

## LEE Committee 2 March 2021

### Agenda Item LEE1624/21

## Purchase of Wildlife Trap Cameras

### Introduction

Proposal for the Parish Council to purchase a battery powered motion activated wildlife camera. This idea was suggested by a resident as part of the Council's 'Call for Ideas' initiative.

### Discussion

The Parish Council Rangers have made a good start over the last two years of building an online following of residents on twitter and Instagram. The Rangers post updates regarding their work schedules and information and pictures of the local area, wildlife and landscape.

Wildlife cameras are often used to allow people to track and monitor the movements of wildlife through the day and night without having to have someone sitting with a camera constantly. They are widely used by television film crews to collect footage of wildlife for such shows as Countryfile and the Spring Watch series. The continual development of technology means that reliable and affordable wildlife cameras are available to everyone on the general market.

The addition of a camera trap that can be used in multiple locations around the village would allow the Rangers to share sightings of local wildlife with the residents. This in turn will hopefully help build a better local understanding of Croxley's flora and fauna, which should increase residents' interest in looking after the environment in the future.

We are proposing a battery powered camera trap that can take short video recordings, and still images both night and day, which can then be uploaded to the Council's social media pages. This is an alternative to a live stream video, which would be more costly to procure, and harder to guarantee sightings of wildlife. With a camera trap, you only have to share the media if it catches anything. Furthermore this reduces the likelihood of intentional vandalism to the camera as people won't know where it is until it has been removed.



An example is shown above of the style of camera we could use. Further examples can be viewed at

<https://shop.naturespy.org/product/browning-spec-ops-elite-hp4-btc-8e-hp4-wildlife-camera/>

**Recommendation**

- That the Council agrees to purchase a wildlife trap camera up to the value of £200.

**James Townley**  
**Grounds Maintenance Manager**  
**February 2021**