

When will the work be happening?

 The work will take place in the Autumn and Winter months. We will let residents know when work is going to take place in their area by way of press releases, flyers and posters in woodland.

What work will be happening?

-  Weak and overcrowded trees will be felled to allow more space, light and water for the remaining trees and allow new trees and shrubs to develop below.
-  Small blocks of trees may be felled to create footpaths, walkways and glade areas.

How is this work being paid for?

-  This project is designed to be self funding and so it will not cost the community any extra.
-  The funds needed to carry out this work will be raised from the sustainable sale of timber and grant aid from The Forestry Commission.
-  The timber will be sold to make pulp for manufacturing cardboard, mining timbers, fencing and furniture.
-  The small branches that are not sold will, in the majority of cases, be spread on the woodland floor to provide nutrients to the soil, food for insects and birds, prevent unauthorised activities (i.e. motorcycling), and protect seedlings while they establish.



For more information please contact the tree team on
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Community Woodland Management Project

REDDITCH BOROUGH COUNCIL

*making
a
difference*

www.redditchbc.gov.uk



Why do we need the Community Woodland Management Project?

Redditch features many areas of woodland in close proximity to housing with easy access for recreation. Woodland areas need to be managed to encourage the growth of wildflowers, trees and to promote habitats for a wide range of wildlife.

This will give the woodland a sustainable long-term future.

We all enjoy the areas of woodland around Redditch and most of us would like to see them properly managed so that they are retained for future generations to enjoy. At the moment not all of our woodlands are of great quality for either wildlife or as a place for local people to enjoy. This is because:-

- 🍁 Many of the trees are of the same age, meaning they will eventually all die around the same time and we will be left with nothing;
- 🍁 There is little light reaching the ground below the trees and this prevents new trees regenerating naturally and stops the growth of woodland flowers and herbs;
- 🍁 In some cases access to the woodland is difficult because the trees are so close together and it is very dark; with issues of user and Community Safety.



What are the aims of Community Woodland Management Project?

Woodland management aims to provide a varied and healthy age structure of trees and develop the best possible habitat for both flora and fauna with the consideration that our spaces need to be accessible and provide an amenity for our residents.

It does concern many that mature trees are felled but enabling more light to the ground allows for natural regeneration and gives a mosaic of habitat that is vital for biodiversity.

Woodlands have been managed in this way for centuries and without ongoing management the biodiversity value and structure soon diminishes.

How are we improving our woodlands?

As a result of the project the woodlands will be properly managed to provide the following benefits:

- 🍁 A wide range of native species will be regenerated which can support the high levels of wildlife.
- 🍁 The appearance of the woodlands will be improved with a broad mix of shapes, colours and textures.
- 🍁 There will be a healthy mixture of young and old trees, creating the different stages of a tree's life cycle which children can observe.
- 🍁 Woodland edges and glades will be created to allow shrubs, taller grasses and wildflowers to grow which will encourage birds and butterflies.
- 🍁 Dense areas of woodland will be thinned and paths and walkways will be formed in some places to improve access to the wood.
- 🍁 Leafy glades and open spaces suitable for picnic areas will be created.

