

VE Day 80 Commemorative Planting, Belmont Green, Wroughton

The contract for this work has now been let to Eco-Librium.co.uk who are a preferred supplier to the Swindon Borough Council Trees for Climate team. We are on track to have a launch ceremony on the afternoon of Armistice Day, Tuesday 11 November 2025.

The new scheme includes an ornamental cherry avenue with one tree to represent each of Wroughton's WW2 fallen military personnel, wildflower planting, orchard trees and two benches.

Wroughton Parish Council Grounds Team will be installing the two new benches which form part of the scheme and will, as part of preparations, be weeding and tidying around the existing planting at Belmont Green. As part of the WPC 'contribution in kind' required for grant funding they will also be planting wildflower bulbs and preparing some wildflower meadow area in the spring.

Although Eco-Librium will be maintaining the new tree planting in the hedgerow next to North Wroughton play area, ongoing weeding around the new orchard and ornamental cherry planting will fall under WPC's remit for maintenance from day 1. Costs for an annual 'beat up' to replace saplings and check tree guards for 5 years is included in the grant award.

Amanda Woodhead
2 October 2025

Request to agree a budget of £3,000 to be taken from the Trees for Climate funding to purchase 3 new trimmers and to enable the Grounds Team to work overtime in order to be able to trim around the existing Trees for Climate trees at Belmont Green ahead of the VE Day 80 Commemorative Planting.

- The Projects & Community Events Officer obtained a quote for the cost of trimming the vegetation between the existing Trees for Climate planting at Belmont Green to be carried out before Remembrance Day and the VE Day 80 Commemorative Planting. This quote was for £1,850. This did not include the 'Beat-up' costs.
- 'Beat-ups' involve assessing the survival rate of trees after planting to determine whether any replacement plants are needed, and if so, how many.
- There is approximately £12,000 remaining in the funding received for the maintenance of the trees planted as part of the Trees for Climate Project at Belmont Green, Falkirk Field and Maunsell Way.
- The Grounds Team Manager has confirmed the Grounds Team can trim and tidy around the existing Trees for Climate at Belmont Green, ahead of Remembrance Day and the VE Day 80 Commemorative planting, using overtime funded by the Trees for Climate Project. This is supported by the Clerk.
- The Grounds Team Manager has requested the Parish Council purchases 3 new smaller trimmers with shorter line at approximately £600 each, the cost to be taken from the Trees for Climate funding. This is to enable the Grounds Team to trim between the trees without any damage. These would then be used in all existing Trees for Climate areas as they become integrated into the Grounds Team's day-to-day workload, rather than continuing to use contractors for this work which would quickly use up all available funding.

Cathy Martyn, Deputy Clerk
2nd October 2025