

HILLBILLY POST

MONTHLY UPDATE ON WHATS HAPPENING BEHIND THE SCENE.

EVENTS

Don't miss out on Kathy Kelly's toddlers forest School. This will now be at the venue closer to the main gate, which is not so far to walk for the little ones. Kathy is thinking of doing this by-monthly events so look out for dates on our Facebook page.

Great News that Toby will be coming back with the horses to roll the Bracken. The added bonus is that he will be raking the hay in the meadow as well, so the horses will be with us for a few days. Always worth making a special trip to watch them work.

No large community event this year. They take a lot of planning and hard work to organise, but we are putting plans in place for events in 2020.

We have also started to plan to party in 2021, the Hillbillies 10th Birthday.

Small events, mostly during the Summer and Autumn will be advertised our Facebook page.



Whats this?

We have become very aware since the demise of the quarterly newsletter that none of you really have any idea what is being planned in the long term and why we need a committee and what we do. This short monthly update will hopefully give you more insight of how much work we do and who we work with to help things keep ticking over.

Cooper's Circle

Cooper's Wood and Field is leased by Allington Parish Council from the Woodland Trust. Cooper's Circle forest school area was installed two and a half years ago. It has been well respected until the recent damage. They are determined as we are, that the circle is restored in a more robust way and designed to overcome a lot of the recent problems it has occurred. We will update you as the plans progress and involve the community in the project.



New Well Being Area

The area is open access to all. The only problem being is that it is not due to the ground conditions at the main access in Hospital Lane. We have been working with many groups, such as Bridport Hospital, Stepping in to Nature, Well Being Groups and Dorset Forest School to design an area where people recovering from an illness or have mobility problems can easily access a green space and enjoy the benefits as the rest of us.

We hopefully will see Allington Parish Council sign a new amendment to the current lease to allow us to do this. To get this far, working with all agencies has taken 18 months of hard negotiations behind the scenes. It was important that we were also able to secure funding for the project.

We are still taking bookings for Cooper's Circle for events that are not organised by the Hillbillies. The £10 donation will go towards restoring the area.

Email:
Cooperscircle@gmail.com.

Fundraising.

It costs approximately £1,000 per year just to look after Cooper's Wood and Field, that is before we add the cost of any community activities. We will be producing our annual calendar and it is a good way that you can help us raise funds. Please upload any photos to our Facebook page and we ask people to vote for their favourite photo. Rules: The photo must be taken this year. Landscape is better than portrait and of high resolution please.

Rules of use.

We have always avoided posters of the Do's and Don'ts of using the area. We have just asked people to respect the area as it is their own. Sadly we have this year had many campers and open fires on the hill and field. The Woodland Trust and Allington Parish Council prohibit both, but we can't do anything about it if there is no signage to back us up. There will be a sign soon on the main gates.

Wild Flower Meadow

We had two public events to collect Yellow Rattle and bug hunt to find out what insects actually live in the meadow. The money raised will be spent on revamping Cooper's circle. We will be cutting the meadow at the end of July. After the hay has dried it will be raked off by horse drawn rake. This process will take two days and Toby and his horses will also be bashing the bracken again this year. We will be posting dates on our Facebook page and web site nearer the time.

