

Project		Future Greens	
Lead delivery partner		Ecologic	
Theme	Improving the Environment	Priority	Horticulture
Activity		Budget code	94/3/6a.1
<p>Project overview</p> <p>Working with individuals and organisations within Warsop Parish to raise awareness, develop skills and offer opportunities for learning within the environmental and land based sector.</p>			
Reporting period dates	June – Dec 2017	No and age of people benefiting from the project to date	<p>Approximately 15 students aged 11-13</p> <p>And 5 Adult volunteers (FaCG)</p> <p>Plus 4 (6 interviewed) additional volunteers on our database</p>
<p>Activities undertaken during reporting period</p> <p><i>Tell us what you have done and how well things have gone. Include any issues carried over from previous report, activities carried out and any base line monitoring. Please attach photographs, quotes, good news stories etc</i></p> <p><i>During this period we have secured work sites from Notts County Council and The Forestry Commission. We have been given keys to sites and obtained licences, where needed, to undertake a variety of work across the Dukeries Trail and Shirebrook woods.</i></p> <p><i>We have also discussed actions and opportunities with Mansfield District Council to operate across the sites that they manage,, namely The Carrs and The Bottoms.</i></p> <p><i>We have also been given advice and work programmes for sites managed by Natural England</i></p> <p><i>We have altered our work days to accommodate working with the Footpaths and Countryside group on Thursdays, as well as on Tuesday afternoon with Meden school.</i></p> <p><i>We have liaised with the Friends of the Carrs group and attended several meetings.</i></p> <p><i>We have advertised for volunteer vacancies with Jobcentre plus and Mansfield CVS, as well as placing articles in the local newspaper. To date we have had interest from 6 adults, some of whom have gone onto our database.</i></p> <p><i>Meden school are enjoying the activities and the first group wish to continue after Christmas, when it is anticipated that new participants will start.</i></p>			
<p>Outcomes the project has contributed to</p>			

Tell us what difference you have made in relation to the SLA outcomes and more widely in the area.

Mansfield District Council, Notts County Council and the Forestry Commission are all very enthusiastic and highly supportive about working with the Future Greens project, as this enables them to fulfil obligations with members of the public volunteering to carry out valuable work on their sites. Councillor Sharon Adey has contacted me directly with a view to co-ordinating activities in the spring of 2018, raising awareness of the work that takes place on the Bottoms LNR.

The school are very enthusiastic about the work based tasks and the sites that we have been given access to. It would be worth looking at ways to engage the family and friends of the pupils who currently attend the Tuesday sessions, with a view to attracting adult volunteers onto the programme.

We have undertaken maintenance work, helping to improve the footpaths and bicycle routes in the local area. We have raised the profile of the area, to the school and its children, highlighting beautiful landscapes that pupils were unaware of previously.

We have also worked with the Footpaths and Countryside group on SSSI sites in the locality

Timescales/Participant Numbers

Is project on track both in terms of timescales and the number of participants? If not what are you planning to do to address the issues?

The project is on track with regards to working with the school but we have not had the response that we would have liked for adult volunteers wishing to undertake conservation type work. In fact the school has been a very successful way to engage the children in conservation based tasks and to allow them access to sites which they would not normally visit. Because of this I intend to market the volunteering opportunities through the school newsletter and other methods of contacting the parents and relatives of the students already engaged.

It is also my intention to contact conservation organisations, with a view to tapping into their volunteer networks. I also intend to contact local colleges, delivering environmental based courses, who may have individuals wanting to undertake volunteer activities within this sector.

Also, West Notts College offer volunteering opportunities to students undertaking courses, which I have utilised in the past. It is my intention to re-engage with the college with a view to getting students out on a Thursday morning to work with the footpaths and countryside group.

Plans for next reporting period

What are you going to do next? Are there any activities we should know about?

John Muir Award to be incorporated into the next school group, which means that all participants will receive a certificate.

I will liaise with Councillor Sharon Adey to organise a series of activities in spring around the Bottoms. It is anticipated that Sherwood Forest Trust will be involved in an event during this period.

I will have contacted other organisations and pursued other avenues to recruit volunteers onto the programme.

I will also look into the possibility of providing certificated training in a short environmental award in order to attract more interest