**Pelaw Wood Management Plan Action Plan**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Area and Purpose** | **Work to be carried out by FoPW** | **External Resources** | **Compartment on map** |
| **Conserving and Enhancing Habitats** | | | **2017** | **2018** | | **2019** | | **2020-21** | | | **2022-23** | | **2024-25** |
| **Woodland** |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Restoring and conserving woodland and creating new woodland | Maintain alder, ash, aspen, oak, willow, hazel, buckthorn, wayfaring tree, guelder rose, dogwood, spindle and yew planted in the Old Hockey Field |  | **H** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| Selective thinning of sycamore, beech and aspen |  | **All** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| Control of brambles and Himalayan Balsam in the Old Hockey Field to protect planted trees |  | **H** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | X |
| Collect and plant oak and beech seedlings |  | **All** | **X** | **X** | | X | | X | | | X | | X |
| Plant and sow woodland plants |  | **GUL** | **X** | **X** | | X | | X | | | X | | **X** |
| Suppress Himalayan Balsam |  | **All** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| Maintain recently restored areas, checking any erosion and re-sowing areas as needed | DCC advice |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Plant trees, including black poplar *(Populus nigra betulifolia)* in selected areas in the Batts to increase tree cover | Funding for purchase of trees | **B** |  | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| **Grassland** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maintain and restore acid grassland on the Rabbit Banks | Suppr Suppress Himalayan Balsam, control bramble |  | **R** |  |  | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| Plant oak and birch without impinging on the acid grassland |  | **R** |  |  | | **X** | |  | | |  | |  |
| Maintain the Glades as open grassland | Suppress Himalayan Balsam, bracken and bramble and plant wild flowers | Involve working parties from University Conservation Society | **G** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| Create diverse grassland in the middle of the Old Hockey Field | Strim vegetation in the middle of the Old Hockey Field and spread hay from wild flower meadow |  | **H** |  |  | |  | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| **Heathland** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Encourage broom and gorse generation |  |  | **R** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | **X** | | **X** | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Wetland** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Create wetland at eastern end of Pelaw Wood Beck Dene | Excavate scrapes in stream valley |  | **D** |  | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Plant alder and willow carr | Funding for purchase of trees | **D** |  | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Prevent pollution | Remove rubbish from Pelaw Wood Beck |  | **D** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| **Conserving Species** |  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Fauna | Install nesting boxes for birds and bats | These are areas of potential which may need expert advice e.g. Durham Badger Group | **E** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Investigate developing habitats for otters and water voles |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Protect badger setts | **D** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
|  | Release hedgehogs in the Old Hockey Field and elsewhere | **H** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Fauna | Survey invertebrates and other fauna | **All** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Flora | Sow seeds of bluebells, wood anemones, etc |  | **DUGLR** |  |  | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
|  | | | |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| **Public Enjoyment** |  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| **Attract people into the Wood and provide information** | Install three interpretation and orientation boards | Funding and construction |  | **X** | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Continue to remove litter |  | **All** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| **Archaeological and Historical Research** |  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Conducted archaeological survey 2010 |  | **All** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Complete and publish on FoPW website |  |  | **X** |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Highlight medieval ridge & furrow and boundary |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Research history and publish on website | These are areas of potential which may enable partnerships with schools and sources of expert advice |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Highlight proximity of other sites |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Explain and describe Wood and Watson’s ‘Pop’ factory |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Maintain the ancient woodbank around the “Wood Field” by selective removal of invasive species, and layering of old hawthorns |  | **GU** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| Redevelop some of the 1930s features that were identified in the local history class e.g. the garden below the promontory | These are areas of potential which would require funding in partnership with sources of expert advice | **U** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| **Opportunities for education** |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Further develop existing links with local schools |  | Working parties of pupils |  | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
|  |  |  | **DH** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
|  |  | **H** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| **Footpaths**  [With DCC footpath number] | Continue to improve Public Rights of Way |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 80 Riverside path | Interpretation signs | Signpost Weardale Way | **BL** | **X** | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 1. Middle path | Build steps at western end in muddy slope | Funded from DCC Parish Paths Partnership | **U** | **X** | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 1. Through Batts |  | Tarmac path DCC responsibility | **F** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 1. St Giles Close to Silver Link Bridge |  | Tarmac path DCC rights of way team responsibility | **D** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 1. Main glade towards Old Durham | Eliminate remaining wet stretches | Funded from DCC Parish Paths Partnership | **GU** | **X** | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 1. Silver Link Br to riverside | Additional steps to replace & reduce step heights | DCC repair gate | **G** |  | **X** | | **X** | |  | | |  | |  |
| Steps funded from DCC Parish Paths Partnership | **U** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
|  |  |  |  | **2017** | **2018** | | **2019** | | **2020-21** | | | **2022-23** | | **2024-25** |
| 1. Top of escarpment | Hardening and drainage | Funded from DCC Parish Paths Partnership | **E** |  | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 1. Steps opposite boat club | Reinstate fencing |  | **R** |  | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| 1. Eastern edge of site | Investigate |  |  |  |  | | **X** | |  | | |  | |  |
|  | Contribute to DCC footpath survey |  |  | Done |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
|  | | | |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Encourage greater use of the network of public rights of way | Signposting & interpretation boards on riverside path & entry from Nature Park | Funding & planning permission |  | **X** | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Create path from Nature Park to footpath 84 | Create path; consider designating as PRoW or permissive path | **D** |  |  | | **X** | |  | | |  | |  |
| Produce walk leaflets | 3P funding and publishing assistance | **DUGH** |  | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | |  | |  |
| Erect vandal-proof seats and picnic areas | Funding |  | **X** |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| **4.5 Conflicts** |  |  | **All** |  |  | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| Use of trail-, motor- and quad bikes | Reporting incidents to police | Response from the police | **DEFL** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |
| DCC could install fine notices at entries | **All** |  | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| DCC repair kissing gate |
| Bottle digging in Pelaw Wood Beck valley sides |  | DCC discourage dangerous practices. Fill in & possibly consider filling with logs | **D** | **X** | **X** | |  | |  | | |  | |  |
| **All** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | |  |
| Vandalism: fire setting, cutting down trees for fires and damaging young trees | Report incidents to DCC Tree Officer and County Forester | Partnership with schools & DCC | **All** | **X** | **X** | | **X** | | **X** | | | **X** | | **X** |