

TVNP Community grant Case Study

This is a case study for Tees Valley Nature Partnership written by Linda Lemer Ward from [Friends of Harbron Wood](#).

Plans we had

- Thin trees
- Clarify footpaths
- Bulb & wildflower seed planting
- Clear ground elder and ivy
- Installing bird & bat boxes
- Check flora & fauna present in the wood
- Look into the possibility of Rights of Way
- Signage
- Establish our status with SBC

Work accomplished

- We met at different times with SBC representatives
- SBC thinned $\frac{1}{3}$ of the trees to open the canopy
- They have undertaken to do these every 3 years
- Committee members started clearing ivy
- Bird & bat boxes, donated by 'Friends' of the wood, installed by TVWT
- Completion and collection of forms from Norton residents re historical usage of the path from High Street into the wood (ROW)
- Submission of ROW request to Council Legal Dept
- Regular litter picking by 'Friends' and 'Norton clean up your area'
- Became partner with NPNP under Groundwork, NE & Cumbria
- Met Alex Cunningham MP on-site with Counsellor Steve Nelson
- Created an ongoing relationship with David Askey who visits the site regularly
- We meet regularly as a committee and during lockdown via Zoom we also communicate almost daily via WhatsApp
- We are active on Social Media
- Guided walks have been held
- Currently planning an event on December 4th to launch NPNP..... Help Santa decorate the trees

Challenges

- Covid lockdowns and restrictions
- SBC licensing or confirming, in writing, our status
- ROW stuck with SBC Legal Dept: 6 objections have been received so now waiting for decision from the planning inspector

NPNP is recruiting trainees who will enable us to fulfil our aims