

Tree Warden Report – Parish Community Woodland

The Tree Warden WhatsApp Group continues to provide a lot of useful information. There are some members who run tree nurseries to grow trees from seed they collect.

There is always someone on the Group can give help and advice on any problems. Especially as there seems to be many tree diseases -for example Acute Oak Decline.

Another suggestion was due to the quantity of deer there are in England who enjoy browsing on new slips and saplings, it had been discovered that deer really don't like the smell of sheep's wool. The cull of deer has been necessary as many trees are killed by the deer tearing the bark from the trees.

As we have young trees especially young fruit trees, I have used some of the funds given to us by Dan Pratt from his locality budget, to purchase Herdwick Sheep's wool mulch mats to put around the bottom of the trees, we will see if it works!!

When discussing things that would improve the Community Woodland for wildlife it was suggested that a 'scrub' area would be useful. I asked the Tree Wardens if anyone had any hedge slips we could use. Two offers were made and I was given and collected about 50 seedlings – these have been planted and mulch mats put around the base.

We have purchased a hedgehog house, 2 swallow cups and a sparrow house. We have sourced a pole for the owl box, this has been erected. A telescope has been donated by Steve Tetlow and put in the 'shed' and is there with instructions for anyone to use.

The Tree Wardens also indicated the value of dead wood, we are, with the help of the farmer and some large logs he does not want, creating a stumpery for beetles and other invertebrates.

The work continues!!!! Thank to Barry Abbott, Steve Tetlow and Richard Cage for being 'volunteers' And to Harry Hobyn of the Tree Warden Network for the hedge plants.