

CEE Report February 2023.

1. Landmark Oak Tree: on-going care; monthly rota

This replacement for the one destroyed by vandals 12 months ago was bought with funds kindly donated by Cllr Ellis from his Flower Pot Fund. These monies had been collected from the popular quizzes Cllr Ellis previously did at the old Holland Inn.

It was planted on 18th February with the help of Cllr Robinson and resident Adele Robins. It will need regular care, especially watering during the summer months, for two to three years. Hopefully this will be done on a rota basis by residents.

2. A388 Tree plantation:

Our contractor has been asked for a quote to cut back the brambles now emerging along the side of the A388. Strimming by residents will still be needed in between some of the smaller specimens on the northern part of the plantation during spring and summer. There are a number of self-sown blackthorns shrubs growing on the southern end of the plantation. These could be left to grow unchecked. However, the contractor is going to provide a quote to remove these should councillors wish to do this.

3. Planting on Hatt roundabout.

A dozen Oxford Cranesbills (*Geranium x oxonianum*) and fifteen Red Valerian plants have been planted on the roundabout, both perennials and self-seeding. The former is a hybrid cranesbill which attracts many pollinators. The Red Valerian (*Centranthus ruber*), although native to the Mediterranean, has long been naturalised here and also attracts a variety of pollinators, including the humming bird hawkmoth.

Cllr Malcolm Fletcher.