

Wychwoods Community Wood

Fortunately, we have found another excellent site for the Community Wood, convenient for Ascott, Milton and Shipton.

John Hartley has kindly agreed to sell some land further down Dog Kennel Lane, in the field near Cowcommon Plantation which is crossed by footpaths eventually leading up to New Road. This site is nearer Milton than the previous site we had looked at, and avoids any problems with the stream which flows through the Wild Garden in Shipton. In several ways it is a better site, for example having footpaths running across it.

Over the last twelve months Jack Chapman, myself and others considered lots of sites, and met the owners of quite a number. Everybody was supportive and helpful, and John Hartley was especially so. Sadly Jack Chapman did not live to see the realization of the scheme, but I am glad he knew that the efforts to find another site had been successful.

The wood will be owned and managed in perpetuity by the Woodland Trust, as a place for trees, flowers and wildlife, with full public access. The creation of this wood is supported by West Oxfordshire District Council and the Wychwood Project.

The timetable is to raise funds and pledges of support by the end of August, in order to acquire the site. The local community will work with the Woodland Trust to design the wood, and we hope that planting will take place this November.

Charles Keighley, 01993 831403

