

Woodford Community Centre Woodland Project Update



Path leading to the wood and the pond

May 2014

The Copse

May has seen the saplings donated by the Woodland Trust in 2011 produce new leaves in that beautiful, fresh, green colour so characteristic of spring in Britain.



We have mown the path from the copse to the wood to make it easier to explore.

The Wood

Sufficient wood chippings were produced from pruning overgrown trees to finish covering the path through the wood, which now provides a good surface for walking.





Areas in the wood which were bare and brown after the clearance of nettles, brambles and ground elder are greening up nicely this spring.

In spite of the best attempts of rabbits and slugs to spoil the plan, a few flowers have survived to appear this spring. We planted miniature and full-sized daffodils along the woodland walk and around the perimeter of the wood, which have made a cheerful splash of colour.





Red Campion, Forget-me-knot and Ladies Smock are flowering too.



The pond

It seems that the pond is a seasonal affair, full in winter and shrinking to a small puddle in a dry summer. In the early stages of restoration there appeared to be no drainage outlet but we are pleased to report that it now flows out into a drain at the back under Mr Garner's field. This is good news, as we should avoid a repeat of the situation during the wet winter of 2012 when the pond filled to the brim and flooded as far as the big willow tree in the wood. Seasonal ponds are preferred by newts and one was found hibernating in the soil under the willow tree, so that is more good news.



Future plans

Soil and clay in a heap at the edge of the wood is gradually being used to cover areas of rubble and broken crockery to improve the appearance and safety of the area. This work is nearly complete. The plan for the remaining soil heap is to level it, surround it by rabbit proof fencing and create a wild flower area.



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