

Timeline of discussions regarding Community Park - including background and other relevant information, extracts from Parish Council and other meetings, evidence of articles published in the Market Lavington & Easterton Church & Community News Magazine, and details of engagement with the local community:

- **April 2021** - Letter received from local resident suggesting possible project for the village.
- **May 2021 - The Market Lavington Neighbourhood Development Plan** was put to community referendum, and officially came into effect. Detailed within the Plan are eight objectives (page 20 para 6.2), three of which are particularly relevant:
 - **To protect the local environment, especially the rural landscape, historic buildings and wildlife habitats.**
 - **To enhance the recreational and leisure facilities of the village, especially for young people and to create a central hub site featuring these and other facilities.**
 - **To improve the village environment by appropriate enhancements to landscaping and existing features, provision of new green open spaces and enhancement of existing ones, including new tree planting.**

Parish Council meeting - 18th May 2021

21/22-13	<p>Highways / Maintenance issues in the village</p> <p>g) COVID-19 memorial project – Cllr Fraser referred to the proposal received from a local resident, a copy of which had been circulated with the agenda papers. Following further discussion, during which members expressed their support for the project, it was agreed to publicise the idea in the Village Magazine, the website, and Facebook page to generate community support – ACTIONS – Clerk to collate responses received.</p>
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Remember Covid 19
Since the introduction of the Covid vaccination programme for our population we have seen a dramatic reduction in the number of Hospital cases and deaths. There is no doubt that this pandemic, like world wars and other occasions of major social upheaval, will go down in our history books.
I feel, therefore it should be remembered within our community, not by constructing a cross, but by having 19 landmarks around our parish, each one being identified and marked. It could be a bench seat in a quiet area, or at a viewpoint, a raised bed of flowers, an area of attractive shrubs against a bank, the decorated telephone kiosks, a sculpture, etc., totaling 19. Each location could be identified with a numbered plaque and leaflets could be designed, printed and left at local shops to enable people to visit them. Perhaps it would be a good idea to have the locations situated so that they form a circular route of a few miles around the Parish. More importantly the community could walk the route annually on the 23rd March – the anniversary of the Country's 1st lockdown in 2020.
I would like to see this idea becoming a project involving the whole of our community. Clearly there will be the need to have a nucleus of people willing to steer it and oversee the locations, say 4 – 6 people. Initially the idea could be floated within the community via the village Facebook and the Parish Magazine asking for volunteers to stand on the committee, to offer financial support, materials, physical help etc., and offering ideas of locations and features.
I feel it would be beneficial to obtain the views from all the village groups including youths groups, schools, W.I., various clubs to name a few.
I would also like to suggest that at a prominent location in the village a plaque could be placed to remember the pandemic. It could be inscribed with the names of the villagers who have died, also the members of the community who have gone above and beyond their work to help others survive through the troubled months.
It would be wrong to suggest that a project of this size and importance would not have any financial implications, but by bringing it to the community we may receive donations to support the locations and the purchase of plaques.
To finalise, I would like to encourage the community to think positively regarding this idea. I feel the pandemic is not an occasion which should be forgotten in a few years. We should try to keep the community spirit which has shown through recently because of the pandemic and create the 19 lasting creations for everyone to visit and enjoy.

Letter received from local resident in April 2021 and published in the June 2021 edition of the Magazine

If you are interested in joining [redacted] and the Parish Council, to make this happen, please contact Carol, The Clerk to the Parish Council. If you are an artist interested in seeing your work in a public place, the owner of a bit of land that could be used, or any other skill or interest, you will be made most welcome.

Parish Council meeting - 15th June 2021

21/22-56	<p>General Parish Matters</p> <p>Cllr Earley put forward the suggestion of a seat on the grass area adjacent to Broadwell, as a possible idea for one of the COVID-19 projects. Following further discussion, it was agreed to invite the volunteers who had come forward to help with the project, to the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr Stevens, Cllr Fraser, and Cllr Earley put their names forward as volunteers –</p> <p>ACTIONS – Clerk to make necessary arrangements.</p>
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Parish Council meeting - 19th July 2021

21/22-65	<p>Remember COVID-19 Community Project</p> <p>The Acting Chairman welcomed the volunteers, and invited them to address the Council. Some initial thoughts were expressed, and there then followed a joint discussion, during which various ideas were suggested, and consideration was given on how best to proceed with the project. It was agreed to reduce the number of project elements, and to focus on creating spaces in and around the village which would provide the opportunity for 'rest, solitude and reflection' –</p> <p>ACTIONS – Volunteers to try and gather some more community interest. 'Working Group' meeting to be scheduled in September to consider ideas in more detail, and plan for their implementation.</p>
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AT THIS POINT FOLLOWING THE ARTICLE IN THE JUNE MAGAZINE IDEAS WERE TRICKLING IN FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY FOR PROJECTS IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS WITHIN THE VILLAGE, WHICH INCLUDED CANADA WOODS, THE BUBBLING KETTLE, AND THE AMENITY LAND BELOW CANADA WOODS, AND TWO OFFERS OF HELP HAD BEEN RECEIVED.

Parish Council meeting - 21st September 2021

21/22-92	<p>Remember COVID-19 Community Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Terms of Reference for Working Group – It was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Turner-Scott, and resolved to approve the document circulated with the agenda papers (Cllr Boaden abstained from the voting for this item).b) Receive report from first meeting of Working Group – Meeting not yet held, so item deferred.
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First meeting of the COVID-19 project working group – 11th October 2021 – Outline of the project was explained and there was a healthy discussion as to what might be achieved in respect of projects, their locations, and timescales. The discussion also included direct reference to the grass area below Canada Woods, and community engagement.

Stevens also made comment about the grass area behind Beechwood (below Canada Woods). At present it was an area set aside for football, but it was little used and the grass was invariably too long. It was directly south facing, away from traffic noise and had good access along FP2 so could be considered for an area where a shelter of some kind could be sited for people to sit in peace.

concluded that all these matters should involve all the whole community, including the organisations that operate in our village and the young people. As there had been a low response to the article in the parish magazine we should do a mailshot to the above, another article in the magazine and an entry in the village 'Facebook' to attempt to get the groups/organisations involved and participating. It may also generate donations to support the projects and other ideas of what may be achieved in the village to benefit the community.

Parish Council meeting - 19th October 2021

21/22-134	Monthly Reports <p>c) Remember COVID-19 Project Report – Cllr Fraser reported that 6 volunteers had attended the first meeting, and ideas for several projects and possible suitable locations had been discussed. The committee were however keen to engage, and gain further support from the local community, and with this mind, would be contacting local groups and schools, and asking questions through the magazine and Facebook. The committee would meet again when feedback had been received, it was however noted that without the engagement of the community, the project may not continue in its current format.</p>
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Parish Council meeting - 16th November 2021

21/22-150	Monthly Reports <p>c) Remember COVID-19 Project Report – Cllr Fraser reported that the working party Chairman was currently compiling a list of local groups and organisations to contact to gather support and ideas for possible projects. One idea recently put forward was for a larger project within Canada Woods, which could incorporate a number of elements.</p>
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Parish Council Highways, Recreation, Amenity, & Footpaths (HRAF) Committee meeting 23rd November 2021

21/22-165	Update on actions agreed at last or previous meetings <p>d) Goal posts at Canada Woods – Councillors reviewed the condition of the goal posts based on photographs provided by the Clerk. Following further discussion, it was agreed to defer this matter, and possibly consider other options for the use of this area of amenity land.</p>
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Parish Council meeting – 21st December 2021

21/22-201	Minutes of Council meetings <p>i. It was proposed by Cllr Fraser, seconded by Cllr Steele, and resolved to approve the following priorities and aspirations for the Parish Council for the next few years (Cllr Davis abstained from the vote) - Improvements to Broadwell Play Area / Canada Woods Project – to include 5/10 year management plan for the woods, and possibly incorporate 'Remember COVID-19' projects within this, on the grass area adjacent to Beechwood, and within Canada Woods</p>
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Parish Council meeting - 18th January 2022

21/22-218	Monthly Reports <p>Remember COVID19 Project – Cllr Fraser referred to the recent walk around Canada Woods with The Woodland Management Consultant, noting his recommendations for thinning-out and management of the woods. It would be necessary to apply for a felling licence, which she was</p>
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currently investigating, and she would also contact some contractors who had experience in this type of work to obtain quotes. It was hoped that the Remember COVID19 Project Committee would be able to meet soon to discuss possible ideas for Canada Woods and the adjoining grass amenity land area next to Beechwood. A suggestion was made for an article in the next edition of the Magazine to seek parishioners' thoughts and ideas – **ACTIONS** – Cllr Fraser and Clerk to prepare article and forward to Magazine Editor.



"Your Parish Council Needs YOU"

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN TO ENHANCE CANADA WOODS AND THE NEARBY AREA OF AMENITY LAND?

You may recall that an idea was put forward some months ago to acknowledge the effect that the Coronavirus Pandemic has had on the local community, along with a desire to create lasting community projects. The Parish Council welcomed this initiative, and a small working group has been formed.

Canada Woods is a greatly valued and well used asset in the village. The Parish Council is currently focusing on the future management of the woods, and with the support of the working group, is now looking for ideas of how it could be improved for the benefit of the community. There is also a small grass area nearby, adjacent to Beechwood, which has real potential to be enhanced, to create a wonderful space for all ages of the community to make use of and enjoy.

This is where we need your help please with ideas and suggestions

- Do you have any ideas for projects that could be undertaken within the woods and/or the amenity land grass area?
- What sort of things would you like to see added to the amenity land grass area?
- Are you an individual with creative skills and would like to get involved?
- Are you able to offer any practical help with bringing the projects to fruition?
- Are you a local Artist?
- Are you a local business who could donate, sponsor, or create?

A community project relies on community involvement, so let's do more than just a plaque or a bench; with a bit of thought and energy we could really create a positive memory of Covid-19, and create something to enhance the village, to be celebrated and enjoyed by the community for years to come.

For further information or to put forward your ideas please contact the Parish Council: clerk@marketlavingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk / Tel: 01225 760372

February 2022
Magazine article

Copy of which was
also put on the notice
board in the Market
Place, on Facebook,
and on the Parish
Council website

Matters to discuss

Suggest, and explore the application of projects for the community

Recent ideas put forward for the project

1. To consider the construction of a living willow shelter on the edge of the grass area at the bottom of the Canada Woods.
2. To erect a 'park' seat near to the Bubbling Kettle

1. Upgrading the access path from the Canada Rise roundabout to the grass area at the bottom of Canada Wood to enable access for all abilities
2. Replace the 'ugly' bridge which gives access to the area of the Bubbling Kettle
3. Create a childrens' trail on a 'bear hunt' which links into the history of the Canadian Regt which was based in that area during the war and which used a bear as a mascot.

1. As (1) above
2. Siting benches/seats at the Bubbling Kettle, along the footpath towards Dauntseys
3. Siting a 'park' seat half way up White Street overlooking the village.

explained the work of tree management which will be needed in Canada Wood in the near future and of the path re-construction/maintenance needed after the contractors had left.

The Group agreed that any trail should be educational for young people making them aware of the trees, plants and wildlife of the wood – when the time was available.

stated that she thought the area of the BK was best kept as it was because it was a natural unspoiled area and should remain so.

There was a discussion as to whether the Covid 19 project should be linked to the woods and it was agreed that the area lent itself as the initial focal point for it. If the projects were successful then others elsewhere in the village involving schools and other organisations will be considered.

stated she would get in touch with the primary school and ask how they might see the school pupils fitting into the Project.

It was also recognised during this meeting that the tree management work which would be needed in Canada Woods in the near future, would mean that implementation of any ideas for the Amenity Area below would need to be held back until after the work had been completed as it would be required for storage and access during the work.

A number of other ideas were then expressed by some of the COVID-19 Project Working Group members following their meeting.

21/22-238	Monthly Reports f) Remember COVID19 Project – Cllr Fraser circulated a document which summarised the ideas put forward by local residents, and the outcome of discussions at the recent volunteer meeting. A proposal for a willow arbour was put forward, which could be actioned within the next month – approval unanimously given – Proposed Cllr Fraser, seconded Cllr Earley – ACTIONS – Cllr Fraser to advise local volunteers accordingly. Clerk to ask Library if they would display poster seeking local residents' suggestions.
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It was at this point that the COVID19 project Working Group name was formally changed to include Canada woods and the adjacent amenity land, and newly named group had its first meeting on 21st March 2022. During this first meeting the 5 aims of the group were set, which have remained the same to date, and the members looked at further community engagement, this included:- displaying boards at the Old School, contact list for local groups/associations/businesses and a mailshot for neighbours of Canada Woods regarding the regeneration programme.

AIMS:

- To regenerate the woodland and promote healthy growth for future generations to enjoy.
- To provide an accessible and inclusive space for all the community
- To provide a useable space for schools and community projects
- To provide a Community Space on the amenity land adjoining Canada Woods
- To generate a positive outcome from a two-year pandemic

21/22-254	Monthly Reports f) Remember COVID19 Project – Cllr Fraser provided a report, reminding members how the Remember COVID19 Project had now been incorporated to include the Canada Woods and adjoining amenity land Project. Ideas and suggestions were coming in from the local community, and a Working Group meeting was planned for early next week. She had applied for a Felling Licence for Canada Woods, which if approved, would enable the management work, as recommended by the Woodland Management Consultant, to be undertaken. A request was made for contact details of landowners surrounding Canada Wood, in order to be able to liaise with them prior to any work being undertaken.
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21/22-273	Canada Woods / Community Park incorporating the Covid 19 project Cllr Fraser reported that she had been appointed as Chairman for the Working Group, and agreement had been reached to move the project forward. With a Chairman in place, it would now be possible to appoint other members onto the committee. She noted that she had purchased a domain name, and hoped to create a website for Canada Woods, and also planned to use some display boards to advertise the ideas and suggestions put forward by the local community and invite comments. Display boards would be put up in the Old School, with members of the public being able to access them during Library opening times etc. Priorities for the group included, footpath improvement, in particular bank erosion by the 'Bubbling Kettle' and the footpath further up.
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21/22-294	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>f) Canada Woods & Community Park Project – Cllr Fraser reported that the Working Group now had two new members, but as yet no further meetings had been held. Extra information had been required for the felling licence, so she was currently working on the Tree Management Plan for the woods, which would provide the information required. There had been some issues with youngsters building earth ramps in the woods for their bikes, which had had to be removed. Notices had been placed within the area advising of the action taken, encouraging the young people and their families to engage with the Parish Council, and providing information about the Skateboard / BMX Pro-Show event in June.</p>
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22/23-9	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>f) Canada Woods & Community Park Project –</p> <p>i. Grant application to Wessex Water Environment Fund – Cllr Fraser briefed members on a proposed project to re-enforce part of the stream bank just down from the Community Park Amenity land area, which was eroding away, and could affect the adjacent footpath. As suggested during the public consultation, it was also proposed to incorporate a dipping platform in the design. Details of the initial quote obtained were reviewed, and it was noted that it would be necessary to obtain further quotes in due course, and possibly look for other sources of funding i.e., Area Board Grant. Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Taylor, and resolved to approve submission of the Wessex Water grant application – ACTIONS – Clerk to liaise with Cllr Fraser before submitting application.</p> <p>ii. Cllr Fraser reported that the felling licence application was progressing, and a dedicated Case Officer from the Forestry Commission had been appointed to oversee the application. There were now three notice boards within the woods, which were being used to advertise events and provide information etc. A 'Friends of Canada Woods' website was now up and running. She then made a request to attend an online 'Woodland Management Course' – ACTIONS – Request to be formally considered at June Parish Council meeting.</p>
22/23-10	<p>Parish Council Committees / Meetings</p> <p>a) Terms of Reference for existing Parish Council committees and working groups – The Clerk referred to the draft documents circulated with the agenda papers, annotated with her recommendations for changes..... Remember Covid-19 Project Advisory Committee Terms of Reference proposed amendments included the inclusion of 'the Canada Woods and Community Park Project' within its remit, and the aims for this, and updating the current committee membership..... It was proposed by Cllr Vine, seconded by Cllr Stevens, and resolved to adopt the documents as detailed above.</p>

Annual Parish Meeting 23rd May 2022

Display boards detailed some of the objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan as voted for by the community, which related to the projects for Canada Woods and Community Park, and also a little about the Canadian and Winnie connection. They also provided updates and information regarding ideas put forward so far for Canada Woods and the Amenity Land area, including a feed from the new dedicated website. The meeting provided the opportunity for anyone to talk with Working Group members, and attendees were encouraged to make further suggestions and comments for the area. Mention was also made about the project in the Chairman's report. The display boards remained in the Old School along with a sheet for people to note any suggestions for some time after the meeting, and were available to access during the Library opening times.

Extract from Chairman's report: There have been suggestions for COVID-19 projects that can be funded entirely by government grants. Various options were examined but most of the effort will go towards improving access to and the resilience of Canada Woods and the field below it. Unfortunately, some people living alongside the woods are using them as a tipping point for garden waste, or they are cutting down trees without permission, which makes planning improvements difficult. The works will involve selective removal of some trees to ensure a healthy mix of both mature and younger trees....

Parish Council meeting - 21st June 2022

22/23-32	Monthly Reports <p>f) Remember COVID19 Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Wessex Water Environment Fund grant application– Cllr Fraser reported that the application had gone through to the interview stage, which she had responded to on behalf of the Parish Council. Final judging was due to take place on the 7th of July, with outcomes expected a week or so later. ii. Re-enforcing stream / creating a dipping platform Project - It was proposed by Cllr Osborn, seconded by Cllr Steele, and resolved to obtain the required additional quotes, and submission of further grant application/s to help fund the project – ACTIONS – Clerk to liaise with Cllr Fraser and progress. iii. To receive a report and consider any matters as necessary - None.
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Parish Council meeting - 19th July 2022

22/23-56	Monthly Reports <p>e) Remember COVID19 Project / Community Park & Canada Woods Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Wessex Water Environment Fund grant application – Cllr Fraser reported that the grant of £1,500 had been approved, but had come with conditions (Flood Risk Activity Permit to be obtained, if necessary, before funding released). ii. Further Grant Applications – Cllr Fraser reported that a funding application had been submitted to Wickes for £10,000 which would be determined in August. If unsuccessful it would be possible to apply for special rates for building material for the project. iii. Possible requirement for FRAP (Flood Risk Activity Permit) from Environment Agency – Cllr Fraser noted that the Easterton Brook which flows through Canada Woods, is designated as a 'Main River', and as such, most activities / work within 8 metres of the riverbank may require a Flood Risk Activity Permit. Enquiries were underway with the Environment Agency to determine if/what type of permit is required. At this stage it was not possible to confirm exactly what the cost of the permit will be, until the type of permit required is agreed with the Environment Agency, but it will be a minimum of £170. Councillors recognised that the permit could be required for any of the work planned in Canada Woods, and it was therefore proposed by Cllr Vine, seconded by Cllr Andrew, and resolved to obtain the permit if required, and to pay the necessary fee. iv. Any further updates – Cllr Fraser reported that the Felling Licence was now being processed.
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Parish Council meeting - 27th September 2022

22/23-69	Monthly Reports <p>e) Remember COVID19 Project / Community Park & Canada Woods Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Quotes for two benches at Broadwell, as part of the Remember COVID19 Project – It was proposed by Cllr Turner-Scott, seconded by Cllr Earley, and resolved to purchase 2 'Lowther' benches approx. £615 + VAT each including underground fixings, with brown slats – ACTIONS – Clerk to arrange purchase. ii. FRAP (Flood Risk Activity Permit) permit from Environment Agency (EA) – Cllr Fraser confirmed that a permit would be required to carry out the bank reinforcing work. Discussions with the EA had highlighted the requirement for a bio-engineering solution for the work, which really needed to be undertaken by a specialist Bio-Engineering company. The company would deal directly with the EA regarding the permit and provide the detailed plans required for the work.
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	<p>iii. Quote from Bio-Engineering company – Cllr Fraser reported that she had contacted several companies for quotes, with only one company being prepared to take on this relatively small job. She referred to details of the proposal which had been circulated with the agenda papers. It was proposed by Cllr Fraser, seconded by Cllr Vine, and resolved to approve the consultancy proposal and quote from Cain Bio-Engineering for £1,592.50 + VAT – ACTIONS – Clerk to notify company accordingly.</p> <p>iv. Felling Licence – Cllr Fraser reported that the licence had been approved, however initial meetings with tree contractors had suggested that it may be necessary to remove some additional ash trees, so she was referring back to the Forestry Commission. In order to accurately gauge the cost of tree removal it was necessary to mark all the trees to be felled, for which expert help would be required. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Fraser, seconded by Cllr Boaden, and resolved to engage the services of the Tree Management Consultant previously used, to help with this job, at a cost of between £200 / £400 – ACTIONS – Cllr Fraser to liaise with consultant.</p> <p>v. Quotes received for felling and removing trees in Canada Woods as part of Woodland Management Programme – Cllr Fraser noted that Contractors would be invited back to quote for the work after the trees to be removed had been marked.</p> <p>vi. Actions that need to be taken prior to tree felling work being carried out – Cllr Fraser noted that in due course it would be necessary to liaise with the landowner for access, and the nearby homeowners to advise about the work. Information would also be widely publicised through the magazine, website, and social media etc.</p> <p>vii. Any other updates – There were none.</p>
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Parish Council meeting - 18th October 2022

22/23-87	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>f) Remember COVID19 Project / Community Park & Canada Woods Project</p> <p>i. Design proposal for reinforcement of riverbank in Canada Woods from Cain Bio-Engineering Ltd, and appointment as preferred contractor – Cllr Fraser noted that Cain had responded to the comments raised by Councillors and produced revised plans which had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Vine, seconded by Cllr Turner-Scott, and resolved to approve the revised plans from Cain, and appoint them as the approved contractor – ACTIONS – Cllr Fraser to liaise with Cain.</p> <p>ii. Canada Woods Felling Licence – Cllr Fraser confirmed that the Forestry Commission had agreed to the variation request to increase the level of felling within Canada Woods. She had undertaken a site visit with the Woodland Management Consultant to identify all the trees which needed to be felled or coppiced (trees were marked with spray paint).</p> <p>iii. Quotes received for felling and removing trees in Canada Woods as part of Woodland Management Programme – Cllr Fraser reported that 6 contractors had been invited to tender for the work, with 2 indicating an interest, but no quotes as yet had been received.</p> <p>iv. Other updates – Cllr Fraser reported that permission had been obtained from the adjacent landowner to use their land for machinery access etc. A resident's letter had been drafted and would be delivered shortly, and a notice placed in the next edition of the magazine. She would be working on a Risk Assessment to cover the tree felling in a public place.</p>
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Parish Council meeting - 15th November 2022

22/23-108	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>d) Remember COVID19 Project / Community Park & Canada Woods Project</p> <p>i. Quotes received for felling and removing trees in Canada Woods as part of Woodland Management Programme – Cllr Fraser reported that 13 contractors had now been invited to tender for the work, with 6 indicating an interest, and 4 quotes received to date. Some of the quotes needed clarification, so consideration of them was deferred until the December Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>ii. Other updates – Cllr Fraser noted that confirmation of the Tree Felling Licence variance was due to be received soon from the Forestry Commission. Letters to neighbouring residents advising of the proposed tree works had been delivered. Following a number of incidents of 'green waste' fly tipping in Canada Woods</p>
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	and other areas, letters had been delivered to Canada Rise properties, and a notice would be placed in the magazine. She had met with a local resident who worked for the Wessex Rivers Trust who had reviewed the proposed bank reinforcement work, and had kindly offered to lead a river cleaning session in December.
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Parish Council meeting - 13th December 2022

22/23-164	Monthly Reports <p>d) Remember COVID19 Project / Community Park & Canada Woods Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Quotes received for felling and removing trees in Canada Woods as part of Woodland Management Programme – Cllr Fraser provided an overview of the type of quotes received to date, noting that one further quote was awaited. It was therefore agreed to defer final consideration of the quotes until the January Parish Council meeting. ii. Other updates – Cllr Fraser noted that the FRAP for the riverbank reinforcement work had now been applied for by the bio-engineering company.
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Parish Council meeting - 17th January 2023

22/23-179	Monthly Reports <p>d) Remember COVID19 Project / Community Park & Canada Woods Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Quotes for felling and removing trees in Canada Woods as part of Woodland Management Programme – Cllr Fraser detailed her proposal to delay the felling work until September due to the current weather conditions. Two additional contractors had been approached, and agreed to provide quotes. She would contact the other contractors and offer them the option to review their quotes already supplied. All quotes received will then be considered at the March Parish Council meeting, and a date agreed for the work. Councillors approved this proposal. ii. Other updates – Cllr Fraser reported that the Environment Agency had now identified 'Easterton Brook' as a trout and salmon spawning ground, so the easiest option would be to delay the start of the bank re-enforcement work until the 1st of June when the spawning season had finished. Councillors approved this proposal. She noted that grant funding was still being investigated for this, and the tree management programme. Cllr Fraser then noted that due to some recent resignations, there were now only two members of the 'Remember Covid19 Project Working Group'. Following a full discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Steele, seconded by Cllr Vine, and resolved to dissolve the Working Group after the two new benches at Broadwell had been installed (one to be positioned on the concrete plinth above the Broadwell - approval for position received from Wiltshire Council Conservation Officer, and the other one on the grass area).
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Parish Council meeting - 21st March 2023

22/23-234	Monthly Reports <p>f) Canada Woods – Cllr Fraser referred to the summary of quotes received for the planned tree removal works, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Following a full discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Fraser, seconded by Cllr Turner-Scott, and resolved to accept the following quotes: Wiltshire Countryside Services £7,500 + VAT, to fell the trees / Dorset Logging Horses £5,000 + VAT to extract the timber from the wood. The extracted wood would then be sold, with the Parish Council receiving 100% of the sales. Work to hopefully take place in September / October with an approximate duration of 1 month – ACTIONS – Cllr Fraser to liaise with approved contractors and organise dates for work to be carried out.</p>
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22/23-258	Monthly Reports f) Canada Woods i. Final costings for riverbank reinforcement work – Cllr Fraser referred to the final quotes received from the approved contractor - £8,890 + VAT. She noted that there would also need to be a separate contingency element of 1-day in place just in case of inclement weather of £1,498 + VAT, which it was hoped would not be needed. It was proposed by Cllr Turner-Scott, seconded by Cllr Vine, and resolved to approve both the quotes. Cllr Fraser reported that the work was scheduled to take place during the week commencing 5 th of June – ACTIONS – Clerk and Cllr Fraser to liaise with contractor. ii. Other updates – Cllr Fraser referred to the tree management felling works, which was scheduled to take place on the 21 st of August, and would take approx. two weeks to complete. The Horse loggers would then be on site from the 4 th of September to remove the timber from the woods ready to be sold. She also referred to an increase in damming activities along the river in Canada Woods which she had been removing, as if left in place, could effect the ecology of the river.
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Monday 8th May 2023 'Volunteering Speed Dating' as part of the Village Kings Coronation Event

Along with other local volunteer groups, the Remember COVID19 Project / Community Park & Canada Woods Project had their own stand manned by a volunteer from the Working Group. There was information on display with updates on ideas and suggestions already put forward, and with the opportunity for those attending to make comments and suggestions, and to come forward and volunteer to help out.

23/24-9	Monthly Reports d) Canada Woods – Cllr Fraser reported that work would be starting on the riverbank repairs on the 5 th of June. Footpath MLAV2 will therefore be partially closed during the work (from Grove Road to the Bubbling Kettle). Beechwood residents had been sent a letter and posters about the work put up in the woods, and on social media etc. The tree management works were scheduled to start on the 21 st of August, taking approximately one month to complete. During this time there would be no public access to the woods for safety reasons. Consideration will need to be given as to how best to fence off the entry points to the woods during the work. She was currently investigating the possibility of a 're-wilding' funding application.
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Annual Parish Meeting 23rd May 2023 – extract from minutes:

Cllr Di Fraser provided a brief overview of the planned 'Canada Woods regeneration project and tree works', scheduled for the end of August / beginning of September. Details were also provided of the planned works to reinforce the riverbank in Canada Woods which would be carried out at the beginning of June.

Displays and information about on-going Parish Council projects and community events were available for viewing before and after the formal part of the meeting (Canada Woods regeneration / tree works, Additional Sports facilities for the village, Youth Council, Vintage Meet).

23/24-38	Monthly Reports d) Canada Woods – Riverbank reinforcement work - Cllr Fraser reported that the work had now been completed, and had been well received by the local community. Problems with the eroding footpath and the natural springs underneath, had meant that extra gravel had been required to shore up the bank and widen the footpath, and the additional agreed contingency day had therefore been required.
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23/24-53	<p>General HRAF Matters</p> <p>c) Tree management works in Canada Woods scheduled for end of August / beginning September – Cllr Fraser noted that she would be meeting with the contractor to discuss the tree works, and it was agreed that advice would be taken from them regarding arrangements for sealing off entry points, appropriate signage etc. There then followed an open discussion about the planned tree works, with information provided regarding the extensive planning for the project etc.</p>
23/24-55	<p>Other HRAF Committee business</p> <p>Cllr Fraser noted that as part of the Canada Woods management/regeneration project, she was currently looking at the section of footpath MLAV2 just up from the 'Bubbling Kettle' which was falling away and needed shoring up, with a view to contacting contractors.</p>

Parish Council meeting - 18th July 2023

23/24-63	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>d) Canada Woods –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Riverbank reinforcement work - Cllr Fraser reported that she had had to contact the contractor following slippage of a section of gravel mix on the slope, which it is believed occurred due to the hot dry weather. The contractor will return to site to resolve the issue. ii. Tree management work – Cllr Fraser referred to her meeting with the contractor – The Parish Council would be responsible for putting up advance warning signs regarding the planned work, with the contractor having the responsibility for securing the site during the work. iii. Consider any related matters as necessary – There were none.
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Parish Council meeting - 19th September 2023

23/24-89	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>d) Canada Woods –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> iv. Tree management work - Cllr Fraser reported that the tree felling work would be starting on the 2nd of October, with the horse loggers being on site from the 9th of October. Reference was made to some trees on the other side of the new riverbank improvements, which due to the fragility of the repair work would now need to be dismantled rather than felled, at an additional cost of £1,000. Following a full discussion it was proposed by Cllr Stevens, seconded by Cllr Turner-Scott and resolved by a majority decision not to approve the additional expenditure, but rather wait to reassess the financial position at the end of the project (2 abstentions).
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27th and 28th September 2023 the Tree Wardens asked two questions via Facebook:

Q1 How do people feel about a Community Orchard in the village?

Q2 Fantastic response to question 1 – Thank you. Who would like to get involved with preparing, planting and maintenance of a Community Orchard supported by the Tree Wardens? Thank you to those people who have already offered advice.

These posts resulted in over 60 likes on the Facebook page and private messages of support, 80+ positive comments (no negative comments), 19 volunteers to work on Orchard, 6 committee member volunteers, and 2 offers of expertise help.

23/24-105	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>d) Canada Woods tree felling – Cllr Fraser provided an overview of the tree management work carried out to date, and answered questions posed by members of the public. Whilst a buyer had been found for the wood, it was noted that the market was now flooded with ash, and therefore the price would be lower than had previously been hoped. Cllr Fraser reported that Cain Bio-Engineering had returned to site to check the stability etc. of the recently re-enforced riverbank, and had entered into discussion regarding some grant funding which was currently available from the Environment Agency (EA) for improving water courses that were located on a flood plain. It was noted that there would be no cost to the Parish Council for making an initial enquiry to the EA for the funding. It was therefore proposed by Cllr Osborn, seconded by Cllr Earley, and agreed that Cllr Fraser could submit an enquiry to the EA, with support from the Parish Clerk. Moving forward, it was recognised that further work would be required in Canada Woods, as per the 10-year management plan, which would include improvement of footpaths etc., all of which would inevitably have cost implications. With a dedicated Canada Woods website in place, and volunteers who had already come forward, Cllr Fraser suggested that a 'Friends of Canada Woods & Community Park' Community Group be set up, who would be better placed than the Parish Council to apply for grant funding. Following further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Osborn, seconded by Cllr Roberts, and resolved to approve formation of the Community Group – ACTIONS – Terms of Reference for the group to be prepared and considered at November Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>f) Tree Warden Scheme – Cllr Fraser provided an overview of the scheme which had been launched by the Tree Council in partnership with Wiltshire Council. The Tree Wardens, of which there were currently three people locally who had come forward and volunteered, were receiving guidance and support from Wiltshire Council, and were being actively encouraged to look within parishes to ascertain if there might be any land suitable for tree planting. As a result of this, land at the bottom of Canada Woods (Community Park), adjacent to Beechwood had subsequently been identified as a possible location for a Community Orchard. It was reported that an initial poll on Facebook by the Tree Warden's had received a very positive response to this suggestion, and it was noted that this had also been one of the ideas put forward during the community engagement exercise for the COVID19 project some time ago. Cllr Fraser noted that there was grant funding available from the Tree Council of up to £2,500 from the 'Branching Out' fund, for such activities, so there would be no financial commitment required from the Parish Council. Following further discussion it was recognised that the condition of the soil at this site would need to be assessed to ascertain what trees would be best suited to the conditions. It was then proposed by Cllr Osborn, seconded by Cllr Earley, and resolved that the Parish Council would be in favour of working with the Tree Wardens and the 'Friends of Canada Woods & Community Park' Community Group, to apply for grant funding from the Tree Council to improve this site – ACTIONS – Cllr Fraser to liaise with other Tree Wardens and Parish Clerk to prepare grant application. Cllr Fraser then briefed Councillors regarding an enquiry received by the Parish Clerk from a local resident regarding ash trees that were overhanging their property from Canada Woods, which had been referred to the Tree Wardens.</p>
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23/24-139	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>d) Canada Woods tree felling – Cllr Fraser reported that phase 1 of the project was now complete, with a review due again, as agreed, in 5-years' time. 53 tonnes of timber had been extracted from the woodland and sold, with the remaining timber left on site for the local community, and to be used for other projects i.e. seating etc. Contact had been made with an officer from the Swindon & Wiltshire Biological Records Office, who was undertaking an Ancient Woodland Inventory, and it was possible that she may be able to attend the next Annual Parish Meeting to present a history of the woods. Cllr Fraser then answered questions posed by Councillors and members of the public.</p> <p>f) Tree Warden Scheme – Cllr Fraser reported that as agreed at the last meeting, a grant application had been submitted to the 'Tree Council Branching Out Scheme', and soil samples on the Community Park site would be tested shortly to determine the suitability for different trees. Some concerns were raised regarding community engagement for any proposals for this site, with several suggestions being made for how this could be approached. It was however noted that community engagement was undertaken for the then 'Covid19 / Canada Woods and Amenity Land' project for this site.</p>
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	<p>h) Friends of Canada Woods & Community Park Community Group</p> <p>a) Terms of Reference for Group – Reference was made to the document which had been circulated with the agenda papers. Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Vine, seconded Cllr Earley, and resolved by a majority vote to approve the document unamended (2 abstentions).</p> <p>b) Cllr Fraser noted that now the Terms of Reference for the Community Group had been approved, a formal meeting would be held at the end of the week to consider options and ideas for future activities, many of which would be based on the feedback received from the previous community consultation carried out for the 'Remember Covid 19 / Canada Woods and Amenity Land project'. As agreed at the last meeting an expression of interest has been submitted to the Environment Agency by the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust Rivers division, to make the river flowing through Canada Woods a more environmentally friendly place. They will take the lead if funding is raised, and the Parish Council, the Community Group and Sharps will need to work with them and agree their proposals.</p>
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December 2023 - Attempt made to move goal post, however unfortunately both of the front poles had rusted below ground, so post was removed.

Parish Council meeting - 19th December 2023

23/24-174	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>e) Friends of Canada Woods & Community Park Community Group – Questions were asked regarding any further community consultation regarding proposals, and reference was made to the notes from the Community Group meeting held on 24th November, which had noted that the Community Group planned <i>to make a plan of the area, noting some of the ideas put forward, for inclusion in the January edition of the Parish Magazine and a QR code direct link to the website. People will be able to comment and donate through the website if they wish. The link will also be advertised on other platforms such as the village notice board and Facebook.</i> The Chairman noted that approval for any proposed projects would need to be sought from full Council as landowner.</p>
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Parish Council meeting - 16th January 2024

23/24-187	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>e) Friends of Canada Woods & Community Park Community Group</p> <p>i. Grant funding applications / awards – Cllr Fraser noted the thanks of the group for the following: Tree Council for funding to plant the community Orchard (grant included use of a mini-digger, as well as stakes, wire, soil improver, mulch, and fruit trees) – digger booked for mid-February and orchard planting to take place at the end of February. Woodland Trust for award of 60 habitat hedging trees to replace broken fencing at Grove Road entrance to Canada Woods – to be planted first week in March. Tree Council for award of 5 trees with a 'golden theme' to celebrate 50th anniversary of their plant a tree campaign.</p>
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	<p>ii. Report from recent meeting and other updates – Cllr Fraser noted that the soil samples tested by the RHS had come back fine. Support and advice had been offered by a local resident who is a senior project manager with the Rivers Trust, for running some river bank clean-up sessions, replanting of the river bank, tree cutting and donation of seeds. Thank you to the NFG, and the Tee Tree Group who had collaborated on the Community Group Logo and their donation of hoodies for the committee (will also be available for sale to raise funds at a later date). Thanks was also given to the volunteers who had come forward to help with Canada Woods. Quotes were currently being obtained for making part of MLAV2 accessible (between Beechwood houses and Canada Woods towards Community Park).</p>
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COMMUNITY ORCHARD IS GO!

Orchards have played an important role in Communities for centuries, providing a focal point, a gathering space, a place where people and nature can successfully work together, with the bonus of a tasty treat each year.

With this in mind, a few months ago, the local Tree Wardens sent out a poll on Facebook to see if there was still an appetite for a Community Orchard in the village. This was based on responses from the community back in 2022 from this magazine and other presentations last year, when asked what you would like to see in Community Park. The answer to the orchard was a resounding YES! The land identified as the potential site was within Community Park (where the rusty goal posts used to be) and so they went to the Parish Council for permission to plant on some of that land. The Tree Wardens would be very happy to help other Parishes, Community Groups, or Schools raise funds for their own orchard for the 2024/25 season.

February 2024 Magazine article

The Parish Council gave their full support to the Tree Wardens to raise funds for the orchard and to improve the site, working with the Friends of Canada Woods and Community Park Group. Funding has now been awarded by the Tree Council and the planting will go ahead in late February. The site needs to be prepared and all those lovely people who offered help would be very welcome to come forward, fork and/or spade in hand from the 10th February. 😊

The other news is Friends of Canada Woods and Community Park, having worked on behalf of the Parish Council since 2021, now has the status of Community Group and we will be working hard to plant the Orchard with the Tree Wardens, along with raising funds to improve Community Park in terms of accessibility, educational activities, games for young and not so young, seating to create places of reflection, bringing age groups together by organising Community events, while increasing habitat corridors and the biodiversity of the land and the woodland above.

The Community Group has also been busy making applications for habitat hedging and an opportunity to plant 5 fruit trees with a golden theme, awarded in celebration of the Tree Council's 50th Anniversary of the 'plant a tree campaign'. We are hoping 5 people, who have shown community spirit, worked within the community for at least 50 years, or are living in the community supporting others or charitable causes, will each plant one of the 'golden' trees.



We are always happy to accept volunteers along with suggestions in line with the Community Group philosophy to add to the list of wants, so if you would like to get involved, please contact us in any of the ways listed below. There will also be the facility to donate for a project within Canada Woods and Community Park, or buy one of our lovely hoodies direct from the website to raise funds shortly. Find us on Facebook: FriendsOfCanadaWoods, email clerk@marketlavingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk or scan the QR code to go directly to our website <https://friendsofcanadawoods.co.uk> and use our 'contact us' facility.

The trees had to be bought when the grant money came available, and will be delivered towards the end of the winter when they have the best chance to thrive. The layout of the community orchard has not been finalised and there will be other resources available on the site. The ordered trees are on semi-dwarfing stock, so fruit will be within reach of everyone of all ages. Hopefully within 3 or 4 years lunch will be being picked by people on their way to school each morning.

23/24-208	<p>Monthly Reports</p> <p>f) Friends of Canada Woods & Community Park Community Group</p> <p>i. Cllr Fraser provided some background information regarding the group in response to comments raised by members of the public present. A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on 3rd February had been circulated with the agenda papers. It was noted that plans for planting the Community Orchard had been delayed due to recent heavy rainfall.</p> <p>ii. Request from Community Group for Parish Council to submit a funding request to Wiltshire Council LHFIG committee to improve accessibility along part of footpath MLAV2 from Grove Road to Community Park – It was proposed by Cllr Davis, seconded by Cllr Earley, and resolved to approve submission of a funding request as detailed above to Wiltshire Council. Any conditions regarding a possible Parish Council financial contribution would be considered further after the LHFIG meeting – ACTIONS – Clerk to liaise with Cllr Fraser before submitting request.</p>
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SUMMARY OF ALL THE IDEAS PUT FORWARD TO DATE FOR COMMUNITY PARK
(the ones highlighted in bold could be implemented with minimal or no cost)

- **LIVING WILLOW ARBOUR**
- **SERIES OF BENCHES**
- **CIRCULAR TABLE WITH BENCH SEATS**
- **COMMUNITY ORCHARD**
- **WILDFLOWER MEADOW**
- **A FLAT MAZE**
- **A HEDGE MAZE**
- **MUD KITCHEN**
- **WILD TOTS**
- EXERCISE EQUIPMENT
- UPGRADING ACCESS
- **OUTDOOR CLASSROOM SET UP**
- SHAPES
- **‘LADYBIRD TRAIL – SPOTS DENOTING DIFFERENT THINGS**
- **WILDLIFE/SENSORY GARDEN/MEADOW**
- **SOMEWHERE TO WALK DOGS AND CHILDREN TO SIT AND RELAX**
- LAND LEVELLED AND DRAINED FOR FOOTBALL
- FITNESS TRAIL
- FLATTENED AND MOWED FOR VILLAGE EVENTS
- **TEA ON THE LAWN EVENT**
- **TEDDY BEARS ANNUAL PICNIC**
- **HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENT GROUP (WW1 TENT)**
- **DUCK RACING**
- **BAT AND BIRD BOXES**
- PUMP TRACK
- ZIP WIRE
- MONKEY BARS
- CLIMBING FRAME
- 2 – 4 SWINGS & SLIDE
- SHELTER FOR TEENAGERS TO SIT (LIKE THE ONE AT COMMUNITY HALL)
- FOOTBALL NET
- TREE HOUSE
- TRAMPOLINE
- OBSTACLE COURSE