

Queen's Green Canopy

The Queen's Green Canopy is creating a living legacy with over a million trees planted in Her Majesty's name across the nation during the first planting season, October 2021 to March 2022. The extension of the QGC initiative will build on this legacy and serve as a lasting tribute to Her Majesty's extraordinary service to her country and her people.

Following the wishes of its Patron, His Majesty The King, The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) initiative will be extended to the end of March 2023 to give people the opportunity to plant trees in memoriam to honour Her Majesty.

As a nationwide initiative created to mark the Platinum Jubilee, the QGC was due to conclude in December – the end of the Jubilee year. However, as the official tree planting season in the United Kingdom is from October to March, the initiative will now be extended to include the full tree planting season, beginning in October 2022 and concluding in March 2023.

The Estates Committee has been looking into options for the parish council to plant under the Queens Green Canopy initiative and at its July meeting (Min **EC.22.07.08.4** refers) agreed to investigate options to plant 70 trees on the outer banks to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee.

The Tree Warden, Roger Medley, arranged and met with the Chairperson of the Suffolk Tree Warden Network and the Clerk on 29th July to consider the suggested planting areas.

70 trees on the banks of the playing fields. Recommendations were as follows

- i. Saplings cannot just be planted. To guarantee success a one metre square step needs to be cut midway down the bank and the soil that is removed should be heaped at lower edge to stop water run-off.
- ii. Once the saplings have been planted, and well-watered, the one metre square should be mulched with several inches of wood chips (or similar)
- iii. For the first two, maybe three summer seasons, there would be a need for regular watering, at least weekly.
- iv. There is sufficient space on the two banks (approximately 250 metres in length) for 70, or less, trees

If the parish council is not too fussy about tree species the saplings, guards and stakes can be provided free.

Resources required to support the project and ensure success would therefore be:

- 1) Contractor and plant to cut steps in the outer banks
- 2) Sourcing of mulch for planted saplings
- 3) Accessible supply of water throughout first three years
- 4) Team of dedicated parish volunteers to ensure at least weekly watering over first three years.

The costs at commercial rates are likely to be substantial, but the greater issue is the need to recruit, support and maintain a long term team of volunteers to ensure that any sapplings planted survive the first three years.

The parish council considered this option at its meeting on 29th September (**Min. 22.09.22 refers**) and:

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reached the view that a large scale project to plant up to seventy saplings on the Outer Banks would be unlikely to represent value for money for the parish, with a substantial risk of a high proportion of the trees failing before fully establishing, asked the clerk to take forward a proposal to the Estates Committee for the planting of specimen trees in the nature reserve behind The Meadows (if Suffolk County Council are agreeable), in the Cemetery, and as infill on some of the Greens in the parish.

The cemetery.

The planting of a group of 7 blossom trees (e.g. flowering cherry) throughout the Cemetery. There would be no need for use of digger and a supply of water is nearby.

In fill of gaps in the tree lines on the edges of playing fields

There is sufficient space for 7 trees. No digger work would be required but the trees would not be so obvious as commemorative plantings and would soon be lost.

A spread of 7 trees across Attleton, Genesis and Coltsfoot Greens. As above, the trees would soon be lost.

SCC Nature Reserve adjacent The Meadows:

The clerk has made enquiries but not received a response from SCC to date. There may be an issue with respect to whether the council has powers to plant trees on the land.

Powers:

- Power to provide and maintain open space or burial ground in or outside the council's area – Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10
- Power to provide and maintain cemeteries in or outside the council's area – Local Government Act 1972, s214(2)
- Power to provide and maintain land for public recreation – Public Health Act 1875, s.164
- Power to provide and manage recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces - Public Health Act 1875, s.164

Funding:

	Revenue (unspent)	Earmarked Reserves
Six Acres Development	£750.00	£2,500.00
Cemetery and Churchyard	£93.18	-
Greens	£750.00	-
Civic Event		£250.00
Grounds Maintenance		£995.00

Any funds drawn down from Earmarked Reserves must be approved by full council.

Sourcing Saplings:

Woodland Trust is supporting the Queens Green Canopy project (Schools and Communities) through packs of free trees. They are currently taking applications for trees to be delivered in March 2023.

Packs which may be suitable, which could be applied for are summarised at Appendix B

Cemetery: - Urban Tree Pack (15 comprising crab apple, rowan, hazel)

Six Acres & Greens Infill: - Copse Tree Pack (30 comprising silver birch, rowan, wild cherry)

Cemetery Hedge – Hedge Pack (30 comprising dog rose, hawthorn, hazel, crab apple, dogwood) to infill whips which failed over the summer.

Alternatively, if free packs were not available or approved, the parish council could purchase the following packs and individual trees from Woodland Trust:

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Pack	Cost	No Trees	Suggested Location(s)
Year Round Colour; Hawthorn, Silver birch, Hazel, Rowan, Dogwood and Wild cherry	£115	105	Six Acres, Greens, Cemetery
Standard Hedge Mix 6 x Hawthorn, 6 x Hazel, 6 x Crab Apple, 6 x Dog Rose and 6 x Dogwood	£54.95	30	Cemetery Hedge
Urban Tree Pack 5 Crab apple, 5 Hazel and 5 Field Maple	£72.00	15	Cemetery
Tree Planting Event Kit	£20.95		
Total:	£262.90		

A group of 7 Ornamental Cherries (bought in at 7-8' tall) for the Cemetery would cost in the region of £280.

The Committee considered an update on Queens Green Canopy (previously circulated as **WPC.22.09.03**) and noting the parish councils decision that a proposal to plant up to 70 saplings on the outer banks would not be feasible:

- agreed a preferred option for the planting of seven flowering ornamental deciduous trees in the grounds of the Cemetery;
- asked the clerk to consult with the parish tree surgeon on suitable planting sites (a crescent at the end of the hedge down from the war memorial) and sizes (4'); and
- report back to the parish council with any necessary request for the authorisation of funds to support this proposal.

The Clerk has sought advice from Acacia Tree Surgery who over the past years have undertaken the Tri-annual inspection of parish trees and walk rounds in intervening years. Their advice is attached as Appendix A.

Recommendation:

The parish council authorise the purchase of 7 flowering ornamental Cherry Trees (including Mulch, stakes and protectors) at a cost of not more than £500 plus VAT for planting in the Cemetery in a suitable position (but ideally in a horseshoe arrangement towards the rear).

Report

WPC.EC.22.11.03

Min. Ref

EC.22.11.10

Min EC.22.07.08.4

From: info@acaciatreesurgery.co.uk
To: [Hilary Workman](#)
Subject: Re: Planting of Ornamental Cherry Trees in Wickhambrook Cemetery
Date: 17 November 2022 11:54:39
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Hilary

Thank you for your email.

The crescent formation to the rear of the cemetery sounds a lovely idea. Ensure that trees are planted a minimum of 2ms apart or from any adjacent existing trees to allow a good crown development with no over shadowing or suppression.

Unfortunately, there are not many white Prunus which are suitable due to the vigorous rooting systems, but we would recommend the following which are all soft to pale / mid pink blossom and all reach a mature height of between 5 to 10ms. By selecting trees that are similar mature height, you will be able to maintain the uniform crescent canopy line. It would be best to choose trees of no less than 8ft, secured with single stakes, as they will be slightly hardier. We use hessian tree strapping as this is biodegradable over 3 years and will not cut into the young tree trunk.

PRUNUS ACCOLADE ~ spring blossoming, but a smattering during Winter;
PRUNUS PINK PERFECTION ~ double blooms of mid pink but becoming paler; does not tolerate water logged conditions;
PRUNUS OKAME ~ rich pink blossoms, again does not liked water logged conditions;
PRUNUS SHIROFUGEN ~ double white to pink blossom with long lasting flower display;

Alternatively, you could consider the Malus family which are ornamental and flowering, again 5 to 7ms in maturity.

MALUS PINK PERFECTION ~ fragrant pink blossom;
MALUS RED SENTINEL ~ white blossom;

We highly recommend Barcham Nurseries, Ely ~ 01353 720748 / sales@barchamtrees.co.uk / www.barcham.co.uk ~ whose catalogue we have provided the above information. As a cost estimate, expect to pay from Barchams between £85 to £150 per tree depending on species and size and obviously subject to availability. We also use Simpsons Nurseries, Fordham ~ 01638 720194 / office@simpsonsnurseries.com who would be slightly cheaper but also highly recommended.

I hope this is helpful to you.

Kind regards, Karen

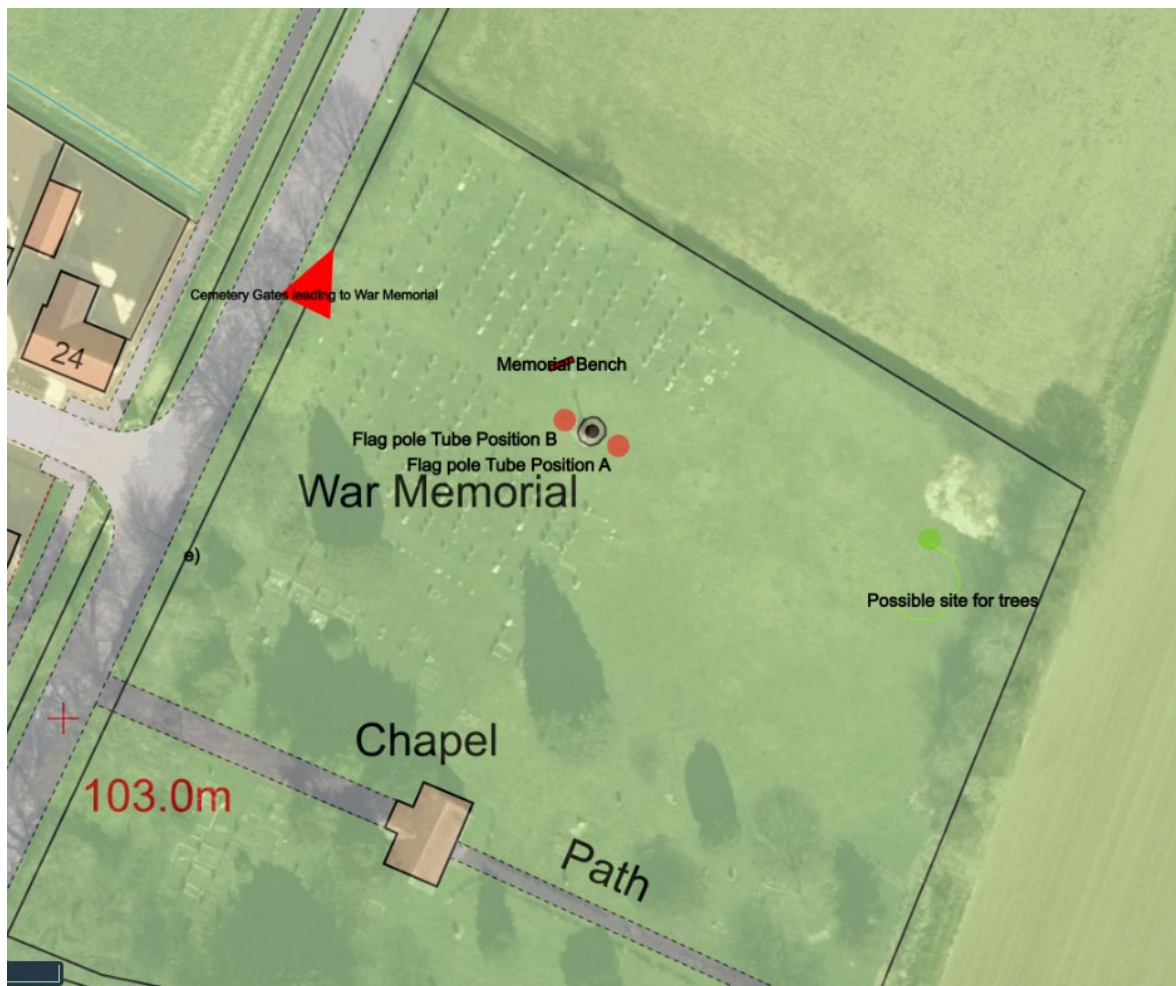
On Wed, Nov 16, 2022 at 12:01 PM Hilary Workman <parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk> wrote:

Hello, the Parish council would like to plant 7 early flowering (very pale or white) ornamental cherry trees in the cemetery – ideally as a crescent/horseshoe shape towards the rear of the cemetery – I’ve inset a plan.

Could you let me know, based on previous surveys:

- Which varieties would best suit this (or if no varieties, a suitable alternative flowering ornamental tree)
- The best location and spacing
- The most appropriate size (they were thinking about 4’ -5’) to plant
- Any recommendations for suppliers?

If there is any chance you could help by tomorrow lunchtime I would be very grateful – I have to include a report to support the item on the agenda.



Hilary Workman

Clerk & RFO for Wickhambrook Parish Council

Tel: 07508 039810

E-mail: parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk - Please note the new address

Website: <https://wickhambrook.org/parish-council/#parish-council-contact>

My normal working days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

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