the entrance will be completed over the next couple of months. This will allow for better access to the site from Woodhouse Lane. Gates and access control teeth will be installed which will facilitate the closing of the woods to visitors at nights, whilst allowing cars already in the car park to leave.

Work to carry out:

- Removal of the existing gates and pillars retaining the plaque on the right-hand entrance to be re fitted to the revised entrance.
- Realignment of the existing dry-stone wall to widen the entrance.
- Removal and realignment of wooden post and rail fence.
- Fixing the retained plaque to the rebuilt wall.
- Making good the tarmac in the area around the gate.
- Installation of new wider lockable gates.
- Installation of measures to reduce traffic speed including speed bumps and one-way access control plates.

Some disruption to the car park is likely during this period. Officers will undertake a communications exercise around this to give site users as much advance notice as possible.

Once the work to the entrance has been completed, arrangements for closing and opening the woods will be drafted and circulated to Trustees to facilitate a discussion and a decision at the next OMC meeting.

### Visitor Centre/Café

The Planning Application for the Visitor Centre/Café was submitted in June. The public consultation period expired on 11th July 2019 and a decision is expected in mid-August.

The application information can be viewed by following this link: <http://portal.charnwood.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorerAA/Generic/StdDetails.aspx?PT=Planning%20Applications%20On-Line&TYPE=PL/PlanningPK.xml&PARAM0=572632&XSLT=/Northgate/PlanningExplorerAA/SiteFiles/Skins/charnwood/xslt/PL/PLDetails.xslt&FT=Planning%20Application%20Details&PUBLIC=Y&XMLSIDE=/Northgate/PlanningExplorerAA/SiteFiles/Skins/charnwood/Menu/PL.xml&DAURI=PLANNING>

### Into the Outwoods Sculpture Trail

The sculpture trail took place between 27th April and 7th June. The event was very successful and attracted many visitors to the woods. The sculptures looked fantastic.



I will be asking Artspace Loughborough to complete an evaluation report which will be presented to the Committee at a future meeting.

**Recommendation:** unfortunately, a school group visiting the site vandalised some of the installations. Approval from the Committee is sought for a letter to be sent from the Head of Service and Chair of the OMC to express our concern regarding the conduct of the pupils.

### Bluebell Walk

The Bluebell Walk took place on the 25th April 2019 and attendees were treated to an amazing show this year. Committing to a date well in advance and the increased publicity meant that the event was very well attended. The resulting in the group being split into two.



The event was covered by BBC Radio Leicester and by TV on East Midlands Today.

### Bylaws

The work on the revised bylaws for the site will recommence now that the issue with cycling in the woods has been resolved.

The next steps are as follows:

1. CBC to undertake its own assessment of the impact that the Byelaw may have.
2. Submit assessment and supporting material to the Secretary of State.
3. Await decision.
4. Assuming leave to proceed is granted, undertake an advertisement and local consultation.
5. Consider consultation responses and decide whether to make the Bylaws.
6. Approve the Bylaws through the Council process; this will probably involve a report to the CBC Cabinet.

### Edible Forest

The Edible Forest is taking place this year between 7th and the 15th September. Details of the events can be found here:

<https://www.goleicestershire.com/Loughborough/edible-forest-festival.aspx>

The committee decided not to participate this year due to the potential for development work on the site.

### Loughborough in Bloom

Officers are considering the potential to include The Outwoods on the Loughborough in Bloom judging route. This will be enhanced with the completion of the Visitor Centre/Café. At the moment, the severe time restrictions around the judging tour to sites does not allow for a return visit to the Woods. However, once the Visitor Centre/Café is opened this will allow the judging tour to start or end at the Outwoods.

### Site Information Boards

New site information boards have been installed at the main pedestrian entrances to the site.

Officer to contact: Matthew Bradford  
Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces  
(01509) 634695  
[Matthew.bradford@charnwood.gov.uk](mailto:Matthew.bradford@charnwood.gov.uk)

# OUTWOODS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

31ST JULY 2019

## ITEM 7 OUTWOODS CONIFER FELLING PROGRAMME – PHASE 1

### 1. Introduction

Approximately one quarter of the Outwoods comprises of coniferous plantation, mainly Scot's pine and European larch. Recently the Outwoods entered a Countryside Stewardship (CS) agreement with Natural England (NE) for 5 years. Integral within the agreement is to gradually remove the conifer and restore these areas to acid oak woodland, by planting and managing natural regeneration. Felling of the conifer is phased over 10 years, meaning half will be felled within the current CS agreement.

### 2. Phasing – 2019

Two parcels of plantation are to be felled in October 2019 (1A and 12C, see tender document). The winning tender was Tilhill Forestry who are a large, well-known company. Both parcels would be worked at the same time and the whole operation would take approximately two weeks. For the duration of the works, the car park would need to be closed to the public for safety reasons. Details of the amount and type of timber can be found in the tender document (see appendix).

### 3. Logistics

**Compartment 12C.** Felling and extraction will be undertaken with specialist forestry machinery. A mechanised harvesting head will fell and cut the timber to length. This will then be forwarded to the stacking area which will be within the car park. From the car park, lorries will be loaded with timber and removed from site.

The extraction route for the timber will be through the compartments 12A and 12B so as to minimise disturbance to the footpath. Some trees may have to be felled in order to construct the extraction route. 'Lop and top' from the felling of timber will be used on the route to minimise ground disturbance. A short section of the footpath may have to be used next to the car park.

**Compartment 1A.** Felling and extraction will be undertaken with the same type of machinery as outlined above. The stacking area for this parcel of timber will be adjacent to the public right of way in compartment 4A, (see photo 1). The extraction route will be made through compartment 1B so as to minimise disturbance on the path. A section of path would then be used to forward the timber to the stacking area.

The entrance gateway would need modifications in order to facilitate safe movement of lorries.

### 4. Gateway improvements

At the present time with the current configuration, lorries would not be able to turn safely into the stacking area in 4A. After taking advice from Tilhill Forestry and the

Forestry Commission England document 'Grants and Regulations Operations Note 25', it is clear that some improvements need to be made in order to facilitate extraction.

After an on site meeting with Tilhill it was clear that lorries would not be able to turn off the road safely with the current gate arrangement. Lorries need to be able to turn off the road, turn round on site and then leave site with a full load facing the carriageway. The following improvement works are proposed :

- i. The current stoned track is of sufficient quality for lorry transit and ranges from 3m width near the gate to 5m width lower down. A minimum width of 4m is required and so the track would need widening nearer the gate, (see photo 2).
- ii. Lorries would drive down the track for approximately 60m until they were below the first major path at right angles to the track. They would then reverse here so they can drive to the stacking area facing the right way. This side path is already stoned, but a short section would need to be widened. The entrance to this would also need to be 'bell mouthed' to accommodate the turning circle. This would mean some small scale felling of birch and cherry, and stoning the entrance, (see photo 3).
- iii. The current entrance comprises a 3.66m wooden gate with modern stone walls in a poor state of repair. In the wall is a pedestrian entrance through a gap in the wall and a small amount of wooden fencing. This would need to be remodelled to allow lorries to turn in and out. Essentially a 6m entrance would need to be created with 2 gates. This would involve removal of the stone wall around the pedestrian entrance, and a new pedestrian entrance constructed a couple of metres to the side of the existing one, (see photo 4).
- iv. The verge from the road to the gate, although relatively hard standing is lower than the tarmac highway. This would need improving with stone and 'bell mouthing' to allow lorries to move safely, (see photo 5).

## 5. Consents/permissions

- i. **Natural England.** As the site is a SSSI, consent would need to be granted from NE for a number of items ; widening of the track, felling to create 'bell mouths' and removal of a stone wall. Their fast track consent service aims to complete within a few weeks. As the management plan is agreed with NE and FC, it is unlikely they will object to these facilitation works.
- ii. **Leicestershire County Council.** Compartment 1A is adjacent to the public right of way and part of the path will be used for extraction and removal of timber. It will be impossible to undertake the whole operation and keep this section of the right of way open. A Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) will be made to LCC to close the section of path and offer an alternative route for pedestrians to avoid this section of path.



Photo 1 – Stacking area



Photo 2 – Entrance track to be widened



Photo 3 – Bell mouth for lorry turning



Photo 4 – Bell mouth at entrance



Photo 5 – Drop in verge level



**FOR SALE BY TENDER**

Two valuable parcels of standing timber comprised of an estimated :

740 cubic metres over bark

Of

**European larch and Scot's pine situated at :**

**The Outwoods**

**Woodhouse Lane, Loughborough,**

**Leicestershire**

**LE11 3YG**



**Particulars of Timber for Sale at The Outwoods**

**Location** Woodhouse Lane, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3YG

**Inspection** Inspection may be undertaken at any reasonable time. Please take a copy of these particulars with you. The Outwoods are open to the public and there is a pay and display system in operation. Viewing by appointment can be made by contacting James Lee on james.lee@charnwood.gov.uk.

Please ensure that all clothing and footwear is clean to avoid the transfer of disease.

**Description**

Two quality stands of European larch and Scot's pine planted approximately 70 years ago, with particularly high sawlog content and excellent form. Access is via established stone footpaths, although it may be easier to create an extraction route through the plantation. The terrain may suit mechanised harvesting. The access route will need to be created by the purchaser.

<b>Compartment</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Nos/trees</b>	<b>DBH(cm)</b>	<b>Vol/tree (cu.m)</b>	<b>Vol/total (cu.m)</b>
1A	European larch	400	37/38	0.4	160
1A	Scot's Pine	700	37/38	0.4	280
12C	Scot's Pine	1000	29	0.3	300

The estimates given above of the numbers, sizes and volumes of the trees are given without warranty of any sort as to their accuracy. Persons offering for the timber must satisfy themselves as to the exact size and nature of the trees offered for sale. No responsibility will be accepted for any discrepancy whatsoever for any reason at any time.

**Constraints** The whole of the Outwoods is a SSSI for oak woodland and geological interest. The coniferous areas are PAWS, so felling and extraction need to be done sensitively in order to safeguard this interest. The area is open to the public at all times and is well used. Careful provision will need to be made to ensure the safety of the public at all times. The only public right of way is the access track to compartment 1A.

**Extraction** The timber is to be extracted along the routes marked red on the attached plan.

**Lop and Top** All of the lop and top from the felling must be cut into lengths and used to create suitable access tracks. Any extra should be cut and stacked in suitable piles, in agreement with the vendor. The use of static de-limbing machines, or harvesters, will be subject to agreement on the disposal of lop and top.

**Wayleaves** There are no known services in or around the area to be worked.

**Basis of the Sale** The timber is offered for sale on a volume basis per cubic metre over bark and Offers should be priced accordingly. The contract sets out the system for measurement as follows: *"The method of measurement of the timber will normally be that agreed with the Recipient of the felled timber and used on the relevant delivery notes. Where the quantity of timber is described by weight, or by volume, this unit of measurement will be the cubic metre*

*with one metric tonne being deemed equivalent to one cubic metre by volume, providing always that measurement of the timber takes place within six weeks of felling. Where measurement is made over six weeks from felling, by the piece, or by any other agreed system the weight/volume conversion factor, the average volume of each piece or other agreed measurement will be determined by reference to Forestry Commission Booklet 39 and the appropriate tables therein."*

**Contract Period** All timber must be felled and removed from site by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019. There is a possibility that compartment 1A could be felled later in 2019 with the Vendor's agreement, although this is the least preferable option.

**Contract Terms** This timber is offered for sale subject to contract and all persons offering will have been deemed to have satisfied themselves as to the Contract terms beforehand.

**Date for Offers** All offers should be submitted to the Vendor's Agent by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 12.00.

**Acceptances** The Vendor reserves the right not to accept the highest or any offer.

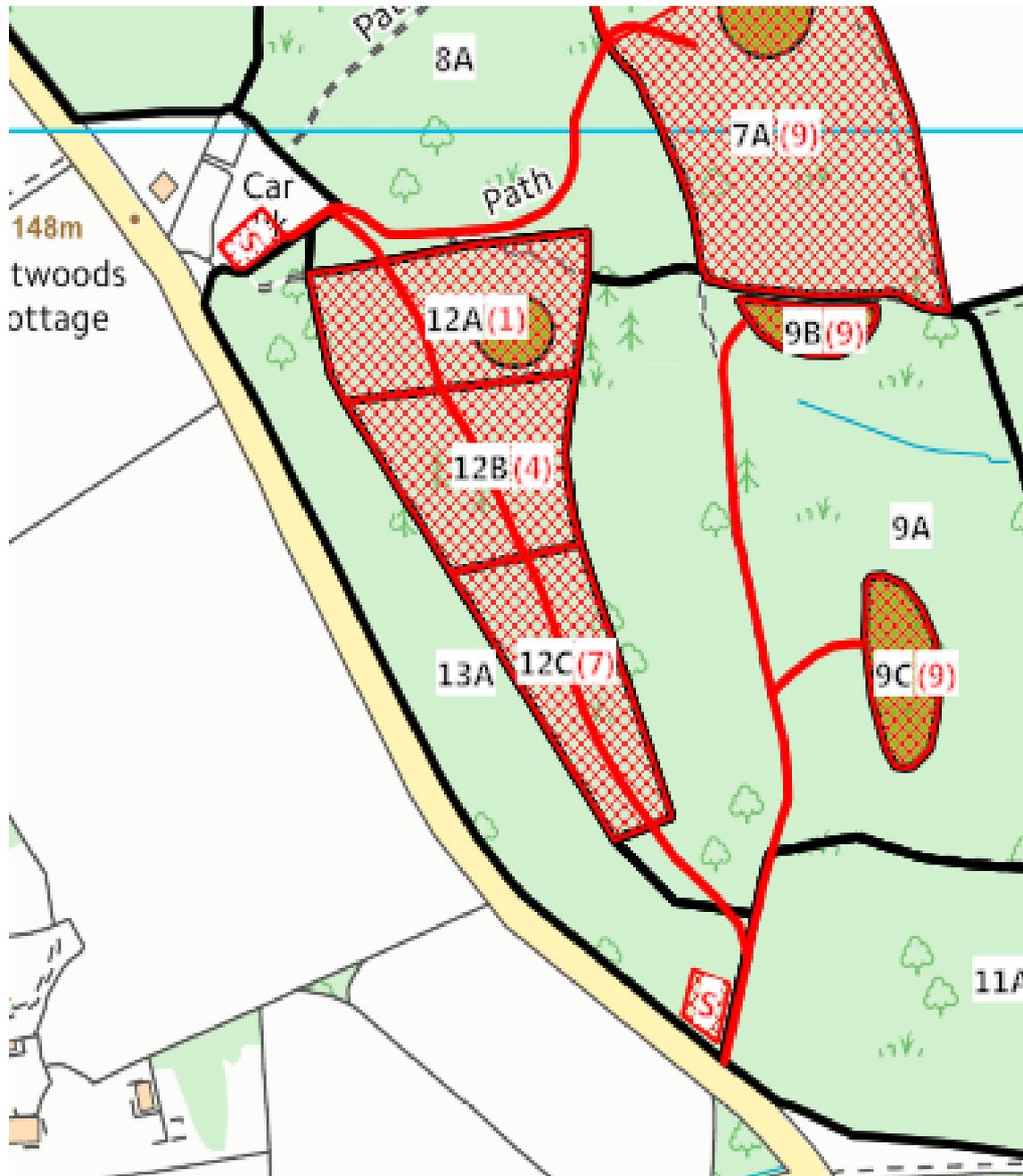
**Subject to Contract** This timber is offered for sale subject to contract. These particulars are provided purely for the information of prospective purchasers and do not form any part of an offer to sell, nor of a contract. Likewise, whilst all reasonable care has been taken in their preparation, neither the Vendor nor his Agent can accept any responsibility for any inaccuracy in or omission from them. Prospective purchasers must satisfy themselves as to all material facts prior to offering.





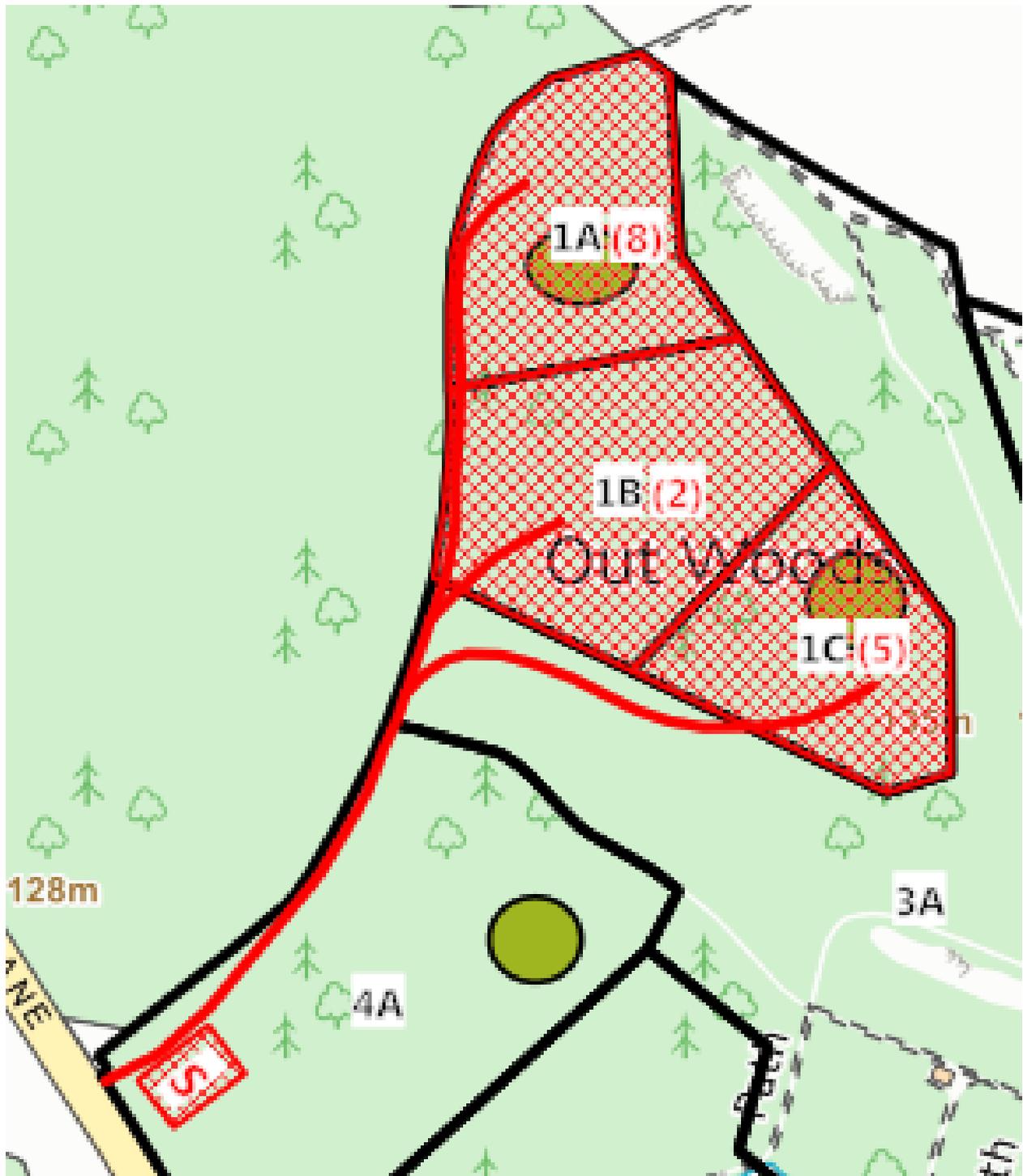
Please note – Maps are indicative only. Please refer to aerial photographs for more detailed areas.

Timber to be felled in compartment 12c only. Access route marked in red.



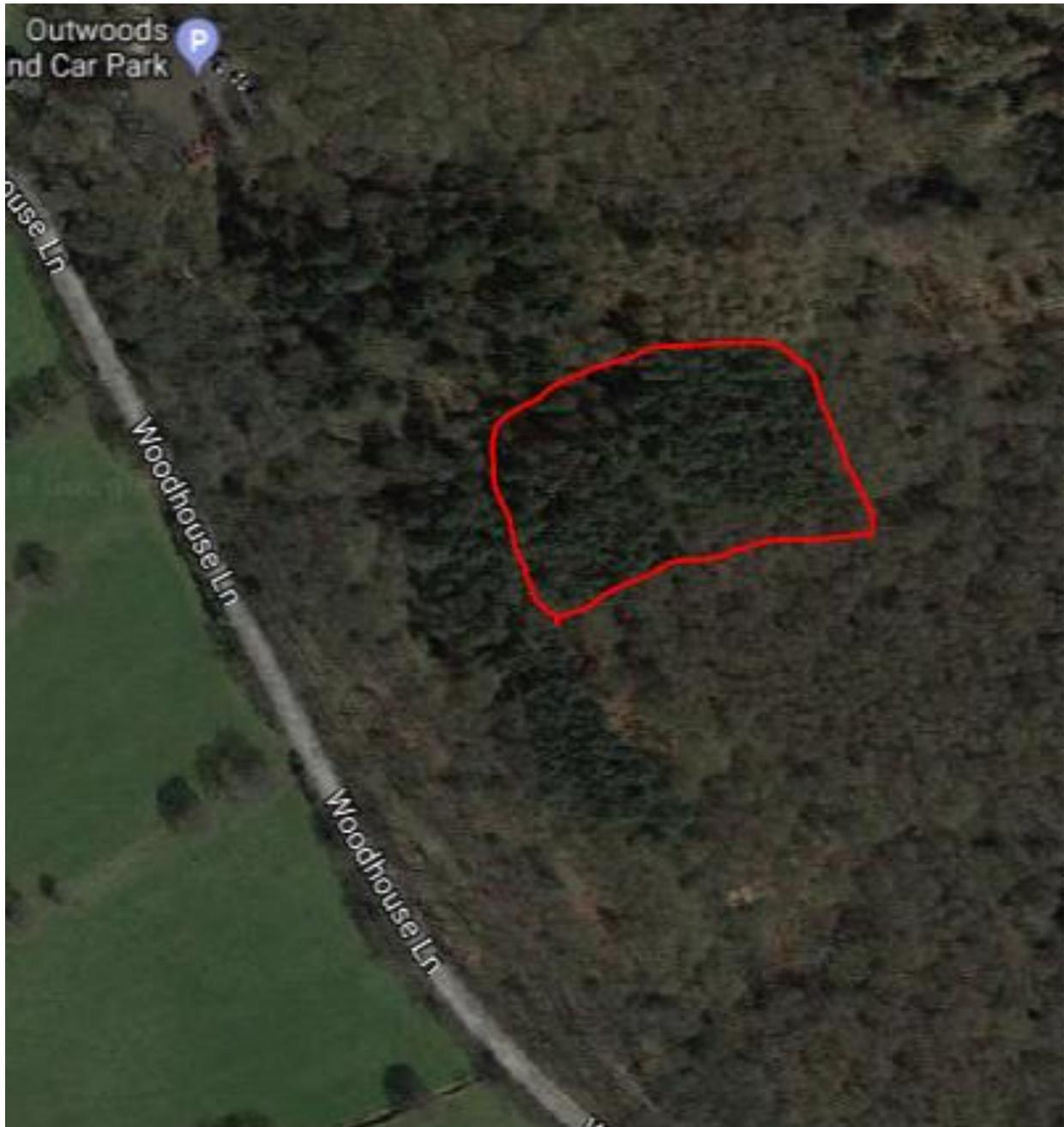
Sale of Standing Timber at The Outwoods

Timber to be felled in Compartment 1A only. Access route marked in red.



Sale of Standing Timber at The Outwoods

Aerial photograph of 12C.



Sale of Standing Timber at The Outwoods

Aerial photograph of 1A.



## OUTWOODS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 31ST JULY 2019

### Report of the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces

#### ITEM 8                    CHARNWOOD LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP BID

##### Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to update the Outwoods Management Committee on the costings and progress for the three proposed projects under the resilient honeypot sites aspect of the HLF bid.

##### Background

At the meeting of 10th April 2019, Trustees were asked to consider 3 projects that would improve the resilience of the Outwoods. These projects were identified in a series of workshops undertaken by the sub-committee, council officers and Julie Attard from the Charnwood Forest Partnership.

**Project One:** Walking/Cycle/Equestrian path from junction of Woodhouse Ln and Bridleway K19 to the Outwoods car park.

**Project Two:** Accessible circular path from the car park towards

**Project Three:** Improved Car Park

Having consulted with the Committee and the Council's Monitoring Officer, and reviewed the original Trust Deeds that impose restrictions on the creation of new path for anything other than cycling, the Trustees agreed the following:

1. that Project One to create a walking/cycle/equestrian path from junction of Woodhouse Lane to Bridleway K19 to the Outwoods carpark be discontinued and replaced with a project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets in the Outwoods carpark;
2. that the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces investigates the costs and details of the project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets and that the decision on this project submission as part of the HFL bid be delegated to the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces and the Chair and Vice-chair of the Outwoods Management Committee;
3. that Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces communicates the decision regarding the project to upgrade and improve the existing toilets to the full Committee and provides the information of its costs and details to the Committee at its next meeting;
4. that Projects Two and Three are approved for consideration and that the decision on the final projects submission as part of the HFL bid be delegated to the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces and the Chair and Vice-chair of the Outwoods Management Committee.

## Project Update

Further discussions have taken place and it is considered that the renovation of the toilet block is outside of the scope for Lottery Funding and, therefore, this project will not form part of the final application.

The Head of Cleaning and Open Spaces is working with the Partnership to consider either extending the scope of the original Projects Two and Three. The Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces will also investigate the potential for adding an additional project for the final submission.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. that the contents of this report are noted;
2. that the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces works with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Outwoods Management Committee to finalise the final project details for submission for Lottery Funding.

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## OUTWOODS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 31ST JULY 2019

### Report of the Head of Cleansing and Open Spaces

#### ITEM 9 FINANCE UPDATE

##### Purpose of the Report

To update trustees on finance issues relating to the Outwoods.

##### Update

The end of year figures for 18/19 are reported below

Account (T)	Amount	Commitments	Total Spend Inc Commits	Current Orig Budget	Variance
Buildings-R & M	4,338.63	100.00	4,438.63	2,500.00	-1,938.63
Car Park Machine P/R&M	1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	0.00
Fencing/Gates	4,337.46	0.00	4,337.46	400.00	-3,937.46
Seats	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
Mtc of Trees, Shrubs	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Electricity	257.57	0.00	257.57	200.00	-57.57
Metered Water Charge	1,446.66	0.00	1,446.66	300.00	-1,146.66
Unmeasured Water Charges	264.95	0.00	264.95	300.00	35.05
Equipment Etc P/R&M	1,363.15	0.00	1,363.15	400.00	-963.15
Signs	216.60	0.00	216.60	200.00	-16.60
Printing,Stat&Copying	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
Consultants Fees	14,418.75	0.00	14,418.75	18,700.00	4,281.25
Security Services & Charges	686.64	0.00	686.64	1,200.00	513.36
Promotional Activities	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00	-4,000.00
Cesspit Emptying	1,350.00	0.00	1,350.00	1,000.00	-350.00
MOS Contract - Basic	124,580.76	0.00	124,580.76	124,600.00	19.24
MOS Contract - Variations	277.87	13.46	291.33	200.00	-91.33
Car Parking Charges	-28,373.76	0.00	-28,373.76	-20,000.00	8,373.76
Rent - Land	-288.00	0.00	-288.00	0.00	288.00
	<b>130,677.28</b>	<b>113.46</b>	<b>130,790.74</b>	<b>133,000.00</b>	<b>2,209.26</b>

The year to date 19/20 figures are as follows:

Account (T)	Amount	Commitments	Total Spend Inc Commits	Current Orig Budget	Variance
Buildings-R & M	242.60	125.00	367.60	10,900.00	10,532.40
Car Park Machine P/R&M	120.00	0.00	120.00	2,000.00	1,880.00
Grounds General Maint	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,300.00	4,300.00
Fencing/Gates	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
Seats	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	400.00
Mtc of Trees, Shrubs	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,800.00	8,800.00
Electricity	39.14	0.00	39.14	300.00	260.86
Metered Water Charge	161.83	0.00	161.83	400.00	238.17
Unmeasured Water Charges	263.32	0.00	263.32	300.00	36.68
Equipment Etc P/R&M	39.00	0.00	39.00	400.00	361.00
Signs	609.00	594.36	1,203.36	2,200.00	996.64
Printing,Stat&Copying	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
Consultants Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Security Services & Charges	186.00	554.16	740.16	800.00	59.84
Contribution	2,711.14	0.00	2,711.14	5,500.00	2,788.86
Cesspit Emptying	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
MOS Contract - Basic	31,419.30	94,258.10	125,677.40	125,700.00	22.60
MOS Contract - Variations	-1.53	0.00	-1.53	200.00	201.53
Grant Contribution	-6,311.65	0.00	-6,311.65	-14,300.00	-7,988.35
Fees & Charges Misc	-135.00	0.00	-135.00	0.00	135.00
Car Parking Charges	-9,866.94	0.00	-9,866.94	-25,000.00	15,133.06
Rent - Land	-1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	-5,000.00	-4,000.00
	<b>18,476.21</b>	<b>95,531.62</b>	<b>114,007.83</b>	<b>119,600.00</b>	<b>5,592.17</b>

## Car Parking Income

See the table of car park income paid through the machine at the Outwoods. The machine is now linked to the Council via a SIM card and lets officers know if there are any problems (ticket replenishment, out of service etc.). The period covered is 1st April 2018 to 28th March 2019

	<b>Banked 17-18</b>	<b>Banked 18-19</b>	<b>Banked 19-20</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Apr-19	£0.00	£2,763.25	£3,503.00	£739.75
May-19	£87.00	£3,200.60	£4,407.00	£1206.40
Jun-19	£1,906.20	£2,376.85	£2,403.50	£26.65
Jul-19	£1,918.60	£2,265.05		£0.00
Aug-19	£2,324.25	£2,738.10		£0.00
Sep-19	£2,081.75	£1,879.70		£0.00
Oct-19	£2,479.80	£2,097.60		£0.00
Nov-19	£1,834.15	£1,655.85		£0.00
Dec-19	£1,736.60	£1,715.70		£0.00
Jan-20	£2,310.90	£2,980.70		£0.00
Feb-20	£1,980.00	£1,559.20		£0.00
Mar-20	£1,805.75	£2,199.05		£0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£20,465.00</b>	<b>£27,431.65</b>		

Number of season tickets sold between 1st April 2019 to 30th June 2019 is 22  
Total income for season tickets is £880.

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## OUTWOODS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 31ST JULY 2019

### ITEM 10 ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT AT THE OUTWOODS SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

*Idverde* continue to work in close partnership with Charnwood Borough Council on the strategic management of the Outwoods. Our Head Ranger, Ciaran Fern, continues to have regular meetings with CBC's Senior Green Spaces Officer, James Lee, in the Outwoods in order to resolve issues and help to prioritise any work deemed necessary.

#### **Ranger Work**

The Ranger Team continue to undertake their daily tasks of cleaning the toilets, litter picking the car park and patrolling the primary paths as well as weekly tasks of litter management and leading volunteer sessions. Additional work includes:

- Fence replacement around new playground area
- Replacement of female toilets timber screen
- Mowing of bungalow and picnic areas
- New playground daily inspections

Due to periods of heavy rain and high winds, the Rangers have also been busy monitoring the trees. Luckily, mainly only small trees have fallen across footpaths over this reporting period and there have been losses of small trees from the high points of the wood during these storms. There have also been high hanging branches and balloons high up in the trees around the car park which were removed by *idverde's* arboriculture team.

Total Volunteer hours for this reporting period= 328 hours  
Tramper usage= 59 hours

There have been 20 new Tramper users since 1st April 2019.

One of our new Tramper users is Paralympic paracanoeist gold medal holder Emma Wiggs MBE, who tweeted her delight at being able to access the woods for the first time since her paralysis.

#### **Toilets**

There are no reports of anti-social behaviour for the facilities during this reporting period. Daily cleaning and/or inspections have been ongoing.

The wooden screen was blown down in the high winds earlier in the year and then removed for the sinking of the new cesspit which caused the structure to be compromised. Therefore this has now been completely replaced.

## **Green Gym and Charnwood Conservation Volunteers**

The Ranger led Green Gym volunteering sessions continued within the Outwoods during this reporting period.

The Green Gym assisted the Rangers in the replacement of the fencing around the playground area. The chestnut paling fence installed by the Green Play Projects team was deemed unsuitable by the Idverde engineer who carries out the borough's playground inspections so the fence was replaced with a safer, sturdier, and we think, a more aesthetically pleasing fence.

The Green Gym also built a ground level frame around the notice board. This was to try to attract visitors to the notice board by making it more of a feature. The frame is made up of timber edging, raised to a level by using some of the stone from the dismantled wall near the cottage. This has been lined with membrane and in-filled with decorative bark.

It has been noted that more visitors are now drawn towards the notice board.



## **The Sculpture Trail**

The Sculpture Trail was a fantastic success. There have been a high volume of visitors to the Outwoods Sculpture Trail, particularly with the addition of the playground opening during the Easter holidays.

The Rangers assisted with the installation of the sculptures by driving the artwork into the woods in order for it to be installed by the artists.



Feedback indicates that the “Tree Men” were particularly popular with visitors and there were many suggestions of these becoming a more permanent feature as children and adults alike were challenged to find all 42!

On removal of the sculptures, the Rangers found, too late sadly, that birds had created a nest within one of the willow sculptures. This was sadly, unintentionally destroyed. From this incident and also due to the popularity with children, we would suggest that the sculptures remain in situ until the end of the summer holidays which would allow visitors to bring their children throughout the school break and allow nesting birds to fulfil their nesting period.

## **Bluebell Walk**

This year’s Bluebell Walk was very well attended. The coverage from BBC’s East Midlands Today highly likely encouraged more visitors post-broadcast, which in turn introduced new visitors which, as an added bonus, found that the site was also host to the Sculpture Trail and the new natural play area.

## Antisocial Behaviour

There has been another report of illegal motorcycle use in the Outwoods, but the Rangers were unable to locate them.

As the weather continues to improve, it seems the amount of anti-social behaviour increases. Mountain-bikers have been using the Outwoods and the Rangers have received reports from visitors that when challenging the cyclists, the responses have been very aggressive with foul language.

There have been a number of small fires within this reporting period. These are mostly located towards rear of the rock face. The Rangers have attended to extinguish 2 fires but these were already diminished fires, seemingly from the night before. There has been evidence of further fires which were likely from previous nights and there has been environmental damage caused to nearby trees and the dispersing of camping equipment and food packaging waste.

