

Management priorities for Ashtead Common — 2019 – 20

The Commons Division shared aims

Protect and conserve the biodiversity and heritage of The Commons	Provide accessible sites that bring benefit to, and are valued by, local and wider communities who play an active part in their management	Develop stakeholder relationships to promote The Commons in the context of their wider landscapes, whilst seeking to balance conflicting demands	Embed innovative financial sustainability across our activities
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The Commons Division core values

For the community:

- **Providing welcome, safe and secure sites for people and wildlife**
- **At the heart of the local community**
- **Working with others to maximise benefit to the Commons and surrounds**

For the team:

- **Outward facing, forward looking**
- **Ready to challenge and wherever possible mitigate environmental threat**
- **Maintain multifunctional staff, valued for their skills and knowledge**

Ashtead Common Priorities (Charity Reg. 1051510)

- **Realign resources** and work programmes as required to respond to prevailing financial conditions.
- **Vision & management planning** - continue programme to define management aims and objectives and develop plans to deliver these over the long term.
- **Survey and monitor** for the presence of bats and the impact of veteran tree management works on their behaviour. Develop a comprehensive survey and monitoring schedule for the surveying over the lifetime of the next management plan.
- **Veteran trees** - continue with the district based approach to deliver the veteran tree management programme.
- **Grazing** - extend Pheonix grazing area to the new fence line along the western boundary.
- **Mowing** - maintain a mowing regime that ensures firebreaks and rides are maintained to an adequate width. Mow some areas within restored scrub areas to maintain open grass sward.
- **Bracken control** - control bracken by mowing and spraying.
- **Oak Processionary Moth** - respond to the scale of the issue by targeting resources at surveying, nest removal, information dissemination and visitor management.
- **Volunteering** - maintain the Monday and Thursday volunteer groups, support work experience placements and provide corporate volunteering opportunities.
- **Scrub grassland** - Continue the restoration program to establish a 50% mix of scrub and grassland.