

Proposal for Community Orchard

Background

There is an opportunity to establish a Community Orchard within Broadstone, leveraging one or more of the green spaces in the town.

Currently, Pocket Park and The Rec playground areas have been suggested but other options are available and could be suitable.

BCP Council currently owns all the common land and green spaces in the town and utilising any of this space as a community orchard would require their permission.

It is unlikely that BCP would object to BTC being involved in establishing and maintaining such facilities, but this would need to be tested and the extent of their involvement agreed; full scale asset transfer of the land is unlikely and probably too expensive but other solutions e.g. lease back could be explored.

There are several organisations that support this kind of community engagement/investment, some offering trees/hedging for free, some offering them at cost via grants and some also providing grants for one/two years maintenance costs to cover tree care post planting. It is likely therefore that there would be no actual cost re the funding of the required trees/hedging.

Assumptions

Broadstone Residents' survey supports this type of engagement/project

Considerations

Ownership/use of land	Are we able to agree an approach with BCP
Provision of trees	Does BTC qualify under various schemes
Funding	BTC funds, grants or free provision
Timeframe	Deadlines for applications, planting season
Community involvement	Volunteer planting vs paid contractor
After care/maintenance	Grants or included in groundsman contract

Next steps

Task	Who	When
Follow up with BCP	MB/AM	31 Aug
Investigate provision options/deadlines	AM	31 Aug
Confirm land usage approach with BTC	MB/AM	30 Sept
Agree community engagement approach	BTC	30 Sept
Schedule planting		Q1/Q2 2027

Further information available at:

https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=PPC&utm_campaign=CTP24&utm_content=CTP2&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=22868369509&gclid=CjwKCAjw1IHTBhAaEiwA4AYNFsvoh7lypkSlZYL2uxh9tSJ9jWqXiuiuZIC2s1N6z5lw1Xcc-WiteRoC5vwQAvD_BwE

<https://www.internationaltreefoundation.org/uk-grants>

<https://www.theorchardproject.org.uk/>