

Friends of the Millennium Green Newsletter

Autumn 2017

A short update to keep you informed of events and actions on the Millennium Green in Clifton Campville.

New Fruit & Nut Grove

Plans for our new Fruit and Nut Grove are well underway and we have recently received news that we have been successful with our application for a grant towards the cost of the trees. South Staffs Water 'Pebble Fund' has awarded us £750!! All being well it will include a sweet Chestnut tree, a crab apple tree, a pear tree, a couple of apple trees and a damson tree. ... possibly also a quince tree and an almond tree.

What's the Red Paint?

Some of you may have noticed that red paint marks have appeared on some trees in the copse and along the hedgerows. These are to be felled this winter - either because of damage/disease or to ensure that overcrowding is controlled whilst taking into account the species of trees. We will also be cutting back the suckers from the cherry trees to ensure that the woodland is not overrun, coppicing about a third of the hazels and removing some of the low branches from other trees.

Phantom Strimmers

Thank you again to everyone who has helped us throughout the year - particularly our Phantom Strimmers. Your assistance is very much appreciated.

HELP us keep the Green looking good – Saturday 18th November 2017

10am - 1pm

Maintaining the Green can be very costly but we try to keep the costs to a minimum.

We rely heavily on volunteers and only pay for contractors to do work when we absolutely have to. At this time of the year we need to set about strimming, trimming, weeding, cleaning, cutting and snipping to ensure the Green is ready for the winter.

We're asking all friends of the Green to give us a hand if they can – more hands make light work – and it can be fun. All sorts of jobs from washing down the benches to weeding steps. Put your wellies on, grab your gardening gloves and bring along a pair of secateurs if you have them. Don't worry - you don't have to be an expert gardener – bring a smile with you and we'll show you what to do.

The Green belongs to the community – so let's all work together on it.

Anybody spot the Kingfisher earlier in the year ... keep a careful eye out for any unusual wild life and let us know what you spot! Don't worry if you see birds of prey flying around at dawn and dusk - they have our full permission and are part of a strategy for controlling vermin on the Green.

We have welcomed two new trustees this summer - Jason Chandler and Christine Warburton - so the current Trustees are:

Clive Boydell, Steve Bradley, Jason Chandler, Liz Ellis (Chair), Debbie Fulbrook, David Lodge, Bob Patchett, Lorna Robinson, Sue Wadham, Christine Warburton