

Green Corridor Field Tour 13/10/23

Fox Cub Field & Riverside Meadow

- To discuss flood management and management of leets with Olly Hill when he can join a walk

Great Oak Field

- Top the grass leaving a margin around the field, leaving standalone tree saplings at the start of wood pasture.
- Field to be topped before winter if possible to allow cut grass time to rot down.
- Field to be cut and baled twice per year for the next 2-3 years before moving to cutting and baling once a year following a review
- Remove non-native species Norman's Folly in section of the field north of the waterway. Need to speak with Colin and Norman before doing so to avoid any offense. To be completed this winter
- Area west of the waterway recognised as a good area to turn into woodland in the future, leaving plenty of space between trees to preserve public amenity space under the trees when they are mature
- Area between proposed woodland and waterway would be topped with the aim of creating a damp meadow – would be beneficial to water vole habitat preservation
- Area south east of the waterway (path often used by dog walkers but has no paving) to be left uncut. Consider cutting in future if the decision is made to plant trees there
- Ash saplings at the southern tip of the field are susceptible to ash dieback. It is likely that most if not all of these saplings will die. Advised that we cannot rush to plant anything in this area this winter and to revisit it next year to see how saplings have progressed. It would be nice to plant the area up as it would link other wooded areas and provide a connected woodland belt
- If trees are planted in the southern section of the field then consider choosing shorter tree species and/or leaving a vista as to not spoil a view of the monument

Watersman Hill

- Bottom of the hill would be a good place for new woodland but want to avoid adding too much tree cover
- Top the grass a little wider than currently marked, not worrying about cutting some smaller ash saplings in the middle of the field but leaving taller ones on the river side of the field and nearer the bottom. Leave standalone trees which are marked to give more wood pasture
- Consider keeping trees sparse and fading into denser woodland near the water
- More varied tree species could be added later – holly, hawthorn, hazel, elderberry

Hilly Head

- Maintenance to begin next year
- Would work as a wildflower meadow
- Has great views of the monument, water towers, and surrounding hills so it is important to maintain the hedges at a low height
- A small area is suitable for planting trees along the river. This area is low/lying so trees would not spoil existing views as long as they are smaller species. This would add to the woodland belt

Unnamed Field

- Has potential to become a hay meadow – Adam has discussed that there are grants available to do this
- Consider if dogs should be kept off this area or if there could be permissive paths with some rules
- Allotment extension will be in the north of this field, this winter would be a good time to plant a hedge to demark the boundary

Shoulder of Mutton Field

- To become an orchard or forest garden

Twelve Acres

- Area of Community Farm and proposed sports pitches and pump track.
- Adam has discussed an agroforestry system of small fruit trees and bushes in alleys between annual crops at the farm
- Deadline should be set for when the Sports Federation need to decide if they are using it for pitches or not to enable the Community Farm to begin planting trees and bushes as these are more permanent features. Possible deadline of a few years – to be discussed at next meeting

Linden Meadow

- Elm hedge needs to be looked at this winter
- Consider moving Wellingtonia that is right in front of houses as residents weren't happy with that decision as it will shade the south-facing slope. The tree of most concern is in a root suppressant bag so the decision could be delayed but do not want to lose the offer from Simon to rehome this and possibly another tree. To be discussed on next field visit

Great Meadow

- Eastern 2/3 of the field to be managed as a meadow
- West 1/3 to be planted as woodland to build on the woodland in adjoining fields

Marsh Mead

- Manage as a wildflower meadow with scrub and tree margins – to be looked at in more depth on a future walk

Wellington

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