

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE
19 JANUARY 2022**

Officer: Helen Ball (Town Clerk)

TREWORKS

Purpose of Report

To update the Committee on matters relating to trees

QUARRY TENDER WORKS

Benbows have been appointed to undertake the treeworks in the Quarry. Work is planned for w/c 17th January and is likely to take a month. Work includes felling a couple of trees and major tree pruning of all the Lime Trees. This is a large project (this was last done about 25 years ago) but one which will ensure the health of the tree stock for years to come. Plans are in place for publicity and any disruption to the park and its users will be kept to a minimum.

DEVELOPMENT OF A FRAMEWORK CONTRACT

Officers are putting together a specification for updating the existing Framework Contract for procuring Arborists on an ad hoc basis. This will allow for the operational due diligence to be undertaken on all potential contractors and work towards a set price list for works to be done.

This tender document will be published on Contract Finder and the outcome will be reported to Council.

QUEENS GREEN CANOPY

The Council has been working with the Lord Lieutenancy to promote the Queens Green Canopy in Shropshire. Robert Bland, Deputy Lord Lieutenant is leading on the project.

Any trees procured and planted in this year will be logged on the Queens Green Canopy Website. This will include and hedgerows that are to be planted.

Through Mr Bland the Town Council is to offer trees to the public across the county as part of this initiative. There is some legacy funding to provide trees and in the procurement of these trees a few of the wholesale tree suppliers have also offered to donate trees. A page on the Council website will provide more details.

The Town Clerk has contacted all Councillors on a couple of occasions to establish any locations for planting a Queens Green Canopy in individual wards. The majority of Councillors have made suggestions but if Councillors haven't could they do so as soon as possible. Some will be planted in February & March with the remainder in the autumn.

DEFRA TREES OUTSIDE WOODLANDS PROJECT

Shropshire Council is part of the DEFRA Trees Outside Woodland Project. This involves a number of local authorities each specialising on a different tree project. Shropshire is leading on the development of Community Tree Nurseries and part of the funding received has gone to expanding the Town Council's tree nursery at Weeping Cross. This will create greater opportunity to grow on more trees as well as adopt trees where the public and land owners have removed them from their gardens/land and replant them elsewhere. The logistics of the project are currently being worked up.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) That the Report be noted