

Item for Submission to:
St Stephen Parish Council
Full Council
Date of Meeting: 16/01/2025

Agenda Item 2425-091d	Park Street Recreation Ground Tree Works Compartment 3b
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1. Purpose

To initiate the first year of the Woodland Management Plan at Park Street Recreation Ground:

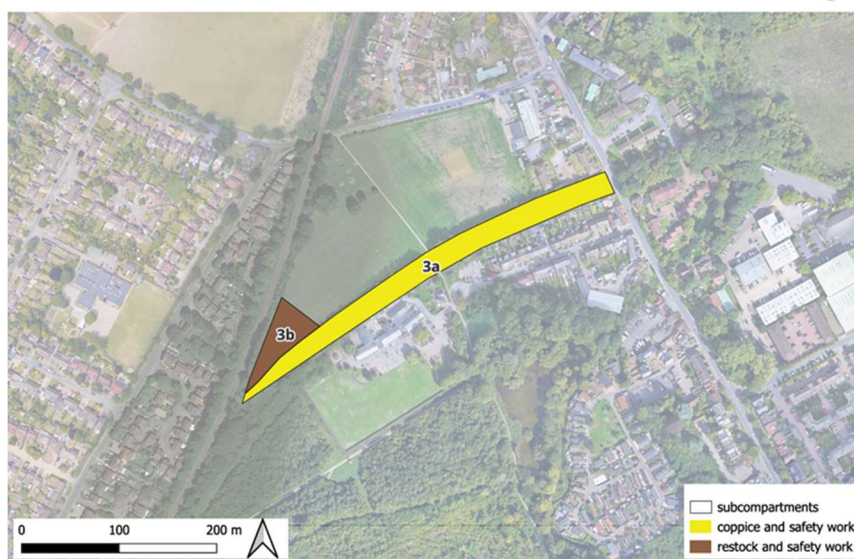
Park Street Embankment (compartments 3a and 3b)

Year 1 (compartment 3b):

- o Restock the felled area and the former tennis court in compartment 3b with site-suited native species – subsequent maintenance (spraying in spring/summer, beat up survey and restocking)

Map 5 - Park Street Embankment - Management

MAYDENCROFT



2. Introduction

We propose to remove the remaining trees in the area, as they are fragile and vulnerable to wind damage, followed by replanting the site. These are:

- Approximately 25 slender Ash and Sycamore trees
- Approximately 2 larger Ash trees
- Approximately 3 Birch trees

We propose to coppice:

- Approximately 10 Hawthorn trees

We have obtained the appropriate felling licence for this section, compartment 3b, granted under the new Woodland Management Plan. Initially, the licence only permitted thinning, but we have since secured the necessary approval to proceed with clear felling and coppicing.

Our intention is to carry out the planting in February or March of this year, in collaboration with local schools. The goal is to expand the woodland area by 0.2 hectares (doubling its current size) by converting the existing grassland. We plan to plant 175 whips (approximately 875 trees per hectare). A new path will be created through the area using the old tree stems, and woodchip from the felling will be used to mulch around the newly planted trees, with any excess applied along the path.

Additionally, we aim to dig out the roots of the felled trees and create a stumpery. This feature will naturally decay over time, enhancing the biodiversity of the area. The species to be planted include dogwood, field maple, guelder rose, hawthorn, hazel, and hornbeam.

The project will be part funded through an Environmental Improvement Grant from Hertfordshire County Council.

3. Next Steps

We require the committee's approval to proceed with the work and to select a contractor for the felling, so that the project can commence without delay.

4. Financial Considerations

Contractor A £ 5,540.00 +Vat
Contractor B £ 5,800.00 +Vat
Contractor C £ 6,000.00 +Vat
Contractor D £ 6,832.00 +Vat

5. Carbon Implications

All tree waste will be retained on-site and repurposed throughout the area to enhance biodiversity.

The only other carbon generated will be from the machinery used to process the trees and chip the branches, limited to the capacity of the chippers.

RECOMMENDED that the Council

Approve the works required and recommend contractor A to undertake the work.

Report of	Matthew Huddleston	Date 09/01/2025
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Appendix 1 Grant funding from Hertfordshire CC Environmental Improvement Grant.

Appendix 1

Department of Environment and Sustainability



Amanda Feron
The Parish Centre
Bricket Wood
St Albans
AL2 3PJ

Countryside & Rights of Way Service
Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall
Pegs Lane
Hertford
SG13 8DN
www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

Tel: 01992 658240
Email: hannah.ward@hertfordshire.gov.uk
My ref: 242506
Your ref:
Date: 05.12.2024

Dear Amanda

Re: Hertfordshire Environmental Improvement Grants – St Stephen Parish Council

Many thanks for your application for grant funding from the Hertfordshire Environmental Improvement Grants scheme. **I am pleased to be able to make you a conditional offer of a grant for £3000 towards the cost of the project.**

The project involves the clearing of a wooded area via contractor, before replacement planting (circa 200 whips) and wildflower meadow creation with paths through the site to allow for public access.

Before the work commences, please sign and return a copy of the attached grant pursuant form.

The conditions of this grant require you to undertake the proposed tree planting as written in the recommendations I previously provided in the 2024/25 planting season. To fulfil the requirements of this grant, we also require you to take before and after photographs of your project and send copies to us. You agree that this project can be used to promote the Environmental Improvement Grant and the Countryside and Rights of Way Service and its Woodland Creation Officers, including consenting to allowing any images to be used and disseminated via social and other media as deemed appropriate by Officers of Hertfordshire County Council.

The grant will be paid once the work has been completed and inspected by a member of Council staff and all requirements of the grant are fulfilled to the satisfaction of the Council. To enable payment of the grant, please complete the attached personal and payment details form.

If you have any further queries about the grant, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Ward
Woodland Creation Projects Officer
Countryside & Rights of Way Service