

Downley Common Newsletter

Newsletter of the Downley Common Preservation Society Issue 36. September 2011
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Annual General Meeting

This is a reminder that our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 6th October at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. The agenda will cover:

- Chairman's report
- Treasurer's report
- Election of Officers
- Plans for Bonfire
- Work parties

Please let us know if you have any items to be added to the agenda.

Sunnybank "Sledging Slope"



Figure 1: Location of trees to cut

We finally did some landscaping on the slope above Moor Lane to smooth out the lumps and bumps and to reduce some of the steepest slopes. This was followed up with a reseeding programme which has produced a fine crop of grass and nettles, all of which grow considerable faster than the grass on the

rest of the Common, necessitating some frequent flailing to keep it under control. This area has also been adding to the mowing contractors work schedule, so this should be cut regularly in the future.

The Committee has also put in a request to cut down two clumps of hawthorns at the upper end of this slope to try to open it out to the rest of the Commonside grass area. This work will take place in October. The intention will also be to grind the stumps out from both this year and last year's tree felling on Commonside so that the ground can revert to mowed grass.

Football Car-parking

As the football season approaches, local residents around the top end of the Common will be pleased to hear that there are plans to expand the amount of car-parking spaces on Mannings field to get the cars off the roads around the cricket pitch, which currently cause significant congestion on a Saturday morning.

The first phase consists of adding around 20-25 spaces close to the entrance. This is expected to start shortly and should be complete by mid-October.

The second phase will add over 70 spaces along the perimeter of Mannings field on the left (south) side of the field. This requires more fundraising by the club and probably won't be complete until the spring of next year.

Diary

2nd October 2011 at 10am	Work Party - cutting the coppice area	Meet at Old Dairy
6th October 2011 at 8pm	AGM	Village Hall
9th October 2011 at 10am	Work Party - treecutting on Sunnybank	Sunnybank
16th October 2011 at 10am	Work Party - treecutting on Sunnybank	Sunnybank
23rd October 2011 at 10am	Bonfire building	Bonfire site
30th October 2011 at 10am	Bonfire building	Bonfire site
5th November 2011 at 6.30pm	Bonfire and Torchlight Procession	Commonside
6th November 2011 at 10am	Work party - clear up bonfire site	Bonfire site
4th December 2011 at 10am	Work Party	Meet at Old Dairy
31st December 2011 at midnight	New Year Beacon lighting	Beacon