

October 2015

Councillor Eric Davey

Hythe and Dibden Woodland and Waterside Conservation Group

I attended the group's Annual General Meeting on 21 September 2015.

The group were to seek professional advice on the ideal siting of nesting boxes. The boxes themselves were to be constructed by members from approved specifications and with materials obtained from local outlets.

There is a long standing commitment to construct an area for children to use as an outdoor classroom. The proposed area is off the Navy Field and on land thought to be owned by New Forest District Council (Housing). When plans are finalised, Marcus would be approached for advice on obtaining the necessary permission as land ownership seems to be a grey area.

The surface would be wood chip based on fabric. An offer of free tarpaulin may have to be rejected as drainage would be a problem. There is a need to gather wood chippings (local tree surgeons ??) but there would be a need to find storage for the chippings.

The priority in the coming year would be conservation rather than litter clearance. I advised that the Parish Council had undertaken to include advice and requests to users to clear litter after their events.