

Parish Environment Group and the Green Gym

For E&L February 12th 2024

Our informal group of volunteers have been busy working around the village with planting projects, young tree care, and planting the 500 daffodil bulbs supplied by East Suffolk Council.

Over the next two months we will continue adding trees to the new community wood in Pettistree: The Java Lodge Spinney. The spinney at the end of the Green Lane track off Chapel Lane is continuing to receive our care and more trees will be added very soon.

Some of the trees planted are now well established, providing a landscape feature and corridor for birds and wildlife, adding to local biodiversity and enhancing the environment and local climate of the Parishes.

On Sunday 7th January working at the Simons Cross sports field, we gave care to the trees planted over a 25 year period. A verdant line of oak, ash, chestnut, cherry, plum, spindle, hawthorn, blackthorn, holly, hazel, poplar, and field maple are making a shelter belt for the football and tennis players and a fabulous habitat and corridor for birds and bees.

Sadly, our green spaces attract litter! On 7th January we filled three large bags of litter from the SX field and around the trees and seats.

It would be useful to find a more sustainable solution to litter collection using more regular paid support as well as the occasional litter walks.

Most work parties are held at the weekend (Saturdays and Sunday mornings), but some are held on weekdays.

Planting on private farmland and WMPC open spaces and cemetery.
More support welcome, volunteers and funding.
Ideas for new planting welcome.

In addition, two-hour work parties are held in the Parish Cemetery on the last Thursday of each month at 10am.

ESC Enabling Grant awarded in January 2024 has provided funding for native trees, tools hedgehog homes and bird box materials.

Tree warden Sonya Exton is actively updating the village bird boxes.

Cllr Fowler has purchased hedgehog homes for use in village green spaces.

Tree Works requiring contractor, approved at E&L meetings 2023

On 12th March AB Trees are scheduled to start working on tree management in the Parish Cemetery and Village Hall Playing field, attending to tree and hedge management.

UKPN have not provided any update on the Holm Oak on The Pightle so this tree remains unmanaged, very large, growing over the Care Home roof and the open space. I have advised that WMPC attend to this tree for safety reasons.

Anne Westover Tree Warden

February 7th 2024