

National Trust monthly brief: July 2024 (Andrew Danson)

| Subject (add as appropriate) | Comment & update                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Milestone dates (e.g. start work / completion) | Main NT contact | OK to share via PC website? |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Big Nature, Better Access    | <p>Lodge Park will be open on the last weekend of the month (including the last Friday) between June and October. - Moth trapping event held on Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Bridgeman Walk held on Wednesday 12th June at Lodge Park with approximately 8 attendees.<br/>Walk from Water meadows being held on Thursday 11th July to look at habitat creation on Sherborne Farm.</p> <p>Awaiting to hear from Defra regarding Funding bid submitted to Water Restoration Fund (Defra) for feasibility funds to consider options for creation of 83 hectares of wetland and improved habitats on Sherborne Farm.</p> <p>Welcome to our new North Cotswolds Ranger, Ben Perryman, who will be splitting his time between Sherborne and the North Cotswolds properties (Littleworth, Dover's Hill, Bibury) with Area Ranger, Martin Jones – Ben joins us from the Surrey Hills and has previously worked on Dartmoor amongst other estates.</p> | Ongoing                                        | Andrew Danson   | Yes                         |

National Trust monthly brief: July 2024 (Andrew Danson)

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                       |                |     |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----|
| Conservation Management Plan | Final comments received and amendments processed by Chris Gallagher. Final sign off meeting to take place this month prior to publication.                                                                                                                                                                | Summer 24                                                                                                                             | Andrew Danson  | Yes |
| Sherborne Brook / Broadwater | JBA consultants working on final detailed design for Sherborne Brook Management option. Expecting to receive final designs by mid-August.                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                       | Simon Nicholas | Yes |
| Boathouse / Turbine          | Regional Building Surveyor has provided her initial report on Turbine house and outlined recommended actions for next steps.<br>Arborist visited area on June 27 <sup>th</sup> to carry out survey of trees that may be impacted by restoration of Lady Sherborne's Walk. Awaiting receipt of his report. |                                                                                                                                       | Andrew Danson  | Yes |
| Tree Planting                | No updates this month – out of season.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Planting on Sherborne Farm scheme will begin this autumn.                                                                             | Andrew Danson  | Yes |
| SANG Funding                 | Further details provided to Cotswold District Council regarding funding bid including bench design and location and potential location of new interpretation boards.<br><br>Still awaiting to hear on success or otherwise of bid.                                                                        | Delivery of 2023 funding will be complete by end of July.<br>We expect to hear from CDC on status of 2024 bid by the end of September | Andrew Danson  | Yes |
| Walling                      | Repairs carried out on park wall by the gates into the Weir.<br><br>The restoration of the North Wall at Lodge Park continues – with our contractor Andy returning to site – 75m to go                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                       | Simon Nicholas | Yes |
| Wildlife                     | A quieter June relative to the explosion of wildlife we enjoyed in May. We were surprised to see an adder report from the Pleasure Grounds – as far as we can                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                       | Luke Hunter    | Yes |

National Trust monthly brief: July 2024 (Andrew Danson)

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |           |             |     |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----|
|             | <p>see we have never had adder recorded on the estate and we are a little sceptical with the nearest verified sighting in Chedworth... We need to better survey for reptiles as it remains a gap in our knowledge bank – We would be really interested if anybody regularly comes across any. Barn owl boxes to the south of the A40 have been full, with three very healthy chicks ringed and more to come; there was a lovely brood of four kestrels spotted at Lodge Park – probably benefitting from the number of voles!! Two hobbies have been regularly reported, either side of the A40, as usual it remains incredibly difficult to track their nests down to investigate further – you’ll only ever find hobby in old crow nests which should make it easy, but it is always surprising how few crows are on Sherborne.</p>                            |           |             |     |
| Ash Dieback | <p>We are in the middle of Ash Dieback surveys which is a monumental task for the ranger team – throughout June and July we cover every significant road, track, property and footpath across the estate. Unfortunately ash dieback continues to be a significant drain on resources and we have already condemned more trees than we would like – We do our absolute best to leave them wherever possible but the criteria we are following is that trees with over 50% canopy loss (our cut-off for their chance to recover) and within striking distance of the ‘target’ e.g. road, footpath – must be removed or made safe (hulking or monolithing is also an option) – lean and the respective usage of the target is also considered. If you are concerned about any trees, we may otherwise not have seen please let us know and we will investigate.</p> | June/July | Luke Hunter | Yes |

National Trust monthly brief: July 2024 (Andrew Danson)

|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |             |     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------|-----|
| Volunteering | June was a busy volunteering month with Ollie and the team removing collapsing bridges, installing new finger posts and helping us understand the current state of play in our Lodge Park woodland blocks. July is set to be another busy month with vegetation and footpath management really taking over now – we are also planning a signage blitz to try and encourage better dog walking behaviour with issues of sheep being chased and fouling really stepping up in June as more visitors use the site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  | Luke Hunter | Yes |
| Surveying    | <p><b>The Sherborne Estate Farms Wildlife Monitoring project:</b> We again welcomed Jean Booth - a local moth expert - to Woeful Lake at the end of June, this time we were moth trapping in Snowbottom Belt and Rabbit Ground Plantation – from west to east the traps welcomed 40, 20 and 21 species – the 40 species trap was positioned at the very end of the belt at the junction of Woeful, Conygree and Snowbottom and illustrated perfectly the importance of habitat edges – there was a real diversity of species in that trap.</p> <p><b>Yellow Wagtails:</b> For the second year we have a PHD student from Reading University studying Yellow Wagtail ecology – since 1970 we (The UK) have lost 66% of yellow wagtail; the species is a farmland generalist and benefit from a mosaic of farmland environments</p> |  | Luke Hunter | Yes |
|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |             |     |