Poplar St

Crook’s Ave

**NORTH**

**Mansfield Woodhouse Millennium Green**

**GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN - 2020-2025**

**Current Situation - November 2019**

Scale - 1: 1250 @ A4

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Area | |
| 1 - | Top Steps |
| 2 - | Charlies |
| 3 - | Sandys 1 |
| 4 - | Sandys 2 |
| 5 - | Vicarage |
| 6 - | Zeffies |
| 7 - | Hemmings |
| 8 - | Cemetery Side |
| 9 - | Orchard |
| 10 - | Grazing |
| 11 - | Sledging |
| 12 - | Rattle |
| 13 - | Middle Steps |
| 14 - | Bottom Steps |
| 15 - | Willow Herb |
| 16 - | Meadow |
| 17 - | Picnic |
| 18 - | Bund |
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7

Donkey Steps F.P.

3 Oaks

9

10

8

11

5

18

17

16

1

3

2

4

6

Seat 3

Seat 4

13

12

Seat 6

Seat 5

Seat 2

14

15

Store

Seat 1

Welbeck Road

Poplar St

Crook’s Ave

**Mansfield Woodhouse Millennium Green**

**GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN - 2020-25 Proposed Reduction in Scrub**

Scale - 1: 1250 @ A4

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Area | |
| 1 - | Top Steps |
| 2 - | Charlies |
| 3 - | Sandys 1 |
| 4 - | Sandys 2 |
| 5 - | Vicarage |
| 6 - | Zeffies |
| 7 - | Hemmings |
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7

Donkey Steps F.P.

3 Oaks

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1

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Seat 3

Seat 4

**NORTH**

13

12

Seat 6

Seat 5

Seat 2

14

9

15

Store

Seat 1

Welbeck Road

This Plan was developed out of a number of conversations with Nic Wort, Land Management Officer, Greenwood. The intention is for it to act as a template to enable the Trust to manage what it already has and possibly develop further the Green’s grassland habitat. It is accepted that this Plan will evolve over the five year period and should in any case be reviewed annually before the autumn work schedule starts.

Although primarily focusing on Grassland it also includes management tasks for other elements of the Green such as hedges and trees.

**Notes**

1. Because much of the 2019 autumn strimming did not taken place (due to lack of a strimmer being available) the intention is to cut at suitable times over the winter of 2019 and up to the end of February 2020 and then start again in the autumn of 2020.
2. All arisings should be raked off and piled adjacent to a hedge or scrubby area unless the material is dry and there is a concern about fire risk.
3. Between the end of February & August and before cutting check for nesting birds by:
   * 1. viewing the area at distance for 15-30 mins looking for bird movement / birds carrying food.
     2. remember brooding birds which may not be active.
     3. make a close up visual inspection of the area.
4. Avoid strimming during bird nesting season.
5. Re Area 7: Once tall grass growth is less than the height of the shrubs and does not cause shading, a cut in early autumn would suffice. Once the shrubs have established cease cutting grass.
6. Re Area 7: Once the plants have established e.g. circa 2021/22, consider coppicing (rather than prune) a third of the shrubs each year (cut back to 2-4 inches above ground level with a slightly sloping cut) to promote bushy growth from ground level
7. Re: Isolated areas of course vegetation - Small, isolated patches of coarse / ruderal vegetation are less valuable than larger areas, or areas adjacent to scrub / woodland.

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| Location | Task | Achieved |
| Area 1 | Keep encroaching vegetation to current line by cutting back in the autumn. |  |
|  | Keep a clearance of 2.5 metre under the trees adjoining the path and the Donkey Steps. |  |
|  | Only emergency work should be carried out in the bird nesting season. |  |
| Area 2 | Much of this area is not grazed by the tethered horse.  Cut the long grass in the autumn annually twice in three years in rotation with Areas 12 & 15. Remove arisings | Not cut on NW advice  Cont: |

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| Area 2  Cont: | Cut the nettles and blackthorn back to 2 - 3 metres of the boundary with Leeming Park properties in the autumn leaving a wavy edge. | Part cut 12/11/19 |
|  | Cut scrub along path edge as part of Path Edge mowing. |  |
|  | Keep a clearance of 2.5 metre under the trees adjoining the path. |  |
| Area 3  & 4 | Keep an open vista looking westward along the slope by cutting encroaching vegetation back to within 2 - 3 metre from Leeming Park boundary on a regular basis. | A3 cut 12/11/19 |
|  | Cut scrub along path edge as part of Path Edge mowing. | A3 cut 12/11/19 |
| Area 5 | This area includes the Three Oaks. |  |
|  | Strim encroaching vegetation around the Oaks each autumn to the line made at the time of the Planting Ceremony. |  |
|  | Keep the grass path to the Oaks and the triangular area made by the three trees mowed as needed throughout the year to allow easy access to the Oaks. |  |
|  | Cut scrub along boundary of the path as far as the Blackthorn thicket adjacent to the group of Sycamore trees. |  |
| Area 6 | Cut the nettles back to the shrubs on the boundary with Leeming Park properties in the autumn. |  |
|  | Cut the Blackthorn adjacent to the path back 1 metre. Do annually in the autumn/winter. |  |
|  | Cut the scrub on boundary with Area 7 back to a staked line annually. Leave 3 or 4 metre of Bramble in front of Area 7 |  |
| Area 7 | Keep an open area either side of the hedge line. |  |
|  | Cut the hedge down to 1.4 metre annually in February and side up. |  |
|  | Clear tall grass & scrub from around the thicket planting on a regular basis thro’ the year until plants have become established. **See Note 5** |  |
|  | Allow the planting on the cemetery side to grow unchecked. |  |
|  | Keep the planting on the other side of Area 7 down to 1.5 metre to encourage stronger outward growth. Cut at end of February. **See Note 6**. |  |
|  | Clear around Oak tree on a regular basis. |  |
| Area 8 | Between the boundary with Area 6 - cut the nettles back to a staked line approximately 3 - 4 metre from the current leading edge in the autumn. |  |
|  | Allow to re-grow then in May cut one third down and then a second third in June. Continue on rotation annually. |  |
|  | **Check for nesting birds, cut by hand using a scythe.** |  |
|  | Between the Path and the Victorian cemetery keep the Brambles back 1 metre from the path edge. |  |
| Area 9 | This area contains the Community Orchard |  |
|  | Continue to leave a perimeter of nettles and long grass adjacent to the paths around the Orchard until winter 2021. |  |
|  | Continue to cut 2 metre wide avenues along the line of trees. Leave the scrubby area between these avenues as they are until winter of 2021. |  |
|  | Keep the Bramble on the boundary with Area 10 cut to its current position. |  |
| Area 10 | Cut the nettles & bramble adjacent to the boundary with Area 9 back to two metres annually in the autumn. |  |
|  | Large isolated “islands” of nettles in the Area should be reduced by 1 metre all the way round in the Autumn. |  |
|  | Cut small “islands” and removing arisings in the autumn with the aim of bringing back to low grassland. |  |
|  | Cut nettles and tall grasses on the edge of the paths annually | Cut 12/11/19 |
| Area 11 | Large isolated “islands” of nettles in the Area should be reduced by 1 metre all the way round in the Autumn. |  |
|  | Cut small “islands” and remove arisings in the autumn with the aim of bringing back to low grassland. |  |
|  | Cut nettles and tall grasses on the edge of the paths annually | Cut 12/11/19 |
|  | Do nothing with the area under the Horse Chestnut tree and between the tree and Seat 2 |  |
| Area 12 | Cut the entire area in the autumn annually twice in three years in rotation with Areas 2 and 15. Remove arisings. | Not cut on NW advice |
|  | Do nothing with the area under the Horse Chestnut tree and between the tree and Seat 2 |  |

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| Area 13 & 14 | Large isolated “islands” of nettles in the Area should be reduced by 1 metre all the way round in the Autumn. |  |
|  | Cut small “islands” and removing arisings in the autumn with the aim of bringing back to low grassland. |  |
|  | Encroaching nettles on the Donkey Steps boundary should be cut to within 2 metre of the hedge-line |  |
| Area 15 | Cut the entire area in the autumn annually twice in three years in rotation with Areas 2 and 12. Remove risings | Partial cut 12 & 17/10. Left on NW advice |
| Area 16 | This is the Meadow area. |  |
|  | Mow in early spring and remove arisings. |  |
|  | Treat Docs and other undesirable plants as they appear early in the growing season. |  |
|  | Mow at the end of August. Remove arisings. |  |
|  | Crown raise trees in area to allow easier access underneath. Remove only the lowest branches. **Do not remove too many lower branches at this stage as it will adversely affect growth rates.** |  |
|  | Scrub area near pedestrian entrance should be left wild except for the stand of Dogwood on boundary with Meadow. This should be cut down one third every year in rotation. |  |
|  | The path adjacent to this patch should be kept wide & welcoming. |  |
|  | Keep a clearance of 2.5 metre under the trees adjoining the path. |  |
| Area 17 | Keep mowed short over growing season |  |
| Area 18 | Encroaching vegetation should be cut back to a staked line approximately 3 metre from the current leading edge, maintaining a wavy edge. | 29/10 & 05/11/2019, complete |
| Welbeck Road Hedge | This should be cut back to 1.4 metre high in February |  |
| The road side hedge should be kept from overhanging the pavement. No work should take place during the nesting season - between March and August. |  |
| The Rowan trees along the hedge line should be given room to grow by reducing competition from other trees & shrubs. The area around each Rowan needs to be kept a minimum of 1 metre clear around the canopy & 2 metre clear above. |  |

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| D. Steps Hedge | Before the nesting season starts in February this should be sided up on the Steps side only. |  |
| An adequate clearance under the trees should be kept, but only absolutely necessary work should take place between March and August. |  |
| Path Edges | Path edges should be mowed or strimmed throughout the growing season to leave a boundary strip between 60cm and 1 meter wide. |  |
| Encroaching vegetation should be sprayed off annually in June/July |  |
| Carving | This should be coated with a suitable clear wood preserver in the autumn and again in spring. |  |

12 November 2019

Review in September 2020