



ORE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

Saving and enhancing green space in the Ore Valley

BULLETIN - Nov. 2017

Speckled Wood Land Acquisition Plan

The 10 year campaign to save Speckled Wood from development resulted in a spectacular success in February 2015, when the Planning Inspector decided that the new Hastings Local Plan should redesignate almost all of Speckled Wood as protected urban green space. However, it is very important to recognise that this does not guarantee that Speckled Wood will remain a woodland valley for community use forever. Most of it is privately owned. The only way to secure the long term future of Speckled Wood is by community ownership of the land and that is what Ore Community Land Trust (Ore CLT) was set up to do. Now that we are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation we can own land in trust for the community and we are setting out on a program of acquiring land in Speckled Wood with support from Hastings Borough Council.

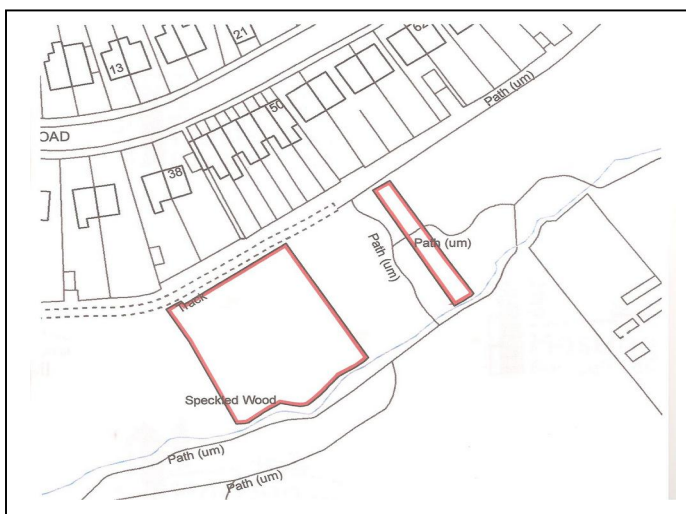
Transfer of Hastings BC Land to Ore CLT for Volunteer Base

The two plots of land off Church Street (shown in the map below) that are owned by Hastings Borough Council are being transferred to Ore CLT this month.

Ore CLT has been given a grant by the **Big Local NE Hastings** to create a much needed base for volunteers, who work to clear footpaths, remove rubbish and help to maintain Speckled Wood for local residents to use. A medium sized temporary site office is being purchased to locate on the larger of the two plots in early 2018. This will provide a secure tool & equipment store and a facility for volunteers to meet and have a cup of tea or shelter from rain showers.



The Big Local have also funded a project for Ore CLT to recruit and train volunteers to help with woodland management and the base will be crucial for this project.



Church St. & Plot Clearance

It will be necessary to carry out clearance of the undergrowth on the larger plot (not the trees) to prepare the base for the site office and some clearance work will be needed at the side of Church Street to allow for the delivery lorry. A volunteer team from the Trust for Conservation Volunteers will be starting on this work **w/b 20 Nov.**

For more information or to get involved in the project or volunteer work contact:

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