

Lancaster Green Spaces

Registered UK charity, no. 1046701

Annual Report for the Financial Year ending 31st August 2015

In association with Paul Bullimore (Community Forester), in July 2015 we organised a one-day Community Woodland Forum event in Williamson Park. This was particularly concerned with tree health, and was attended by 9 local residents.

We have been working throughout the year with Paul Bullimore, setting up projects for the Lancaster District Coppice Group. He now has approved management plans, and work sessions planned, for Newton Beck woods in Lancaster and High Heysham woods.

We were successful in obtaining a grant of £831.64 from Lancaster University wind turbine fund, and this was spent on paying two trainers and materials to enable volunteers to lay a 200m stretch of hedge at Carr House Lane, Lancaster.

Simon Gershon attended a training day organised by CVS entitled 'Volunteers and the Law', a community-building forum at Brockholes Country Park, and a conference on Green Infrastructure Planning in Liverpool.

Simon coordinated and chaired seven meetings of the Greenspace Groups Forum, to which all groups are invited. Meetings are usually attended by Helen Ryan representing Lancaster City Council. The fora covered the following themes:

- Risk Assessment, Health and Safety (Sept 2014)
- The importance of Green Spaces in the Local Plan (Oct 2014)
- Volunteer Training (Dec 2014)
- Green Infrastructure Planning (Jan 2015)
- Writing Management Plans (Mar 2015)
- Creating an Edible Landscape (Jun 2015)
- Improving Public Access (Jul 2015)

During the year we made grant awards to five local groups covering six project sites, with a total of £3,723.58 awarded. The projects were:

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| • Alder Grove (Incredible Edible Lancaster) | £525.58) |
| • Bolton le Sands community playground | £500.00) |
| • Claver Hill Project | £1,250.00) |
| • Friends of Barley Cop Woods | £360.00) |
| • Friends of Williamson Park | £146.40) |
| • Ridge Community Orchard (Incredible Edible Lancaster) | (£941.60) |

We did not receive as many grant applications as in previous years and plan to introduce an additional small grant scheme that can be applied for at any time.

In addition to the grant received from Lancaster University, we received donations of £4,000. We started the year with funds of £1194.78, and finished the year with £3383.98

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Our charitable objects are: The preservation, enhancement and maintenance of public areas and amenities in the city of Lancaster for the benefit of the public.