



Christow Community Land Trust

Members' Newsletter

After a long gap (sorry!) here is issue 8 of the Christow Community Land Trust newsletter with some good news to cheer you up during the lockdown.

Corony Edwards, Chair and CCLT Publicity Officer

Wood Lane footpath created

There have been exciting developments with the CCLT's project to create a permissive footpath off Wood Lane.

First, we are delighted to report that our application to the Dartmoor National Park 'Parishscapes' fund for over £3,000 towards the project costs was successful. This means we've been able to hire a mini-digger operator to do the necessary groundworks. We'll also be able to get some local experts to survey and record the wildlife species present on the 7-acre site.

AJ Orme was the successful bidder for the digger work and he has taken advantage of the dry weather to push ahead with levelling and grading the path through the site, the route having earlier been cleared of brushwood, overhanging branches and fallen trees by a team of hard-working CCLT volunteers.

The result is a fantastic new path, to be named 'Archers' Way', which loops through the site known as Steep Fields. The route runs east from the ruined cottages in Wood Lane along an old cart track, then zig-zags steeply down through the naturally regenerated woodland towards Bowden Brook before emerging through a small meadow and back onto Wood Lane. New views have been opened up to the south, looking across the recreation field and down the Teign Valley. There is an abundance of wildlife to see and hear: birds, butterflies, early wild flowers and native tree species coming into leaf.

The official opening of the path will be later in the year but you are welcome to explore it sooner if you wish—social distancing of course. As it is bird nesting season please stick to the path and keep dogs under control.

Archers' Way legacy



The Archer family goes back a long time in Christow—at least 500 years. Brothers Tom and Sam are the last members of the family now resident here but they want the Archer name to live on in the village through the footpath that they have generously allowed to run through their land. CCLT director, Parish Council chair and landowner Tom said, 'The family is well

known for always having been very active in looking after the best interests of the village. This permissive footpath will ensure that this legacy continues to benefit our community for generations to come.'

Photo: Ancient holly trunks line the route of Archers' Way

New directions for the CCLT

As you know, the CCLT was originally formed to enable the building of Stafford Close. With that project successfully complete, the CCLT directors discussed ideas for our future focus at a meeting last November. As well as continuing to support local groups with small grants we are now seeking ways to enable Christow to play its part in addressing climate change and environmental issues, and to support action to alleviate social isolation and loneliness. We'll give you a fuller update at the AGM in September.

Community website

Some of you may already have seen the website Teignvalley.org, launched last month. Based on the original CCLT proposal, the site was being constructed by CCLT member Ted Miller when the coronavirus lockdown started, so we decided to launch it early as a home for useful information on local support, home delivery services etc, even though some sections are still under construction. Please do take a look and let us know what you think.

If you want to opt out of receiving this newsletter, please contact Corony Edwards (email and phone number are below). You can read our data protection and privacy policy on our web page on the Parish Council website: www.christowparishcouncil.gov.uk

The names, email addresses (and phone numbers) of the CCLT Directors and Board members are:

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