

## MCF Chairmans' report 21st September 2022

Thank you for coming to this meeting and a warm welcome to Prospect woodland and wild area.

I won't mince my words for this report...we are in decline and if we don't increase and engage our membership, MCF will die. As it stands there are a few core members who turn up to regular events like the Prospect Sunday meetings and Malvern Link Station. We need to think very carefully about our aims and aspirations.

I had hoped that by now we would have started another group over at Beauchamp Road Green in partnership with Platform Housing but Platform have so far not arrived at an agreement with us or the community group we would be working with. (2 and a half years after this agreement was mooted).

Townsend Way community woodland remains on our books and we held a scything morning down at the memorial meadow to cut back long grass under the fruit trees. I have yet to hear back from Malvern Hills Trust community officer about any other local collaborations we can participate in such as understorey management. etc

Cuillins Wood has remained closed as we no longer have any play leaders to help run it.

Abundance has fallen victim to lack of adequate storage and near draught conditions which badly affected fruit yields this year.

There is a glimmer of something going on at the Covid Memorial Woodland behind Morrisons. We have been approached to look at thinning out the understorey and pathway clearance, I have replied that we are interested but need to resolve membership issues first because it will fall on the same volunteers that attend the other meetings.

My thanks to Ian for doing a Stirling job with the books and finances and my fellow committee members for keeping me in line.

Lastly can I emphasise that we need to push MCF into the public gaze at every opportunity because this will lead to new members and that is the one area we are needing to increase.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Dave Munday, Chair, Malvern Community Forest.