

Newsletter.

Reminders sent out to all contributors two weeks prior to deadline.

Several articles have come in..

Chairman BKVA , Nature Notes, Scam awareness advice. Tree Warden update.

Red Squirrel forum and walk. 6th Oct

Chair Helen Butler.

Update on tree warden scheme.

Red Squirrel project and woodland working group.

Huge amount achieved but masses still to do.

Walk through woodland led by Helen Butler.

Gates have been erected to protect the woodland. Paths created and cleared for access. some dead fallen trees felled and stacked plus some of the spruce for safety and to allow light into the wood. A pond was dug in a natural clearing where there were already willows and despite the drought water has remained!

There is a viewing area and plenty of evidence of squirrels, gnawed cones etc

Volunteers have been gathering on Sunday mornings to work on gradually returning the woodland to what it was (ancient woodland) prior to its clearance and replanting with mainly conifers, in the 50s. Years of work ahead but already biodiversity incl red squirrels returning. Much of the regeneration is hoped to happen naturally but some oak and other saplings will need to be relocated.

Impressive.

WCFA meeting

Nothing of note to report apart from a water test carried out on 8th
Awaiting results.

Environmental and Sustainability Forum 8th Oct

3 presentations

1.Lily Booth

Landslides and Coastal Erosion .

One of 3 bids to the E A for support and funding were submitted and one has been taken forward to the next stage.. This is the Whole Island bid, looking at priority areas where defences etc will be managed, ie where communities are at risk..If successful a 3 year project.

2. Steve Wells(Luccombe Hotels)

Green Impact toolkit.

Steve reported on this scheme and how it had made a huge difference to his business both in terms of sustainability but also financially.

He said they had massively reduced their waste, and reduced water consumption and fuel consumption. Savings made throughout the business. Biodiversity had improved and he and the rest of the staff had learned a great deal. He found the toolkit really helpful and so now very keen to encourage other businesses to take it up.He and a number of others have sponsored the scheme in order that it should keep going as they are so impressed. A win win

3. Daneen Cowling

Update on the Local Nature Recovery Scheme (LRNS)

Lots of good news stories and some species recovery due to such things as salt marsh restoration. Creating SINCS where possible. (Sites of Importance for Nature Recovery.)

The team are working with universities along south coast. Aim to embed LNRS into jobs, transport etc
Training for all council departments.
More info can be found on Island Nature website via IW Council.

Thanks..sorry it's long!
Sarah