

# Drinkstone Parish Council

## **Tree Warden's Report**

**Report to the Ordinary Meeting Dated 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

**Agenda Item; Councillor Portfolios**

### **The Queen's Green Canopy**

**(QGC)**

### **Platinum Jubilee 2022**

#### **1. Progress**

Further to my report to April meeting of Drinkstone Parish Council, The Queen's Green Canopy Project was launched on 17<sup>th</sup> May and I have attended another zoom meeting to discuss how the initiative will be rolled out in Suffolk. The Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk will have, or will shortly be writing to every Parish Council inviting them to participate in the Festival of Suffolk of which The Queen's Green Canopy Project (QGCP) will form an important part.

Councillor Emily Elnaugh and I have met and discussed how Drinkstone can play its part in QGCP and how this can help meet the environment and biodiversity targets set out in our 5 Year Strategic Plan and Neighbourhood Plan Community Action 3. We would like to put forward the following 3 point plan for approval by the Parish Council to be carried out up to the end of Dec 2022.

#### **2. Suggested Actions**

##### **2.1 Parish Council Land**

A copse of 70 trees should be planted at the northern end of the land owned by the Parish Council in Rattlesden Road as shown on the accompanying plan. This would be an appropriate tribute to The Queen's reign and be both visible and accessible to parishioners. Involving local children in the planting and aftercare of these trees would form a valuable output too. The planting of this copse could form the first stage of a longer term project to use this land for community use, and the creation of a community orchard and flower rich meadow have been suggested to me as environmentally beneficial initiatives that can involve local people. If the trees are to be planted during the winter of 2021/2022 then we will have to discuss with Lucy Blake taking at least part of the land back in hand from her this autumn. The supply of the trees and materials should be covered under either the

Babergh/Mid Suffolk tree scheme or The Woodland Trust/Suffolk Tree Wardens Network free tree scheme. The planting site would need to be fenced to keep livestock out and there may be a modest cost involved but I hope we might get donations or sponsorship for this element.

## **2.2 Major landowners**

Private landowners have a key role to play in restoring tree cover and offsetting the losses caused by tree diseases. The QGCP will provide an opportunity landowners to get involved by making small or larger bits of land available for tree planting. This could be anything from a new plantation to an avenue, or individual hedgerow trees and gapping up hedgerows. Councillor Emily Elnaugh and I suggest that the Parish Council writes to the following major landowners asking them if they would like to become involved in a QGCP initiative in the Parish and if so would they like to discuss with The Parish Tree Warden and Emily what might be possible and appropriate on the land they own and manage:

Andrew Long  
Robert Baker  
Maggie Ivor Jones  
Michael Crack  
Paul and Lorna Thurlow

## **2.3 Other landowners with smaller holdings**

There are several other landowners who may be willing to plant, or allow others to plant, individual or small groups of trees on their land. Some of these Emily and I know personally and we could approach directly. We could also invite expressions of interest through Jungle Drums and The Parish Magazine.

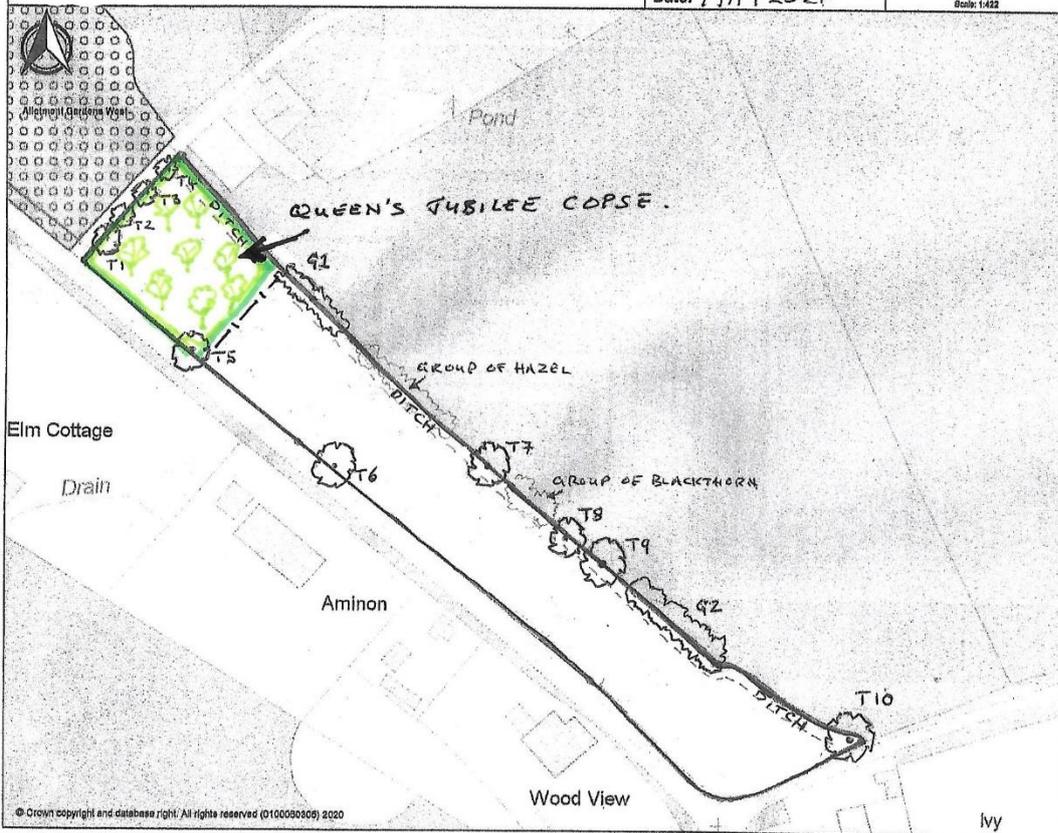
## **3. Recommendations**

**3.1** The Parish Council approves the planting of a copse to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on part of the land currently let to Lucy Blake as shown on the plan below.

**3.1** The Parish Council writes to the landowners listed above inviting them to take part in QGCP initiatives.

**3.2** Councillors Holborn and E. Elnaugh are authorised to make direct contact with other landowners to see if they would like to be involved in QGCP and appropriate notices to be circulated in The Parish Magazine and Jungle Drums.

Councillor Peter Holborn  
Drinkstone Parish Tree Warden



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Owned Land



NOTES

Eastern boundary undefined.

PROPOSED QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE COPSE 

70 TREES AT 3M SPACING.

- OAK
- HORNBEAM
- WILD CRAB
- WILD CHERRY
- WILD SERVICE

EXISTING TREES SHOWN THUS:

