

Friends of Latchmore

Press Release (6 August 2012)

Latchmore work needs Planning Permission

The Forestry Commission has conceded that the extensive engineering works required for the Latchmore Brook restoration project need planning permission before they can proceed. In a letter to solicitors employed by members of the Friends of Latchmore, the Forestry Commission states that they will “take the opportunity afforded by the deferment of works to 2013, to seek planning permission” and they confirm that “no further works will be undertaken at Latchmore... until the planning process has been completed”.

Professor John Shepherd, chair of the Friends of Latchmore, said “We are relieved that the Forestry Commission have now also suspended work on the Thompson’s Castle mire section of the works. The application for planning permission will also require them to undertake the full environmental assessment that we have always insisted was needed. This will provide an opportunity to review all aspects of the project, including the damage to the environment, grazing and public amenity that would be involved, as well as any possible benefits. We look forward to helping the Forestry Commission, Natural England and the National Park Authority to make sure that this is done well, so that only work that is really beneficial to this valued local amenity and fragile habitat is undertaken”.

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More Information

For more information visit our website at www.friendsoflatchmore.org