

Charlie Cairns – Lower Clyde Greenspace
Duchess Wood Local Nature Reserve briefing note

Green Gym

Application submitted in October to Forestry Commission Community Seedcorn Fund for a 2 phase Green Gym project. The idea behind the 2 phase approach is to meet previously expressed FC concerns relating to poor attendance figures, and gives us the option of terminating the programme early.

FC staff are currently assessing the application, but await feedback from senior staff. This has caused the timescale to slip, which, after consultation with TCV, we feel can be managed in the first phase by doubling up sessions, either 2 per day or 2 per week.

It is hoped that attendees will be a mix of GP referrals and self referrals. NHS contact Samantha Campbell will provide contact details for GP's in Helensburgh. We have also built in the outcome of training up to 4 local people as Green Gym Leaders, enabling future Green Gyms to be less reliant on buying in a service. This is intended to help us create a more sustainable model for Green Gym days in Duchess Wood and other areas in Helensburgh.

Main physical works indicated are tree and shrub planting on the windward edge of the woodland (subject to consultation with the LNR committee), path raking and drainage clearance, coppicing of hazel and other species to improved structural diversity and hand felling in selected areas to create small coupes. This programme is flexible and subject to change, should the LNR Committee wish it.

Liaison with Employability Team

Site meeting with Danny Harkin, FODW, LCG and A&BC has taken place, and tasks agreed for Danny's team to undertake should they be at a sudden loose end. Danny was unable to commit to installing a culvert west of the Pony Field but has no issues with the Community Payback team undertaking bridge work here.

Education Pack

Unable to attend first meeting, but will attend second meeting on 12/11/14. Have researched some useful existing resources which could be referenced as part of any emerging pack.

Outdoor Nursery

Have contacted Johanna Urquhart and identified myself as her primary point of contact on this issue, and given advice on her proposed paper to LNR Committee. Have also given feedback to Gordon Dalgleish at A&BC who had been approached regarding certain legal issues possibly affecting the Council.

Funding Streams

Audrey Martin has asked me to take on a role of researching possible funding streams for the LNR, which I will do.