

**PARISH ENVIRONMENT GROUP**  
**2021/2022 Update by Wickham Market Parish Environment Group**  
(Tree Warden and Green Gym events)

We have continued to organise occasional small work parties during the last year.

***We are always in need of more support from our local people for all environmental projects, helping to enhance the village and do our small part in nurturing wildlife.***

This report highlights the key ongoing project areas and work undertaken in 2021/2022.

**1 SPORTS FIELD, THONG HALL LANE**

The west boundary tree/hedge line alongside field continues to be tended with more trees added. The planting here is looking really good and is now providing valuable landscape greenery and wildlife corridor linkage to/from the village. We have not yet managed to secure support for new hedge/trees to give some shelter and screening alongside the new allotments. (to align with the Neighbourhood Plan).

**2 WICKHAM MARKET CEMETERY**

We continue work in the cemetery to keep it looking beautiful. Jobs over the last year have included new signs, tree management and planting. Removing plastic tree tubes. Rabbit numbers are still somewhat problematical, and they do cause damage to trees, headstones/kerbs, flowers, grass sward and bulb areas. The snowdrops were wonderful early in the year and supplemented by new planting funded by a local benefactor.

**3 CHAPEL LANE**

We have managed our new planting project of 22 oak trees with field maple, hazel and hawthorn along the track across to Sandy Lane. Funded by SCC and supported by James Hayward, Landowner. These small tree groups will provide a high tree line visible from various parts of the village; BUT patience will be needed!

A new spinney was added with help from farmer and volunteers in the southeast field corner, some 60 native trees, oak, lime, hornbeam, hawthorn, field maple, cherry, dogwood, and hazel, all home grown and supplied by Tree Warden and helpers.



**4 DALLINGHOO ROAD**

The line of 15 Oak planted along this road in 1999 looking good, a few stray boughs and pruned wood have been collected up.

**5 HIGH STREET SOUTH OF THE VILLAGE INTO PETTISTREE**

The avenue of mixed trees still need attention, particularly tube removal. These trees are generally maturing well and are ever more important as development pressure on the area increases. We still await to find out what trees will be lost for the Pettistree development highway access.

**6. SUFFOLK TREE WARDEN SCHEME**

We are supported by the Suffolk Tree Warden Network in terms of specialist support. We have also received supply of peat free compost for potting on locally grown trees. Younger tree nurses are needed to grow on trees for future plantings.



**7. BIRD BOX PROJECT**

Rodney West and Maggie Grenham are continuing to monitor and check some 45 boxes erected by Terry Peake former Tree Warden and Bird specialist. They are currently seeking help for the barn owl boxes from a Suffolk BTO bird ringer.

New swift boxes have been placed in Wickham are now up with the sound system on too. This will be for Couple of hours at dawn and same at dusk. This is to attract swifts known as "Banger" looking for new nest sites this year for nesting next year.

**8. COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP**

Sonya Exton has been organising occasional village **Community Clean-ups** but does much work alone as do others. An event is planned for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April starting at 10.30am Village Hall.

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**Can you help us with any of these activities or projects, either out in the field or behind the scenes!? PLEASE come forward!**

**Offers of funding for future plantings welcome too, many thanks to those who have supported the work this year. This will also go towards winter 2022 projects.**

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