

# West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership

## Press Release

Embargoed until Friday 7 December 2007

### Community woodland launches winning logo

**Photo opportunity: Great Barton schoolboy, Ethan Flint age 6, with his winning logo. To arrange a convenient time see details below.**

Local schoolboy, Ethan Flint age 6, will hear at a school assembly tomorrow that he has created the winning logo for the new Great Barton Community Woodland.

The community woodland is a project to create a natural woodland that will be managed by the community for the community. It will be convenient to the village and will be created and maintained by volunteers using traditional techniques such as coppicing and hedge-laying. The area will be planted with local native and hardwood trees and landscaped with paths and drifts to provide a rich habitat for wildlife and wildflowers. This will become a special area in the village for local residents to enjoy and for school children to learn about wildlife.

The idea for a community woodland began in May this year when a public meeting was held in Great Barton village hall and the Green Light Trust gave a presentation. Interested residents formed a steering group and kick-started the project with the aid of a £1975 grant from the West Suffolk LSP community chest and with the help and guidance of the Green Light Trust who have been training local volunteers. There are now 11 committed members of the Steering Group and this is the 41<sup>st</sup> group to be started by the Green Light Trust.

In September volunteers met at the local school, Great Barton Primary, to construct a tree nursery and in October pupils collected acorns from the village and planted them in the nursery. Over the next three years the children will watch the development of the acorns and, when the group has secured an appropriate site, they will transplant the seedlings into the wood. In the meantime, over the next two years, the group aims to raise enough money to acquire at least three acres of land.

Mick Brabrook, woodland treasurer, says: "This will be a woodland run by the community for the community and we will be able to hand it down to future generations. We are grateful to the West Suffolk LSP for giving us funding to help get the project off the ground and to the Green Light Trust and Great Barton school for their involvement and commitment for the future."

John Griffiths, Chair of the WSLSP, says: "This is another excellent example of how the WSLSP is actively supporting local communities in West Suffolk. The woodland will not only improve our environment but should also provide enjoyment, recreation and education for those in and around Great Barton – and perhaps particularly for younger people there by encouraging their involvement with, interest in, and awareness of the environment, our natural surroundings and wildlife."

## **ENDS**

For further information contact David Wood on  
01638 719285 or 07957 387856

### **Photo opportunity**

To arrange a photo of Ethan with his winning logo please contact Great Barton Primary School and speak to the head teacher, Sarah Rees, or assistant head, Hilary Bilonick, on 01284 787353.

### **Great Barton Community Woodland**

For more information visit [www.onesuffolk.co.uk/gbcw](http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/gbcw) or contact Mick Brabrook on 01284 788147 or Philip Reeve on 01284 787583.

## **West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership**

The West Suffolk Local Strategic Partnership was set up 2001 and brings together a wide range of organisations to work towards 'making life better'.

Partners include Forest Heath District Council, St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Babergh District Council, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Primary Care Trust, Suffolk Constabulary, West Suffolk Voluntary Organisations, West Suffolk College, Environment Agency, West Suffolk MIND, K J Business Consultants, Babergh Communities Together, Learning and Skills Council, Suffolk Association of Local Councils and the Federation of Small Businesses.

For more information visit [www.onesuffolk.co.uk/WSLSP](http://www.onesuffolk.co.uk/WSLSP)