

Kingston Action Group Report

Ref: KPC Meeting 13 May 2020 Appendix 1

Kingston Action Group: Update on activity to the end of April 2020 for Kingston Parish Council

General

Our activity has of course been severely affected by Covid 19 so there has been no progress on the issues of the allotment or the path to Swanborough. The In Bloom competition is to go ahead though entries will now cost only half of the previous price.

Most of the logs that we collected, partly from a donor in Iford and partly from the diseased cherry tree on St Pancras Green, were removed, some from St Pancras Green and some from the village green. Some we intended to use to replace logs removed from Wellgreen Lane where they were protecting the verges there while others were for a hedgehog hibernaculum.

We have however made a little headway in some areas.

Paths

Although we have not been able to meet as a group, individuals – working on their own or with partners – have in the last few weeks managed to notch up between them nearly 24 person hours of effort on the footway between Nan Kemp’s corner and the foot of Ashcombe Lane. Tree clearance work there – necessary though it was – had left the path covered with cut branches and in places it was very nearly impassable. The path has now been restored to its full width and swept clear of all vegetation (and litter).

Money

Our efforts to produce a sustained income through the Lewes Lottery have met with only very limited success, despite two articles in The Kingston News. There seem only to be five supporters, of whom at least two and possibly three are members of the Action Group itself. It is unfortunate, perhaps, that both articles were headlined “Lewes Lottery” rather than Kingston Action Group. This was the decision of the Editor, who no doubt meant well, but we fear that it may have deterred people from reading the pieces concerned.

We applied for a grant from a pub chain – Hall and Woodhouse – towards the end of February but although our application was acknowledged, we have heard nothing since. It may well be that the grant scheme – Community Chest – has been abandoned for the year along with so much else.

Management of the village greens

Our revised paper has been sent to the KPC.