WIPC – Environment Report, May 2020

Again, we have had another few months where limits have bee put on the regular practical work required, at the pond and other areas of the village. I hope that on Friday 29th May, (last friday of the month) we may have some help with 'gardening' tasks around the pond as the area is adequate for 'social distancing' and we are now able to stay longer outside. Some basic tasks of cutting back nettles and other herbs, prunning, raking up debris and removing it to the decay area at the southern end will show a difference.

Despite this, AS & CW met with Ian Lodder to discus the needs of the trees survey, which then took place this week. Largely satisfactory although trees by the pond did not get included – just 2 large Ash trees in need of felling and Ivy removal that we, can undertake with a 'working party'. CW will liaise re- nature of the work, (to compare with Woodland Trust advice) and quotes.

AS finalised arrangements for the 'gully drain' clearance and a good job was undertaken by the contractors this week.

LK has continued with work to investigate lost/hidden culverts and made significant progress in the Martlet Cottage/Greenleas area. The verge/ ditch, opposite Greenleas has again been the site of 'Fly Tipping'. This interupted the contractors mowing activity. CW has contacted CDC for advice.

It is hoped that before the next meeting, we can make one or more bids for Operation Watershed funding and hope that some self help 'muscle' can be accepted in place of some financial contribution.

Chris Watson