

Appendix 4 - Croxleyhall Woods GAP – Summary of Stage 2 Engagement Responses

Name	Organisation	Summary of Response	Action
	Member of the public	Opposes removal of steps. No other access points other than at either end. Provides useful diversion to avoid oncoming dogs.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
	Member of the public	Opposes removal of steps. As a pensioner difficult to access the woods without them.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
	Members of the public	Provision of additional benches without litter bins will encourage excess litter	We will review litter bin provision, but likely to be limited to sustainable locations.
		Oppose removal of steps. They are used extensively.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
		Fires are a problem. New signage should be installed to deter them.	Byelaw signage to be installed once new byelaws in place.
	Croxley Green Residents' Association	The plan is largely aspirational with no funding obtained for many items. Does not provide details on resources or manpower to meet points (internal staff, volunteers etc.).	TRDC budgets will be secured and external funding secured where possible.
		Does not consider the adjoining sections of woodland in different land ownership.	TRDC only have responsibility to manage own land, limited control over other land.
		Opposes removal of steps. This access point has been in place for a long time (at least 32 years) and was a factor in obtaining Village Green registration. They are well used and avoid the need for people to use the steep northern slope. Have conducted a local petition that has over 330 signatures.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
		Lavrock Lane gated entrance requires consultation with the parish council and residents association. Installed to discourage illegal tipping, using Lavrock Lane as a 'rat run' and drug dealers. The gate should remain.	No plans to remove this gate.

		Reduction of litter through increased presence is aspirational and would not resolve anti-social behaviour in the evenings. TRDC has shown no support for volunteers and would be better run through the parish council.	TRDC would encourage local volunteers as they do on adjoining site at Croxley Common Moor.
		Contractors in the past have left a mess of felled trees and foliage and turn up with no indication they are working for the council.	TRDC will only leave arising wood neatly stacked on site where it is of benefit to wildlife.
		Ivy removal from trees is currently done by volunteers but has not been included within the plan.	Ivy should only be removed from trees where health and safety is threatened, otherwise it provides an important habitat.
		Involvement of the parish council would be an effective way of delivering many of the points within the GAP. Would liaison with the parish council be considered?	TRDC would welcome effective working with the parish council.
		All surrounding woodlands, not just those owned by TRDC, are accessible. Support a land transfer or memorandum of understanding to permit the parish council to be utilised for some of the work in the plan.	As above.
	Parish Councillor/ Member of the public	No mention of the parish council. They have done work including path widening. TRDC should consider transferring the woods to the parish council or contract them for the maintenance.	As above
		Oppose removal of steps. Issue has been the lack of maintenance.	TRDC have agreed to replace steps.
		Fires are a big problem as noted in section 4.2. TRDC need to take action and not rely on the fire service.	Byelaw signage installed when new byelaws are in place
		Eastern part of section 4 has mature oaks and a carpet of bluebells, it is certainly ancient woodland.	Ancient woodland is a designation. We will review and amend as appropriate.
		Section 2.2 – River Gade not River Colne.	Amended
		Harvey Road access proposals look expensive and are not a priority. Have been effective in cutting down drug traffic and people driving down the lane.	The proposals are only proposed into the wood and do not encroach onto Lavrock Lane itself

		Litter bins are effective, supported by local residents doing litter picks.	
	Croxley Green Parish Council	Disappointed not to have been involved in the preparation of the GAP. Have previously been involved in compartments 1 and 2 under a Memorandum of Understanding with ad hoc litter picks.	Views sought now and TRDC keen to work with parish to achieve effective management of the woodland.
		Section 2.5.4 – does not mention butterfly, moth, entomology, bird species that are present	Amended to include.
		3B1 – oppose the removal of steps. They have not been maintained adequately and have been used for many years. CGPC may be willing to take on their maintenance if an approach is formally made by TRDC.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
		3B2 – if barriers are re-sited these must not restrict the limited parking	Resiting of barriers etc... within woodland only.
		3E2 – woodland rides may detract from the compact and informal nature of the woods	Rides form an important part of the woodland habitat, particularly for butterflies.
		3F1 – disappointing that the report does not mention the work of the CGPC rangers	CGPC rangers included in local community.
		4.1 – timber posts demarking trails would make a more formal setting which is not favoured. These should be self-evident without waymarking. Removal of bench is supported.	Way marking will encourage public access and does not need to be formal.
		Dog waste bins are owned, maintained and serviced by CGPC	
		Update of leaflet is welcome – would minimise need for waymarking.	
	Member of the public	Oppose the removal of steps – regularly use them and are safe for walkers, dog walkers and children.	TRDC agreed to replace steps
	Member of the public	Oppose the removal of steps – regularly use them	As above
	Member of the public	2.2 – should be River Gade	Amended
		Broadly welcome aims and objectives if they get delivered.	
		Litter is largely a problem from the houses back onto footpath 11	To be more effectively tackled by TRDC when it occurs.

		Volunteering cannot just be on weekdays, but also weekends to get families, young people and local groups (scouts etc) involved.	To engage as far as possible with as many volunteers as possible.
		Clear the scrub around the bench from the entrance from Lavrock Lane and allow grass to return. Remove bench. A walk in compartments 3 & 4, similar to the one in 1 & 2, would be welcome.	Proposed review of entrance into site will deal with this.
		Steps should be replaced with something that is easier to maintain. Issues are that the wrong design and wood was used.	TRDC have agreed to replace steps.
		Lavrock Lane entrance structures are serving their purpose. Replacement with a wooden gate leads to maintenance issues.	Lavrock Lane itself falls outside of the woodland.
		Questions whether there is a by-law in place regarding fires in the woodland. Has had previous correspondence that there are not by-laws for this. Play Rangers teach children how to start fires.	TRDC are currently reviewing byelaws and will introduce signs when new byelaws are in place. Play Rangers teach responsible use of fire.
		Both holly and laurel need removing in C3&4. There used to be more pines, can these be replanted.	Laurel management dealt with in plan.
		Contract for work in the woodland should be given to the parish council.	TRDC hope to work positively with the Parish Council.
		Ivy and holly is covering large areas of the woodland floor and may need to be removed as a priority.	Ivy does provide an important habitat and will only be removed where it is impacting negatively on health and safety or wildlife.
	Member of the public	Oppose the removal of steps – residents rely on these and may be willing to raise funds or volunteer to maintain these. These are an issue due to lack of maintenance and inappropriate design. Part of obtaining village green status. Best solution is to replace them with sleeper's backfilled with mud or cement.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
		Would like to see ivy control included within the plan. It reduces the light reaching the woodland floor and causes weaker trees to fall.	As above.
		Lavrock Lane gates should not be a priority if there is not money for the steps. The gate has served its purpose well to prevent fly tipping.	No proposal to remove gate from Lavrock Lane. This

			falls outside of scope of this plan.
		Re-siting the bench at the entrance off of Lavrock Lane to somewhere further from the path might reduce anti-social behaviour.	Review of this entrance planned.
		Who will organise volunteer events as there has been no evidence in previous years. Needs a realistic and funded schedule of events.	CMS and TRDC will support the establishment of a Friends of Group as at other similar sites.
		Similar actions to previous plans that have not been acted upon.	There has been a gap in management plans which this one has sought to deal with.
		Would like to see responsibility/ ownership passed to parish council and engaged in the GAP going forward.	TRDC hope to work positively with the parish council to achieve the management of this woodland.
	Member of the public	Generally supportive	
		Opposes removal of the steps as they are a main access point.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
		Parking spaces should be provided at the end of Harvey Road, metered or restricted to 2 hours so they are used for the woodland.	This falls outside of the land managed by this plan.
	Members of the public	Oppose removal of steps. Other savings in the plan could be made to pay for these. No point widening the path and clearing vegetation from the top entrance if they are removed.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
		Replacement of benches will not help anti-social behaviour as these provide a focal point for youths to gather.	Benches considered important to encourage access for all.
		Rationalising the gates from Harvey Road will cost money that could be spent elsewhere and timber would provide additional maintenance.	Rationalisation of entrance would improve access.
		Would like the council to remove trees if they fall across paths and remove deadwood and brambles to help bluebells.	This would be proposed as part of ride widening.
		Footbridge over the river to Common Moor needs maintenance work	Outside of scope of this management plan and not responsibility of TRDC.

		Concerned about the sale of timber. They only need felling is rotting and potentially dangerous.	Annual health and safety inspection to be undertaken.
Member of the public		Failure to consult in the development of the plan is an omission, particularly with the parish council.	These comments have been invited as part of consultation process.
		2.5.4 – wildlife section is simplified, with butterflies, moths and birds	
		Benches need to be sympathetic to others in the locality	
		Circular trails and leaflets are not necessary, most people already know the area	TRDC are looking to encourage access.
		Removing steps goes against encouraging access. These are well used.	TRDC have agreed to replace steps.
		Parking areas need to be retained at Harvey Road	No proposal to remove these
		C2 – cannot ‘respond proactively’ to fly tipping	By rationalising the design of entrance points.
		No prescriptions made for the bat population which is referenced in 2.5.4, e.g. bat inspections before works.	Impact of works to trees on wildlife would always be considered, ecologists involved and timings adjusted accordingly.
		No need for marketing when the main users are residents. No excess signage without purpose.	Waymarking would be provided to improve access.
Member of the public		No reference to the wildlife or the impact of the works on them.	A key aim of the new plan is the management of the site to improve habitats for wildlife.
		Concern about timber being sold commercially. ‘Small volumes’ needs to be defined.	TRDC has an aim to retain deadwood for wildlife and this would take priority over any commercial sales at this time.
		Recreational activities damage the woods, such as Rickmansworth School PE activities and BMX biking.	TRDC manages the site both for wildlife and human visitors. The management

			plan will be reviewed as necessary
		Welcome the removal of the picnic benches.	Need to provide some benches to provide access for all
		Removal of steps is contrary to the aim of encouraging access	TRDC agreed to replace steps
		Should reference the destructive works done by TFL to the embankments	This falls outside of the scope of the management plan.
	Member of the public	Opposes removal of steps. Great asset that make access safer.	TRDC agreed to replace steps.
		Barriers at Harvey Road help to reduce drug dealing	The design of the entrance to the woodland adjacent to Harvey Road is to effectively manage access into the woodland.
		Brambles have increased with lack on management, encroaching onto bluebells.	Will investigate and take appropriate action.
		Can any felled trees be chipped and spread on muddy paths.	Wood chips do not effectively improve muddy paths, however ride widening will help with this.
		Install new litter bins at each of the site entrances.	Will review provision of bins at entrances.
	Member of the public	Ladder steps should be retained rather than removed. They have been there for a long time.	TRDC have agreed to retain steps.
	Member of the public	Oppose removal of the steps. Support comments put forward by the resident's association.	As above.
	Member of the public	Oppose removal of steps. Frequently use them.	As above.
		Need to retain parking at Harvey Road. Area is fine as it is.	No proposal to remove this.
	Member of the public	Numerous plans have been produced and never delivered on.	There has been a gap in management plans for the site.

		Areas where drug users gather should be monitored by TRDC or at least have vegetation removed to discourage litter.	TRDC propose to rationalise entrances to make site more welcoming.
		Opposes removal of steps. Access is important for encouraging exercise.	TRDC has agreed to replace steps.
		Harvey Road access barrier has made the route safe for children.	No plans to remove this.
	Member of the public	Opposes removal of steps. These provide safe access and have not been maintained properly.	As above.
	Member of the public	Opposes removal of steps. Would cause more churning of the muddy path along the back of the woodland, the other access is less safe for dog walkers, part of the village green registration, subsequent lengthening of the circular route wouldn't help older residents, there would be no safe access into the woodland.	As above.