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Special points of interest:

- Bat Activity Day
- Grants Received
- Path Renewal
- Pavilion Roof

Bat Activity Day

On Saturday 18th October we held an enjoyable bat focused family activity day to build bat boxes which will be installed in the woods. We had around 20 people attend this day, including many cubs and scouts.

We had a talk about our local bats, learned about echolocation and built & painted bat boxes. The younger members made bat masks, decorated bat biscuits and coloured in pictures of bats. Hopefully these new boxes will encourage more bats to roost in the woods. If you are interested helping with Bat surveys please email us. To view more photos of the day have a look on our website.

Thanks to those of you who spon-

sored a bat box – without your support we would have had to cancel the event! Also thanks to the team who prepared the kits for assembly and to Alex for his presentation on bats and how to detect and survey them.

We used the Kent Bat Box design as the basis for our boxes. We had to “rough up” the internal surfaces to allow the bats to grip them. We added a roofing felt cover to try and improve durability. We painted the exterior of the wood but taking care that the paint was animal friendly and didn't contain wood preservatives. Please see the Bat Conservation Trust website for more information about bats.



A finished Bat Box



Bat Talk

Pavilion Roof

At our AGM on Tuesday 21st October the Leader of Fleet Town Council Bob Schofield announced that the leaky pavilion roof is to be replaced.

Renewal of Paths

Fleet Town Council has announced that the renewal of paths through the woods, over 1km in total length, will hopefully start before the end of the year.

Recent Events and Grants Received

Many thanks to the Hampshire and IOW Community Foundation who have granted FoBP £250 to buy **kitchen equipment for the pavilion** so that we can hold community coffee mornings and other events for local residents, as well as making the kitchen usable for all the other users of the pavilion.

Many thanks to the Lions who have granted us £500 towards **additional outdoor furniture** for the park. This will be used to purchase some picnic tables.

As part of the Environment and Faith Festival, there was an **Open Air Songs of Praise** on Sunday 5th October 2014 in Basingbourne Park. This environmentally themed family service was led by the churches of Fleet and Crookham. During the service Dave Harrison, chair of Friends of Basingbourne Park, was interviewed.



Twenty-four volunteers (members and scouts) turned out to clear holly from the heathland, an activity which was started in March this year, but which was suspended over the summer months to reduce disturbance to the wildlife.

We have been granted £250 from Hart Voluntary Action to purchase **"bat detection"** and related equipment to allow us to undertake our own wildlife survey.

Hampshire and IOW Community Foundation's Orchid Environmental Trust who have just granted FoBP over £1000 for **further bat detectors, recording equipment and other resources** to support the bat surveys.

Friends of Basingbourne Park

General Enquiries:

info@basingbournepark.org.uk

Membership Enquiries:

membership@basingbournepark.org.uk

www.basingbournepark.org.uk

Looking after Basingbourne Park

Friends of Basingbourne Park was set up in 2011 (and re-launched in 2013). We are a group of local residents who are keen to support the regeneration of the park. We are a not for profit organisation.

Our key areas of interest represent the wide variety of areas within the park and include improving the children's play area, reinvigorating the pavilion, and protecting and improving the environmental aspects of the park including the lowland heath areas.

We do this by liaising with the council, holding action days and social events.

Since the re-launch we have had talks about the woodland and its wildlife, removed some invasive plants from the heathland, cleared away lots of litter and painted some of the playground. There is so much more we would like to do and we welcome anyone who would like to join us.

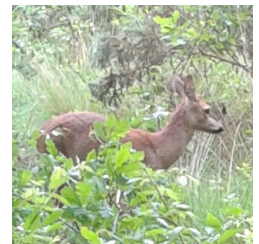
For more information on any of these please email info@basingbournepark.org.uk

Did you know you can become a member of Friends of Basingbourne Park? You will be kept up to date with all the events in the park. It costs £2.50 for an individual or £5 for a family membership per year. We are a not for profit organisation. The membership fees are used to cover our modest overheads and administration costs and provide insurance cover for working parties, action days and social events.

Wildlife

Do you have any great photos of the wildlife or signs of autumn in the park and woods?

We would love to see them and display them on our website. If you'd like to share your sightings, please send them to website@basingbournepark.org.uk.



Roe Deer by Angela Cooper

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th November 2014

Holly Clearance

9.30am-12.30pm meeting at the park pavilion

Volunteer days to clear holly and other invasive plants from the heathland, You are welcome to take home as much of the holly as you like home to make into Christmas wreaths and decorations.

Monday 15th December

Christmas Meet-up

Saturday 31st January & Sunday 1st February 2015

Scrub clearance in the Dry Heathland

9.30am-12.30pm meeting at the park pavilion

Volunteer days to clear invasive plants from the heathland.



Painting the bat boxes



Holly Clearing