From: DORAN, Richard

To: HUGHES, Paul; ARNOLD, Mark;

Arden, Rob (NE);

Subject: FW: Sound Parish Council
Date: 06 February 2012 10:31:09
Attachments: Sound PC re Sound Common.doc

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Hello

I don't think there is anything here that has not been addressed previously. If there is, let me know as soon as you can. Are we aware of any rare and obscure organism residing on Sound over and above what we would typically expect to find?

I'll reply briefly to following your comments informing him of the meeting scheduled for 17th May 9.30, to which a couple of representatives from Sound PC is very welcome to attend.

Thank you

Richard Doran
Countryside Service Development Manager
Cheshire East Council
2nd Floor
Old Municipal Buildings
Earle Street
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 2BJ

Tel 01270 686061 richard.doran@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Countryside Ranger Service website





From:

Sent: 06 February 2012 10:03

To: DORAN, Richard

Subject: Sound Parish Council

Hi Richard

the Parish Council have met and are aware of:-SADRA questions to you and your response.

They wish to submit the attached in relation to the matter. This is obviously driven by certain members, and the overall conclusion is that they are not necessarily against the proposals but feel they need to be arrived at as described.

Please keep me informed of developments.

Kind regards

Clerk: Sound & District Parish Council

Sound Common proposed Work Plans

No representative of the Parish Council participated in the preparation of these work plans and no details of the discussion leading to their production have been provided. However it appears that Cheshire East and Natural England continue to believe that the sites main value resides in the extent of its heathland characteristics 'that continue to be degraded'. What data substantiates this assertion?

Cheshire East and its supporters appear either unaware of the ecological relations within this complex mosaic or are prepared to ignore them in an effort to promote an increase in the heathland element.

They also appear to consider any work that might increase the heathland cover, in this case tree removal, turf stripping and heather seeding, is inherently beneficial, without any similar site being identified where these techniques have been shown to be appropriate or successful. All heathland species targeted to benefit with their current and expected population levels should be identified.

The plans make no reference to non-heathland species, which will be adversely affected within the areas of work and what mitigation is proposed to limit the harm. The sketch maps showing the proposed work on the site are devoid of detail. No information is provided as to methods and actual extent of the work and there is no indication of how the results will be monitored or that the plans would be modified accordingly.

The work carried out by the Residents is described, as 'fantastic' but its nature and results, including heather regeneration, do not appear to have been assessed or considered in the preparation of these work plans.

The impression given is that the only consideration in producing the plans was that anything that might increase 'heathland cover' is inevitably beneficial and detrimental effects on resident species are irrelevant.

The Parish Council wishes to record that these plans, produced without permitting it any input, appear to have been produced without survey work and in the absence of justifying data; as such they ignore standard guidelines and are unscientific.