

# PENNY WAKEFIELD WOOD



## LAUNCH EVENT – 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2017

### 1 – Project Background

A new 6 ha woodland has been created with the help of the local community, to the east of Ellistown Village, Leicestershire to serve a number of objectives. 1) Landscape – To provide a natural screen to the warehouse development as viewed from the village. 2) Water Management - The landform was contoured in April 2016, to create 3 ponds to hold rain water from the development and release this gradually into the river system downstream. 3) Access – A public bridleway has been surfaced through the wood and links with other local paths. 4) Habitat – The ‘Wet’ woodland of willow and birch grows well around the ponds and the trees and water provide habitat / food for insects, birds and / mammals.

The landform was created in April 2016 and paths were surfaced that summer. Planting was completed in January 2017 and access features have been installed this spring.

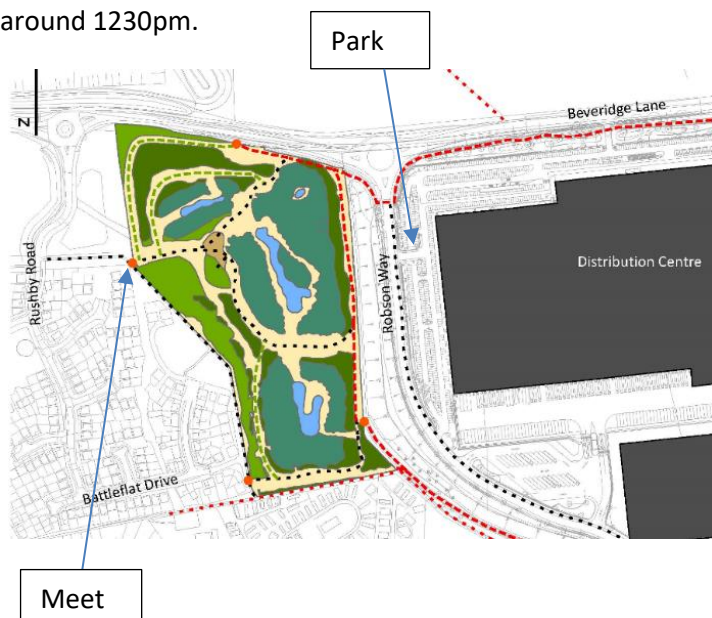
### 2 – Purpose of Event

Now that the finishing touches are completed including the 5 interpretation signs at the access points, the event is a great opportunity for the community (parish council, local residents), local MP, project partners (planners, developer, landscaping contractors, forestry consultants) and National Forest officers, to meet. We will see the completed site and provide a public launch for what is a flagship multi-purpose woodland creation.

### 3 – Timing & Logistics

Parking is available at the Amazon ‘Associates Car Park’ off Robson Way, nearest postcode LE67 1FR. We then convene on foot at 11am on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017, at the western access point as the main ‘gateway’ to the wood (by the granite boulder), for a welcome by the developer Mountpark. Forestry Consultants from Lockhart Garratt Ltd will then tour attendees around the wood for 30-45 minutes to answer questions and explain the establishment and the challenges / successes in the earthworks, planting, access construction and the very positive community engagement.

The groups will re-convene at the ‘gateway’ location to plant 3 standard trees in memory of Penny Wakefield who was a devoted parish councillor for Ellistown & Battleflat. LGL will have all planting materials and trees ready. The event will close around 1230pm.



### 4 – Photography & Press

The National Forest Company will provide a photographer for the event and The Coalville Times and Leicester Mercury have been invited to report on the event and the site. A photo montage will be displayed at the gateway to the site to show a timeline of the project since March 2016.

### 5 – Dress

The site has stone surfaced paths for access but do please come prepared for the weather and with appropriate footwear (wellies / boots) if you would like to take part in the tree planting.

### 6 – Contact

Please contact Robin Truslove (Forestry Consultant) on 07879 437255 with any questions.