Commons Report for Parish Council Meeting – 20th January 2021

1. Volunteer Group Tasks

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

<u>Date Location Volunteer Group Task Completed</u>

Tasks Completed (since last report)

Volunteer groups not currently operating during national lockdown.

Tasks Planned (exact dates and tasks to be confirmed)

Volunteer groups not currently operating during national lockdown. Planned tasks all cancelled by the groups.

2. Management Plans

No further action.

Footpath tree safety audit instructed but still not yet completed due to pandemic (anticipated cost of £400).

3. HLS Agreements

Remittance received from RPA for £5,023.95 which relates to the full 2020 claim year for both commons and payments are now all up to date.

4. Upgate Common

The grassland where cars park and the footpath along the Beck have both cut up considerably following the wet weather over the last few months. A decision still needs to be made regarding the future boardwalk replacement/ alternative solution/ rerouting of path to drier ground etc).

In the absence of any of the volunteer groups operating, some partially fallen trees within the woodland were felled and logged up by myself and Dave Weaver on 22/11/20 and 29/11/20.

Contractor George Taylor completed cutting and burning of the large stand of birch saplings growing on the side of Deadman's Hill based on the time allowed for (Cost £780). Some of the stand could not be completed within the time so the task was completed by myself and Dave Weaver on 10/01/21 and with help from my family on 17/01/21.

The Wynch's Way information board fell down following a storm due to rotten supporting posts. This will need replacement. Currently being dealt with by the Clerk.

Future volunteer tasks unlikely to recommence until at least the summer.

5. Alderford Common

NWT are operating on a reduced basis due to the pandemic and changes in personnel and it is unlikely that the cattle will be able to return to the fenced area in the immediate future. Hopefullly some grazing can happen later in the year.

Future volunteer tasks unlikely to recommence until at least the summer.

Steve Williams – January 2021
Swannington with Alderford and Little Witchingham Parish Council