

Greening Glemsford PC Climate and Nature Group Report 10th October 2022

BMSDC Tree planting application 2022/23

Richard Parmee, the new Biodiversity Project Manager for BMSDC, visited Glemsford on 6th September to view the proposed tree replacement/tree planting sites. He also visited the Kings Rd wildflower project area. A summary of the application is in the Appendix of this report.

Great Big Green Week Eco Fair

The Greening Glemsford Eco Fair, a first for the Glemsford area, was held in the Methodist Hall on Sunday 25th September from 10.30am to 1pm. The sunny weather brought visitors of all ages with many commenting on the lovely friendly atmosphere. Displays provided advice on cutting carbon footprints, creating wildlife-friendly gardens, anti-littering and sustainable travel while local vendors and organisations offered environmentally aware shopping opportunities. Due to the cost of living crisis it was decided not to charge organisations for tables, and to suggest donations for refreshments.

Expenses such as venue hire, publicity and providing refreshments were met thanks to an award of £250 from the BMSDC Locality Fund, which will also be used to set up a Greening Glemsford website.

Thanks to donations from Willow Tree Farm Shop, Perrywood Garden Centre and members of Greening Glemsford the Raffle raised £128 which will go into the group's funds, managed by the Clerk to the Parish Council, and will enable the group to plan more events for community engagement.

News

- Suffolk County Council have been approached with a view to the group having a thermal imaging camera on loan (plus training on its use!) once the weather is colder. If this goes ahead, villagers will be invited to book a survey to inform on improving insulation.
- On 28th September Lesli Tunbridge and Jackie Coote attended a tour of Flatford Wildlife Garden which focused on advice and support to improve biodiversity in our Wildlife Friendly Village. Organised by representatives of the RSPB, AONB and SWT it was also an opportunity to meet other Eco group members.
- Glemsford Gardening Club have invited Greening Glemsford to give a short talk at the club's AGM on Tuesday 25th October.
- A Community Litter Pick has been arranged for Sunday 30th October, starting at 10am from Glemsford Methodist Church gates. Equipment will be provided and volunteers are invited to enjoy refreshments inside the Methodist Hall afterwards.

L Tunbridge
Chair

APPENDIX - see next page

Application to BMSDC re planting trees / mapping wildflower areas in Glemsford 2022/23

This is a summary of a Glemsford Site Visit at 3pm on 6th September 2022 with Richard Parmee, BMSDC Biodiversity Project Manager and Lesli & Tim Tunbridge (Greening Glemsford).

Apologies to Sally Hurrell (Glemsford Playing Field Committee) for not giving her the time of the meeting so she was unable to attend.

Application A - to replace trees around the overflow carpark at Glemsford Village Hall

It was agreed BMSDC will supply 5 trees to replace those which appear to have died during the heatwave/ drought this summer, namely 2 x *Betula pendula* and 3 x *Sorbus*. Greening Glemsford are happy to take delivery of whichever native trees are available at 1.5m or taller, but *Sorbus* and *Betula* are the preferred options. Greening Glemsford will plant and maintain the replacement trees.

Application B - to replace trees (whips) planted at Glemsford Allotments, Hammond Croft

On advice given it was agreed the 10 whips that appear to have died because of this year's heatwave/drought will not be replaced. It is possible the 'dead' trees will make a recovery, but if not the 20 remaining whips will hopefully develop to create a lovely grove. The area around each young tree should be kept weed free and another layer of mulch eg bark chippings, will be of benefit but it was suggested the scrubby vegetation growing in between the whips is protecting them from wind damage, so best left uncut. Glemsford WI will continue to maintain the young trees.

*Additional advice regarding the bare earth between the allotment fence and the pavement
The area has been grass seeded (by who?) so the suggestion is to leave it uncut from April to July next year to see what comes up, though thistles/stinging nettles will be removed by members of Greening Glemsford.

Application C - to plant trees on Glemsford Playing Field

It was agreed BMSDC will supply 5 more-mature oak trees (height around 2m) which will eventually provide shade and shelter for the Glemsford Playing Field Platinum Jubilee Picnic Seating area.

Advice given is to plant the trees at least 9-10m from the concrete base, and that the trees should be at least 10m apart.

Glemsford Playing Field Committee will plant and maintain the trees.

***Additional advice regarding encouraging more wildflowers and invertebrates**

A suggestion was made to allocate an area of the playing field adjacent to the picnic area which could be left uncut from April to July to see what comes up - to be decided by the Playing Field Committee.

Kings Road wildflower project

The site was visited to confirm its inclusion on the map of areas managed by BMSDC which are to be left uncut next Spring through to July, to see what comes up. A sign notifying villagers of this trial will be provided by BMSDC.

L Tunbridge 12/9/22