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| Subject: | Butterfly Transect Survey |
| From: | Peter Kenrick |
| Date: | 16 th February 2023 |
| For information/discussion/decision | |
| Summary of decisions or actions requested (including timing): | |
| <p>Confirm permission for the transect survey route to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cemetery • Oxpens Allotments • Nine Acres Recreation Ground <p>Permission required by 28th Feb 2023 to enable surveying to be planned and scheduled to start at the beginning of April.</p> | |
| Financial implications: [please explain any costs associated with decisions or actions, and whether these have already been budgeted for] | |
| NONE | |

With the support of the Wychwood Forest Trust, the Wigwell Friends and other volunteers are planning to carry out a butterfly transect survey starting in April this year. The walking route currently proposed includes the cemetery, Nine Acres and the Oxpens allotments so we are seeking permission from the town council and Nine Acres. Please can this be included for discussion on the February TC meeting agenda, probably as a correspondence item.

The surveying protocol is simple and non-disruptive and I will be happy to explain it to fellow councillors and others. Essentially, it will involve a weekly walk by one or two trained volunteers following a clearly defined route and noting the butterflies that they see around them. The route will stick to defined communal paths and spaces and surveyors will not deviate from the route to chase butterflies! Survey walks will continue weekly for 6 months each year from April to September.

Route through council-controlled land will be as follows:

- **Cemetery.** From the lych gate along the central path through the original cemetery and first extension then taking the public right of way south to exit the cemetery onto Wigwell.
- **Oxpens Allotments.** Entering from the Banbury Hill verge via the small gate, along the path at the northern edge of the allotments and then turning left along the main path to exit through the main gate. At no time will surveyors walk onto allotment plots
- **Nine Acres Recreation Ground.** (May be subject to slight modification). Enter via stone stile near the Enstone Road crossroads. Continuing above the "hockey pitch" then turning left along to the south of the football pitches to the children's play area, then turning right above the tennis courts before taking the diagonal path to the kissing gate onto Nine Acres Lane.