

<b>Agenda item no.</b>	
<b>Report to</b>	Burwash Parish Council
<b>Subject</b>	Down Meadow Update
<b>From</b>	Cllr Kenny

## Update

The group will meet 2 – 3 times a year with the following members:

- Burwash Parish Council members: John Beeston, Lesley Elmsley, Julian Kenny (Interim Chair)
- Members representing the Burwash Common & Weald Residents' Association: Keith Lloyd, Heather Toll
- Environmental Consultant: Simon Forster
- Local Residents: Ben George (alternate for David George), Michael Meeks, Christine Meeks, David Elmsley

Two site meetings were held in November to decide on the best way forward with the management plan. The feelings of the groups at both meetings were very similar and it was agreed that Down Meadow should be managed to maintain its benefit to nature with a patchwork effect across the site. This will include a central wildflower area that will be cut twice a year (mid-March and mid-September) with cuttings removed, wooded areas either end and a peripheral area of scrub that will be kept under control.

The immediate plan is for some trees (mostly scrub willow) to be removed and for some of the taller trees that are shading the site to be cropped. We are getting quotes for the tree work and for the bi-annual grass cutting and removal of cuttings.

Once a full management plan is in place we will ask the Sussex Botanical Society to do a free survey once the management plan is in place in early 2019.