

Bicester Town Council



Environment Committee Meeting

Ref: ENV03/2324

Tuesday 12th September 2023

at 19:00hrs

**The Chamber Room, The Garth, Launton Road,
OX26 2PS**

Members:

Cllr Damien Maguire – **Chairman**, Cllr Christopher Pruden – **Vice-Chairman**
Cllr Donna Ford, Cllr Harry Knight, Cllr Rachel Mallows, Cllr Nicholas Mawer,
Cllr Rich Oliver, Cllr Les Sibley and Cllr Jim Webb

Other Circulation, Substitute Members:

Cllr Tom Beckett, Cllr Nick Cotter, Cllr Dan Hallet, Cllr Sam Holland,
and Cllr Paul Wheatley

Other Circulation:

Cllr John Broad (CDC), Cllr Sandy Dalimore (CDC), Cllr Simon Lytton (CDC)
Cllr Calum Miller (OCC), Cllr Lynn Pratt (CDC), Cllr Dan Sames (CDC)
and Cllr Michael Waine (OCC)



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06 September 2023

To all Members of the Environment Committee

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Environment Committee** at **The Chamber Room, The Garth, Launton Road, OX26 2PS** on **Tuesday 12th September 2023** to commence at **19:00hrs** for the transaction of the following business.

Phil Evans
Town Clerk

Agenda

All Council Meetings are open to the public and press, unless otherwise stated.

1. Apologies for Absence

To consider apologies and reasons for absence. Committee members who are unable to attend the meeting should notify Bicester Town Council (enquiries@bicester.gov.uk) prior to the meeting, stating the reason for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors are reminded to declare any interests on any item on this Agenda in accordance with Bicester Town Council's Code of Conduct.

3. Minutes of the Environment Committee

To confirm the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** of the following Environment Committee meeting:

(Pages 5 -
8)

ENV02/2324 - 18th July 2023

4. Minutes of the Events Working Party

To confirm the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** of the following Events Working Party meetings:

(Pages 9 -
10)

EWP02/2324 – 5th July 2023

5. **Community Sports Working Group** (Pages 11 - 12)
To confirm the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** of the following Community Sports Working Group:

CSWG01/2324 – 29th June 2023
6. **Allotment Working Party**
To confirm the **MINUTES** and **RESOLUTIONS** of the following Allotment Working Party:

AWP01/2324 – 3rd April 2023
7. **Public Session**
In accordance with Standing Orders 1 d-f, members of the public may make representations, ask questions, and give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda.
Time allocated shall not exceed 10 minutes. No member shall speak for more than 2 minutes.
8. **Presentation by Open Walls Network (Graffiti Wall)**
9. **Sunderland Drive** (Page 13)
Committee is asked to **APPROVE** the installation of lockable bollards and bund with funding of £3,100 to be taken from **EMR BTC premises**.
10. **BTC Land Management** (Page 14)
Committee is asked to **APPROVE** officers' approaching Ecological consultants and provide costs to the next Environment meeting.
11. **Tiny Forests** (Pages 15 - 16)
Committee is asked to **APPROVE** officers Identify available BTC land for this project and provide costs details for the next Environment meeting.
12. **Bure Park Planting Request** (Pages 17 - 27)
Committee is asked to **NOTE** the report and attached appendix A and **RECOMMEND** any further actions are delayed until the grounds maintenance contract is renewed April 2024 .
13. **Approved Projects** (Page 28)
Committee is asked to **NOTE** the work schedule for approved projects.
14. **Garth Park Play Area** (Pages 29 - 37)
Committee is requested to **APPROVE** two play area options for final designs to be created for approval in the next Environment meeting with a view to a public consultation.
15. **Garth House Rewire** (Page 38)
The committee is asked to:
 - **APPROVE** £3,500 for Garth house and CAB electrical works from **EMR BTC premises**.
 - **APPROVE** £6,000 for bandstand rewire of the bandstand including security lighting from **EMR BTC premises**.

16. Forward Plan

(Page 39)

The Committee is asked to **REVIEW** and **COMMENT** on the Forward Plan.

17. Date of Next Meeting

**Tuesday 21st November 2023 – 7pm, The Chamber Room,
Garth House**

Close of meeting:

Minutes of the Environment Committee

A meeting of the **Environment Committee** was held on **Tuesday 18th July 2023** at **19:00 hrs** at the **The Chamber Room, The Garth, Launton Road, OX26 2PS**.

Present:

Cllr Donna Ford
Cllr Dan Hallett (Substitute)
Cllr Rachel Mallows
Cllr Nicholas Mawer
Cllr Rich Oliver
Cllr Christopher Pruden
Cllr Jim Webb (Substitute)

In Attendance:

Paul Canning, Service Manager
Jodi Clarke, Administration Officer

1/23 Apologies for Absence

24 RESOLVED that apologies were received from Cllr Maguire, Cllr Knight and Cllr Sibley.

Cllr Hallett Substituted for Cllr Knight.
Cllr Webb substituted for Cllr Sibley.

2/23 Appointment of Vice Chair

24 Due to Cllr Maguire sending their apologies the Environment Committee **APPROVED** Cllr Pruden to Chair the meeting in the absence of Cllr Maguire.

RESOLVED that Cllr Pruden was **APPOINTED** as Vice-Chair for the Environment Committee.

3/23 Declarations of Interest

24 RESOLVED that Cllr Webb declared that they have a possible declaration of interest on item 13 of the Agenda, Cllr Webb is a member of the Bicester Fossils Walking Football Club at Whitelands Farm Sports Grounds.

4/23 Minutes of the Environment Committee

24 RESOLVED that the Environment Committee **APPROVED** the minutes from the Environment Meeting held on:

- **30th May 2023 at 7:00pm – ENV01/2324**

5/23 Minutes of the Events Working Party

24 RESOLVED that the minutes for the events working party were not attached to the agenda and would be put forward to the next Environment Committee held on:

- **12th September 2023 at 7:00pm.**

6/23 Public Session

24 RESOLVED that several members of the public were present.

- Representative from the Biodiversity Community
- Resident from Glory Farm
- Parent from Southwold

7/23 Kompan Presentation (Southwold, Garth Park)

24 RESOLVED that a presentation was given by Tom & Ben from Kompan. The presentation included designs for Garth Park and the Southwold play area.

8/23 Presentation by Open Walls Network (Graffiti Wall)

24 19:45 – Cllr Mallows left the room.

RESOLVED that Open Walls Network did not attend the meeting. The Officer will approach them again and look for alternative companies.

19:49 – Cllr Mallows returned to the room.

9/23 Best Kept Allotment Award

24 RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** the Best Kept Allotment Trophies along with the annual purchase of trophies from the **EMR Green Infrastructure**.

RESOLVED that Office Administrator would send the pricing to the members of the meeting.

10/2 Allotment Deposit Increase

324 RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** the Allotment Deposit Increase to go to the Finance Committee on:

- **10th October 2023 at 7:00pm**

11/2 Flagpoles

324 RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** the following:

- **Supplier A** due to the quality and robustness of the materials provided by a local supplier.
- The installation of a 4th Flag Pole.
- The funding for this project to be taken out of the **EMR BTC Premises**.

12/2 Manston Park Goal Posts

324 RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** the installation of the goal posts in line with the public consultation results and the funding to be taken from the **EMR Play Areas/Open space Investment**.

RESOLVED the Officer will look into the placement of the goals or try to move the gate into the park.

13/2 Whitelands 9 v 9 Goals

324 RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** Supplier A as long as the Officer investigates which EMR funding is appropriate for this, it can then be presented to the Finance Committee on:

- **10th October 2023 at 7:00pm**

14/2 Bicester Fields Renaming

324 Cllr Ford proposed a new recommendation to change the name Bicester Fields to Langford Park as opposed to Langford Fields, Cllr Mallows seconded the proposal.

RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** the renaming of Bicester Fields to Langford Park.

15/2 Grant Funding

324 RESOLVED that the Committee **NOTED** the content in Appendix 1.

16/2 ROSPA Findings

324 RESOLVED that the committee **APPROVED** the following:

- The refurbishment plan in 2.1 and 2.2, covering 2024 and 2025.
- The conversion of Siskin Close, Mallards Way (Duck Pond) and Burdock Close to another use – pending public consultation.

RESOLVED that the Officer was asked to look into the following:

- Refurbishment dates.
- How many children are in the areas in question.
- Have a look into Langford Play Areas.

17/2 Approved Projects

324 RESOLVED that the Committee **NOTED** the work schedule for approved projects.

RESOLVED that the Officer was asked to remove the work in progress (WIP) from projects that haven't been started.

Officer gave a verbal update on the meeting held with the woodland trust regarding the tree planting in Bure, 600 trees' are to be planted in the Bure Park Nature Reserve.

RESOLVED that the Officer would send the map to Cllr Mawer and look into the Grounds Maintenance contract prior to the trees being planted.

18/2 Electrical Rewire Garth Park

324 RESOLVED that the Committee **APPROVED** the additional spend with funds to be taken from **EMR BTC Premises**.

19/2 Forward Plan
324 RESOLVED that the Committee **REVIEWED** and **COMMENTED** on the Forward Plan.

Resolved that the Officer was asked to put the following items onto the Forward Plan:

- Gravenhill bus shelter.
- Ground Maintenance Contract
- Ward by Ward Play Areas.

Date of next Meeting: Tuesday 12 September 2023 at 19:00

CLOSE OF MEETING: 20:35 hrs

Minutes of the Events Working Party

A meeting of the **Events Working Party** was held on **Wednesday 5th July 2023** at **19:00 hrs** at the **Council Chamber, Garth House, Launton Road, OX26 6PS**.

Present:

Cllr Rich Oliver (Chairman)

Cllr Harry Knight
Cllr Damien Maguire
Cllr Jim Webb

In Attendance:

Paul Canning, Service Manager
Jodi Clarke, Office Administrator

16 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED that apologies were received from Cllr Donna Ford.

17 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED that Cllr Rich Oliver could have a Declaration of Interest as he is apart Equity Act.

18 Confirmed Minutes

RESOLVED that Working Party **APPROVED** the minutes for the Events Working Party held on:

- 7th June 2023 at 7:00pm.

19 Bicester Town Council Community Events

RESOLVED that the working party **REVIEWED** and **COMMENTED** on the following events:

- Live Music Event
- Family Sports Day

20 Other Events

RESOLVED that Nai's House gave an update of how their Be Nice Event went on the 1st July 2023. Nai's House raised £2,000+ at the event.

RESOLVED that Admin Officer would send an open space form to Gem at Nai's House along with a link to HM Land Registry.

Nai's House thanked Jodi Clarke (Admin) and Simon Deane (Outdoor Team Leader) for their help on the Saturday Morning.

RESOLVED that Bicester Pride gave an update on their upcoming event. The Service Manager informed and requested the following from the representatives for Bicester Pride:

- Collect the radios the day before.
- Gazebo's will be left in the yard with weights.
- Barriers will be left in the yard.
- Send their Event Plan along with all relevant documents.
- The Agreement with Savior Fare to be sent in writing to the Service Manager.

APPROVED that Bicester Pride can hang a banner on the front gates of Garth 2 weeks before the Event.

It was raised that the Pride Event is not showing on the Bicester Town Council website.
RESOLVED that Officers would look into this.

RESOLVED that Officers would look into a location or options as to where/how the Council can notify more about what's going on in Bicester.

21 Chinese New Year

RESOLVED that the working party **COMMENTED** on the proposal for the Chinese New Year event for January 2024.

22 Forward Plan

RESOLVED that the working party **REVIEWED** and **COMMENTED** on the Forward Plan.

Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 13 September 2023 at 19:00

CLOSE OF MEETING: 19:36 hrs

Minutes of the Community Sports Working Group

A meeting of the **Community Sports Working Group** was held on **Thursday 29th June 2023** at **19:00 hrs** at the **The Chamber Room, The Garth, Launton Road, OX26 6PS**.

Present:

Cllr Tom Beckett
Cllr Nicholas Mawer
Cllr Christopher Pruden
Cllr Harry Knight (Substitute)
Paul Canning, Service Manager
Dominic Hilton, Civic and Democratic Administrator

In Attendance:

Neil McKechnie FC Whitelands
Gareth Hamer North Oxfordshire RTC
Claire Flin Launton Ladies
Nial Riley FC Whitelands
Ben Hiller Bure Park FC
Brian Leach Ivy FC
Chris Dabell Bicester RFC
Steve Payne Bicester Fossils
Alie Payne Bicester Fossils
Chris Cassidy KEA FC
Chris Wales Bicester Town Colts
Maz Heslop Cheserton FC
Jay Adams Glory Fram FC
Adam Robinson Bure Park Disability

1 Appoint Chair

RESOLVED that committee **APPOINTED** Cllr Beckett as chairman for municipal year 23/24

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Webb – He was Substituted by Cllr Knight

3 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED that Cllr Knight declared interest in agenda item 11

4 Minutes of the Community Sports Working Group

RESOLVED that members **CONFIRMED** the minutes of 30th May 2022 and 6th October 2022

5 Additional Fees

Committee **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** the report

6 Whitelands Next Stages

Committee **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** on the report

7 Pitch Break Timeline

Committee **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** on the report

Minutes: 01/2324: Community Sports Working Group Meeting
Thursday 29th June 2023

Page 1 of 2

Signed

Dated

- 8 Next Season 2023/24**
Committee **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** on the report
Better communication from BTC Moving forward
- 9 Block Bookings at Whitelands**
Committee **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** on the report
Look at adding more time in evening bookings
Implementing a 3 strike system
Whiteland staff to monitor and report daily
Working Group rejected proposal for block bookings to be reset for the times listed
- 10 Family Sports Day**
Committee **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** on the report
Participants in the room are happy to be involved
Communication around these events needs to be improved
- 11 Mayoral Football Tournament**
Committee **NOTED** and **COMMENTED** on the report
Support from those within the room
Concern for the lack of time
- 12 Date of next meeting**
Date of next meeting: Thursday 31st August 2023 – 7pm
Close of meeting: 20:43

BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Tuesday 12th September 2023

Sunderland Drive Park Security

Chairman: Damien Maguire

Telephone: 01869 252915 Damien.Maguire@Bicester.gov.uk

Service Manager: Paul Canning

Contact: 01869 252915 Paul.Canning@Bicester.gov.uk

Ward Affected: East

1. Overview

- 1.1 Sunderland Drive Park annually suffers from incursions despite a new barrier being put in place.
- 1.2 The entrance to the park remains vulnerable due to gaps in the hedge line to the right of the existing gate.

2. Proposal

- 1.3 A quote was requested from CDC to provide a bund to the right of the existing gate (Red square) and the installation of 3 lockable bollards installed directly behind the entrance gate.



2. Recommendation

Committee is asked to **APPROVE** the installation of lockable bollards and bund with funding of £3,100 to be taken from **EMR BTC premises**.

BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Tuesday 12th September 2023

Land Management BTC Estate

Chairman: Damien Maguire

Telephone: 01869 252915 Damien.Maguire@Bicester.gov.uk

Service Manager: Paul Canning

Contact: 01869 252915 Paul.Canning@Bicester.gov.uk

Ward Affected: All

1. Overview

- 1.1** Officers have been approached with a request from Cllr Beckett to conduct a review of its current land management practices in favour of wildlife habitat and a reduction of its carbon footprint.

2. Proposal

- 2.1** An ecological consultant would be employed to review current land management practices. The focus would be on the timing of land management to ensure wildlife thrives across BTC premises. Review the use of seed and tree planting to maximise the natural environment and the creation of habitat for wildlife by the laying of woody matter. Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicide and pesticides across council owned land.
- 2.2** The review would focus on the land management plans agreed within the current contractor with clear recommendations of how this may be improved.
- 2.3** The review would provide a set of guidelines the council would adopt to improve its practices.
- 2.4** Once the review had been completed officers would be requested to consider how it may adapt its practices and report back to committee with its intended actions

3. Recommendation

Committee is asked to **APPROVE** officers' approach Ecological consultants and provide costs to the next Environment meeting.

BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Tuesday 12th September 2023

Tiny Forests

Chairman: Damien Maguire

Telephone: 01869 252915 Damien.Maguire@Bicester.gov.uk

Service Manager: Paul Canning

Contact: 01869 252915 Paul.Canning@Bicester.gov.uk

Ward Affected: All

1. Overview

- 1.1** Tiny Forests, the size of a tennis court, are dense fast-growing native woodland, planted to improve areas of urban tree population and help connect communities to nature in their area. The planting method encourages accelerated forest development without using chemicals or fertilisers and has low maintenance requirements. Once planted, volunteers from each project will monitor their Tiny Forest to help it flourish. Growing evidence based upon the benefits of trees for improved mental and physical health by creating opportunities for people to come together as a community to care for and maintain their local forests. The project increases people's connection to nature through education, engagement and citizen science activities and raising awareness of the climate crisis and the importance of nature-based solutions in urban areas.



- 1.2** The Tiny Forests will be used as a “kick start” mechanism to make residents aware of these priority areas in the Oxfordshire Nature Recovery Network, to get them engaged and

actively developing other nature recovery programmes around the Tiny Forest and on these wildlife recovery routes.

- 1.3 Environmental and social data will be collected over time to assess and compare the benefits of each Tiny Forests. The east of Bicester is in the area designated as the Reconnecting Bernwood Forest, the River Ray and the Otmoor Basin initiative, coordinated by BBOWT.
- 1.4 Social benefits include creating opportunities for the community to come together, improved physical and mental health by increasing people's connection to nature through education and raising awareness of the climate and biodiversity crisis.
- 1.5 Environmental benefits include a richer biodiversity, flood mitigation, and absorption of CO₂.

2. Proposal

- 2.1 Officers in conjunction with the CDC tree officer to identify BTC land available for the tiny forest project.
- 2.2 Identify local groups, schools and businesses that would like to take part in volunteering to plant and maintain the forests.
- 2.3 Seek funding from corporate donors, trusts, foundations, and local fund raising.
- 2.4 Community consultation via leaflets, posters, and social media.
- 2.5 Work with and gain support from Earth Watch as a delivery partner.

2. Recommendation

Committee is asked to **APPROVE** officers Identify available BTC land for this project and provide costs details for the next Environment meeting.

BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 22nd November 2022

Bure Park Planting Request

Chairman: Damien Maguire

Telephone: 01869 252915 Damien.Maguire@Bicester.gov.uk

Service Manager: Paul Canning

Telephone: 01869 252915 Paul.canning@bicester.gov.uk

Ward Affected: All Wards

1. Background

- 1.1** A request was received from Councillor Mawer the Environment committee considers planting more trees in the nature reserve to aid the Town council with encouraging more wildlife into the area. This was approved and officers requested to investigate.

2. Proposal

- 2.1** The CDC Tree officer has issued the following report dated 08/10/2022.

- 2.2** Whilst on site, I did however spot an area of potential planting. The field area to the south of the woodland, as you can see in the below snip, contains no trees in the blue area, but trees in the red area. trees in the red area are in somewhat of a pasture woodland form, with ample space between them for users to walk between. I feel this is a very user-friendly way of incorporating more trees into an open space and could easily be replicated in the blue area.



- 2.3** A pasture woodland is commonly seen in grazing areas where livestock move freely amongst established trees. Often, when planting pasture woodland, groups of trees will be planted, with shrub species surrounding them.

I think we need to be conscious of how much time I can reasonably afford to the project considering my obligations to maintain BTCs existing tree stock, alongside how much time this project will take from that. It may prove beneficial to go directly to a third-party company who can design and implement, with myself advising BTC.

- 2.5** Officers approached the Woodland Trust who conducted a survey of the area and provided the attached report **Appendix A**.

3. Recommendations

Committee is asked to **NOTE** the report and attached appendix A and **RECOMMEND** any further actions are delayed until the grounds maintenance contract is renewed April 2024 .

Woodland Trust

Site visit feedback

4th July 2023

Emma Mayo

Tel: 07976 645778

Email: emmamayo@yahoo.co.uk



WOODLAND
TRUST

Site background

The proposed planting area is estimated at a total of 0.65 ha (as mapped below). The land is known as Bure Nature Park and has many remnant trees and hedges, lightly managed grass and a river lined with mature trees and shrubs running through. Although the park is enjoyed by local walkers, it isn't used for amenity and leisure e.g. football. The park has a strong woodland component and this planting will add a new dimension to this, while maintaining some of the existing open glades between mature hawthorn and shrubby areas, keeping a mosaic of habitats within the main open area. The soil is classified as freely draining lime rich loamy soil and suitable trees will be chosen that should grow well here.

Assessment of onsite conditions and likely mitigation:

Item	Description (or state if absent)	Mitigating action required
Landscape		
Public right of way (notified by applicant)	There is full public access to the site	Mow existing paths as normal – ensure the trees are planted 5m apart along existing paths to maintain access
Services (notified by applicant)	There are no powerlines or other services here	
Protected Landscape?	The land is not in a protected landscape	
Residential boundaries	There are no residential boundaries alongside the planting	
Stewardship schemes (ELS; HLS; CS)	Not applicable	

Biodiversity		
Existing habitat	Current habitat is improved grassland	
Priority Species Present	There are no priority species present on site	
Water		
Watercourses (notified by applicant and checked by Adviser prior to site visit)	There is a watercourse adjoining the site but it is lined by trees and the planting will not go within 10m	
Historic environment		
Archaeology (checked by Adviser prior to site visit)	There are no records of an archaeology at this site	
Surrounding protected features	There are no surrounding protected features	

Planting Objectives

The motivation for planting was noted as:

1. Nature recovery – woodland creation can contribute by creating new habitat for wildlife, buffering and extending existing woodland, and increasing connectivity in fragmented landscapes.
2. Climate change mitigation – new woodland can sequester and store carbon.
3. People – this planting will engage the local community

Site Plan

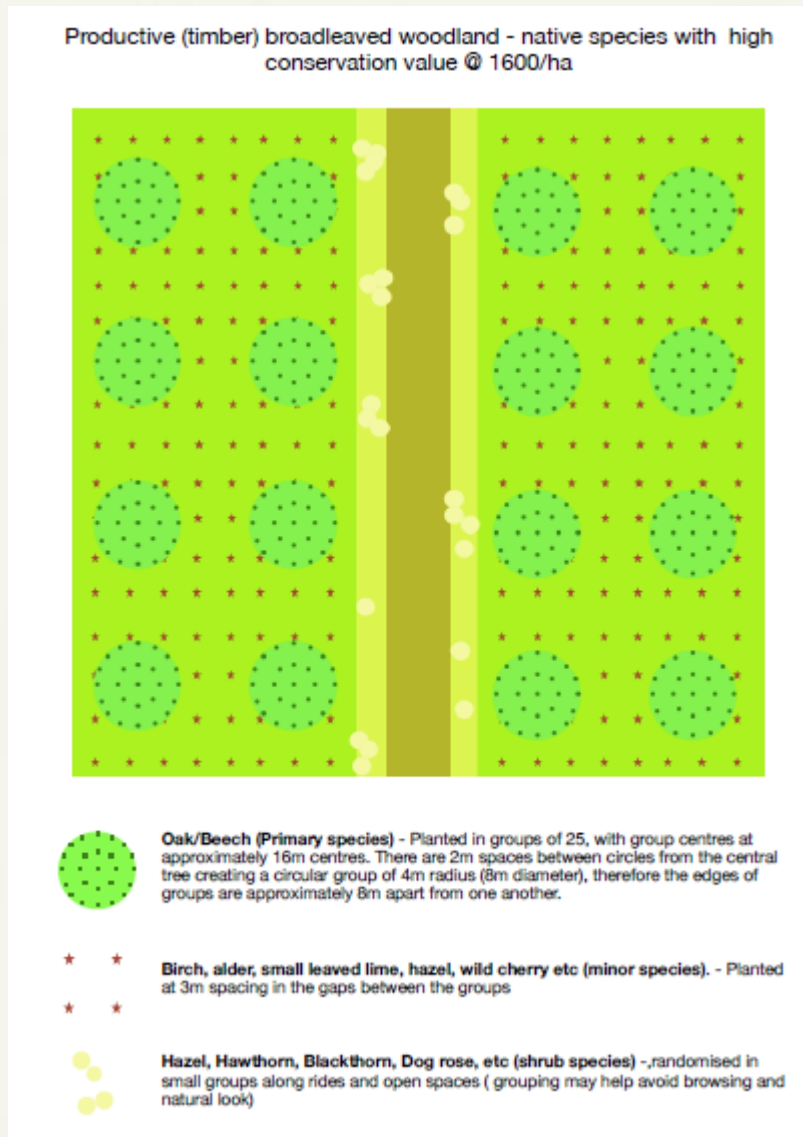
Below is an overview showing the location of the proposed planting. The area is to be planted with a mix of native broadleaf species to meet your objectives. All of the species recommended on the following page can be planted in these areas following the general planting advice below.

Annotated Site Map



Planting design

It is advised that trees species are to be planted in groups of 5-10 at an average 2.5m spacing (for 1600 stems per hectare), within staggered wavy lines. Some can be closer together and some further apart.



Flowering/blossom times:

February	March	April	May	June	July
Alder Goat Willow	Hazel Blackthorn	Field Maple Crab Apple Wild Cherry	Hawthorn Sycamore Rowan Holly	Common Lime	Sweet Chestnut

Species mix

I suggest the following species that will grow well (with the right maintenance) and meet your objectives. The species (apart from walnut) are all native to the UK and all offer benefits to wildlife in different ways. All seed has been sourced and grown in the UK.

Tree species

Aspen x 50
Crab apple x 50
Field maple x 100
Goat willow x 50
Hornbeam x 150
Common oak x 150 – primary species
Rowan x 50
Small leaved lime x 25
Whitebeam x 50
Wild cherry x 100
Walnut x 25

Total Number of Trees: 800

Shrub species

Dog rose x 25
Dogwood x 25
Guelder rose x 25
Hawthorn x 25
Hazel x 75
Spindle x 25

Total Number of Shrubs: 200

Trees should be planted within 7 days of delivery (or 'heeled in' to a trench straight away) to ensure the best success rate for your new wood. The trees delivered will be young bare root saplings and will vary in size between 40 – 60cm.

Protection

All tree species are to be planted with 1.2m tubes and stakes with all shrub species protected by 75cm spirals and canes. This will help protect against mammal damage.

Site preparation

It would be advisable to cut/graze grass short to make planting and subsequent maintenance easier.

Maintenance

We recommend maintaining a weed free area around the base of each tree for 2 years after planting. This is to reduce competition from weeds/grass and help the trees establish more quickly. You could use mulch mats (or well-rotted wood-chip) around each tree or hand-weed the base of the trees approximately twice a year. Alternatively you could spray using a contact herbicide around the base of each tree once a year (usually in the spring) with a knapsack sprayer for 2 years after planting. Please note that cutting grasses stimulates them to compete strongly and is best avoided in the early years after planting.

We also recommend you check that the tree shelters and stakes/canes are in place after strong winds and firm them up as necessary. Each spring before the ground hardens the stakes/canes should be returned to an upright position as necessary and the tubes/spirals placed in direct contact with the ground.

Remove guards as soon as they split and before they start to disintegrate (usually after 5-10 years). This is best done in the winter. The guards have now done their job and may hamper growth. Please dispose of the plastics responsibly to protect local wildlife. The tubes are made from polypropylene (PP) and the spirals are PVC. Both can be recycled where facilities exist; please check with your local authority or find a specialist company like Agri-Cycle or Tomorrows Forest.

Estimated costs

We can offer the following funding options for a project of this size:

Option 1: Self plant – plastic tubes

On a self-plant scheme we are able to offer 75% funding, this means the cost to you would be approximately £775.00 excluding VAT. We will supply the trees and protection and it would then be up to you to plant the trees or arrange a planting contractor.

Option 2: Sustainable ‘non plastic’ tree protection trial

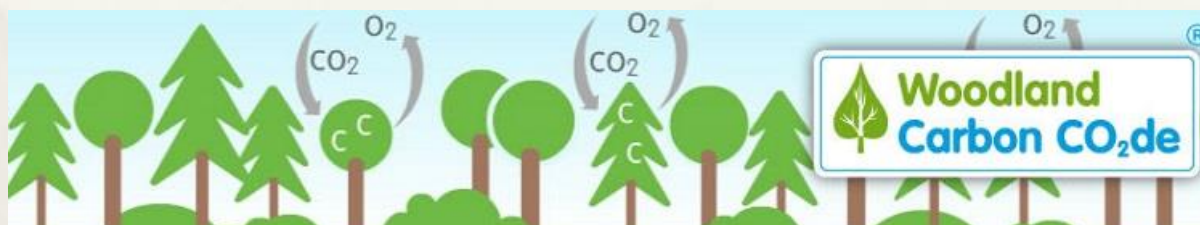
On a self-plant scheme we can offer 75% funding, this means the cost to you would be approximately £2325.00 excluding VAT. We will supply the trees and sustainable tree protection and it would then be up to you to plant the trees or arrange a planting contractor. Please note that the costs outlined in this site report are subject to change based on the current market price for the sundries.

Next steps

If you are happy to proceed with the proposed plan please let us know. We can deliver/plant your trees in the next planting season, between late November 2023 and late March 2024. Once you are happy with the scheme someone will be in contact to send out an agreement for signing and arrange payment and a suitable delivery date.

If you have any further questions before confirming, then please feel free to contact me to discuss.

Carbon payments



As stated during the application process, you should be aware that areas planted with trees through MOREwoods will become ineligible for Basic Farm Payment. If you hold any form of Stewardship agreement (ELS; HLS; CS) with Natural England they must be informed before proceeding.

However, you may be eligible for carbon payments by selling your captured carbon in the form of verified carbon credits.

<https://woodlandcarboncode.org.uk/>

The Woodland Trust is a carbon project developer and will consider any native woodland project greater than 5 hectares. Woodland Carbon provides numerous benefits to landowners including – upfront payment for carbon (in advance of actual sequestration), management and delivery of all WCC processes (Registration, Validation, Verifications), and certainty of income. If payments for carbon may be of interest, then please ask for further information.

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/woodland-carbon-farmers-and-landowners/>



Supporting the Woodland Trust

If you would like to further support the work of the Woodland Trust, please visit:
<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/>

Help us record nature

Help us track the effects of weather and climate change on wildlife near you, visit Natures Calendar to report your observations:
<https://naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

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For woodland creation and management contractors, the Woodland Trust strongly recommends you obtain at least three independent quotations, evidence of statutory accreditation and appropriate insurances, to your own satisfaction.

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BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 12th September 2023

Approved Projects

Chairman: Damien Maguire

Telephone: 01869 252915 Damien.Maguire@bicester.gov.uk

Services Manager: Paul Canning

Telephone: 01869 252915 Paul.Canning@bicester.gov.uk

Ward Affected: All Wards

1. Background

1.1 The Environment Committee Chair requested this report be submitted as a standing item going forward.

1.2 This report is to offer the committee sight on all approved projects where delivery is in progress to aid in any future requests or approval of work and the understanding of the impact to the manpower required.

2. Approved Projects

Project Name	Expected Delivery
Installation of 4 flagpoles Garth Park	Completed
Bure Park Nature Reserve Knee Rail	WIP
Memorial bench (Skate Park)	Completed
Emergency Plan Creation	Mar-24
Chambers Table Refurb	WIP
QGC tree planting in memoriam of the queen	Nov-23
Bure Park Planting Request	Apr 24 Woodland Trust report attached
Langford Field Project	Oct-23
Bicester Litter Pick	Apr-24
Bicester Fields Outdoor Gym	Nov-23
Manston Park Goals Posts	Oct-23
Southwold Knee rail	Sep-23
Southwold Play Area	Planning Permission to be obtained
Garth Park Play area	WIP

3. Recommendations

The committee is asked to **NOTE** the work schedule for approved projects.

BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Tuesday 13th September 2023

Garth Park Play Area Refurbishment

Chairman: Damien Maguire

Telephone: 01869 252915 Damien.Maguire@Bicester.gov.uk

Service Manager: Paul Canning

Contact: 01869 252915 Paul.Canning@Bicester.gov.uk

Ward Affected: All

1. Overview

1.1 In the previous Environment meeting (18th July), KOMPAN provided a presentation to the committee highlighting 3 designs for the refurbishment of the Garth Park play area. Designs had varying combinations of splash park and play area with the final design being the destination park.

2. Proposal

2.1 Four play area options that may require a redesign from KOMPAN.

2.2 The committee is asked to note splash parks may need to be managed during peak periods, maintenance costs and repair if needed.

2.3 Play equipment will be green line using recycled materials.

Option 1 – Splash Park £200,000 (Appendix 1) plus £200,000 for shelters, seating, changing area and play equipment.

Option 2 – Splash Park £280,000 (Appendix 2) plus £120,000 for shelters, seating, changing area and/or play equipment.

Option 3 – Splash Park £310,000 (Appendix 3) plus £90,000 for shelters, seating and changing area and/or play equipment.

Option 4 – £400,000 (Appendix 4) destination park design with play equipment only.

3. Recommendation

The committee is requested to **APPROVE** two play area options for final designs to be created for approval in the next Environment meeting with a view to a public consultation.

Bicester Town Council - Garth Park

Play for all..

Splash Pad Examples - £200k

Appendix 1



Fun Characters

Imaginative Play

Over 10 Play Features

Total Splash Pad Area 100m2






Plan View

Features your pad will contain:

Imaginative Theme Coloured Wetpour Characters

Water Features

Feature Number	Feature Name	No. Of
ES-101	Water Beasty	x1
ES-102	Sea Squirt	x2
ES-103	Leaping Arc	x1
ES-104	Hydro Blast	x2
ES-106	Peacock Jet	x1
ES-125-6	Anchoring Water Fence	x1
ES-407	Flower Aqua Tent	x1
ES-406	Flower Twin Tipper	x1
ES-407	Snake Head	x1
AV-101	Floor Activator	x2

Nature Theme

Designer: Jason Griffiths
Contact: Greg Steele

Splash Pad example 280k

Appendix 2



Splash Pad example 310k

Appendix 3



Destination Park 400k

Urban Giants Tower

URBAN GIANTS TOWER IS A 9 METRE HIGH TOWER LOADED WITH PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND IMAGINATIVE PLAY ACTIVITIES FROM TOP TO BOTTOM AND INSIDE AND OUT. THE PHYSICAL PLAY ACTIVITIES RANGE FROM TICKLING-IN-THE-CH SLIDES, THRILLING BANISTER BARS AND GIANT TRANSPARENT CLIMBING WALLS!

A TOWER FULL OF THRILLS, WHERE IMAGINATIONS RUN WILD...

Idminton Play Area
Idminton Parish Council



Destination Park 400k



Destination Park 400k

ester Town Council - Garth Park
for all..



Toddler AREA



Inclusive Area



Junior Area



BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Tuesday 13th September 2023

Additional Garth House Rewire

Chairman: Damien Maguire

Telephone: 01869 252915 Damien.Maguire@Bicester.gov.uk

Service Manager: Paul Canning

Contact: 01869 252915 Paul.Canning@Bicester.gov.uk

Ward Affected: All

1. Overview

- 1.1** While conducting Garth House rewire the following additions were made for both Garth House and the Citizens Advice, energy saving PR sensors, reception wall lights and replacement of a condemned water heater.
- 1.2** The bandstand electrics and security lighting has been condemned and requires a complete installation from the main building. This requires a narrow but deep trench to be cut into the lawn to allow connection to the bandstand power sockets and security lighting.
- 1.3** Security lighting in the bandstand area of the park will be improved during the winter months when the outdoor team conduct litter picking in the mornings and when closing the park in the evening.
- 1.4** The bandstand will have its own power for events such as the light trails Santa's grotto and for summer events such as Gin and jazz allowing musicians to use electrical sound equipment. Currently an external extension cable is from Garth House and is not practical from a health and safety perspective.

2. Proposal

- 2.1** PR sensors installed in citizens advice, replacement water heater condemned during the rewire and Garth reception wall lights with PR sensor £3,500.
- 2.2** Complete rewire of the bandstand including security lighting with timer switch & movement sensors, override switch and power sockets £6,000.

3. Recommendation

The committee is asked to **APPROVE** £3,500 for Garth house and CAB electrical works from **EMR BTC premises**.

APPROVE £6,000 for bandstand rewire of the bandstand including security lighting from **EMR BTC premises**.

**BICESTER TOWN COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN**

Tuesday 12th September 2023

Date/ Item/ Comment

ENV03-2122

Approved Projects

Standing

Allotment update

Standing

Gravenhill Bus Shelter

Play area review.

Grounds Maintenance Contract