

LOVAR WALK MANAGEMENT PLAN

– the details will be used as part of a grant application for the Caring for the Cotswold

There are two facets to the plan :-

1. The **physical work** “on the ground” – We will be able to have periods of intense practical support from Volunteer Cotswold Wardens, for example in the building of dead hedges to protect new areas of habitat. This would leave our Groundsman free for other works within the Parish.
2. The **financial side** of the Grant – we would have access to funding of up to £2,500 towards capital costs. The budgeted costs of the Parish Council are highlighted in red and already within Budget totalling £8,500, yet to be approved. The total value of the Volunteer Cotswold Wardens work is approximately £11,000 – this is **not** a cost to the Council.

1. PHYSICAL WORK PLAN for 5 years – work mainly carried out by Cotswold Voluntary Wardens

The main overall aims of the work is to restore the Gardens using the original vision: -

- to continue to maintain the garden as a small nature reserve and natural conservation amenity
- to enhance and increase the different habitats for local native fauna and flora
- to re-establish zones of grassed land
- to retain the central pond - fed from the stream
- to provide a level walking area for those with disabilities
- to enhance the historical interest of the Walk

In the final columns –

CW means Cotswold Wardens J - Joel

YEAR 1	Reasoning	CW	J
Remove laurels to let more light in	Encourage plants to grow		
Lay dead hedge at top edge of slope to prevent use by cyclists	Protect new habitat.		
Plant dog wood, hawthorn and wayfaring on open, cleared slope	New habitats		
*Working Party to remove Pendulous sedge	Bully plant – needs controlling		
Lay hedge in pond island [October to March]	New habitat		
Pond dredged – pump needed for October	Maintain water level		
Maintain clear view of Brunel’s tunnel by removing scrub as necessary	Adds historical element to Walk		
Cut grass at pond – extend width to river	Continues and extends habitat		
Cut back buddleia -annual job	Prevents over growth of height/width		
Leave grass to grow along edge of main path	Not necessary		
*Working Party – to remove pendulous sedge from drainage channel	Prevent path flooding		
Year2			
Lay dead hedge to give slope recover some growth[Oct to March]	Protect new habitat		
Allow wide sward of long grass at back of pond/river	New habitat		
*Working party – thin out bulrushes - use vast amount of water	Maintain water level		
Maintain clear view of Brunel’s tunnel by removing scrub	Adds historical element to Walk		
Cut back buddleia	Prevents over growth of height/width		

Plant honeysuckle along fence	Adds new habitat		
Pond dredged – pump needed for October	Maintain pond water level		
Remove laurels	Maintains light to habitat		
Bridge replaced	BUDGETED COST 20/21		
Steps to Footpath from bridge			
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Year 3			
Remove laurels	Maintains light to habitat		
Lay dead hedge to give slope opportunity recover some growth	Protect new habitat		
Maintain clear view of Brunel’s tunnel by removing scrub	Adds historical element to Walk		
Pond dredged – pump needed for October	Maintain pond water level		
Cut back buddleia	Prevents over growth of height/width		
Storage area for Groundsman			
Site a bench along the avenue section of Walk/near bridge	BUDGETED COST 21/22		
Year 4			
Pond dredged – pump needed for October	Maintain pond water level		
Maintain laurel cut back	Maintains light to habitat		
Maintain clear view of Brunel’s tunnel by removing scrub	Adds historical element to Walk		
Cut back buddleia	Prevents over growth of height/width		
Information board for pond flora and fauna	BUDGETED COST 22/23		