

Carlton Gardening Group

Annual Report 2020-21

The Annual General Meeting scheduled for March 2020 had been cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions; the 2021 AGM had been postponed until June. Essential works during the year had been carried out by individuals, pairs or very small socially-distanced groups. This report has been approved by the CGG Executive Committee.

The CGG has 15 members who provided a total of 57.5 man-hours of volunteer labour in the Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard (23.75 hours), Churchyard and Cemetery (28.75 hours), Little Lane (4.0 hours) and roadside trees (1 hour) during 2020. Enid Morgan and Tania Sharp kindly provided refreshments for working parties. All members had signed consent forms, as required by the Data Protection Regulations.

Diamond Jubilee Orchard

The revised mowing regime had worked well, with fewer clippings requiring removal and disposal. The meadow areas had been cut at the end of June, and the dry hay had been burned on site in July.

The stake had been removed from the Shackerstone apple (T36), and the tree had been pruned.

The specimen holly at the end of the Barton Rd hedge was growing on well.

The chestnut logs next to the picnic table had been cleaned and smoothed; the grass strip between the hedge and the path had been mowed and this had improved the appearance of the area.

Victoria plums from T34 had been entered in the Horticultural Show, but had not been awarded a prize.

Churchyard and Cemetery

The coppice shoots from the rowan tree in the NW corner of the churchyard had been killed by a severe late frost, and the stool appeared to be dead. Naturalised cyclamen growing in the grass were spreading.

The top of a bird cherry in the E hedge had been blown down: the trunk had been found to have an area of heart rot from a pruning wound, but this had not been visible from outside. The tree had been removed and the brash burned.

The kissing gate to Main Street had been replaced.

Little Lane

The branches of the old ash trees showed some evidence of die-back in June, and would be monitored. (The neighbouring landowners are responsible for the management of these hedgerow trees).

The wild cherry trees are overhanging the neighbouring property, and it had been agreed that these would be cut back in a joint operation. This work had been postponed because of Covid-19 restrictions on group working.

The bench seat at the N end had been replaced with materials kindly donated by a neighbouring land owner.

Roadside hedges

The oak tree at Harry's Grave had recovered, and had been watered during dry spells. One new oak tree on the W side of Barton Road had been decapitated by a careless hedgecutting contractor. This tree had been growing well, and would be left to grow back from the remaining stem.

Carlton Green

There had been no work on Carlton Greens.

Graham Jackson Chairman