



The
Blaxhall Commons & Open Spaces
Charitable Trust
March 2019 Issue No.2

NEWSLETTER

What A Gift To The Trust!



 The Trust has received the offer of the gift of just over six acres of land adjoining the Great Common, with the intention that the land be used as open access land for residents of Blaxhall and the public at large, and to be preserved as a habitat for wildlife. The land runs in a strip along the northern side of the B1069 between Tunstall and Snape, opposite Shepherd's Cottage. Consisting largely of

acid grassland which has lain ungrazed and undisturbed for many years, it is already a haven for many species. It could potentially allow for the linking with existing rights of way and avoiding having to use the busy B1069.

If you have views about the use to which this land might best be put or the way you would like to see it managed, the Trust would

welcome your input. The land is intended for the benefit of the public, so we want the public to help decide what should be done with it.

To hear more about the proposed gift and to have your say, please come to our AGM in the Village Hall on Saturday 6th April, starting at 2.30pm

website: www.blaxhallcommonstrust.org.uk

Completing A Project

 Thanks to the new owners of Lime Tree Farm (Langmead Farms) the Blaxhall Environment Group are able to complete a project that they started at least 15 years ago.

The original rationale was to create a 'green corridor' from the copse next to the church and extend it to the woodland known as Knowles several hundred metres up the Blaxhall Church Road.

Permission and the site plus 40% purchase of the plants etc. was provided by Langmead Farms, the trees hedging, spirals and canes by the Woodland Trust who paid 60% of the cost and labour by volunteers connected to the Blaxhall Environment Group and the SWT Blaxhall Heath Work Party. The hedge planting should be complete sometime this month.

If you fancy joining a work party contact Rodney West on rodwest59@btinternet.com

Remember Us In Your Will

 As a small charity, gifts in wills (also known as legacies) are invaluable to the work that we do. We depend on the generosity of people and organisations that support us in one way or another. We can supply further information if you wish to contact the BCOS Charity Secretary on everossor@gmail.com



ABOVE: Volunteers begin to plant the new hedge - February 2019

Blaxhall Is Countryside - Official!

The recently-published Suffolk Coastal Final Draft Local Plan sets out planning policies and priorities for the district until 2036. Blaxhall has been designated countryside, which means that it is not considered suitable for development, and is not expected to contribute to the district's projected housing need. This will comes as a relief to many, including the Trust, who raised concerns about the level of potential development identified at the earlier 'call for sites' stage. It does not of course mean that no development will take place; we might see some affordable housing on exception sites, one-off developments within existing housing clusters and reuse of redundant agricultural buildings. However, we can hope that the countryside classification takes the pressure off and encourages a more manageable and sustainable level of growth. There are also policies for the protection of landscape, open spaces and allotments. To read the document search for Final Draft Local Plan on the council website.

Litter Picks

The Trust carries out litter picks twice a year, covering two Commons and the roads within the parish. Equipment is provided by Suffolk Norse, and available this spring on April 13th and 14th to anyone eager to come out and clear our hedges. Please come along this year- your gloves bags and picker will be at Vine Cottage opposite the Ship.

Any queries - contact Eve on 01728688648 or everossor@gmail.com

GREEN ACTIVITY DATES FOR 2019

Litter Picks

Saturday 13 April & Sunday 14 April

Start and finish in your own time.

Practical Conservation

Remember you can help conserve the Blaxhall Great Common by joining Aleksander Pogroszewski Suffolk Wildlife Trust voluntary warden. Meeting is every second Saturday in the month Sept to March. Contact Aleks on pogro57@gmail.com for further information.