

Community Woodland Network Grant Report 2003/4
Primrose Hill Community Woodland Trust – Bath

The Trustees are most grateful to the Woodland Trust for their grant to develop our woodland. We enclose copy invoices to support expenditure, copies of bank statements and a series of photographs of the woodland, taken this spring. We have achieved this year some useful progress, of which attending the Woodland Trust Seminar in Gloucester by Richard Cox and John Davis was a most encouraging and informative part. It was noted that most woodlands at the seminar were more established than ours. Ours was planted only just a few years ago.

We have now paid for the appropriate insurance cover, which was becoming important as we develop our volunteer programme. With the grant we were also able to get a report on the state of the hedgerows and the boundary trees, (see invoice). Fortunately we were given a grass strimmer and so we were able to spend that part of our grant on the disabled bench, installation and the erection of bird, owl and bat boxes (see invoice).

Fundraising training for the voluntary sector has not yet been undertaken as the appropriate courses are not readily available. However we have made contact with the Regional Woodland Trust Fundraising Officer (John Davis met her recently) and we discussed how to take this forward. We intend to make further contacts and develop this during the summer. We attach photos of Richard Cox dressed up as an 18th century fundraiser in Bath and this has proved a productive and diverting method. We still have a minor problem with our landlord concerning rights of working vehicle access, which has held up the signing of our lease; otherwise all other heads are agreed and signing should have taken place by now. We anticipate being able to conclude this shortly, when fundraising can begin in earnest, including our training.

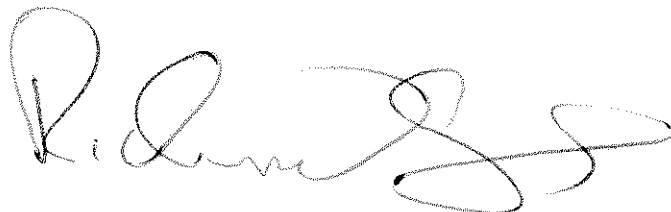
Meanwhile our work plan for the next season is proceeding well. We are spending a good deal of time keeping the wood and the many footpaths tidy and the high pressure of visitors (still averaging about 5,000 per annum) is revealing how much needs to be done in maintaining this area. One bench and picnic site was burned recently and the Fire Brigade are suggesting that we install fire beaters, which we now intend to do.

We intend to encourage flora at the woodland edges now that the woodland is well established. This includes a butterfly heaven development programme using the expertise of a local resident. We intend to keep a close connection with the Woodland Trust network to get further ideas and encouragement to undertake new ventures. We appreciate this and of course the grant support

which has given us the help which we have needed this year in these early stages of the woodland's development.

Richard Cox - Chairman of Trustees

17th April 2004.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Cox', written in a cursive style.