REPORT OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE 11TH SEPT 2012 at 8.30 a.m.
In the Committee Room at School House

Present: - Jane Lawrey, Elizabeth Ward

Apologies. Mary Evans, Charmian Marsh.

Nature Event in Oxenhill Woods on 26th May - It was felt that there was enough variety of things to do and could follow the same format if such an event should be held in the future. Although there was a lot of publicity only 20 people turned up, it clashed with Shoreham Village Fete and the Rugby Union Cup Final on TV. The weather was fantastic.
Concern was expressed about the vulnerability of the rear boundary of 24, Tudor Crescent as the scrub had now grown to full size trees, and there was little cover in the first six or so feet. This will be discussed at the site meeting on 12th September.

Condition of Chalkpit Area - B.T. and J.V. have concerns over the broken glass that has come to the surface in the wooded area at the eastern boundary of the site (backing on to Tudor Drive). They have suggested placing notices there warning folk of the danger. This will be discussed at OPC meeting. OPC

Condition of Scout Hut Area - It is still extremely untidy, encouraging dumping of rubbish. New Scout Leader to be contacted to see if there can be a Scout/Supporter Event to tidy it all up. It gives a very bad impression of present day Scouting. EW

Review of Litter Pick Pilgrims Way East and sr48/9 - The efforts of the committee seem to be paying off, hopefully we can continue over the winter. KCC to be contacted to see if something can be done to remove some of the soil from the area under the sycamore trees, that is continually coming onto the footway making it very muddy and slippery. CLERK

Rec. grass cutting - There have been some hiccups over the grass cutting this year, partly due to the wet weather and lack of communication over areas to be cut. Hope it will be sorted out for the future.

Review of ‘Poo Event’ - Held on 12th, 13th, 14th June. The first day gave us a lot of ‘Results’ and the next two days had some deposits to ‘flag’. It is proposed to hold another ‘Flag’ day on 3rd October at 7.30 am. Despite continual reminders in the monthly Newsletter there are still folk who are not picking up after their dog/s

Jubilee Beacon - The chosen site for the beacon was successful and thanks to JEW’s carpentry skills made a fine display. The flame was fine and all worked well. It made a fitting end to the day’s events.

Meeting with Woodland Trust at Palace Park Wood 24th July - This is attached as a separate Report.
Telston Park - The site has looked much better this year, resulting from the hard work of the voluntary working party held last Autumn. Following the visit by the representative of Kent Men of the Trees, he has pointed out some trees that require some pruning. It is hoped that we can arrange another community working party.

Hale Lane Rec - Following the work organised by the North West Kent Countryside Partnership in acquiring trees and hedging the area is looking far more attractive. This Autumn it is hoped that replacements can be planted where some plants have failed. The little orchard seems to be very healthy. We await the installation of the new play equipment.

Willow Park Green - The new trees seem to have taken.

Kent Men of the Trees - This is covered by a separate Report which is attached.

OxenhilI Woods Management Meeting 12\textsuperscript{th} Sept at 10am was held on site and again a Report is attached.

Palace Field - The excess parking provision for a funeral did not cause any disruption and was appreciated by the family. It is hoped that the 5 more ‘Heritage’ Apple trees can be delivered and planted this Autumn. Otford Society

Pond - A pedestrian had commented that the site lines were possibly obscured by the rushes and sedge on the southern side. This will be checked. BT/EW

Footpaths - 48(Scout Hut), Station to Churchyard and Pickmoss need attention. These will probably have to be tidied for the winter by a working party. PR/EW

Hedge from Wickham Field to Darent - Needs cutting. KCC/SDC/OPC
Cemetery - Check with Brian Thomas. EW

Next Tarmac Meeting 16\textsuperscript{th} October 6p.m. at Sev. Community Centre. EW

Correspondence:
Details of ‘Trees to Treasure Project’ received, could be a project for Hale Lane or Otford Primary School. Committee

Public Rights of Way Consultation needs to be checked/ submitted by 19\textsuperscript{th} October in hand with EW.

Kent AONB Review of Management Plan, comments to be submitted by 22\textsuperscript{nd} October, in hand with EW

Next Environment Committee Meeting 6\textsuperscript{th} November at 8.30 a.m., School House.