

Garden Committee Report

June 2018

Members:	Janet Parrott	23
	Claude Perera	18
	Angharad Smith	22
	Nadine White	15

Since the last AGM another pittosporum and phormium were planted in the middle bed and several laurels planted by the car park.

One of the pyrus chanticleer trees planted last year appeared to have died soon after being planted. Seasons advised leaving it over the winter to see if it would revive, however it is definitely dead so they are going to replace it in the autumn.

One of the viburnums in the middle bed has also died and Seasons have been asked to replace this as well.

The silver birch tree by No 6 has been removed. and will be replaced by a Sorbus Embley as agreed at the EGM.

In relation to trees, Nemus Treecare attended for a 'walkabout' (not a formal survey) and did not identify any obvious issues of concern apart from the horse chestnut behind No 18 which appeared to be rotten on probing. Jack Hansell recommended we obtain a view from the Greenwich Council tree officer. Although the rest of the trees are apparently sound there are problems at No.s 18, 20, 23 with large branches overhanging the roofs. Could they be pruned back? The lowest branch of the Plane tree across the middle path of the Green needs cutting back as when it rains the weight of the water causes it to drop too low to be able to walk under and it is impeding the growth of the shrubs in the adjacent bed. The trees on the lane behind No.s 8, 9 are so tall that they block a lot of light to their gardens. Could they be reduced in height?

Corner Green directors have authorised expenditure for the Sorbus Embley and some new plants:

3 x sambucus nigra 'Aurea' (golden elder) for the side of No 23. There were several golden elder in the original garden plans.

7 x ceratostygmia, 10 x stachys, 7 x creeping thyme. Ground cover plants for the middle bed to suppress the weeds and so it doesn't look so bare in the winter.

3 x Rosemary for the front of No 7, There were Rosemary bushes here previously.

7 x white lace cap hydrangeas. Two in front of the study window at 12 and five to fill in gaps in front of no 23

15 x vinca minor for the bed in front of No 2 living room. There are large bare patches in this bed for most of the year when the white shrubs currently in flower lose their leaves and are cut down. These will provide ground cover and the shrubs will grow through the vinca.

Planting will be done in the autumn.

We are waiting for a quote from Seasons to cut back some of the shrubs by No.s 20, 22 - 23 and add turf round the borders of the grass to create better shaped lawns. Over the years the grass has been edged too much and the shrub borders are looking very untidy.

The evergreen honeysuckle by No 21 is looking very old and woody so we are also looking for shrubs to replace that.

Part of a large spreading shrub in front of No 17 has died and needs to be removed. It is proposed to replace with a bed of Lavender. There was quite a lot of Lavender on the Green in the early days.

The Seasons are continuing the the pruning and maintenance of the existing shrubs.

The garden committee used to have an annual budget and we will ask the AGM to consider reinstating it. The current process for new plants whereby we have to obtain quotes from Seasons then directors approval is very slow. It is extra work for Seasons and by the time we've gone through the process we've often missed the planting time.

The committee would welcome another member, anyone interested?