

CHAFT WOODLAND PROJECT

MANAGEMENT PLAN

MAINTENANCE TASKS					
ACTION	TIMING	FREQ	PRACTICAL ISSUES	LABOUR	FINANCIAL / BUDGETING
Willow arbour	Dormant season	Annual	Willow whips may be reset for growth if cut and set Feb/March Prunings to go into dry hedging	Anna + team for the present	
Hedging along east boundary (Jalna/Debar)	Dormant season	Annual	Prunings are prickly – not suited to dry hedging. Transport to dump unless small enough to chip	Charney Army? Someone with chipper or trailer	Hedge cutter fuel
Hedging along bridle path (copse)	Dormant season	Annual	Prunings are prickly – not suited to dry hedging. Transport to dump unless small enough to chip	Charney Army? Someone with chipper or trailer	Hedge cutter fuel
Shrub stands (cornus / prunus)	Dormant season	Annual	Prunings to go into dry hedging or chipped for mulching / paths	Anna + team for the present	
Shrub stands (hazel)	Dormant season	Biennial	NB 2022/3 hard cut back half 2023/2024 hard cut back other half Thereafter biennial trim Prunings to go into dry hedging or chipped	Anna + team for the present	
Aspen culling	While in leaf – April to September	Ongoing	Two working party days to blitz, May and June, plus ongoing. <i>May need to consider painting</i>	Wrights for ongoing. Community appeal for blitzes	If painting, cost of SBK and paint brushes
Hay cut of wildflower/grass around whips	Post-wildflower seed setting: Sept	Annual	May need an extra cut in May in 2023 and 2024 until whips establish. Transport cut 'hay' offsite – to LG or to dump	Wrights LG + someone with trailer	Fuel for power scythe
Add posts and rails across bridle path/footpath gap	October 2022	One-off	Must preserve footpath width unimpeded pedestrian use access per set footpath dimensions	LG	£20 for rails + screws
Wildflower seed the unplanted stump patches in woodland	October 2022	One-off	Will need to be taped off until established. Steph has seeds.	Wrights	Roll of tape

Wildflower patches / meadow mowing	August/Sept	Annual	Only cut after seed has set. Any open meadow areas need to be excluded from general field grass cutting	Someone to cut this. Depends on size and location	
Field grass mowing	As required during growing season	ongoing	If mown with mulching topper, no need to collect up cut grass. If mown with basic topper, need to clear the cut grass	Currently by gift of TFO'C. Need to work out how to do this if this arrangement stops	Be aware of potential future cutting costs if TFO'C stops doing this. Gift to TFO'C and man
Check bridle path / footpath surfaces	Winter	Annual	Monitor for degradation, esp.in wet areas incl drainage cut. <i>NB strictly upkeep is OCC responsibility</i>		
Infill of rabbit holes	ongoing	As required	As advised by field inspector	Workforce team	Soil for infill
Non-professional tree assessment	While trees in leaf	Annual	Check general health, ivy growth, overshadowing. Note trees for ivy culling. Mark up any to be removed. Preserve the woodpecker tree.	WP team	Potential professional tree trimming or removal if outside WP team capacity.
Ivy culling	December/Jan	Annual	Cut ivy at 30cm from base of tree. Remove as practical, and at least a band around tree. <i>NB keep ivy on some trees as autumn insect food source and habitat. This needs to be on trees that would not be dangerous if/when weakened by the ivy growth.</i>	Workforce team	
Periodic professional tree assessment	While trees in leaf	Approx. 10 years	We may need to have remaining tall trees along Debar footpath and bridle path checked sooner than 10 years.		Approx £1000 per 10 years for survey. £800? for work on tall trees interim?

Charney Wick Ditch – once matters are confirmed with PC, we may need to budget for a Biodiversity Survey. This might be candidate for a grant request to Parish Council towards the cost. Pursuing options for some sort of survey/assessment is on hold until situation is clearer.

DEVELOPMENT IDEAS FOR CONSIDERATION

ACTION	TIMING	FREQ	PRACTICAL ISSUES	LABOUR	FINANCIAL / BUDGETING
Plant hedging along bridle path to infill existing dry hedging/hedging line edging planted area	Dormant season – November-Feb	2022/23	Working party planting Wildlife friendly hedging = hawthorn, blackthorn, dogrose, crab apple, hazel <i>Create protective line between bridle path and woodland area</i>	Team + Community event Will add to future years pruning labour	Allow £10 per metre for whips and guards. Seek grants.
Infill gaps in east boundary hedging (Jalna fenceline)	November	2022 or 2023	Consider small native fruit trees eg crab apple or sloe	Team Will add to future years pruning labour	Approx £50 if buying 2 or 3 saplings rather than whips
Snowdrop / English bluebell planting	March while plants are in-the-green	As desired	Hold a planting day March 2023 or 2024? <i>NB this could simply be ongoing volunteer donation of snowdrops as clumps are split</i>	Community event	1000 snowdrops = £216. 1000 bluebells = £248
Woodland bulb planting	Autumn – Sept/Oct	As desired	Hold a planting day October 2022 or 2023? <i>NB bulbs indicated are all pollinator friendly species and chosen to flower across 5-6 months. All prices are for 1000 bulbs. Species will gradually spread.</i>	Community event	Winter aconite (fl Jan/Feb) £125; Crocus (fl Feb/Mar) £80 Snakeshead fritillary (fl Spring) £89; Star of Bethlehem (fl May/Jun) £89.
Add new hedge along north boundary (McBain/OCC line)	Dormant season – Nov-Feb	2022/3? 2023/4	Working party planting. <i>NB depends on whether we feel need to protect field against any future McBain development. Would help meet community survey reccs.</i>	Team + Community event Will add to future years pruning labour	Allow £10 per metre for whips and guards. Seek grants.
Plant a line of fruiting trees along north boundary	Dormant season - Nov	Nov 2023	Crab apple / wild cherry / bullace <i>Would help meet community survey reccs for blossom, insect support, fruit</i>	If community sponsored, involve sponsors.	Allow £25 per tree if using 1.2m saplings. Grant funding or seek community sponsors

Create wildflower meadow swathe	October / November	2023?	Either along field side of copse or along northern side of field around trees? Location for best flourishing to be assessed <i>Would help meet community survey reccs</i>	Will need mowing annually	Depends if this is bulk planting – seed cost. If gradual, locally gathered seed.

CALENDAR

MONTH					RECURRING ACTION	SPECIFIC PROJECT ACTION / POSSIBLE COMMUNITY DAYS
JANUARY	Dormant season				Pruning of hedges, shrub stands and willow Prune ivy	Hedge and tree planting along bridle path edge and north boundary
FEBRUARY	Dormant season		Bird nesting		Pruning of shrub stands and willow Setting willow whips as required	Top up dry hedging
MARCH	Dormant season	Spring growth	Bird nesting		Planting snowdrops/bluebells in-the-green	Snowdrop/bluebell planting (in-the-green)
APRIL		Spring growth	Bird nesting	Trees in leaf	Cull aspen shoots	
		Wildflowers				
MAY		Wildflowers	Bird nesting	Trees in leaf	Cull aspen shoots Spring mow of whips area (2023/4)	
JUNE		Wildflowers	Bird nesting	Trees in leaf	Cull aspen shoots Tree health assessment	
JULY		Wildflowers	Bird nesting	Trees in leaf	Cull aspen shoots Tree health assessment	
AUGUST		Wildflowers	Bird nesting	Trees in leaf	Cull aspen shoots End of summer mow of whips area and wildflower patches/meadow	
SEPTEMBER				Trees in leaf Ivy flowering	Cull aspen shoots End of summer mow of whips area and wildflower patches/meadow Review tree health (copse, bridle path)	
OCTOBER				Ivy flowering		Wildflower seeding; Bulb planting Post and rail installation
NOVEMBER	Dormant season				Pruning of hedges, shrub stands and willow Hedge and tree planting	Hedge and tree planting along bridle path edge and north boundary
DECEMBER	Dormant season				Pruning of hedges, shrub stands and willow Prune ivy Hedge and tree planting	Hedge and tree planting along bridle path edge and north boundary