



# Woodsman

The Booker Common and Woods Protection Society  
*For the Common Good*®

Registered Charity No.289871

Newsletter 91 Summer 2020

## Allan Duggin Award

The Allan Duggin Conservation Award is normally presented at our AGM. This year however the AGM had to be cancelled so instead it gives me great pleasure to announce that the recipient of the 2020 award is **John O'Connor Grounds Maintenance**.



John O'Connor Grounds Maintenance have been cutting and maintaining the amenity grass on the common for us for more than 15 years. This year keeping the common open and accessible has been more important than ever. Not just for those of us who are lucky enough to live nearby but also for the many other people who have been using the common, possibly for the first time, as a place for safe exercise during the Coronavirus lock-down



Ian Evans accepted the award on behalf of the company on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The presentation was made on the freshly cut grass in front of just a few local residents.

Very sadly John himself, the founder of the company, passed away on March 24<sup>th</sup> so we were unable to thank him personally for all the hard work.



To join the BC&WPS and support the work to look after the common please visit our website

[www.bookercommon.org.uk/join-us](http://www.bookercommon.org.uk/join-us)

## Commons Diary

Monday August 31<sup>st</sup> – Car Boot Sale (To Be Confirmed)  
Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup> - Autumn Litter Blitz

## Development Plans



Outline plans to build new houses in the 'paddock' at the top of Horns Lane have been published by the Council. The proposal is to build 62 new homes on the 2 hectare site.

Details of the proposal can be found at [www.hornslane.co.uk](http://www.hornslane.co.uk).

Until last year the land was protected as part of the Green Belt but this protection was removed as part of the Wycombe District Local plan, now called the Buckinghamshire Council's plan for future growth.

The development does not directly affect the common but it will result in more traffic, particularly at the junction between Horns Lane and Cressex Road. It also raises a question over the future of the adjacent allotments which were included in the land removed from Green Belt.

Due to current restrictions the traditional process for public consultation cannot be followed. Comments are however requested and can be submitted via the website ([www.hornslane.co.uk](http://www.hornslane.co.uk)), by email ([info@hornslane.co.uk](mailto:info@hornslane.co.uk)) or by post (Horns Lane Consultation - FAO Jo West, Buckingham Library, Verney Close, Buckingham. MK18 1JP). It is also hoped that a 'remote' presentation with a question and answer session will be organised.

**We encourage all local residents to consider the proposal and submit your comments**

## Tree Removal

Several trees have been felled recently and many more are shortly to be cut down and removed from the woods.

This work is to remove diseased Ash trees or those that pose a danger and is being carried out by Wessex Woodland Management Ltd on behalf of the West Wycombe Estate

Once the work is complete, we will look at how the common has been affected and consider how we may be able to support its restoration.



[www.bookercommon.org.uk](http://www.bookercommon.org.uk)