



PRESS RELEASE

Date: 25TH March 2019

Subject: A Spring clear out for the Wildlife in The Woods

Just as the weather began to improve, a group of 11 volunteers from Lockheed Martin volunteered their time to help The Friends of Nore Barn Woods with valuable conservation work in the overgrown woodland areas on the edge of Emsworth.

Nore Barn Woods is an attractive area of public open space in Emsworth adjacent to the shore of Chichester Harbour. Formed in 2002, The Friends of Nore Barn woods is a group of volunteers who aim to make the area more pleasant for the public. Lockheed Martin UK – Rotary and Mission Systems regularly take part in volunteering activities organised by Community First and are hugely supportive of local organisations in and around the Havant area.

The purpose of the day was to cut back and clear areas of the wood allowing the natural growth of plants and creating habitats for wildlife. The area was very dense and the team from Lockheed Martin made light work of cutting back and clearing two large spaces that will be instrumental in creating the growth of wild flowers.

Andy Wallen from Lockheed Martin said, "I have enjoyed volunteering today, it's been good to get out in the open air. This is my first time volunteering and it will not be my last. It makes us feel good giving something back to the community."

Roy Ewing from The Friends of Nore Barn Woods was grateful for Lockheed Martin's support. "Having the volunteers today has enabled us to clear areas that we would have been unable to do with our own workforce and in a fraction of the time. We cannot thank them enough and would welcome them back at any time. What a great team and a pleasure to work with."

If you are a business and would like to find out how you can volunteer in the community, contact Rachel Taylor rachel.taylor@cfirst.org.uk or telephone 01730 774057.

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Photo: The volunteers from Lockheed Martin looking like they mean business!



Notes for Editors

1. Communities First Wessex (known as Community First) provides support and advice to local voluntary and community groups, charities and social enterprises in order to build their capacity and ensure a thriving and successful voluntary sector across East Hampshire, Fareham, Havant and Winchester. We also provide a one stop shop for all aspects of volunteering; helping recruit and place volunteers throughout our local communities and providing specialist training for voluntary organisations.
2. Communities First Wessex also delivers critical community services including:
 - a. Community Transport and Dial a Ride in East Hampshire, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, Winchester and Basingstoke
 - b. Shopmobility in Fareham, Havant and Chichester, and Winchester
 - c. Health and wellbeing services including surgery signposting with GP surgeries in Bordon, Fareham and Waterlooville, Walking 4 Health in Fareham, and a Home Help and a Gardening Service for vulnerable people in Fareham.
 - d. Support for Community Buildings and managing agents for Leigh Park Community Centre in Havant
 - e. Rape and Sexual Abuse Counselling services
 - f. Specialist youth work including support for young people's mental health
 - g. Work and skills based training and support for unemployed people

Community First is the trading name of Communities First Wessex

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- h. Supported volunteering for people with a range of needs including mental health, drug and alcohol abuse, and those with a physical or mild learning disability.
3. Communities First Wessex employs 116 staff, has more than 80 regular volunteers and has a turnover of £2.6m. Its main sources of income are local authority and government grants and contracts, Big Lottery Fund and a range of charitable trusts.
4. For further information contact:
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07467 941018 or email tim.houghton@cfirst.org.uk