

Questions and comments received regarding Community Park and the Orchard site.

	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
1	1/3/24 Email 09:19	If the Parish council has tried for two years and not been able to get funding for equipment at Elisha Field, without the Orchard and Community Group how do people expect them to fund equipment for Community Park when it is an inaccessible and non-inclusive space?	Yes this is correct – as a Community Group they will be far better placed to apply for funding than the Parish Council. The Orchard will fulfil many of the funding criteria for future projects in Canada Woods and Community Park, such as accessible footpaths etc.
2	2/3/24 Postcard	<p>My immediate comments regarding the opposition to the community orchard area these:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) I have walked by the site nearly every day for the last 2 years and never seen a single child at play</li> <li>2) The site is low-lying and is subject to flooding</li> <li>3) Within 300 yards (as the crow flies) is a well maintained football pitch adjacent to the school</li> <li>4) The development as a community orchard, alongside the extensive re-habilitation of Canada Woods will benefit the local environment and wildlife (see over – postcard showing the ‘benefits of Trees’ as produced by the Tree Council) widely, and is widely applauded and long discussed by the local community</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Noted – thank you</li> <li>2. We acknowledge that the site is waterlogged at the current time, as are many areas of land at the moment due to the exceptionally high rain fall in February. Soil samples taken and discussions with a Wiltshire Council tree Officer have concluded that the site is suitable for a Community Orchard.</li> <li>3. Noted – thank you</li> <li>4. Noted – thank you</li> </ol>
3	2/3/24 Email 12:12	We walk that park and woodland more than most and drive past it several times a day between us, and in 7 years have only twice seen someone try and kick a ball. We worked for three weekends all day and met 7 people just passing through with their dogs and the second family in 7 years trying to use a football and failing	Noted – thank you
4	Personal visit	We are not about to start getting tangled up in meetings etc. but we walk almost daily, and have never seen anyone in the park let alone playing Football.	Noted – thank you
5	4/3/24 Hand delivered to Parish	1. Request for a halt in any further progress with the community orchard, to include, but not limited to, the planting of any trees/hedges/shrubbery, whilst a full and transparent consultation with the parishioners is conducted; this will include, but not limited to, leaflet drops and questionnaires.	1. Over the last three years there have been many attempts to engage with our community. In some cases circumstances failed us in engaging the community, and in some cases, the community failed to engage with us. Despite the failures however, the list of ideas for Community Park continues to grow and is as diverse as our community itself (currently 35 ideas). Thinking back to the list of ideas that have already been put forward, could we

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<p>Council Chairman</p> <p>Petition with 177 signatures</p>	<p>2. Any future plans for the amenity land adjacent to Beech Close (also referred to as 'Community Park') must incorporate the wishes of the parishioners, whom will be consulted continually as planning for the area changes and progresses.</p>	<p>please respectfully ask if the outcomes from any further consultation are likely to be significantly different from that already carried out?</p> <p>As detailed in the article in last month's magazine, the Community Group are always happy to accept volunteers, along with suggestions and ideas for the area, which can also be sent directly to the Parish Council at any time. There will also be the opportunity for future community engagement at the Annual Parish Meeting etc.</p> <p>As evidenced by some of the comments we have received, and we perhaps suggest, some of the people who refused to sign the petition, there are those in the community that are in favour of the Community Orchard, as well as those against it.</p> <p>As a Parish Council we need to look at the bigger picture, refer back to the aims and objectives set out in the Neighbourhood Plan for our Green Spaces, and make a decision based on what is believed to be in the best interests of the whole community.</p> <p>Having seen the plans for the Community Orchard, hopefully we have been able to allay fears that there will be little, or no space left in Community Park for children to play after the Orchard is planted. We sincerely expect, and hope, that the Orchard, and any other features that may be added in the future will only go to enhance the play experience for the children.</p> <p>2. Whilst in an ideal world this may seem the best thing to do, continuous consultation of this nature isn't always well received. Experience from the extensive consultation carried out when developing the Neighbourhood Plan demonstrated that as time went on community interest tended to dwindle. Whilst we acknowledge the efforts undertaken in promoting the petition which generated the high response rate from the local community, we also should perhaps recognise that many of the signatures were obtained by knocking on peoples doors and engaging directly with them, which just wouldn't be practical to do on a continual basis. Carrying out the level of consultation requested by the petition as the area changes and progresses, would likely take a considerable amount of time, and it is often the case that when funding opportunities do arise, they will have quite a limited time period in which applications can be submitted, and it would be a shame to miss any</p>

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			<p>such opportunities. Having the orchard in situ, will open the way for additional funding opportunities - to perhaps improve the condition of the footpaths around the woods, fund community events, or to progress with any other possible projects that might come forward for Canada Woods or Community Park.</p> <p>An alternative proposal to that of the continual community engagement as requested in the petition could be - that any ideas the Community Group may wish to progress i.e. which will have already been put forward by the local community, could be detailed on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting at which they are due to be considered, along with an accompanying briefing sheet. This would then give members of the public the opportunity to either send their comments to the Parish Council prior to the meeting or to speak during the meeting itself. The meeting agendas are published in advance on the Parish Council website, notice board and Facebook page, giving everyone in the village the opportunity to stay informed and have an input into the discussion should they so wish.</p>
6	8/3/24 Email 09:14	<p>1)What public consultation has already been conducted and what responses were received</p> <p>2)How has the Orchard been funded</p> <p>3)what will happen to the funding appropriated to the orchard if it does not proceed</p> <p>4)What benefits would the Orchard provide in terms of community activities, local schools and biodiversity</p> <p>5)How will the public access the Orchard site</p>	<p>1. Consultation in various formats with the local community regarding Canada Woods and Community Park has been carried out over the last three years. To date we have a list of 35 ideas that have been put forward.</p> <p>2. 5 of the trees were awarded to the Community Group as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tree Council plant a tree in '73 campaign, and the remaining trees and costs of the project will be funded through a grant obtained by the local Tree Wardens from the Tree Council's 'Branching Out' Fund – there has been no cost to the Parish Council for this project.</p> <p>3. Under the criteria for the grant awarded, the Parish Council pays the invoices for the trees and other items approved by the Tree Council for the Orchard, and then after the trees have been planted with help from members of the local community a claim will be submitted to the Tree Council for reimbursement of the funds spent – so in answer to the question, if the Orchard does not proceed and the trees are not planted, the Parish Council would not be re-imbursed for the money already spent.</p> <p>4. The Orchard will provide a wide variety of benefits -</p>

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			<p><b>Community activities:</b> Orchards have played an important role in Communities for centuries, providing a focal point, a gathering space, a place where people and nature can successfully work together, with the bonus of a tasty treat each year. They can be used for community activities such as apple days, open air plays, picnics, storytelling, events or festivals or as a green haven in which to relax and wind down.</p> <p><b>Local schools:</b> It is anticipated that the tree wardens would lead a variety of educational and fun sessions</p> <p><b>Biodiversity:</b> An immense amount of thought and effort went into the recent thinning of Canada Woods to increase biodiversity and secure the future of the woodland for generations to come with a structured management plan. In the 6 months following the felling works, the woodland and the surrounding environment has come alive! birds and mammals are back, a pair of nesting buzzards not seen for years, owls and woodpeckers have returned, and there were even ducks spotted on the river a couple of weeks ago. In 2007, traditional orchards were designated as a priority habitat in the 'UK Biodiversity Action Plan' because of the variety of flora and fauna that can be supported by this environment, as well as insects, birds, bees, bats, foxes, and small mammals. Orchards can protect bumblebees simply by creating a habitat for them to exist.</p> <p>5. The area can be approached from both ends via footpath MLAV2, and will have unrestricted access. At the Parish Council meeting held last month the Community Group made a request to the Parish Council to submit a funding request to Wiltshire Council's LHFIC committee on their behalf to improve the accessibility along the section of footpath from Grove Road to Community Park, which was duly approved.</p>
7	8/3/24 Email	Petition was handed round at the Easterton Hub, people were not reading it just being told there was nowhere for children to play and the council were planting an orchard instead	Noted – thank you
8	10/3/24 Email 14:06	As a frequent visitor to the site over the last few years I have been impressed by the work undertaken by volunteers in the environmentally sensitive clearance of diseased and ivied timber and the proposals to create a community orchard. Enthused, I have joined the small number of volunteers involved in improving the	Noted – thank you

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	<p>local environment for the benefit of the locally community and biodiversity even as a non-resident of the village.</p> <p>Over many months, a great deal of research and consultation has been invested in determining the best outcomes for this pioneering scheme which I applaud.</p> <p>Seemingly, at the eleven hour, as work on the ground has progressed with vividly obvious and beneficial results manifest for all to see, some local opinions have been stirred resulting in the need for a special parish council meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>The crux of the objections seem to be the loss of a redundant football pitch (if it can be referred to as such) fronting the stream. From my recent experience in digging holes streamside for subsequent tree planting, I can categorically state that the waterlogged and continually sinking ground adjacent to the stream is totally unsuitable for football as the heavily rusted and removed goalposts attest. No ball has been kicked there for decades! A full size football pitch is available (as the crow flies) some 400 yards up the hill to the north adjacent to the school.</p> <p>The community orchard will benefit all the community without expense, dedicated work in securing funding by volunteers over many months opening up income streams which continue to be pursued. These will be in jeopardy if work on the orchard is abandoned.</p> <p>Work on the community orchard and Canada Woods are already having a most positive impact on arboreal and wildlife conservation. Just note, already, the expansion of the rookery at the top end of the wood and the explosion of flower cover after the removal of ivy.</p> <p>The community commitment, without any thought of recompense, is poignantly displayed by the creation, by one of the skilled volunteers, of a rustic bench at the edge of Canada Woods. Such dedication should be applauded and encouraged.</p> <p>An integral part of the improvement proposals is the commitment to protecting the purity of the stream which is a precious headwater for breeding salmon and trout. Overall this scheme is hugely beneficial and should be supported</p>	

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9	11/3/24 Email 17:38	<p>1. In the last 18 months there [REDACTED] also, in the last 18 months the risk level has gone from low to extreme. What is the parish councils plan to rectify this situation and further to that what is the scope on reviewing the code of conduct regarding safeguarding of fellow council members and harassment policies because either they are not being adhered to or they don't work as seen by [REDACTED] the last council meeting.</p> <p>2. There is a petition being door knocked in the village based on false information. I believe there are 170 odd signatures which is still less than the interest in the orchard when 1<sup>st</sup> proposed on the MLPC Facebook page. Is there a registered amount of people that have told her to sling her hook elsewhere? This seems to be an ill informed and 1-sided affair otherwise?</p> <p>3. The orchard was voted for unanimously by the parish council so why was it even allowed to be revisited at a parish council meeting within the 6-month grace period of the decision being made. As a resident I believe this brings the entire system into disrepute. I have no confidence in the council if they can't follow their own code of conduct and the fact that councillors are banding together between meetings to further fuel this public saga is just a joke. What does the parish council plan to do about this ?</p> <p>4. There are councillors asking for 'All' information to be open to everyone, however, these councillors also withheld information to be held as ammunition to further undermine the project? How does this happen? Is this not a further breach of the code of conduct?</p> <p>5. With public consultation the biggest point here, How is it that a £50,000 plus playground is passed thorough without any public consultation and yet the orchard has been halted by [REDACTED]?</p> <p>6. We live next to Canada Wood and we haven't been petitioned, why was it taken to the Easterton hub when there are still places here that haven't been petitioned, I have also been in a house on Canada Rise when [REDACTED] knocked and all [REDACTED] said was there wasn't anywhere for children to play and</p>	<p>1. The Parish Council will ensure that the risk level is reviewed every 6 months and respond to any guidance or comments made by the Internal Auditor. Councillors have been reminded of the principles as detailed in the Parish Council Code of Conduct.</p> <p>2. Noted – thank you</p> <p>3. Whilst time is being given to responding to the petition presented to the Parish Council regarding the Community Orchard, there is no suggestion that the decision itself is being revisited.</p> <p>4. Not knowing the councillor's intention it is difficult to comment.</p> <p>5. Whilst there has been a delay with planting the trees for the Orchard, this is also partly due to the adverse weather of late and the condition of the ground at the current time, but there is no suggestion that it will be halted. As indicated, the 'ninja equipment' proposed for Elisha Field was one of the ideas put forward during the Sports Facilities consultation. As with the Community Orchard, it supports the objectives in the Neighbourhood Plan, and as such there is no need for any further consultation.</p> <p><b>Community Orchard – Neighbourhood Plan objective 6:</b> To improve the village environment by appropriate enhancements to landscaping and existing features, provision of new green open spaces and enhancement of existing ones, including new tree planting</p> <p><b>'Ninja Equipment' – Neighbourhood Plan objective 3:</b> To enhance the recreational and leisure facilities of the village, especially for young people and to create a central hub site featuring these and other facilities</p> <p>6. Noted – thank you, but unable to answer why you were not petitioned.</p>

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		<p>the council wants an orchard. Hardly the whole story is it! Poor form all round really.... And yet.... [REDACTED] has still railroaded the orchard and lost the community group funding stream.....How has this been allowed to happen ?</p>	
10	11/3/24 Email 21:42	<p>1. How can, as The Chairman explained in last months meeting (reference notes from meeting held 20.02.24 under chairman's report) a Parish Council conduct a poll and proceed in a direction that seems to have no further interaction with the community? If that is the case, how can decisions we make, be representative or democratic. I understand the legalities but more simply, what would be the point in running the poll aside from being able to say "we have asked the community". Polls and questionnaires are not straightforward. I understand that. But there has to be evidence to back up the necessity of its outcome. I can probably explain this better in person. Hopefully we will be able to discuss questions asked.</p> <p>2. The Community Park project has so many wonderful benefits to the village which is why I have been happy to support it thus far. My question is, how can we, as a PC ok the project as it is currently proposed when there is the level of displeasure about it that we are seeing?</p> <p>3. The PCs reputation is already suffering and I am deeply concerned that continuing to plant the trees suggested, in the locations proposed will cause further damage. How can we remain democratic and be representing the village when it comes across that we are not listening?</p> <p>4. Have the friends of CP group have been gifted the "golden orchard" trees and the rest have been paid for through a grant? Please remind me. Either way, the group have the trees, which is wonderful and will be such a plus for the village.</p> <p>5. Why must they be planted across the area in such a way that takes out so much space when there is an appetite to keep some of that space open?</p>	<p>1. I think the Chairman was trying to make the point that a Parish Poll would not be the way to go – it's very expensive to administer, and you could only ask one question i.e. do the local community support a community orchard on Community Park – yes / no ? A questionnaire would offer far better community engagement, but would it bring forward anything significantly different to the raft of ideas already received for Community Park?</p> <p>2 &amp; 3 It is believed that a lot of the public misgivings about the orchard may have come about due to misinformation i.e. people think that no ball games will be allowed, and the orchard will take up the whole space in Community Park. It is hoped, that if we can show parishioners this is not the case, and that we are only responding to ideas put forward in the past by the public, and that the project supports objective 6 in the Neighbourhood Plan, that there will be a better understanding of the proposal. The Parish Council can rarely please everyone, and for every person who was asked to sign the petition, there will most likely have been others who refused to sign it as they were happy for the Orchard to go ahead. While we should in no way dismiss the level of community feeling as demonstrated in the Petition (and during the presentation we will address this) we need to remember that back in October the Parish Council as a collective approved the decision to allow the Tree Wardens to apply for the grant funding for the Orchard on Community Park. Councillors and the public alike need to step back, remind themselves of the aims and objectives from the Neighbourhood Plan, which gives a clear steer on what should and shouldn't be happening in our 'Green Spaces', and consider what is best for the community as whole. In our presentation we will suggest an alternative solution to the request for continual community engagement, which as borne out with developing the Neighbourhood Plan, is not always met with a particularly high response rate from the local community.</p>

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		<p>Wouldn't it then be more accessible to a greater range of user groups?</p> <p>6. Equally the dwarf trees of which we were led to believe were something that the residents supported, it transpires that the exact opposite is felt. I understand residents don't support ideas such as shelters i.e. areas teens may congregate but that was never proposed. It was an aspiration suggestion made by a user group. 1 amongst many others.</p> <p>Personally I love the idea of people being able to more easily access the park, if the LHGFIG application is successful, have somewhere quiet to go and enjoy the nature we are so lucky to live amongst. Equally schools to use it as a resource and friends to spend time together in a lovely area. That does not come across with the plan as it is and as a Parish Council, to remain compliant with our Code of Conduct, I cannot see how we can support the direction this project is going in.</p>	<p>4. Yes – ‘The Friends of Canada Woods and Community Park’ Community Group were awarded the ‘5 golden orchard’ trees from the Tree Council as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their plant a tree in ‘73 campaign, and the rest will be paid for through the ‘Branching Out’ grant.</p> <p>5. The trees need to be planted 5 metres apart, 14 of them will be planted in three rows, parallel with the fencing on the right-hand side, with a central space in the middle for possible seating and picnics etc. The remaining 5 trees will be planted in a row on the Canada Woods side of the site adjacent to the footpath. There will still be plenty of room to the left of the site for use as open space, and also in between the trees themselves.</p> <p>6. The fruit trees being planted are from semi-vigorous rootstocks, as recommended by the Tree Council</p>
11	13/3/24 Email 16:56	<p>As chair of the Community Group, and even though unwell, I approached [REDACTED] on the 25<sup>th</sup> February, and offered a one to one meeting in Community Park to look at previous work over the last three years, and future options/proposals and to explain why the orchard would benefit the whole community, to explain the aims and philosophy of the group and to listen to any fears or concerns. I accepted her apology a week later that my email had gone into spam and could I meet her on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March, subject to her work and family commitments. My reply to her was that I was happy to fit in with her plans. However, [REDACTED] chose to go door knocking with her petition instead in Canada Rise where she was seen to be disappointed by a resident who refused to sign it.</p> <p>My disappointment is that surely an offer of a conversation on site to dispel the rumours and misunderstandings and to listen to their concerns and fears, would surely have been more beneficial to the protagonists, than a few more signatures on a petition.</p>	Noted – thank you.
12	13/3/24 Email	1. Why was a specific meeting not arranged for the discussion of the Community Park as previously indicated in last MLC	1. It was not considered appropriate to host the suggested meeting. Every effort was made to arrange an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting to



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21:35	<p>meeting? It is an important matter which requires full public participation and will take more than 5 minutes public comment.</p> <p>2. Who is spreading disinformation? As far as I am aware there has been only one person who sent out an email with false information regarding the petition that was circulated.</p> <p>3. Per RHS. Landscapers and members of the public with horticultural knowledge: boggy soil or poorly drained soil is not appropriate for apple trees, Roots will rot and will not fruit, Root decay can also be caused by <a href="#">waterlogging</a>. Phytophthora root rot is itself favoured by waterlogged conditions. Phytophthora describes soil or potting compost that is saturated with water. The water displaces air from the spaces between soil particles and plant roots can literally drown, unless they are adapted to growing in waterlogged conditions. Waterlogging is common on poorly drained soil or when heavy soil is compacted.</p> <p>4. Apple trees require constant maintenance with trimming and pruning, mulching and fertilizing. spray on a regular basis to prevent fungal disease, scab, and invertebrate pests – Who will be responsible for managing these issues and the ongoing maintenance and costs?</p> <p>5. Apple orchard with bring vermin (rats and badgers) as well pests (wasps, hornets codling moth, plum curculio, Oriental Fruit moth, brown marmorated stink bug, and San Jose scale. Other secondary pests include European red mites, rosy apple aphids, Japanese beetles, and woolly apple aphids.</p> <p>6. Trees scheduled to line up behind my fence which will block access to light for my garden.</p> <p>7. Per Friends of Canada Woods website - Flood Pain map on site identifies Community Park area as flood plain area - was this not taken into consideration when the park was selected for apple orchard?</p>	<p>discuss Community Park, however the required number of Councillors needed to be present could not be guaranteed for the various choices of venues and dates available. The decision was therefore made to reduce the agenda for the main Parish Council meeting scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> of March with the main focus being on Community Park. Every opportunity has been given for comments and questions to be submitted by the public prior to the meeting, so they can be carefully reviewed and responded to in an effective and structured way at the meeting. There will be the opportunity at the meeting for ‘public participation’ for any further questions or questions to be made, which can at the discretion of the Chairman be extended. Any outstanding questions will be noted and responded to after the meeting and published with the meeting minutes.</p> <p>2. Unable to comment on this, other than there appears to be some misunderstanding of exactly what the Orchard is and what it will look like.</p> <p>3. There will be other fruit trees in the Orchard apart from apples. A Wiltshire Council Tree Officer visited Community Park on 19/12/23 to assess the suitability for its use as a Community Orchard and was supportive of the idea. Discussions were held at the time regarding the water table and soil samples revealed that whilst it was wet on the surface, the ground was dryer further down. During the soil testing carried out in December Twenty holes, 8” deep, and 6” square were dug across the site. The first 2” of each sample were then discarded and the rest put in a bucket, where all the samples were mixed together, and sample pots filled. Soil from this depth was found to be better draining. The results from the soil testing indicated that subject to some additional support for the new trees, the soil was suitable for the fruit trees proposed.</p> <p>4. The ‘Friends of Canada Woods and Community Park’ Community Group, with the support of the Tree Wardens and volunteers, will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the trees. Nineteen people put their names down to help with the Community Orchard during the recent Facebook poll. The Parish Council has been, and will remain responsible for any costs incurred for mowing the grass etc.</p> <p>5. There will be other fruit trees in the Orchard apart from apples. Orchards are designated as a priority habitat in the ‘UK Biodiversity Action Plan’</p>

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		<p>8. 22 Feb2022 meeting: “Provide community space accessible and inclusive for all the community” - Why no real public consultation?</p> <p>9. Why no recent consultation with Beechwood neighbours, no invitation to ‘tree planting event” (subsequently cancelled)?</p> <p>10. Can MCL maintain the grassy field and save money that would be wasted on trying to sustain an unsustainable apple orchard?</p>	<p>because of the variety of flora and fauna that can be supported by this environment, as well as insects, birds, bees, bats, foxes, and small mammals. Orchards can protect bumblebees simply by creating a habitat for them to exist.</p> <p>6. The nearest line of trees to your fence will be approx. 6 metres away, with the trees growing eventually to a maximum of 5 metres in height. This is unlikely to have any significant impact on the access to light for your garden.</p> <p>7. Yes, the river is the source of water for the orchard. Given the steep bank the water table would have to rise to such levels as to affect Beechwood properties to influence Community Park.</p> <p>8. Sorry not sure what meeting is being referred to on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 – Evidence provided of the extensive community engagement carried out over the last three years. This was one of the aims of the 2<sup>nd</sup> working group and still applies to the community group.</p> <p>9. It is important that the whole community is involved in consultations, not just Beechwood residents. Beechwood residents, along with other residents living in the vicinity of Canada Woods were all kept updated with details of the tree Management works in Canada Woods as they progressed. A date was never finalised for the ‘tree planting event’ - when a date is finalised, an open invitation will be extended to all residents to attend and take part in the tree planting.</p> <p>10. The Parish Council has not spent any money on the Orchard and will remain responsible for maintaining the grass.</p>
13	13/3/24 Email 21:45	<p>What date did Market Lavington Parish Council discuss (during a MLPC meeting) having a Community Orchard in the Community Park, take a vote during the Parish Council meeting and Minute the Results.</p>	<p>Extract from the minutes from the Parish Council meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2023:</p> <p><b>23/24-105f Tree Warden Scheme</b> – Cllr Fraser provided an overview of the scheme which had been launched by the Tree Council in partnership with Wiltshire Council. The Tree Wardens, of which there were currently three people locally who had come forward and volunteered, were receiving guidance and support from Wiltshire Council, and were being actively encouraged to look within parishes to ascertain if there might be any land suitable for tree planting. <b>As a result of this, land at the bottom of Canada Woods (Community Park), adjacent to</b></p>

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			<p>Beechwood had subsequently been identified as a possible location for a Community Orchard. It was reported that an initial poll on Facebook by the Tree Warden's had received a very positive response to this suggestion, and it was noted that this had also been one of the ideas put forward during the community engagement exercise for the COVID19 project some time ago. Cllr Fraser noted that there was grant funding available from the Tree Council of up to £2,500 from the 'Branching Out' fund, for such activities, so there would be no financial commitment required from the Parish Council. Following further discussion it was recognised that the condition of the soil at this site would need to be assessed to ascertain what trees would be best suited to the conditions. It was then proposed by Cllr Osborn, seconded by Cllr Earley, and resolved that the Parish Council would be in favour of working with the Tree Wardens and the 'Friends of Canada Woods &amp; Community Park' Community Group, to apply for grant funding from the Tree Council to improve this site – <b>ACTIONS</b> – Cllr Fraser to liaise with other Tree Wardens and Parish Clerk to prepare grant application.</p>
14	13/3/24 Email 21:54	<p>1. The Market Lavington Neighbourhood Plan, objective 6, refers to 'green open spaces. What is the Parish Council's definition of such a space?</p> <p>2. The Football Field Behind Beechwood is a designated Local Green Space (Policy 5; 8.28)). Why has an effort not been made to maintain it as such?</p> <p>First meeting of the Covid-19 working project group 11/10/21</p> <p>3. Did the suggested mailshot go ahead? What was the result?</p> <p>4. What was the outcome of contacting local groups and schools?</p> <p>5. Where were the questions asked on Facebook – the MLPC page?</p> <p>PC meeting 19/02/22 –</p> <p>6. What happened to the willow arbour that was proposed and approved?</p>	<p>1. As detailed in para. 8.26 'Local Green Spaces' are defined as <b>key areas that are especially valued by the community.</b></p> <p>2. The green space has been regularly cut.</p> <p>3 &amp; 4. 11/10/21 The founding member of the remember covid 19 project agreed to write to all the club leaders and the working group will meet again when there has been a response. 25/10/21 email from that group member 'I am not that involved with the village, especially those groups/organisations who are suited to be involved in the project would Carol Hackett be a good starter for names? 16/11/21 the group member was given who to contact for mailshot by email which did not receive a reply. 27/2/22 after many emails to the group member there was finally a reply. In the meantime, the rest of the group took the time to publish the first of the magazine articles asking for ideas for Canada Woods and Community Park. Shortly afterwards the group member left the group, and it was reformed into Canada Woods and Community Park (a project already in existence) incorporating Covid 19 and a new working party was set up. The now and newly formed Community Group (November 2023) have been inviting some of the youth groups personally to give ideas.</p> <p>5. Yes it was set on the Market Lavington Facebook Page but how it is set up means that it feeds into the MLPC group page along with other community</p>

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		<p>Formal name change of the Covid-19 Project Working Group to include Canada Woods and the adjacent amenity land. Group had first meeting 21/03/22. 5 aims were set.</p> <p>HRAF meeting 22/03/22 – now the ‘Canada Woods/Community Park incorporating the Covid-19 Project’.</p> <p>7. Were the “Community” informed about the newly named ‘Community Park’?</p> <p>8. Where was the ‘display of ideas and suggestions put forward’ advertised to make residents aware that this was happening in the library?</p> <p>9. How many working groups were there involving ‘Remembering Covid-19’ and ‘The Community Park and Canada Woods Project’?</p> <p>Tree Wardens Facebook questions</p> <p>10. Which areas were in consideration for the orchard?</p> <p>11. Were the options shared with the community?</p> <p>12. Were the options put to a vote?</p> <p>With reference to Parish Council meeting 17/10/23</p> <p>13. Who are the Tree Council? The volunteer Tree Wardens?</p> <p>14. What suggestion exactly did “receive a very positive response”? Because as far as I can see, there was no location mentioned in the Facebook poll (see notes from 27-28/09/23 above)</p> <p>With reference to Parish Council meeting 21/11/23 – Tree Warden Scheme</p>	<p>pages and can be viewed by people other than those who follow Market Lavington Parish Council.</p> <p>6. Volunteers were all set up to create the willow arbour, but unfortunately due to miscommunication within the group, arrangements were not put in place at the same time to involve the pupils from St. Barnabas in the work, so it did not go ahead as planned.</p> <p>7. Back in 2015 a local resident kindly made the information board that was located near to the entrance of Canada Woods at the bottom of Ladywood (it is currently being refurbished). On the board the area of amenity land was referred to as ‘Community Park’. (please see photo of information board at the end of this document). Initially, the first Working Group did not know this, and it was discussed that the community should be asked for ideas of names, and some were collected until we found out it was called Community Park.</p> <p>8. It would have been mentioned at the Annual Parish Meeting. The boards were left out in the main hall of the Old School, so would have been accessible when the building was open to the public i.e. Library opening times, or if attending any other user group session.</p> <p>9. There have been two Working Groups, and one Community Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Remember COVID-19 Project’ Working Group</li> <li>• Canada Woods and Community Park – incorporating Covid 19 Project’ Working Group</li> <li>• ‘Friends of Canada Woods &amp; Community Park’ Community Group</li> </ul> <p>10. Part of the Tree Warden’s role is to identify land for planting. Community Park was identified, and this was accepted by the Parish Council. There are so many benefits to the Orchard being there, not least of which is the opportunity for themed community and educational events, and to open up underused land for the benefit of all.</p> <p>11. No</p> <p>12. There was only one site considered suitable so no need for a vote on options.</p>

Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
	<p>“Some concerns were raised regarding community engagement for any proposals for this site (Community Park), with several suggestions being made for how this could be approached. It was however noted that community engagement was undertaken for the then ‘Covid19 / Canada Woods and Amenity Land’ project for this site”.</p> <p>15. As a long-term project, started under the ‘Remember Covid-19 Community Project’ back in 2021 and revisited again in February 2022; Why was the intention to create a ‘Community Orchard’ on the amenity land not made explicitly clear to the community for whom it is intended? Thus, allowing for a clear consultation period with parishioners.</p> <p>December 2023 – Goal posts.</p> <p>16. Why was an attempt being made to move the goal post?</p> <p>17. Why had the goal post from the westerly end been removed prior to this?</p> <p>PC meeting 19/12/23 - Friends of Canada Woods &amp; Community Park Community Group.</p> <p>Questions were asked regarding any further community consultation regarding proposals, and reference was made to the notes from the Community Group meeting held on 24th November, which had noted that the Community Group planned to make a plan of the area, noting some of the ideas put forward, for inclusion in the January edition of the Parish Magazine and a QR code direct link to the website. People will be able to comment and donate through the website if they wish. The link will also be advertised on other platforms such as the village notice board and Facebook. The Chairman noted that approval for any proposed projects would need to be sought from full Council as landowner.</p>	<p>13. The Tree Council was founded in 1974 and became a registered charity in 1978 <a href="https://treecouncil.org.uk/">https://treecouncil.org.uk/</a></p> <p>Market Lavington has the support of three volunteer Tree Wardens, who receive support and guidance from the Tree Council and Wiltshire Council. The Tree Warden’s role is quite diverse but tree related.</p> <p>14. Q1 How do people feel about a Community Orchard in the Village? – 80+ positive comments, no negative comments. Q2 Who would like to get involved with preparing, planting and maintenance of a Community Orchard supported by the Tree Wardens – 19 volunteers, 6 committee members, 2 offers of expertise.</p> <p>15. Parishioners have been encouraged to put forward their ideas for Community Park for the last three years. The idea for a ‘Community Orchard’ (one of those ideas), supports objective 6 in the Neighbourhood Plan, and as such there is no requirement for any further consultation.</p> <p><b>Community Orchard – Neighbourhood Plan objective 6:</b> To improve the village environment by appropriate enhancements to landscaping and existing features, provision of new green open spaces and enhancement of existing ones, including new tree planting</p> <p>16. To relocate it to a better position.</p> <p>17. It had rusted away at the bottom and with jagged edges was considered dangerous. A lot of it had been broken up and thrown into the river leaving metal sticking out of the grass.</p> <p>18. Whilst concerns were raised, reference to previous community engagement was also noted. The newly formed Community Group are in the process of engaging groups and accept that although the Remember Covid 19 group failed in its intentions there were still many ideas put forward for Community Park when the public were asked over a period of time.</p> <p>19. No it is not a closed group – the easiest way for members of the community to get involved, or to request to join the group would be to contact</p>

Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
	<p>18. For a second consecutive PC meeting, concerns have been raised about the involvement of the community regarding the proposals. Why were these concerns not acted upon?</p> <p>19. Is the 'Community Group' a closed group? How would members of the community go about getting involved? Are the meetings advertised for members of the public to attend?</p> <p>20. "Planned to make a plan of the area". Was this intended to be a visual plan? As this is how it reads. No plan of the area was shared. However, a plan <u>for</u> the area was.</p> <p>21. What were people going to be able to comment on?</p> <p>22. "The Chairman noted that approval for any proposed projects would need to be sought from full Council as landowner". When did the full Council approve the amenity land as the site for the 'Community Orchard'?</p> <p><u>NOTE</u>: none of the above was included in the January issue of the Parish magazine as proposed.</p> <p>PC meeting 16/01/24 - Friends of Canada Woods &amp; Community Park Community Group.</p> <p>Grant funding applications / awards – Cllr Fraser noted the thanks of the group for the following: Tree Council for funding to plant the community Orchard (grant included use of a mini-digger, as well as stakes, wire, soil improver, mulch, and fruit trees) – digger booked for mid-February and orchard planting to take place at the end of February.</p> <p>23. Where is there evidence of the decision being made for the 'Community Orchard' to go on the amenity land adjacent to Beechwood?</p> <p>24. How have the suggestions for further public consultation from 2 PC meetings been ignored?</p>	<p>the Parish Clerk by email, or via the dedicated website <a href="https://friendsofcanadawoods.co.uk/">https://friendsofcanadawoods.co.uk/</a> Like all the Groups associated with the Parish Council, the Community Group meets as and when required, and there is no requirement to formally advertise the meetings or agenda. The new Community Group formed in November 2023 consists of a committee of like-minded people with a shared interest to help manage and improve Canada Woods and Community Park. Members will liaise with groups, schools, the Community, and the Parish Council. They also liaise with people who have come forward to volunteer and arrange river picks and ivy bashing events. They want to work with the Tree Wardens to present fun and educational activities for children and create events for the whole community. Local residents who share this vision would be very welcome to request to join the Community Group.</p> <p>20. Yes this was intended to be a visual plan, however due to unforeseen circumstances the items due to be included in the January edition of the Parish Magazine did not happen.</p> <p>21. Comments can be made regarding any aspect of Community Park.</p> <p>22. Please see response to question from person 13.</p> <p>23. Again please see response to question from person 13.</p> <p>24. Please refer to answer 18.</p> <p>25. There will still be a lot of open space on the left-hand side of the site, as well as space in and around the trees themselves.</p> <p>26. There was still some discussion as to the exact location of the fruit trees. Some of the holes may have been from when the soil samples were taken.</p> <p>27. Whilst there may be some scope to consider any views regarding the final positioning of the fruit trees, some changes to the number of trees and positioning having already taken place, the decision to go ahead with obtaining funding for the Orchard to improve the site was approved at the Parish Council meeting 17/10/23.</p>

	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
		<p>February 2024 Parish magazine "Community Orchard is Go!"</p> <p>25. Permission to plant on some of the land. Has is not taken up most of the land?</p> <p>26. The layout of the community orchard has not been finalised. How can holes be dug for trees when the layout has not been finalised? Holes had been dug by 17/02/24!</p> <p>05/03/24 – First petition sheets delivered to Cllr Osborn.</p> <p>27. Are the Council prepared to further consult with the community with regards to the 'Orchard', following public engagement with the petition?</p> <p>28. Are the Council willing to modify the plans of the 'Community Orchard' based on parish feedback?</p> <p>29. Are the Council willing to accept that their engagement with parishioners in the matter of the 'Community Park' was poor, regardless of concerns being raised in 2 consecutive PC meetings?</p> <p>30. Would the Council like to reflect on their public consultation protocols to ensure that there is transparency with matters that have an impact on the community?</p> <p>31. Could the 'Community Group' meetings be advertised more freely to encourage the involvement of the local people?</p> <p>32. Has a full and transparent plan of the 'Regeneration Project' been published?</p> <p>33. Where can I find the minutes from a PC meeting giving approval for the Orchard to go ahead at the amenity land adjacent to Beechwood?</p>	<p>28. Please refer to answer 27.</p> <p>29. Evidence has been provided of numerous community engagement activities over the last three years.</p> <p>30. The Parish Council will consider developing a policy for public consultation protocols.</p> <p>31. Please refer to answer 19.</p> <p>32. Sorry not sure exactly what is meant by the 'Regeneration Project'.</p> <p>33. Please see response to question from person 13.</p>

	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
15	13/3/24 Email 22:58	<p>1. Community Park – a park for the community, and yet nobody knows where it is until you say it’s the field where the goal posts used to be by Canada Woods. The first opportunity to engage with the community re this area was missed by not asking the parishioners what it should be called, and just going ahead and giving it a name.</p> <p>The main reason why parishioners aren’t aware of this project, is that they have not been consulted as to what they would like in this area. It is amenity land and as Councillors we are merely caretakers, so we have a responsibility to reflect the needs and wants of our stakeholders. I have been told that “Councillors must not place themselves under an obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their official duties”. Surely as Councillors we must listen to our parishioners, and are here to represent our community, which is what I have strived to do throughout by “following principles - selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership”. (Taken from MLPC Code of Conduct).</p> <p>2. There are “captive audiences” within the village to seek the views of all ages e.g. St Barnabas, Scout and Guide Association, toddler group, Tuesday Club, the care home, Gardening Club and so on, that could have been approached as a part of fact finding. This is a great, open, safe space for families with small or gardens unsuitable for larger activities or gatherings, and people aren’t opposed to developing this area per se, but the way it has just gone ahead. It is also a great opportunity to work with other working groups, i.e. Sport Facilities and Footpaths.</p> <p>There is much talk to say that it’s been in the public domain for three years. This originates from the suggestion made by long standing parishioner to do something to remember Covid-19, and he set up a meeting. A group was formed, and even a</p>	<p>1. Please see response to question from person 14 (number 7).</p> <p>2. The Community Group agrees, recognising that it was only set up in late November and the Footpaths group in January, there has not been much time yet to follow this up. Some initial discussions have been held with the sports facilities working group about exercise equipment and trampoline etc. Accessibility has been the first priority of the new Community Group, and they would like this in hand before going out to most other groups.</p> <p>3. There are now 35 ideas that have already been put forward by the local community over the last three years through various forms of Community Engagement. Could we please respectfully ask if the outcomes from any further consultation are likely to be significantly different from that already carried out?</p> <p>Reference is made to the questionnaire from the Sports Facilities consultation. The ‘ninja equipment’ proposed for Elisha Field was one of the ideas put forward during that consultation. As with the Community Orchard, it supports the objectives in the Neighbourhood Plan, and as such there is no need for any further consultation.</p> <p><b>Community Orchard – Neighbourhood Plan objective 6:</b> To improve the village environment by appropriate enhancements to landscaping and existing features, provision of new green open spaces and enhancement of existing ones, including new tree planting</p> <p><b>‘Ninja Equipment’ – Neighbourhood Plan objective 3:</b> To enhance the recreational and leisure facilities of the village, especially for young people and to create a central hub site featuring these and other facilities</p> <p>As detailed in the article in last month’s magazine, the Community Group are always happy to accept volunteers, along with suggestions and ideas for the area, which can also be sent directly to the Parish Council at any time. There will also be the opportunity for future community engagement at the Annual Parish Meeting etc.</p>



	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
		<p>working group, but people walked away, and it soon dissolved, leaving the chair and one other person. It also became apparent that there wasn't such an appetite to remember Covid-19, understandably. Many of the ideas for Canada Woods and the field actually came from the small number of people in this initial group via emails. Whilst items have been put on Facebook and in the Parish magazine, they are not read by everyone, and so the project has not been fully discussed in public. Yes, there are copious number of extracts from PC minutes, but these do not give a true reflection from our whole community who are now understandably angry that there has been no consultation. With regard to the orchard, there was a 1<sup>st</sup> question on Facebook asking if people would like an orchard, followed by a 2<sup>nd</sup> one asking who would like to be involved, both of which generated interested. However, there was never the very important question of asking people for suggestions of where it could go. Again, there are many that don't use Facebook, and the Parish Council page has a very small following.</p> <p>However, it's not too late to turn animosity into a more healthy and positive way of moving this project forward.</p> <p>My questions are:</p> <p>3. Is there going to be a proper consultation, similar to that of the Co-op and Sports Facilities, whereby a questionnaire was delivered to virtually every household, plus additional copies in the library, Co-op, St Arbucks, The Green Dragon (and Post Office)? This enabled people to share their ideas and put forward suggestions and gives both a paper trail and hard data. The questionnaire needs to be approved by the PC. If this is not going to be carried out, why not?</p> <p>4. Will you confirm that all associated works, planting etc will be halted until a full survey has been carried out. Again, if not, why not?</p>	<p>4 &amp; part 5. Please see response to question from person 12 (number 3).</p> <p>5. Alternatives suggested, and reasons why not considered suitable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Green by Community Hall - There is no water source.</li> <li>• Northbrook - There is no water source and on Facebook comments are often made about teenagers gathering there and people not wanting to take children there. Similar comment made at February Parish Council meeting when Northbrook was offered as an alternative to Community Park for football.</li> </ul> <p>Community Park is considered to be the ideal location having its own water source, being centrally located, and is the perfect option for biodiversity, education, shelter, funding, community events etc .</p>

	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
		<p>5. It has been pointed out to the PC that the field does not have suitable growing conditions for fruit trees, and surely no-one wants them to fail. Alternatives have been suggested of the green up between the Community Hall car park and graveyard, which is a wonderful sunny, open area, or even up at Northbrook. Will consideration be given to these alternative areas, and if not, why not? It should be noted that when I suggested the green, I was told that children could kick a ball on this green. Really? On a slope, by the road into the car park and between footpaths.</p>	
16	14/3/24 Email 00:46	<p>I have been observing the unrest in the parish over the holes dug for an orchard in the grass area in Canada Woods known as the Community Park and have some questions. Thank you.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The published plan – on the friends website, not the PC website, does not mention the Orchard. This is a recent addition, first mentioned in PC meetings in Oct 2023 as a proposal. Colin delivered a hand written note on a picture of the woodland to the Coop for interested parties to view. This ‘map’ does not match the holes dug which take up approximately ¾ of the grassy area. Is there a detailed plan for the regeneration of Canada woods that includes mention of the community orchard? If this plan exists, is it available to the public?</li> <li>2. Could the community group be encouraged to advertise their meetings and accept the involvement of local residents?</li> <li>3. Was it an omission to the original regeneration plan that residents of Francis Road and Beechwood would be consulted – but not other residents – like those living in Ladywood, Park Road and Canada Rise whose properties also boundary the woodland, not to mention all the other village residents who take an interest or make use of the woodland? Have the residents of Francis Road and Beechwood been consulted? Does consultation influence planning?</li> <li>4. Have relevant professionals, beyond the expertise of the community group itself, been consulted regarding the proposed</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The permission to plant the Community Orchard was given to the Tree Wardens. The Community Group saw the potential of the orchard in terms of fund raising for other things, footpaths, equipment etc. The picture Colin gave to the Coop has been amended, and we will have a more accurate plan of where the fruit trees will be positioned in the Orchard available at the Presentation, and afterwards on the Parish Council website to accompany the minutes.</li> <li>2. Please see response to question from person 14 (number 19).</li> <li>3. All residents in the vicinity of the woodland would have had hand delivered letters regarding the woodland regeneration. This included Park Road, Ladywood, Canada Rise, Davis Road, The Ham, Francis Road, Beechwood, and Grove Road. There would also have been information published in the magazine delivered to all households in the village, on Facebook, the notice board, and the Parish Council website. There were also notice boards put up throughout Canada Woods and Community Park to keep users informed, but unfortunately these kept getting vandalised.</li> <li>4. Land was inspected by a Tree Officer in December. Soils samples were taken at a time the Park is usually at its wettest and it was just surface water. Advice has been taken from a local Orchard grower. The increase in rainfall for February caused mayhem everywhere not just in Community Park. The Trees have been positioned at their maximum requirement for the rootstocks chosen. Conversations have already taken place regarding the water table and resolution. Please see response to question from person 12 (number 3) for further details.</li> </ol>

	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
		<p>orchard? 18 trees seem a lot in that space, too close together and the land too wet for the purpose.</p> <p>5. The current holes for planting the Orchard seem to infringe on the area for the accessible footpath. Given the footpath was the priority and included in the original regeneration plan is this an oversight or a change of priorities?</p> <p>6. Have relevant professionals been consulted regarding the clearing of brambles of the tidying up of the felled trees? I am not a professional but observe managed woodlands like Oakfrith and Drews Pond where felled branches are stacked and the woodland looks managed. It looks like the cull of trees in Canada Woods was abandoned unfinished. Is this part of the plan?</p> <p>7. Thank you for the opportunity to raise these questions. I have raised questions in the past and am disappointed when comments are dismissed by some parties as rumours or misconceptions. If there is a failure of the public to understand the actions of some elements of the PC, I suggest it may be due to the failure of these elements of the PC to communicate effectively with the public. I was not at the last PC meeting and have no desire to see councillors harassed or civil unrest occur. I hope improved communication might aid progress and community cohesion in the future.</p>	<p>5. The proposed upgrade for MLAV2 is for the section from Grove Road to the end of the Beechwood properties.</p> <p>6. The Community Group was formed in November 2023. Oakfrith and Drews Pond have been managed for a number of years, and they have many volunteers, which is the key to this kind of project. After the regeneration felling, some of the timber left in the woodland is for proposed projects in Community Park and for seating, and the brash has been left for other purposes. Unfortunately, due to the recent adverse weather, and as you have mentioned the public unrest of late, not as much progress has been made as was hoped.</p> <p>7. Noted – Thank you. This is definitely the hope and desire of the Parish Council as well.</p>
<b>QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RECEIVED EITHER ON THE DAY OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OR AT THE MEETING ITSELF</b>			
17	19/3/24 Email 11:21	<p>1. I have read Colin Osborn’s article regarding the Parish owned land which was published in the last parish magazine. I was interested in the Council’s vision of the proposed changes to the amenities area below Canada Woods and during a recent visit I was pleased to see the path from the Bubbling Kettle into the area had been improved, but because of the heavy winter rain the springs from the bank have caused large areas of the grassland to be very wet.</p>	<p>1. Noted – thank you</p> <p>2. Please see at the end of this document a copy of the map which formed part of the Parish Council presentation at the Parish Council meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 showing the current proposed position of the fruit trees, mainly to the eastern end of the site – this is subject to change in response to feedback and comments made at the meeting.</p>

	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
		<p>2. I was concerned about the area having grass removed in patches as if ready for planting and the information in the Chair's article not being complied with. i.e. "The apple trees will be planted at the eastern end of the field".</p> <p>3. In fact I'm not happy with the thought of planted apple trees in that area without the whole community being consulted about it.</p> <p>4. There is also the matter of vandalism being caused to the trees and the maintenance such as pruning, etc.</p> <p>5. As this is a village amenity, surely a wider distribution of the proposal should have been considered and judging by the wording of the magazine article the work is a 'fait accompli'. This is wrong because it will affect the public land for the foreseeable future. I am aware of the public concern surrounding the project and the growing concern about the project going ahead without greater consultation and would suggest that the planting of these trees is postponed until the designated area is confirmed and the general public agree. I do not accept that it should go ahead because we have the trees, and they need to be planted. If they are in pots then they will survive. If they are bare root then public consultation should have been sought during the planning stage and before they were dug up.</p> <p>6. The Council operate in the best interests of all sections of the village community and the ideas of one or two people within the Council should not and must not determine such important matters. Regrettably, I am unable to attend the meeting tonight, but I would like my views read to the meeting and my comments minuted.</p>	<p>3. Evidence was provided during the Parish Council presentation of the many opportunities taken to engage with the local community over the last three years regarding ideas and suggestions for Community Park. Please also refer to other information provided in the Presentation documents published on the website.</p> <p>4. It is hoped that the trees will be valued and not vandalised. Maintenance and pruning - Please see response to question from person 12 (number 4).</p> <p>5. As suggested at the March Parish Council meeting, there will be the opportunity for members of the local community to visit Community Park at a designated time within the next few weeks, to talk with Parish Councillors, and view the proposed positioning of the trees. Consideration is currently being given to comments made during the Parish Council meeting regarding the positioning of the trees adjacent to the footpath, and amendments to the final planting plan are in the process of being reviewed. Any updated map and a covering briefing note detailing the rationale and research behind the planting plan will shortly be publicly available.</p> <p>6. Yes we would agree, however the decision to go ahead with the Community Orchard on Community Park, was made by the Parish Council as a collective.</p>
18	At Parish Council meeting	<p>1. When the volunteers tire from maintaining the land who will take over responsibility for this</p>	<p>1. If and when this were to happen, the Parish Council would take over this responsibility. The Parish Council always has been and will remain responsible for cutting the grass on the site.</p>

	Date & Time	Question / Comments / Requests	Response
		<p>2. Right to light for neighbouring property</p> <p>3. The cherry trees will get bigger</p> <p>4. vermin- windfall fruit will attract</p> <p>5. lack of grass cutting of the site in the past</p>	<p>2. The fruit trees closest to the property boundary will be pruned to ensure they do not exceed a height of 5 metres, which we would not expect to adversely affect the light to the property garden. As discussed at the March Parish Council meeting, we will endeavor to source a mapping program to calculate the shadowing effects of the trees.</p> <p>3. Yes – and they will be positioned furthest away from the nearest property.</p> <p>4. This is not anticipated to be a problem.</p> <p>5. The contract for 2023/24 for Community Park was for 9 cuts. As reported by the contractor, these are some of the dates when the grass was cut: 4/7/23, 31/7/23, 14/8/23, 29/8/23, 12/9/23. The grass cutting of Community Park was removed from the formal contract for 2024/25, however the Parish Council will ensure the grass is kept cut to a suitable standard.</p>
19	At Parish Council meeting	How will improvements to footpaths be budgeted and funded	<p>Following advice sought from the Wiltshire Council Devizes Area Board Manager, approval was given at the February Parish Council meeting for a grant application to be submitted by the Parish Council to the LHFIG committee, on behalf of the ‘Friends of Canada Woods and Community Park’ Community Group to fund improvements to the surface of the section of footpath MLAV2 between Grove Road and Community Park to improve accessibility.</p> <p>As a Community Group, completely separate from the Parish Council, they are better placed to apply for any funding opportunities that may arise, to improve other footpaths in and around Canada Woods.</p>
20	At Parish Council meeting	Questions regarding positioning of trees, in particular whether the trees adjacent to footpath MLAV2 would encroach on/over the footpath	Please see response to question from person 17 (number 5).

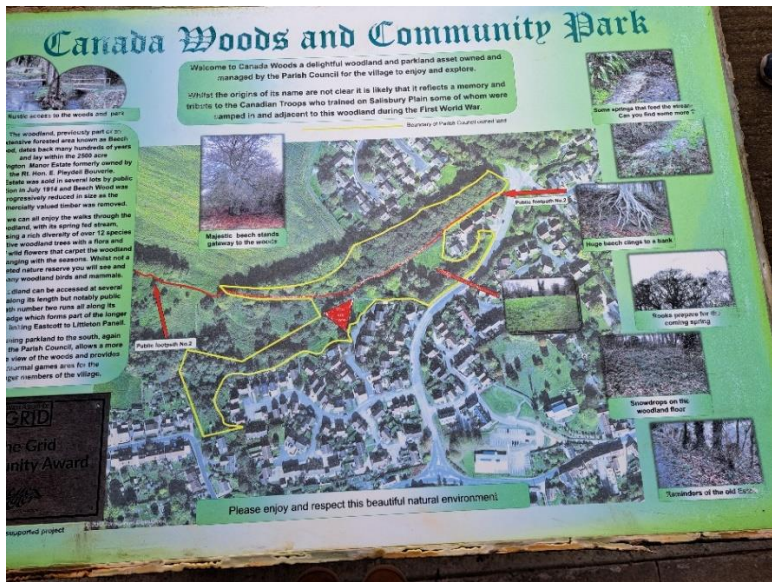


Photo of Information Board erected in 2015 near to the entrance of Canada Woods at the bottom of Ladywood.

PLEASE SEE MAP BELOW – ON NEXT PAGE .....



Copy of map which formed part of the Parish Council presentation at the Parish Council meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 showing the current proposed position of the fruit trees – this is subject to change in response to feedback and comments made at the meeting.