

## FoUSCA Group Meeting

22.04.2024

### Present

Kirsty  
Georgia [Chair]  
Mich  
Glyn  
Kerry  
Linda  
Steve  
Jane [minutes]

### Apologies

Phil

### Introduction

Georgia welcomed Kerry and Linda to the group and outlined the purpose. It is a feeder group regarding the land at Upper Saxondale, suggesting ideas for maintenance, development, activities etc, which are then passed to the Parish Council who make any decisions.

### Updates

The land, which was previously the responsibility of USRA, is now the responsibility of the Parish Council. The DWH land transfer is progressing well and will soon be complete also.

The coppicing of the woodland is now completed.

Mich raised concerns regarding the overgrown state of the brambles at the back of the houses at the far end of Westminster Drive, which are starting to cover other bushes. Georgia will raise this at the P.C.

Georgia has been in discussion with an officer from Rushcliffe Borough Council regarding the Upper Saxondale Management and Conservation Plan. The existing plan was drawn up many years ago and requires updating. The plan puts a layer of protection on greenspaces and buildings. There will be a public consultation including a meeting

The Upper Saxondale Biodiversity Development Plan which has to be produced by the P.C. will be published on the website. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Mich is concerned about the new trees planted last year by DWH. Some are not looking very healthy. Kirsty will take a look at them and report back, and Georgia will talk about any dead ones with the P.C.

Steve said that there are large logs which are ready to use to divide the parkland from the road, leaving 2 gaps for access to the rear of the conversions that back on to the parkland. hopefully this will reduce the rutting of the grass when it is soggy.

### Moth Count

Paul Dulwich joined the meeting to outline how he would like to complete a moth count on the open land. He catches and surveys moth populations for Rushcliffe and the NWT, feeding into local and national recording schemes. Moths are important pollinators and provide food for bats and birds. They are good indicators for the health of an environment. Light traps will be set up in the evening and opened the following morning. Paul would set up 3 traps in different places. The best months are May to September with June, July and August particularly good.

The group agreed that this would be interesting to complete. Glyn will confirm this with Paul and when he gets a date will pass this to Jane who will email the group and whoever is available and interested can join Paul for the placing and opening of the traps.

### Future Events

Fruit orchard work clearing the base of the trees 12th May 10 - 12 noon.

Annual Parish Meeting 10th May 7 - 9pm.

### A.O.B.

Glyn suggested that as the transfer of assets which includes the trees on Millennium Way is imminent it would be appropriate to obtain professional advice and costs re their maintenance. Georgia said that this would be done by the PC as required.

This group will need to consider where there are issues with the landscape and what the priorities are once the handover to the P.C. is complete. There are some areas where the trees/shrubs/hedges have become very large and it may be that giving these areas attention will be a priority so that they can then be maintained going forward. Issues that affect residents' properties will need to be considered before any major new projects.

Paint on the airing shelters is beginning to peel and Georgia will talk with the P.C. Chair about getting this attended to.

**The next meeting will be 10.06.24 at 7.30pm.**

Steve will book the hall.