

Lagoon View Community Orchard Association

Chair's Report 2021

With the pandemic still a major factor in our lives, the orchard programme of events was severely curtailed, as last year. However, some useful developments were possible. We stripped back the turf near the transformer to sow wild flower seeds into bare earth. Included in this were five lupin plants, kindly donated. Nothing much happened for quite a while but with some watering, a sea of colour eventually sprang up. Flowers were a big attraction for pollinating insects and there were more butterflies than in previous years. Flowers hung on into November. We hope the meadow area will repeat the trick through self-seeding.

A community BBQ was planned and a brick BBQ was created. This was used to effortlessly cook for 85 people in early September. With live music and a log fire, this was a lovely event. The BBQ is available for family events on request. A third mosaic was completed and fitted in time for the BBQ. It has attracted lots of compliments.

In the woodland some fairy doors appeared, to the delight of small children. A bench was added near the 'den' for weary parents to relax while creative play carried on. A 'little house of discovery' was added with magnifying glasses for junior environmental exploration.

Working parties have continued monthly, with trees being protected from insects by sticky bands, branches pruned in the season and the trees and fruit canes mulched with our own compost.

The crop of fruit was a little less than the previous year, due in part to a cold dry spring. But all the pear trees provided crops and raspberries were very popular again. The plum trees have not done well but we hope for better returns in 2022.

During the year we devised a survey, to check how residents and visitors felt about the orchard. Results were overwhelmingly positive and some useful suggestions were offered which we have tried to respond to.

The circular path has proved very popular for small cyclists on a range of wheels. If they lose control they generally land on the grass, so a safe place to learn to ride a bike. Families from Tarka Ridge have much appreciated the orchard, having smaller gardens at their own houses. The new playground there remains closed until 'adopted' by the management company, so our precious area attracts many, including dog walkers.

In November, the arch and trees were decorated with 1000 knitted poppies after many hours work by local volunteers. This made a magnificent remembrance event, celebrating 100 years of the Royal British Legion.

We look forward to more developments in 2022, with more flexibility over events.

Pete Thorn

Chair

General Account - Last updated - 31.12.21

Date	Item	Donor/Recipient	Type	IN	OUT	Cash/Cheque	Ref	Balance
01.01.21	Balance from 2020							£769.26
26.02.21	Donation	Mr & Mrs Wantling	Receipt	£10.00		Cash/Cheque		£779.26
26.02.21	Xmas Tree	John Wilson	Payment		£91.55	Cheque	585296	£687.71
26.02.21	Petrol for mower	Peter Thorn	Payment		£23.67	Cheque	585297	£664.04
10.05.21	Magnifying glass etc for Woodland trail	Maggie Morton	Payment		£26.97	Cheque	585486	£637.07
30.06.21	Interest		Receipt	£0.34		Cash		£637.41
09.07.21	Paper & Ink for flyers etc	John Wilson	Payment		£26.50	Cheque	585871	£610.91
26.07.21	Sales of plants/cuttings	Silver Short	Receipt	£37.15		Cash		£648.06
20.08.21	Materials for Orchard BBQ (sand/cement etc)	Peter Thorn	Payment		£143.46	Cheque	585737	£504.60
07.09.21	Proceeds from Summer BBQ		Receipt	£382.57		Cash		£887.17
08.10.21	Donations		Receipt	£12.00		Cheque		£899.17
08.10.21	Interest		Receipt	£0.19		Cash		£899.36
08.10.21	Cheque withdrawn to close Nationwide Account		Receipt		£899.36	Cheque		£0.00
08.10.21	New Nat West Account opened		Deposit	£899.36		Cheque		£899.36
17.11.21	Coastal Tree Consultancy (Tree Report)		Payment		£90.00	BACS		£809.36
		TOTALS		£1,341.61	£1,301.51			£809.36