

Action Plan for Work to be carried out by The Friends of Spud Wood

February 2013

The purpose of this action plan is to act as a guide to the activities to be carried out by the Friends of Spud wood between February 2013 and August 2013 as agreed with Clare Burnside. A new action plan will be agreed when the new site manager is in post during the summer of 2013.

One of the main reasons for setting up a friends group is the agreement that there is a need to undertake more woodland management in Spud Wood with the aim of increasing species and habitat diversity. The friends would like to undertake coppicing and a limited amount of felling to open up sight lines, allow more light into the wood to encourage the remaining trees to develop to their full potential, encourage more undergrowth and open up path junctions to increase visibility for visitors. Prior to a task the specific work to be undertaken will be agreed with the Spud Wood site manager.

The focus of any woodland management activities would be in one area at once and all tasks agreed in that area will be completed before work is started in a new area. So in 2013 the intention would be to build on the work already undertaken in Oct 2012 which saw some coppicing on a corner of Spud Wood near the Stage Lane entrance. Going forward we will agree with the site manager the parts of the Wood on which to focus our activities.

The friends would meet the requirements set by the site manager before any work was undertaken, this includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Activities – to be agreed with the site manager,
- Risk Assessment – valid & in place,
- Leader – for each task to have a nominated leader (or two volunteers could share this role),
- Insurance – for all work to be covered by valid insurance,
- Other set requirements - need to be agreed with the site manager

The friends are also willing/ keen to support The Woodland Trust to help with specific activities they need undertaking, such as the removal of the rabbit fencing. Guidance will need to be given on the work needed and the handling and disposal of waste arising from any of these activities.