

Arnside Parish Council
Wild Verges Working Group
Report for Meeting of 13th September 2021

The Group met on 31st Aug 2021. The main points arising are:

1. The Group needs to have the Council's agreement for John Lawrence to be the approved contractor.
2. The Group needs to check that the donations from Councillor Chaffey and Councillor McSweeney are available for the project's use.
3. The Group will inform affected local residents of the project before work commences.
4. The Group needs quotes from JL for preparing each of the 3 verge sites, ie. cutting, clearing cuttings and scarifying. We plan to seed and plant the 3 sites on 21st Sept using AONB volunteers so the preparation work has to be done by then.
5. The Group needs Council approval to use some of its designated funds to buy plug plants from AONB. Suggested cost per plant is 60p.
6. The Group has two quotations for materials for the beech hedge at the recycling site and is seeking a third. A detailed plan for the planting is in preparation. The Group will check there are no underground services at the site before starting work in October.
7. Group members are bidding for funding for 2022-3 from the Barnes Trust and the AONB. It will also look for financial support from local businesses.
8. Cllr Chaffey will discuss involving the children of Arnside School in the project now the new term is underway. Cllr Porter will talk to the Education Officer of Cumbria Wildlife Trust to discuss their possible involvement.
9. The Group will be working on interpretation boards and other signage during the winter. It intends the Arnside schoolchildren to be involved in this.

Steve Porter
01Sep21