

Management Plan - Improvement Projects on the Commons 2017-2021

2017 Management Plan recommendations	Funding	Projects 2017	Projects 2018	Projects 2019	Projects 2020	Proposed Projects 2021
General * Regular monitoring and recording of key sites, features and habitats. * Draw up and maintain/update rolling plans, including register of highest priority amenity projects (paths, clearances near paths, seat locations etc) for s106 and other windfall funding * Increase reliance on (skilled) volunteers and look for more funding opportunities	n/a	* Monitor rocks, ponds, coralroot (Warden+FT) * Introduced tree survey -remedial work needed focusing on roadside(precept)	* Monitor rocks, ponds, coralroot (Warden+FT)	* Monitor rocks, ponds, coralroot (Warden+FT) * 2 KHWP days (see below) * Financial support for student project by Hadlow College (FT) * Tree popper handtools for volunteers (Friends)	* Monitor rocks, ponds, coralroot (Warden+FT) * Volunteer days - Friends, Apsley St group, 2 KHWP days <i>* Financial support for Hadlow student project (FT) CANCELLED - COVID</i> <i>*Sussex Lund application (see below)</i> * Species surveys and related walks and events (Friends and FT) <i>3 bird surveys, wildflower site survey, tree survey completed, others CANCELLED - COVID</i>	* Monitor rocks, ponds, coralroot (Warden+FT) * Volunteer Days - Friends, Apsley St Group, Community Payback groups * Species surveys and related walks and events (COVID permitting) Friends and FT)
Rocks * Phased programme of rock management, removing grass, shrubs and small trees and maintaining sightlines. * Additional rock outcrop clearances	Precept/pr oject	*TW6 Wellington Rocks spraying + Friends volunteer day Nov + mechanical tree removal (precept) * R6 Denny Bottom Friends volunteer day Feb * Cheesewring area in R4 Happy Valley (Friends and FT)	* R6 New Denny Bottom volunteers group - Apsley St Oct		* R6 Toad Rock area Friends and volunteers	* R4 Happy Valley Friends
Ponds * Phased pond maintenance and clearance schedule. * Additional ponds - (prioritising Great Crested Newt potential),	Precept/pr oject	* TW2 Desilted Fir Tree Pond (precept)	* Friends volunteer day CSL Pond TW5 Oct	* TW5 Brighton Lake - clear reedmace (FT) * R2 Clearance around 2nd Marlpit Pond (FT)	* R6 Bulls Hollow (Friends and Sussex Lund) TW2 Fir Tree Pond extension (FT) * R2 Marlpits extension (FT and Friends)	* R2 - reedmace from Marlpit 1 (Friends & FT) * TW4 - reedmace from Bracken Cottage Pond (Friends & FT)
Heathland * Focus heathland management in a small number of key heathland/healthy grassland areas, prioritising TW6 relict heath and TW7 Marshall Plan. These will receive labour-intensive treatment.	Precept/pr oject	* 2 KHWP volunteer days TW6 near Victoria Grove Oct/Nov, * Friends volunteer day TW7 Marshall Plan Nov	* KHWP volunteer day TW6 near Victoria Grove Nov * Friends volunteer day TW7 Marshall Plan Nov	* TW6 2 KHWP days in Feb and Nov 2019 scrub clearance near Victoria Grove (FT)	<i>Financial support for Hadlow student project (FT) CANCELLED - COVID</i> <i>TW6 KHWP day</i>	<i>volunteer days to be confirmed</i>
Grass meadows, clearings, glades * Second (early spring) cut in some grassland areas to reduce fertility. * Vary the cut of grassland and wood pasture areas and leave random unmown patches to promote biodiversity. * Wildflower meadows (KHWP to advise)	Precept	* Experiment cutting in rotation * Trial new technology - flailbot etc * Monitor results	* Experiment cutting in rotation * Trial new technology - flailbot etc * Monitor results		Yellow Rattle sown on favourable wildflower sites (FT and precept) Continue experimental cutting in rotation, trialling flailbot etc (Warden)	Continue yellow rattle sowing and cutting in rotation
Woodland * Focus woodland edge management on south-facing woodland edges, rides and glades: scallop edges, rotational coppicing * Phased programme to remove cherry laurel and rhododendron * Selective thinning and pollarding in areas of dense shade * Cut into secondary woodland to increase acid grassland and broaden glades around key paths (for security and views)	Precept/pr oject	* TW5 Scalloped racecourse edges (s106) * Friends volunteers Happy Valley R4 Jan * Laurel removal St Pauls, Happy Valley R4, scrape, prepare and seed (FT) * Extend clearing TW6 Castle Road (FT) * Clear holly/scrub TW2 near batcave to let more light in (FT)	* Continue laurel and scrub removal Happy Valley R4, scrape, prepare and seed (FT) * TW6 Major Yorks roadside holly (precept) * Clear holly scrub S of Fir Tree Pond to let light in TW2 (FT)	*TW6 Holly below Victoria Grove (FT) * R4 Holly patch at Happy Valley (FT) *TW4 Holly scrub - Racecourse (FT) *TW5 Holly scrub S of Hungershall Park (FT) *R2 Cherry laurel removal Langton Road/Rusthall Elms (volunteer)	2 days Cherry Laurel, Rusthall and TW (FT)	2 days Cherry Laurel, Rusthall and TW (FT) TW2 holly scrub clearance between FTR car park and bat cave clearing
Trees * Bespoke treatment to preserve specimen trees, depending on species. * Clearing holly, sycamore and scrub around selected specimen trees.	Precept/pr oject	Boundary oaks	*Clear around boundary oaks TW4 and holm oak TW5 (FT) * Clear around small-leaved lime on Bishops Down (precept)		<i>Planting of new specimen trees (FT) c/f to 2021</i>	Clear holly around George VI commemorative planting of oaks near Wellington Rocks TW6
Other habitat Additional reptile refugia/hibernacula.	Project				R2 wildlife refuge area near Marlpit ponds (FT/Friends) TW2 wildlife refuge area near Fir Tree Pond (FT)	

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Amenity - paths and drainage	* Create and improve tracks and non-KCC paths * Multi-year rotational programme of ditch clearance.	Precept/KCC/project * FTR pond flight of steps TW2 (FT) * TW5 path surface near Swan car park to Terrace Walk (FT) * Extend Marlpit Common View path R2 (FT) * Widen, scrape path to Spa TW2 (FT) * Widen Valley footpath R5 and steps (FT)	* TW6 Racecourse drainage channel (precept) * TW5 +6 Racecourse surfaced paths near Major Yorks Road (FT)	* Review KCC paths and map problems (Warden - ongoing) * TW7 Resurface Strange's Walk (KCC)	* Pth resurfacing - R5 Tarry Path, TW4/TW5 path from Nevill Park to the Eridge Road Garden Centre (KCC)	* TW6 Track near Wellington Rocks * TW2 Bund and ditch behind FTR car park * R2 Sleeper steps down to the newly cleared Marlpit ponds
Amenity grassland	* Bring forward the summer cut of some popular grassland areas which are not of high floristic value to July (before summer holidays). * Ensure cut width is sufficient near paths, increase the width specifications for key paths.	Precept				
Amenity - landscape	Open up views/plant screening for visual reasons (not specifically highlighted in plan but consistent and recommended by TWBC)	Project	* Hedge by Fairground car park TW5 (FT)	* R6 Reduce tall hollies above Apsley St (precept and Friends) *	* R6 Continue to reduce tall hollies above Apsley St a (precept/Friends)	* Additional hedging by Fairground car park TW5 (FT)
Amenity - seats and bins	Additional seats, litter bins	Donation/s106	* 1 additional seat (donation) * 6 refurbished (Friends)	* 2 additional seats (donation) * 15 renovated (s106)	* TW6 seat (FT) * TW4 seat (FT)	Litter picking kit for volunteers (Friends)
Amenity - access	Information provision/signs etc	Project/s106	* 10 information panels (Friends/donations)			* New website (precept, Friends and FT)