**Lyth Hill management summary 2017-18**

The following document outlines work undertaken at Lyth Hill Countryside Heritage Site between 1st April 2017 and 23rd February 2018 in line with the 5 year site management plan.

**Key outcomes:**

Weekly staff support for volunteers on site. Volunteer numbers are now higher than ever

Bracken control by chemicals and horse rolling (never been done on site before this year)

Grazing by Dexter cattle has also been successfully introduced to site

Largely on track with 5 year management plan

**Material and contractor costs:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Carnog Working Horses | Bracken rolling | 600.00 |
| Imprest | gate keys | 4.16 |
| Myscapes | strimming pathways | 240.00 |
| Myscapes | strimming | 480.00 |
| Redwood Tree Specialists | Bracken spraying | 950.00 |
| David Morgan (imprest) | Towbar via Salop Towing ltd | 120.41 |
| Conservation Grazing (Pontesbury) | Insurance for Cattle | 520.00 |
| SC Maintenance Team | timber for Lyth Hill repairs | 57.15 |
| Osprey Company | Timber signage | 489.00 |
| Bayston Hill Memorial Hall | room hire for meetings | 38.00 |
| SC Tree Team | Contribution towards tree safety surveys | 600 |
| SC Contracting | gravel/barbed wire | 49.00 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **4147.72** |

**Staff costs:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Officer | Hourly rate based on SC cost recovery model | Number of hours/cost |
| Parks and Countryside Heritage Officer (E Andrews) | £30 | 210 hours = **£6300** |
| Volunteer Ranger Support Officer (L Fraser) | £20 | 144 hours = **£2880** |
|  | **TOTAL** | **£9180** |

**Overall site management costs: £13327.72**

Contributions towards site management costs:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Longden PC | Grant towards Lyth Hill | 4,328.00 |
| Bayston Hill PC | Grant towards Lyth Hill | 4,328.00 |
|  | TOTAL | **8656.00** |

**SC contribution: £4671.72**

With the increased contribution from the parish councils in 2018-19, management tasks will be increased to include:

Extra areas of bracken rolling by horses following the successful introduction of this management technique

Commission a contractor to cut scrub that is encroaching across the hill, threatening acid grassland and other plant communities

Install a water supply for cattle (connection cost and installing pipe)

Commission a contractor to cut and collect the grassland along the crest of the hill (cut in early May and again in July). This will control rank vegetation and scrub

**Big thanks to both Longden and Bayston Hill parish councils for their support.**

**Edward Andrews**

**Parks and Countryside Heritage Officer**

**Shropshire Council**