

Annex 17 Work party volunteer activities

Example emails between work party volunteers about a range of conservation activities on Tin Hovel pond and Scotts Lane area; private names and email addresses redacted.

pond plans

Wed 15/09/2010 20:17



To:

You;



Volunteers planning work party maintenance of Tin Hovel pond

Dear All,

Plans are firming up re. the pond clearout in Scotts Lane next Wednesday 22nd. Around 10am Vale Volunteers will arrive, led by [REDACTED] (about 5 of them). Paul Holton (our AVDC Countryside Services friend) also plans to come. We'll probably work until around 4pm.

[REDACTED] and his VVs and mmcg members will start cutting back the bushes that surround the pond so that more light enters the pond area and encourages pond plants etc. [REDACTED] will bring his tractor and trailer around 11am, and take the debris away. All this has been OKd by [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] is interested in digging out some of the pond floor to clear and lower it to make more water depth for great crested newts to lay eggs in eventually. But this activity depends on the depth of water on the day.

PLEASE join us if you possibly can. I've sort of promised [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] around 5 mmcg members who can 'muck in'. I must admit that the bushes are very **thorny** and it could be v. muddy - so please bring boots, thick gloves, cutters and secateurs, maybe a spade (!) etc etc.

I know that some of you will be in far-flung places, but maybe you can invite someone else. It would be helpful if you could let me know if you can come at some/any stage of the day. Even one hour's help would be brilliant.

Thanks,



FW: scotts lane pond

Tue 19/07/2011 09:48



To:

- You;
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

Dear All,

Below you will see info from Paul H. re the pond in Scotts Lane.

The forecast for this Friday is good. I wondered if any of you would like to join me for an hour pulling up some of the central greenery as suggested by Paul? I had a practice go yesterday and the plants are extremely easy to pull up.

I can do morning and/or afternoon. If you are willing and able could you let me know whether you prefer a 10.30 or 2pm slot?

In hope!



From: PHolton@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk
To: [Redacted]
Date: Tue, 19 Jul 2011 08:37:05 +0100
Subject: RE: scotts lane pond

AVDC advising volunteers on maintenance of Tin Hovel pond

Hi [Redacted]

Sounds like it may be worth pulling some of these plants but not all. There will be some invertebrate interest in these at the moment so worth leaving some for any overwintering or autumn dwelling larvae. The buttercup can become dominant but not if it is under water. The watercress can completely dominate but this can be harvested to eat watch out as it could be fools watercress or water parsnip. As for the grasses these can be the most invasive depending on the variety if it is large up to a metre it could be glyceria which rapidly takes over a pond. Anything less than 30cm is less invasive. As mentioned a pond needs about 30% marginal vegetation around it (ideally it needs water in it but nothing we can do about the weather this year) so try and get to that stage or just under removing from the centre of the pond out. Good luck and keep me posted. p

Paul Holton
AVDC Biodiversity Officer

Haydon Mill, Rabans Lane,
Aylesbury, Bucks, HP19 8RU.
01296 427972

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 July 2011 16:49
To: Holton, Paul
Subject: scotts lane pond

Volunteers seeking advice from AVDC
on maintenance of Tin Hovel pond

Hi Paul,

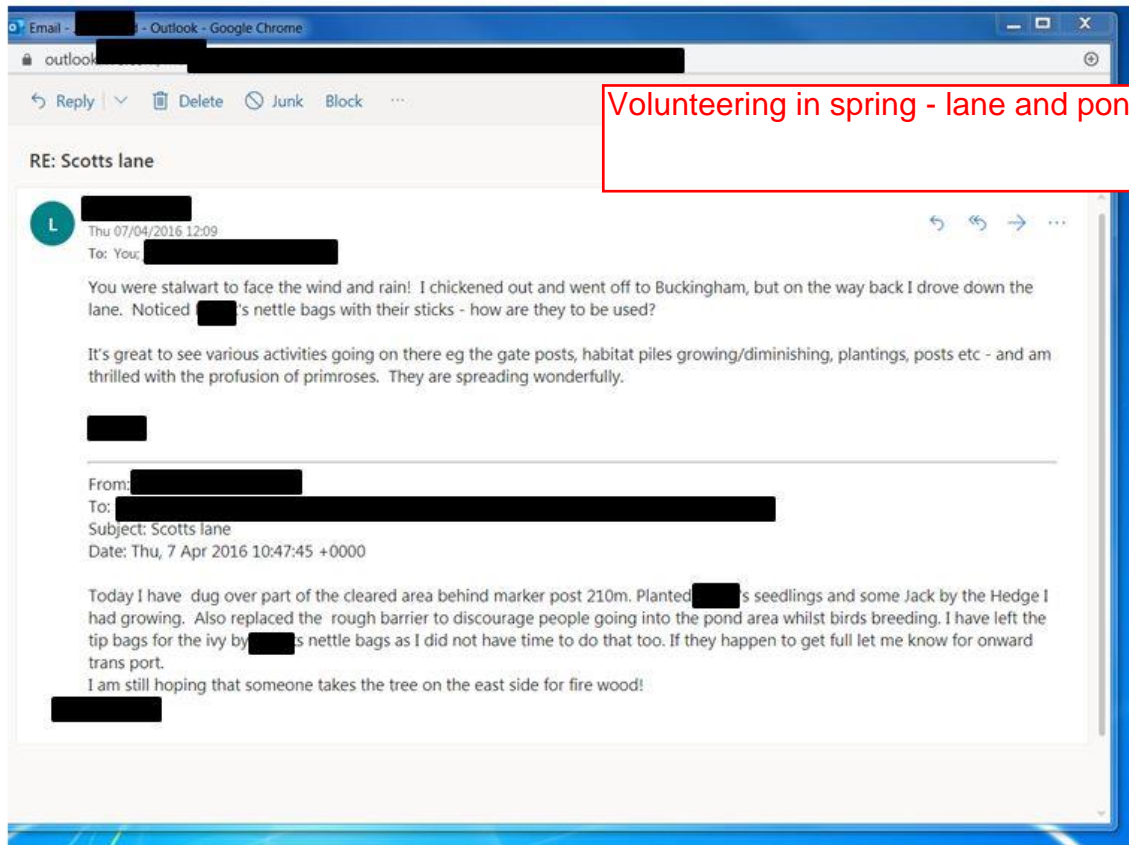
Can you advise us please? The pond (Scotts Lane, Maids Moreton) that the Vale Volunteers helped us clear out so successfully is now dry and totally full of green plants. These include loads of the celery-leaved buttercup, watercress, grasses etc

Should our group go in and pull these up while it's dry enough underfoot to do so? Or should we just leave them all?

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

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D [redacted]
Thu 09/04/2020 16:53
To: You +3 others

Volunteer widening of footpaths during Covid crisis to accommodate increased public use of the Scotts Lane area during lockdown

Hello everybody,
I have just been MOWING FOTPATHS.

Paths from Duck Lake to Scott's Lane, Scott's Lane to Hall Close have been closely mown and widened, PLUS the addition of numerous PASSING PLACES which enable walkers going in opposite directions to pass each other
OBSERVING at least 2 METRE SEPARATION.

The paths from Hall Close to Church Street and Playing Fields to Churh Lane and towards Foscode are clear and easily walkable, and the stiles are in ok condition.

So, please spread the word. Our paths are clear and usable whilst respecting the " Stay Safe" guidance.

D [redacted]

Re: Footpath, SL to Duck Lake



D [redacted]
Fri 10/07/2020 17:04
To: You

Long-term volunteer's account of footpaths maintenance over many years, and efforts to solve flooding blocking footpath

Hi [redacted]
Photos that I take will always be yours for use, as you see fit.
Gravel...happily I have B [redacted] to help ([redacted] can no longer help

During the early stages of path development I dug out ballast from [redacted]
* the blacksmith's pile of spoil which he had excavated for his swimming pool .
*Who renovated the house along [redacted]. His fine ironwork railings and gates adorn the street. That ballast was sufficient for 2-3 inches (52-78mm) of surface to stabilise the « path » from the « alleyway » to the dog-leg, which would otherwise be a swamp.

Then I went « BIG »: 4 bags of Coxes shingle
3 for Hall Close to Church Street and 1 for SL to Hall Close.

I think I shall go « small » now. [redacted] [redacted] as mentioned, always obliging over the years. 2 + years ago we combined a delivery for us and my neighbour opposite ; for him, 4 bags of topsoil lifted over the 6 foot brick wall. One very pleased neighbour.

[redacted]
[redacted]

Which makes me think of the pond and the « mini-pond » by the SL kissing gate.

THÉ FOLLOWING IS A HEADACHE..read when you have time.

I'm thinkIng of the cause for the latter. I imagine that a drain pipe ,crossing the entrance way to the field, has collapsed, preventing drainage towards the ditch towards Avenue Road. The ditch on the village / Stone Leys side is and has been at high level, and the main pond? Usually at very low/ almost dry level.

Anglian water, using a dye test, say the water is not from their main.
But the water level remains high. The field tenants have or had water supplies for the sheep - so I wonder???

[redacted]

D [redacted]