



## Works already undertaken

### Management

Following on from the *'Planning from real exercise'* a series of suitable enhancements and improvements were identified and these were used to develop the initial *'Larkhill provisional plan'*, which in turn is being used as the core element of the emerging Larkhill Management plan. Lesley has been working on the preparation of this document and a draft copy of which is attached at the end of this report for the members' thoughts and comments.

A significant part of this management plan is a costed and timed action plan that seeks to address those issues and ideas that were raised through the *'Planning from real exercise'*.

### Operational

The main bulk of the rangers duties over the last 11 months have been directly influenced by the key tasks identified and as such he has undertaken the following at:

#### Larkhill Open Space

- ◆ Significant works to 'open up' the stream, which included large amounts of bramble removal next to the stream path
- ◆ Regular overgrowth clearance from all pathways.
- ◆ Regular clearance and removal of flytipping (mainly supermarket trolleys and mattresses) within the stream and neighbouring areas
- ◆ Installation of Parish notice board
- ◆ Repainting the new bridge
- ◆ Various arboricultural works
- ◆ Removing old barbed wire fencing
- ◆ Define informal pathways through the meadow and woodland
- ◆ Tree planting on the lower slopes
- ◆ Woodland bulb planting
- ◆ Herbicide application to pathways and re-emergent bramble
- ◆ Additional litter picking
- ◆ Filling in pot holes in gravel path
- ◆ Liasing with members of the public
- ◆ Clearance of overgrowth prior to installation of the new path and entrance

#### Oak Tree Park

- ◆ Additional litter picking
- ◆ Ad hoc shrub pruning and additional weeding
- ◆ Various arboricultural works
- ◆ Pond clearance
- ◆ Additional Herbicide application

#### Higher Ream / Alvington Open Space

- ◆ Additional litter picking
- ◆ Various arboricultural works
- ◆ Shrub pruning and additional weeding

Many of these tasks are ongoing extra maintenance operations.

## What's happening next?

Key tasks include

- ◆ Management of the bramble and scrub next to the pathway leading to King Arthur drive, the purpose of which is to improve visibility and provide a more open and friendly walking route.
- ◆ The selective removal of the bramble and scrub on the eastern slopes, the aim of which is to reduce the dominant single species and increase the potential for selective planting, thereby increasing the potential for a more varied habitat.
- ◆ Clearance of overhanging tree growth next to the main path by the electric substation

Further tasks are identified within the action plan attached to the Management plan.

In relation to the tasks identified within the *'Larkhill provisional plan'*, tasks 10,13,14,16,19,20,21,23 and 24 have been either completed or part completed.

---