

Environment Report to 2 November 2015 Committee Meeting

Litter Pick 24 October Seventeen people participated in the concluding activity of the 2015 Anti-Litter Campaign. Although unable to cover all areas of the 2014 litter pick because of reduced numbers of volunteers we were able to make comparisons with the sites that were covered. The general feeling was that there is less litter. This is probably the result of two factors:

- Litter had been allowed to build up over the years at some locations, and
- Volunteers are keenly keeping an eye on some sites and are continuously picking up litter (for example Leach Grove Wood, Teasel Wood, the banks of the River Mole, and Randalls Road)

With over 30 bags of litter collected, there is little sign that people have given up the offensive habit of littering.

Teazel Wood The LRA was represented at the annual October Unilever Volunteer Day. Activities were carried out at various locations including near the brick yard where a five bedroom dwelling once stood. Some of the foundations were uncovered. One activity involved clearing over growth in two areas in hopes that bluebells would appear in the now sunnier locations in the Spring. Branches and debris was removed from the Rye Brook.

A £10 000 grant has been received to carry out the Safe Glade Project applied for by Lucy Quinnell earlier this year.

Leach Grove Wood

A group called Friends of Leach Grove Wood has been formed to protect the future of the woods next to Leatherhead Hospital as a Village Green, open to all for recreational use and to ensure that it is maintained in a sympathetic way. Documentation about the Woods is held by Julia Jarrett, 6 Highlands Ave, who formed the Leach Grove Protection Group in the 1980s to prevent the land being sold by SCC for development. Because she is leaving the area, Flip Cargil has passed on the documentation (2013-15) supporting the application for Village Green Status to the LRA (Fran Smith). The LRA will continue to keep any funds for the group. At present there is no money.

Small Planting Project

Five long planters between the former Alan's Florist and The Duke's Head have been replanted this month. Both Hilary Porter and Flip Cargill have taken a special interest in these planters over the years. HP brought their neglected state to our attention earlier this summer. There is hope that a buyer for Alan's building will take on the responsibility for the planters. In the meantime, the owner of the New Duke's Head Pub has agreed to water the plants.