

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

Meeting	Community Services Committee
Date	16 September 2020
Report by	Phil Wright – Community Services Manager
Report title	Tree Planting and Natural Woodland Cover
Business Plan theme	Conserve and improve our parks, green spaces and other assets so they offer a natural haven for residents’ use and enjoyment.

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1. To provide an update on the work to identify sites for tree planting and to seek agreement from the Committee on the way forward.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:

- 2.1.1. Approve the delivery of planting at the sites marked ‘yes’ in Appendix B.
- 2.1.2. Approve the planting of a memorial oak tree on the Common adjacent to the A1081 St Albans Road, just south of the Baa Lambs Car Park.
- 2.1.3. Approve that officers work with the Mayor’s Charity the Human Milk Foundation to plant trees in line with Baby Loss Awareness Week.

3. Background information

- 3.1. In January 2020 the Committee noted progress made in identifying sites for the planting of trees and wilding of areas. The report with the context to this work can be found in Appendix A.
- 3.2. Since then we have worked up plans and have set out in Appendix A recommendations. The recommendations will see c1,500 plants and trees introduced across our land in the next two years.

3.3. The Council received a request for the planting of a memorial oak tree in August. The Council is happy to support recommendation 2.1.2 due to the number of oak trees that have been lost during adverse weather conditions in recent months.

3.4. The Council will also be producing a guide for residents who wish to plant on their own land and a draft of this will be considered by a future Committee.

4. Resource implications

4.1. The Council has agreed a £50k Capital Reserve allocation to deliver this programme. Any ongoing revenue implications will be met from general budget.

5. Other implications

Other Implications	Comment
Legal	None
Environment and biodiversity	The recommendations would make a positive impact on the environment and the Council's commitment to carbon capture.
Crime and Disorder	None
Risk/Health & Safety	Any trees planted will be monitored under our Tree Policy. This covers our health and safety requirements.

6. Appendices

Appendix A – Report from January CSC meeting

Appendix B – Recommendations on planting