

The Queen's Green Canopy to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022

1) Purpose of the report

To advise the committee of 'The Queen's Green Canopy', to discuss the scheme options and to seek agreement or otherwise to taking part in the initiative.

2) Background

(The following information is extracted from <https://queensgreencanopy.org/about-us/> 'The Queen's Green Canopy' - please refer to the website for further details).

- a) 'The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC)' is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee." Everyone from individuals to Scout and Girlguiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and corporates will be encouraged to play their part to enhance our environment by planting trees from October, when the tree planting season begins, through to the end of the Jubilee year in 2022.
- b) The planting of new trees across the United Kingdom may take the form of:
- **Individuals** planting trees on their private land.
 - **Corporates and businesses** planting trees on their land and creating tree planting projects with employees.
 - **Platinum Jubilee Community Planting** projects for youth groups, Parishes, Residents' Associations.
 - **A Platinum Jubilee Avenue** of medium-sized or large trees ideal for cities, large estates, new housing developments and parishes.
 - **A Platinum Jubilee Copse** on private land or land allocated by the County or Council.
 - **A Platinum School Tree:** on school grounds involving students and teachers.
- c) Councils have a valuable role to play in championing the QGC in their area. There are lots of ways they can get involved including supporting schools, community groups and other facilities, such as care homes and leisure centres, to plant trees; by coordinating activity with town and parish councils to ensure a good spread of new trees; and by working with partners to raise funds to support a local programme.
- d) Advice on major planting projects should be directed through the Office of the Lord Lieutenant in your County.
- e) From October, the Jubilee tree(s) may be photographed and uploaded on to the QGC map on the website.

- f) An official plaque may be ordered to mark the occasion for generations to come. Templates for QGC plaques with suggested wording and recommended suppliers will be available on this site from September 2021 ready for when the tree planting season begins in October.

3) Further Considerations

Suggested options for consideration should the Committee decide to take part in the scheme:

- i) Plant one tree, with or without plaque, on behalf of the Town Council to mark the Jubilee.
- ii) Plant several trees in different locations, with or without plaque, on behalf of the Town Council to mark the Jubilee.
- iii) Tie in with the Community Orchard project and plant more fruit trees with or without plaque, on behalf of the Town Council to mark the Jubilee.
- iv) Consider the possibility of recommending the Town Council to help co-ordinate a Malmesbury project with community groups, care homes, assisted living homes, Scouts, Guides, PTAs, Climate Action groups and others. If so, to invite the Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire to a Malmesbury Commemoration Ceremony sometime after October 2021, (perhaps of the Town Council's trees in situ?), and then to a short presentation at the Town Hall of a photographic display of all the trees planted in Malmesbury. All those groups and/or individuals, inc. some seniors and school children to be invited also. Refreshments to be provided.

4) Financial implications and risks

- a) There will be costs associated with purchasing and planting trees, although community groups and others may be able to obtain saplings from The Woodland Trust free of charge or may be asked to fund part or all of their contribution. These particular costs will be dependent on what options the Committee decides to follow.
- b) There will also be as yet unknown costs to purchase one or more plaques, to host a photographic exhibition and costs associated with a formal Commemoration Ceremony, if these options are chosen.
- c) It is not yet known whether Wiltshire Council will be involved in this scheme and be able to provide materials or funding, or whether other grant funding may be sought.

5) Proposals

- a) To consider the options outlined in this report and to decide whether or not to progress participation in the scheme.
- b) If participation is agreed, then to propose the setting up of The Queen's Green Canopy Working Party to report back to this committee,
- c) If a Working Party is to be set up, then to seek nominations for membership.

6) Recommendations

Members are requested to consider the proposals and if in agreement to action, as proposed.

Cllr. K. Power (Chair C & TP) 2nd June 2021