Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators 8 October 2018

REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER

Head of Service/Contact: Amardip Healy, Chief Legal Officer

Annexes/Appendices (attached): None
Other available papers (not None

attached):

Report summary

To receive the report of the Head Downskeeper.

Recommendation (s)

(1) To note the report

1 Conservation work on Juniper Hill

- 1.1 The Downskeepers have recently been carrying out conservation work on Juniper Hill in conjunction with the Lower Mole Project, Epsom & Ewell's Countryside Team and volunteers.
- 1.2 This work has included the removal of secondary woodland to expose and restore more of the chalk grassland and general scrub in line with the Habitat Management Plan.
- 1.3 Juniper Hill is one of the country's most significant areas of chalk grassland and is nationally recognised as a UK priority habitat.

2 Race Meetings and Events

- 2.1 There have been several race meetings since the Derby all of which ran smoothly with no issues reported.
- 2.2 The Trainer's Open Day was deemed a success with over 100 visitors in attendance.
- 2.3 The Gallops' Manager conveyed his thanks to the Downskeeper's for their support and assistance on the day.

3 Winter Work Programme

3.1 The Downskeepers are now working on drawing up the winter work programme, which will focus on continuing work from last winter to clear the scrub along the hack ride at the top of Rifle Butts Alley.

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4 The Hack Riding Map

4.1 Following the circulation of the Hack Riding Map at the last meeting of the Conservators, a number of comments were made on the draft map. Some of these changes have now been included and the leaflet and map is in the final stages of production and will be ready to be distributed to local livery stables and users by the end of October. A copy will also be available on Epsom & Ewell Borough Council's website.

Ward(s) Affected: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;