

Date: 1st November 2018

Title: Report Item 7 – Planting Trees at the Recreation Ground

By: Cllr B Greenwell (Vice Chair)

Purpose: To outline the proposal and the cost of implementation

Recommendations: To approve the planting of 4 new trees at the recreation ground at a total cost of £1265.08.

Approval is sought for the planting of 4 new trees at the recreation ground at a total cost of £1265.08. This to be met from income received in respect of the new highway drainage soakaway.

Outline

There is concern arising from the Fridays housing development that, during cricket matches, balls hit for 6 in the direction of the new houses may cause damage by for example breaking a window. During the building phase, balls have been hit into the development area and one even went through an un-glassed window.

The cricket club have conducted a risk assessment and are engaged in investigations for ball-stop netting and other potential short term solutions. The Parish Council is considering implementing a more aesthetically pleasing longer term solution.

It has been noted that balls hit into the existing boundary trees are stopped by the foliage. It is therefore proposed that the existing gaps in the trees should be filled by new planting that, once more fully grown, will act as a natural ball-stop.

It is proposed that four Purple Copper Beech (*Fagus Sylvatica Purpurea*) trees are planted, two in each of the gaps between the existing chestnut trees as shown in the aerial view below. This species of tree is arguably England's most beautiful native tree with smooth grey bark and copper and russet autumn foliage and beautiful purple leaves in summer.

Three quotations have been sought with prices including VAT as follows:

English Woodlands: £1265.08

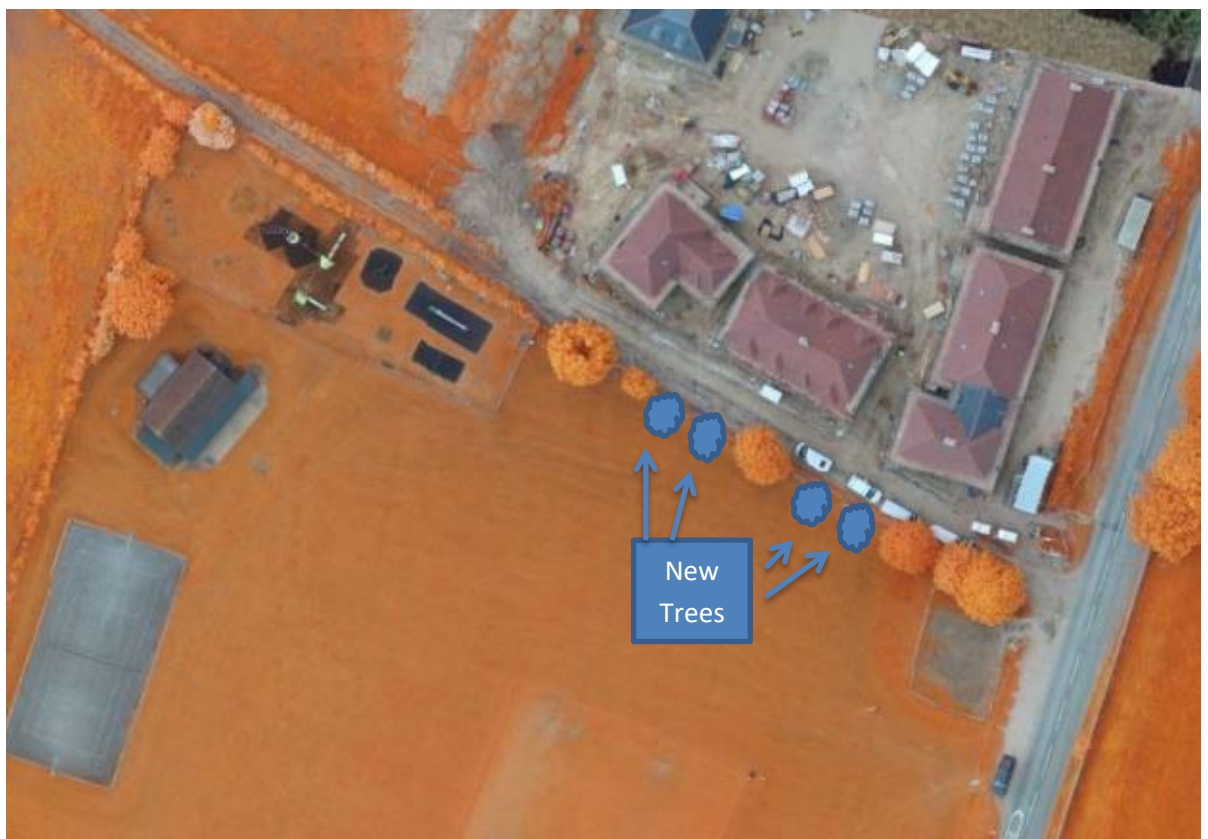
Southern Treeworks: £1510-00

James Walker: £1360-00

Details of the English Woodlands quotation are being circulated to councillors. It is proposed that an order should be placed with English Woodlands for planting a.s.a.p.

Financial implications: - The cost of these works will be £1,054.23 plus VAT including their planting and delivery. They will be funded from existing resources generated from the highway drainage soakaway scheme which totalled £3,000 [is this the Rook Construction Payment Katrina?] which has been received by the Council and is available to meet the costs of this project.

Procurement Implications: - Given the value of the works is over the initial financial threshold of £1,000 but under the second threshold of £10,000, there is a requirement for three written quotes which have been received.





Typical Purple Beech in summer: