

# Commons Report for Parish Council Meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019

## **1. Volunteer Group Tasks**

Volunteer tasks undertaken by Norfolk Conservation Corps (NCC) and Norwich Environmental Weekenders (NEWS).

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Volunteer Group Task Completed</u></b>	
<b>Tasks Completed (since last report)</b>			
19/05/19	Alderford	NCC	Fence repairs and clearance
02/06/19	Alderford	NEWS	Fence repair and bracken topping
23/06/19	Uppgate	NEWS	Bracken topping/Himalayan Balsam pulling
<b>Tasks Planned (exact dates and tasks to be confirmed)</b>			
14/07/19	Alderford	NCC	Bracken topping/fence repair completion - tbc

## **2. Management Plans**

Still waiting for completion of maps to complete draft plans (should be completed before next meeting).

## **3. HLS Agreements**

Correspondence received from RPA apologising for late payment of 2018 claims. Remittance received for partial payment of claim for Alderford 2018. See Finance report for financial transactions.

Correspondence also received regarding changes in contact detail for RPA including need to update online portal system – completed.

## **4. Uppgate Common**

Ponies removed from Uppgate on 07/06/19 and taken to Booton for the summer. Since removal of the ponies, plants previously suppressed by grazing are shooting up and the heather on Deadman's Hill seems to be recovering (possibly also associated with the amount of rainfall experienced in June).

Bracken removed from Deadman's Hill by hand topping during task on 23/06/19. Also Himalayan Balsam pulled, mainly confined to the areas of the power line rides.

Part of the grassland mown prior to the Swannington in Bloom village event on 30/06/19. Cuttings removed from the small strip on the south side of the access track (SSSI) side, but unfortunately unable to get them removed from the north (non SSSI) side.

## **5. Alderford Common**

17 fence posts were replaced during tasks on 19/05/19 and 02/06/19 and the fence line is now in good repair to allow grazing to safely proceed at the start of 2020. Cost of materials £86.72 + VAT. Some rails still need replacing on a couple of deer crossings and at the kissing gate access from the car park which will be completed during the next task at Alderford. Estimated additional cost in the order of £30 anticipated.

Grazing licence agreed with NWT but signed copies yet to be received.

Bracken removed from within fenced area by hand topping on 02/06/19 and some clearance of footpath access carried out. Area around car park cleared to maintain visibility from road to try to discourage fly-tipping etc. Fly tipping removed but constantly reoccurring!

**Steve Williams – July 2019**

**Swannington with Alderford and Little Witchingham Parish Council**