



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Partnership paves new way for Primrose Nature Reserve

Primrose Community Nature Trust and Ribble Rivers Trust Join Forces to Preserve Primrose Nature Reserve

Primrose Community Nature Trust (PCNT) and Ribble Rivers Trust (RRT) have announced a new partnership that will continue the conservation and stewardship of the Clitheroe's Primrose Nature Reserve.

This new collaboration will oversee the maintenance of the 16 acre site, aiming to ensure its long-term protection and preservation. It will provide additional support to the many volunteers who have kindly offered their unpaid help with the upkeep of the reserve. Tasks such as clearing the litter washed down from the town, tree planting, fence maintenance and Himalayan balsam pulling.

Education, Wellbeing and Community are at the heart of PCNT's objectives and the trustees have been working hard to create a unique environment in which the natural world can flourish in the centre of Clitheroe.

"Today's agreement ushers in an exciting new chapter for the Nature Reserve, ensuring its upkeep and expanding opportunities for our volunteers. This will facilitate the continued development of the Reserve as both a sanctuary for wildlife and a peaceful, green space for the community's enjoyment," remarked Richard Stephenson, Chair of Trustees at Primrose Community Nature Trust.

Jack Spees, CEO of Ribble Rivers Trust added, "We're looking forward to extending our partnership with PCNT and seeing the nature reserve continue to improve. We've worked well throughout the development of the site and, with the help of all the dedicated volunteers, are determined to keep Primrose Nature Reserve the pride of the community."

The agreement reflects a shared commitment between PCNT and RRT to strengthen the connection between people and nature, while prioritizing environmental sustainability and habitat conservation.

Anyone wishing to volunteer at Primrose Nature Reserve should visit <https://www.primrosecommunitynaturetrust.org/> or email contact@primrosecommunitynaturetrust.org

For media inquiries, please contact:

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Primrose Community Nature Trust (PCNT) is a registered charity that was formed in March 2019 to adopt and manage the site now known as Primrose Nature Reserve for the benefit of the community and wildlife. PCNT's aims are to conserve, protect and improve Primrose Lodge, and the streams/watercourses of the Mearley Brook catchment. The trustees and other volunteers work for better environmental protection and improvement for the benefit of the public and its recreational use. Key to the ongoing success of the site is community engagement, environment education and increasing local understanding of its flora and fauna and biodiversity, and the need for/benefits of its conservation and protection.

Extensive restoration work was carried out with Ribble Rivers Trust in 2021 and 2022 that has created a beautiful natural sanctuary for wildlife that was further extended with a new walk and bridge in 2023. The fish pass at the southwestern tip of the lodge was briefly the longest Alaskan fish pass in England. The maintenance of the site is undertaken predominantly by volunteers. The wildlife is returning and flourishing.

Ribble Rivers Trust (RRT) is a regional environmental charity established in 1997 to protect and restore the rivers, streams and watercourses within the Ribble catchment and to raise public awareness of the value of our local rivers and streams. The Ribble catchment is the area of land that is drained by the River Ribble and its major tributaries; the Hodder, Calder and Darwen. It covers a varied landscape, from the rural hills of the Yorkshire Dales and the source of the River Ribble, to major urban areas of Lancashire including Blackburn, Burnley and Preston. For more information please contact 01200 444452 or visit www.ribbontrust.org.uk