

WIPC - Environment Report, Nov 19

WSSC, through Kevin Macknay are persuing the drainage issue at Golworthy/Stowfeld/Littlecourt. Residents have instructed solicitors to deny their riparian responsibilities.

The have said we need to apply for Operation Watershed funds in order to construct a headwall for the stream between the footpath and Martlet Cottage. Adrian Strange has previously said that he would clear the ditch if the MC residents were in agreement as he feared that ther fence may fall as a consequence.

We are still waiting for them to agree a time to replace the culvert under the road by Travis Perkins.

The conservation volunteers continue to work behind the pond, creating a 'dead hedge' pollarding some Alder to let more light in, plant wetland heracious plants and have tagged others for permission to fell/coppice. In September I did not organise a group to join them due to the recent rains and difficulty working on our areas of focus. Like wise for October (25th) although I joined them for about an hour and used our focus on 1st Nov. to cut back new growth at the common, working south from TP.

We have 2 quotes to dredge the pond at about 16K.

1 is from a national company with a track record of such works. The second is local, (from Ian Lodder) giving the advantage of quick follow up if the works are not to our satisfaction or there are difficulties / complaints during the works. Sue Furlong has sais that she is waiting for an OW bid towards this project. The weather now seems against us. In my absence from the meeting I hope you can give the matter some debate in the light of another suggestion that we do not bother. The result of this would be that the PC portion of the pond would become a swamp/marsh within 5 years. The portion leased from the Woodger Trust, (who seem unwilling to contribute) if not renewed, would remain their riparian responsibility to keep the channel open along the north side of the pond. [It is hoped to try and dig out some of this sediment at the western end at the end of this month 29th]