

Green Team January 2022 Newsletter

Our Mission

The Green Team is a team of both core and ad hoc volunteers who help look after and maintain the green spaces in Whitchurch-on-Thames. Coming together in this way also encourages a sense of community and is a good way of getting to know people.

What's Happened Recently

The weather has been decidedly wintery, with consequent changes to growth patterns. A big thank you to everyone who's been helping out. Tasks have included:

- Work parties removing unsightly brambles and weeds and digging and re-seeding a section of the verge outside Eastfield House, as well as completing the plan to reduce the sumach to one foot height (standard gardening practice) to keep it under better control
- Working party at the village green, digging out holly, removing brambles and fallen branches from 'the mound', and removing cuttings from the cricket club's grass cuttings box with a view to using as much as possible for compost
- Surveying and selecting a site near the trig point for a Jubilee beacon in June - initial site preparation to be completed by mid-March
- Obtaining SODC approval for our planting and management plan for a community orchard in the Polish Garden, so we are now able to start preparing the ground

In addition I am pleased to report that Neil Huntington has agreed to become guardian for Muddy Lane and is now reviewing options for improving the path surface. Please offer to help Neil if you think you can make a contribution.

How you can help!

This is the Winter/Spring 2022 working party schedule so far - you can always find the up-to-date version on the village website Whats On section:

- date tba - cutting back obtrusive branches at the top of Muddy Lane
- 26 Feb - village green working party
- various tba - working parties to prepare beacon site and Polish Garden orchard
- 26 Mar - village green working party

Get involved!

We are still looking for people who live near or often enjoy a particular green space to become a maintainer or guardian of an area. This involves keeping an eye out for things that need doing, interacting with me and the rest of the Green Team to plan any working parties or help that's needed.

The highlighted Green Space in need of a Guardian this month is Manor Road south side, together with the bell entrance to Manor Road at the High Street end. This requires periodic tidying and cutting of the shrubs ensuring that they are kept under control and that the pavement remains clear for pedestrians. If you want to help look after it please drop me a line!

Find out more

Visit our page on the village website <https://whitchurchonthames.com/groups/greenteam.html> or contact Charles on charles_cotgreave@yahoo.co.uk, 0118 984 2934 or 07770 648722.