

Bridport Area Tree Planting Campaign



NOVEMBER 15TH 2019

Welcome, all our seventy plus supporters, to this first emailed newsletter of the Bridport Area Tree Planting Campaign, to bring you up to date since we began to gather names only five weeks ago at the Apple Day in the Community Orchard.

A lot has happened since then. We have been promised 420 saplings from the Woodland Trust, we have another application for 200 free trees in the pipeline, we have gathered in some of the more than 100 trees promised us by local individuals by next Spring and we are applying for funds to help establish a permanent tree nursery and to subsidise trees to be planted out in people's back gardens. We are aiming at trees in public spaces, private gardens, schools and farmland.

Here's what it's all about. Four brief videos Dan Snow has made for Friends of the Earth, who are campaigning to double tree cover nationally under the slogan More Trees Please.

<https://friendsoftheearth.uk/trees/dan-snow-investigates>

Now, here are two DATES for your diaries. Please come along if you can.

Sunday November 24th, five to eight pm, United Church. The Bridport Soup event has £4000 to give away and we are making a three minute pitch for £400 of this to help with our campaign. Follow this link and book up with Eventbrite if you wish to come. Obviously, the more of you are there the better chance we will have.

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/blueprint-soup-tickets-72311576873?fbclid=IwAR39GpmPFgmtNZ_DatW3CvZLg7dq5aYzq4VHTgkTErFQFa82GrohuPQ3abg

The second date is one pm on Saturday December 7th to help plant 200 trees in Asker Meadows. The Mayor will be there, spades will be provided. Just turn up below Morrisons. This is the Asker Meadows group's project - the meadows are owned by



the Town Council - but we are helping them and in the Spring will be planting more of “our” trees there.

On Thursday of this week we had an exciting and promising meeting with Charlie Groves of Groves Nurseries. He offered to help with his expertise on tree planting and management, and we hope to develop this partnership over the next few months. Free used plant pots, the loan of tools

were two things he mentioned. And publicity through his marketing.

Charlie has been very supportive of the Bridport Community Orchard and we have our own links with them to explore more extensive growing of fruit trees in and around the town.

Permanent tree nursery: We are in discussions with Bridport Town Council about finding a suitable site. Since declaring a Climate Emergency, the Council is looking at ways of reducing carbon emissions and will be developing a large scale Tree Plan. We’ll keep you informed.

Thank you to the dozens of you who have offered garden space as a temporary home for saplings. We will take up these offers if we need to but at the moment are OK. Thank you also to those of you who are growing trees over the winter. We hope to put on an informative educational event about growing from seed, propagation and grafting, pruning and after care in March - maybe before then.

This campaign is an alliance between West Dorset Friends of the Earth, the Beaminster Eco Group - who are already managing more than a thousand trees and with a membership of more than 100 and contacts in outlying parishes - and a few of us here in Bridport. If you want to be further involved than just receiving occasional

newsletters, do get in touch. Hoping to meet more of you over the months and years ahead and to make a small but really positive Climate Crisis action.

Joe Hackett (Co-Ordinator for Bridport)

joe@thehacketts.uk

There is a special hustings about the Climate Crisis at the United Church on November 26th at 6.45 involving parliamentary candidates.