Mark Rochell

From:

Sent:

27 March 2024 17:47

Mark Rochell

То:

Cc:

Subject:

Love Lane Woodland

I have just read the article in the "Our Bembridge" magazine about the successful opening of "Pop's Wood" and the public interest this generated together with the much deserved thanks expressed to Imogen Baden Powell for "saving the wood from inevitable development". What did strike me, however, was that it has only saved half the woodland and that the other half remains in the hands of the original developer purchaser and thus still vulnerable to further planning applications. I have heard that it is back on the market again at a figure of £75,000 with the owners having received confirmation from the Local Planning Authority that it is a legitimate and lawful use of the land for camping for a maximum of 60 days in the year without the need to obtain formal planning permission. This will mean that towed caravans, motor homes, tents etc can be brought onto the land and for the occupants to camp there. This will inevitably result in disturbance to the wildlife and possible harm to the trees. It will almost certainly harm the woodland floor and understorey and the plants and wildlife that currently grow and thrive there.

I was wondering, therefore, in the light of the public interest Pop's Wood has generated that now is the time for the BPC, as the custodian of the interests of our beautiful village, to launch a public appeal for donations to buy the remaining piece of woodland and thus protect and secure its future once and for all.

I would be willing to make a donation towards this, as I am sure many people in a community such as Bembridge, would also be prepared to do.

Kind regards