



HOCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Old Fire Station, 58 Southend Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4QH
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MARYLANDS NATURE RESERVE 5 YEAR REGENERATION PLAN Winter 2017/18

Over the next 5 years the parish council, through its contractor Constable Landscapes, will embark on a comprehensive programme of work in the nature reserve in order to ensure it continues to provide a valuable place for wildlife and an important recreational and educational feature for the residents of Hockley.

The parish council sought the advice of the Essex Wildlife Trust who recommended the site should be developed as a mosaic of woodland, parkland and open grassland. Selective thinning of woodland, the creation of scalloped bays along the main ride and increased parkland habitat will diversify the woodland component of the site leading to an increase of flora and fauna throughout.

This winter will see scrub being cleared from below selected trees in the meadow in order to afford them more growing space and light and scrub encroachment cut back. In the woodland area a limited number of tall trees with interlocking canopies which restrict light to the woodland floor will be coppiced and weak trees, excessive seedlings and sapling growth weeded out. The 'scalloping' of the heavy hawthorn growth along the main ride will assist in encouraging a diverse flora and insect population.

Should you require further information then please contact the office on the above contact details.

Mrs Kate Smiles
Clerk to the Council