

## **REPORT TO KIMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 22nd September 2021**

### **PUBLIC SPACES AND PLAYGROUND WORKING PARTY**

**Held on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

#### **At Parkfield Recreation Ground**

**With Cllr J Marsh, Cllr C Procter, Mrs Carina Helmn (Parish Clerk), Mr Bob Finch (KBWP)**

1. The footpath to the south of Parkfield Recreation Ground (FP60) needs to be cleared. The Bench Working Party are keen to help with this clearing but it's too big a job for them to do all of it. The job involves clearing rubbish, clearing the overgrown bushes and probably digging out some areas to recreate the path. The hedge also requires a lot of cutting back. The BWP can make a start on clearing the rubbish if KPC can provide a skip.
  - a. Approval required for skip hire?
  - b. Quotes are to be obtained for the clearing of the footpath and cutting the hedge back.
  - c. Once the hedge has been tidied up the working party would like to see fruit and holly trees included in the replanting.
  
2. The working party would like to see the slope around the car park (on Parkfield Recreation Ground) turned into a meadow area. The BWP and Sue Davies have volunteered to help with the planting of this area. Carina has already put in orders for these trees.
  - a. There are a minimum of 840 trees to be planted along the access road and around the car park. The plan is for there to be year-round colour and the newly formed hedge around the car park to ultimately replace the fence.

3. A new play area or improved facilities at Parkfield was discussed. The working party are going to explore other play areas by way of research. Options already being discussed are:
  - a. MUGA area which can be used for netball amongst other things
  - b. Outdoor exercise equipment
  - c. New timber multi purpose play area
  - d. An area dedicated to the early teens aged children
  
4. Proposal for a four-year plan for the hedgerow:
  - a. Each year a section is cut down and replanted with whips from the Woodland Trust. Suggest the cut length relates to 420 whips (max we can obtain from them in one order) so that residents can see the overall management of the hedge taking place. Having the work in stages would avoid having a drastic change in one hit and also wildlife can continue to inhabit the area.
  - b. The new hedge could be planted a tad further away from the present hedge for ease of planting and the creation of a slightly wider public footpath. The footpath can then be kept clear if the width of a mower.
  - c. Perhaps some larger specimen trees can be included at intervals with due consideration on specific location, native species, mature height and root network.