



# Greening Wymondham

greening.wymondham@gmail.com Facebook.com/Greening-Wymondham

## Summer 2019

### Chair's report: Kett's Park woodland walk

Ann Rostron



The newly re-surfaced path through the Kett's Park woodland was opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> June by Deputy Mayor Jack Hornby. The sun shone and the wood looked at its best, with wild rose and viburnums flowering and streamers strung from the trees - recycled materials used, of course! About 60 people came to enjoy walking the path and have tea and cakes served by Greening Wymondham. Representatives from sponsors the European Rural Development Fund, the Town Council and Waitrose were in attendance.

Sadly the following week saw exceptionally heavy rainstorms and this has caused some "teething" problems in part of the path. Advice from the Norwich Fringe Project leading the team managing the woodland is that the new surface which is a natural sandy gravel material, will take time to bed in and dry out. In the first

few months the surface may be rather muddy following wet weather but this will help to wash the surface sand and clay down and expose the larger stones. Hoggins is a hard wearing natural surface material and will settle down given time. Footfall on the path will help in the compaction process, so keep walking, people! Rest assured we will keep monitoring the path and if further action is needed, we will take it.



### The Big Wymondham Litter Pick 2019

Peter Knights



Well, the rain and wind didn't seem to dampen the spirits of the ~60 people who turned out for the 'Big Wymondham Litter Pick' on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April! We collected over 50 bags of rubbish (including a car tyre, traffic cone and car bumper). This is the 4<sup>th</sup> annual 'Spring Clean' we've held now. They are linked to South Norfolk Council's Big Litter Pick Campaign and have definitely become a yearly fixture. It was great to see so many children accompanying their parents, helping the environment and playing a vital part in the community. So a big thank you and well done to all involved!

The Big Wymondham Litter Pick held in autumn 2018 was well attended, and so we will repeat this again this year with the provisional date being Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019 (venue and timings to be confirmed). Please put the date in your diary and come and join us to help the environment and keep this great town litter free.

### Greening Wymondham priorities for this year.

Ann Rostron

The Committee considered what its priorities should be for 2019/20 and these were endorsed at the AGM in May 2019. We agreed to: 1) find new sites for planting trees to help in fighting climate change, 2) arrange a day-conference on climate issues, 3) try to move forward on the preservation of Moot Hill (behind the woodland at Kett's Park), 4) do more recycling and 5) help protect hedgehogs by taking action in our gardens, and 6) continue to protect and enhance our open spaces by with our woodland management work at Kett's Park and our efforts to improve Wymondham's footpath links. This year we will also be working with the Town Council to develop a Green Infrastructure Strategy, a policy document that will help us when arguing the case with land owners, developers, and grant funding bodies.

This is a big shopping list and we will be reaching out for more volunteers to help us.

### Recycling in Wymondham: Focus on Crisp Packets

Nicola Maunders

**What's the story?** UK consumers eat 6bn (6,000,000,000) packets of crisps a year. A campaign by '38 Degrees' called on all crisp manufacturers to ditch plastic packaging. Shortly afterwards, Walkers began the UK's first crisp-packet recycling scheme in December 2018. Half a million (500,000) crisp packets were recycled in the first 3 months - enough to produce 250 benches made from recycled plastic. However, campaigners say this is a small fraction of the 11m (11,000,000) packets sold each day.



**Why can't I put them in my green recycling bin?** The inside of some packets look like foil but are a metallised plastic film which is difficult to separate from other waste. Walkers has made a commitment to make crisp packets recyclable, compostable or biodegradable by 2025.

**Where can I take them?** The Chapelfield veterinary centre, Postmill Close, Wymondham have a swing-bin in their waiting room where, amongst other things, you can recycle your crisp packets. All brands of crisp packets are recycled. Have a look at the poster on the recycling bin at Chapelfield Vets as many other products can be recycled here too. Please don't drive there just to drop off your crisp packets though! Try to walk, cycle or combine this journey with a trip to the nearby supermarket, doctors or dentists.

#### What else can I do?

- Eat less crisps!
- Make your own crisps in a microwave or oven (see you-tube videos for quick and easy instructions).
- Buy large packs instead of lots of small packs.
- Write to crisp manufacturers and request plastic-free packaging.
- Support manufacturers when they introduce more sustainable packaging.

### Forthcoming activities/events

- A Plant Stall on Market Street at 'Destination Wymondham' on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July.
- The Big Autumn Litter Pick, Central Hall, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September.
- Kett's Park Woodland management starts again in October - date will be advertised.

We are always looking for more volunteers - contact us on [greening.wymondham@gmail.com](mailto:greening.wymondham@gmail.com) or Facebook.com/ Greening-Wymondham. Please let us know if you would like to be kept informed of our programme or have any suggestions for work that we might undertake.

We would love to hear from you!