

COLLINGHAM WITH LINTON PARISH COUNCIL



Beck Wood Plan for 2022

Public opportunity to influence how this beautiful setting is used and enjoyed.

Issues to be Addressed

- Wild Site/Public Park/Both
 - Car Parking
 - Rubbish
 - Anti-social behaviour



Wild Site/Public Park/Both?

History

- Beach area site of ford and stepping stones before Linton Bridge built.
- C19th Railway built - public right of way facilitated by overbridge.
- 1960s railway closure and removed.
- Land handed to Wetherby District Council then in turn to Parish Council - Covenants for enjoyment as green space.
- 2000 Millennium Field created.
- 2016 major maintenance and volunteer group established. All with guidance from expert arborist.



Wild Site/Public Park/Both?

History

- 2018 Renamed Beck Wood.
- 2019 Risk assessment and insurance demand increase in warning signs.
- 2020 Excessive use* during good weather Covid Lock down.
- 2021 Excessive use* during good weather Covid restrictions.

*Excessive use means 10 to 12 days per year, April to September.



Wild Site/Public Park/Both? Survey

65.5% said they wanted to see improving facilities and additional seating and paths
97.8% said they would like it to remain a natural wooded area

Keep it
natural

Replant
overused
areas

Too many
signs

More
trees/wild
flowers and
bulbs

Hand over
to the
Woodland
trust

Develop
more
footpaths,
more
seating

Wild Site/Public Park/Both? Discussion

Has to be both - agree?

Objective natural amenity space that can be accessed and enjoyed by people and wildlife.

1. Heritage Grant track to remove pedestrians from Linton Lane where highway edge floods. Furniture now excluded from the application.
 2. Remove bike track
 3. Increase wildflower planting
 4. No more picnic benches
 5. Any other ideas?



Car Parking History

- Car Park on site since 1960s?
- 2020 excessive car parking on Linton Road.
- Double yellow lines installed.
- Investigated 'pay and display' in car park - discounted
- Investigated field opposite - discounted
- Investigated external traffic cone management - discounted
- No enforcement.
- James Lewis Leader of Leeds City Council:
 - *"Parking services can schedule in regular visits including evenings and weekends' to ticket cars parked on double yellow lines*
 - *Police do not have powers to ticket offending vehicles."*



Car Parking Survey

- 87% said no to increased parking
- 70.9% tended to disagree and disagree that the car park should be permanently closed



Car Parking Discussion

1. Car Park to remain open generally.
2. Entrance barrier to be lowered in height and gate fitted so car park can be closed.
3. Car park to be closed in rare event conditions become intolerable.
4. Enforcement action to be taken - Parish Council direct contact to wardens.
5. Any other ideas?



Rubbish History

- Leeds City Council Collect Rubbish in bins.
- 2018 Additional bins installed.
- Volunteers start litter picking.
- Toileting in the woods - issue since 2014.
- Fires and barbecues regular issue.



Rubbish - Recent Actions and Discussion

- Private contractor used to litter pick and remove rubbish to support volunteers and LCC who have struggled with collections - Covid
- Toilets ruled out - maintenance and safe-guarding issues.
- Purple bags group incredibly helpful. Where would we be without them?
- Any ideas??



Anti-social behaviour - History

- Anti-social behaviour generally only significant during excessively busy periods, includes:
- Noise
- Excess alcohol
- Drug use
- Trespass
- Fights
- Police have taken no action level of offence not deemed significant



Anti-social behaviour - Discussion

- Calls to 111 being ignored, action too slow and ineffective.
- Visitors promoting the area on social media - how do we control this?
- External security company
 - Investigating use of discreet solar security cameras
 - Would be maintained and monitored by them
 - Regulations govern use of data
 - Employ security guards at busy times ?
- Lobby West Yorkshire Police Commissioner - survey recently completed.



Any questions?

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