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Urban Tree Planting Phase 4 Consultation Outcome

The consultation of the phase 4 sites has taken place in three 2 week blocks starting with Phase 4a through to Phase 4b which is due to conclude on 21st December 2022

Phase 4a

Ward members were notified of the consultation at the start and were asked to inform residents who would have an interest in the project / sites and promotion of the consultation also took place across social media platforms.

Phase 4a consisted of 4 sites, which are due to be planted in December 2022. The four sites included Clough Hall Park, Kennet Close, Moreton Parade and St Edmunds Avenue.

Responses were received for Kennet Close and Clough Hall Park

Kennet received two responses both of which supported the planting and the proposals for the site, with a request for fruit trees from one response and native trees, woodland habitat, trees for wildlife from the other responder. Comments received asked for more planting on the area to the north of the proposals (not NBC land) and for the borders to be maintained to prevent overgrowth on the paths, as this is slippery in wet weather.

Clough Hall Park received 44 responses, all of which supported the proposed planting for the site. 20 responders supported fruit trees on the site, with the remaining responders wanting a mixture of fruit trees, trees for wildlife, woodland habitat and native trees. Only 3 responders didn't want to see fruit in the area identified for the planting in Clough Hall Park. Other comments received referred to planting taking place on the old bowling greens, encouraging bird watching, wildflower meadow creation and bee hives to support the pollination of the fruit trees; ensuring that the trees are suitable for the location and wildlife and hedgehog habitats. Other comments have been received but they don't relate to the tree planting project.

Responses were not received for either Moreton Parade or St Edmunds Avenue.

Former Keele Golf Course

28 responses were received for this site with seven responders against tree planting on the site at all and 21 in favour of tree planting on the site. Of the supporters only six didn't like the proposals as shown on the plans, with comments including the wish for more planting across more of the site, the site could include sustainable drainage and natural filtration to reduce flood risks to Silverdale and ring fencing maintenance money for the planting and existing woodlands, impacting light to rear of properties and size of trees and that the field isn't part of the golf course, leave the site as it is, as well as miss use of the site by motorbikes.

All the responders identified a mixture of native trees, woodland habitat, and tree for wildlife as the predominately preferred planting with two responders adding fruit trees and one ornamental trees.

Other comments received in support were around including more of the site for tree planting, rewilding the site, some bog / water areas, and reestablishment of hedgerows for wildlife / bird populations. Security to prevent the trees from being damaged.

Phase 4b

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Ward members were notified of the consultation at the start and were asked to inform residents who would have an interest in the project / sites and promotion of the consultation also took place across social media platforms.

Phase 4b consists of 8 sites, which are due to be planted in February / March 2023. The these sites included Leys Drive, Lyme Valley Parkway former pitch and putt, Lyme Valley Parkway rear of Homebase, Coalpit Hill, Mount Road, Silverdale Crossroads, Arnold Grove, and Sheldon Grove.

Following the closure of Phase 4b consultation on 21st December 2022, a total of five responses have been received, for two of the sites.

Silverdale Crossroads received three responses all of which supported tree planting on the site and agreed with the draft proposals, the other site which received two responses was Lyme Valley (former Pitch and Putt). Again both responses were in support of the proposals and the principle of tree planting on the site. Only one respondent made comments, and this was in relation to the maintenance of the proposed planting.

The remaining six sites, Leys Drive, Lyme Valley Parkway (rear of Homebase), Coalpit Hill, Mount Road, Arnold Grove and Sheldon Grove received no responses.

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