

The volunteers continue in managing the copse as per the management plan. Each year we maintain the paths and steps, trim the two clearings and quarry, plant trees, arrange grass and hedge cutting etc. Specific to last seasons work (we mainly meet September through to May) we also undertook the following tasks:

- . Replaced many of the shorings along the side of the western path
- . Replaced a number of wood steps
- . Built a new set of steps from the bottom of the community field to the copse southern path
- . Felled trees in the upper woodland marked by the professional arboriculturist as dangerous due to ADB. This saved the PC £3213 ex VAT. All the trees felled by the volunteers were meticulously cleared up with all brash and arisings built into bug hotels and hibernation chambers.
- . Installed 17 dormouse nest boxes around the copse. Thanks to Rosemary Rowe for organising the funding.

We have been monitoring the activity in the wildlife haven and bat roost that the volunteers built. We are very please to report that we have had Greater Horseshoe, Lesser Horseshoe, Brown Long-Eared and Pipistrelle bats visiting the haven.

Following the large number of ash trees that were felled along the western path due to ADB, one of the major tasks for next season is to plant hazel trees with an over canopy of oak trees in this area. Discussions are underway on sourcing the trees.

The volunteers have also continues to manage the trees in the village orchard. This has included pruning, adjusting or installing tree supports and mulching around the new trees planted in the last three years.

And finally, the volunteers also install and remove the village hanging basket irrigation system as required, likewise the Christmas and Carnival lights as well as various odd jobs that are require to make our village a better place to live.

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Rob, I will be having some drinks with friends on Monday evening celebrating my birthday. I would like to pop up to the PC meeting when it is time for the reports. What time do you think this would be? Is it possible you could text me 10 minutes before hand?

Best regards

Phil