

Yatton Parish Council
Garden maintenance and development
March 2020 – February 20201
Meg Thurgur

Glebelands

Large Bed: new shrubs and trees purchased with money donated by the Horticultural society

- tree: Sorbus 'Pink Pagoda'
- 3 Eleagnus,
- 2 Amalanchier lamarkii
- Euonymus alatus
- Grasses : Calamagrostis Karl Foster
- Geraniums Roseanne

Top bed

Japanese anemones, Crocosmia 'Lucifer' and Persicaria divided and replanted .

General maintenance including mulching with homemade compost, pruning, weeding

Next steps:

Continue to remove invasive ivy from bottom bed. Possibly hard prune some of the older shrubs to rejuvenate them.



Orchard Area

- Pruned elderly apple and Medlar.
- Maintained native hedge planted December 2018
- Cleared area next to village green wall. Planted 8 more metres native hedging.
- Cut Holly hedge
- Cleared area around compost bin.

Next steps:

- Maintain and monitor hedging.
- Move bulbs and primroses together to enable easier and neater mowing, and so that they make more impact.



War Memorial

Added new plants: grasses, smoke bushes, and Persicaria transplanted from Glebelands.

Renovation prune on huge viburnum, to which it has responded well.

Continue to maintain and monitor, keeping as weed free as possible.

Cleared circular areas around two trees – planted bulbs – anemones and scilla.

Next steps:

Monitor how the new plants are developing.

Split epimediums



Heathgate /Hangstones/Burial ground

New donated shrubs added to the People's border at Heathgate and the memorial garden, including some nerines from Faith Moulin

New bulbs planted at Heathgate, the burial ground and at Hangstones.

Compost bins at Hangstones reorganised.

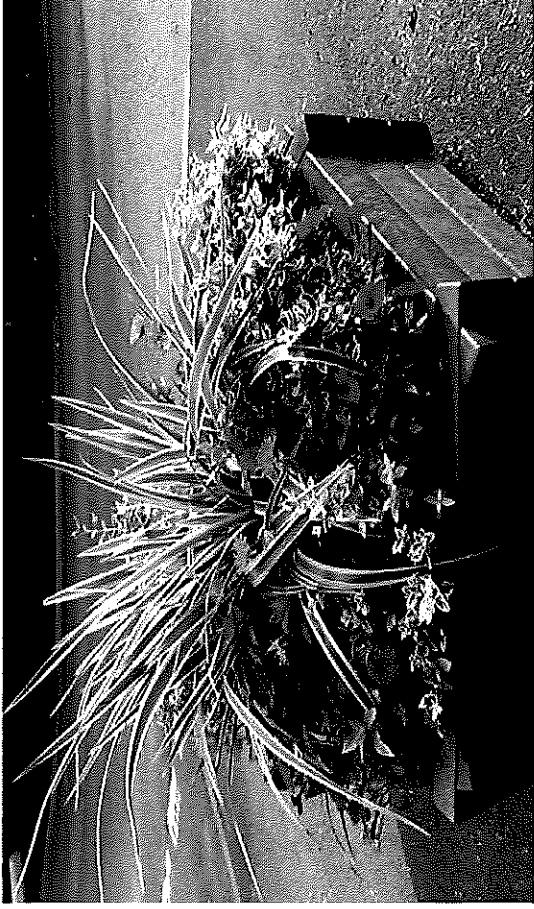
Next steps

Bulb map . Record where all bulbs are with a view to planting more next year.

Possibly replace the trees and fuchsias which have been removed from Heathgate with the phormiums which are beginning to outgrow their pots.



Pots and tubs around Yatton



Grounds Report: April 2020 – February 2021

This has been a unique period of time, with many challenges and changes. Firstly there has been the pandemic. More than ever this year, being able to use and enjoy well maintained playing fields and open spaces has been very important to residents of all ages. There has been a noticeable increase in the use of all the areas for which we are responsible, especially Hangstones. With this increased use, especially by families and older residents, has come a large amount of very cheering positive feedback.

Changes in staffing have also had an impact on the grounds work this year. Meg has been new to the role and Jeff has spent time training and supporting her, to enable the team to work efficiently and effectively. Meg has proved to be a fantastic addition to the team bringing with her, expertise and experience from her ongoing gardening role.



Key Areas. Main tasks completed and next steps.

Hangstones

- New trees planted: cherry (Tony's commemorative tree, bench to follow), apple (part of the orchard area), and field maple (to replace the one removed).
- 180 metre square meadow area prepared ready to be sown in March
- Orchard area has been allowed to grow longer and was cut later in the season. This is to encourage pollinators and increase the diversity of plants by allowing them time to set seed. An informal maze of paths was mown through the area which was very popular with children
- Reorganisation of mini pitches. These have been re-measured and re-marked to allow three pitches rather than two, enabling more children to play football simultaneously. This was requested by the junior football teams
- Ongoing maintenance of the playing field and Hangstones Pavilion. The increase in use has meant that more repairs of worn areas, filling holes etc. have been necessary, especially in the playground. Both goalmouths and other worn areas have been reseeded
- Government guidelines have necessitated removing play equipment, adding signage and closing various areas at different points during the pandemic
- Clearance of obsolete and elderly equipment from the compound area
- Painting of the Hangstones hall and bar area

Next:

- Development and maintenance of the wildflower and grasses meadow. We hope to extend this area to the other side of the path in the future
- Ongoing maintenance of the pitches and playground and skate park
- Replacement of the basket swing from Touchwood, the Hamster wheel and the rocker from the playground
- Distance markers around the track
- Tree Trail
- Front entrance/gate and sign
- Usage of the compound area

Glebelands

- General maintenance of Glebelands, orchard area and the village green
- Hazel coppiced
- Tree guards removed (using an angle grinder).
- Carpark area cleared and moss removed
- Elderly and stunted pear tree removed
- Causeway cleared of leaves



Next:

- Experiment with allowing the grass on the edge of the orchard area to grow during the summer whilst maintaining a neat mown area next to it. Hopefully this will increase the natural diversity there but also will overcome the problem of the grass next to the fence. It can look untidy as it is impossible to mow or strim it there, and we feel that it will look tidier as part of a longer grass border.
- Build some new compost bins there
- Continue to monitor the dog mess issue and the damaged wall.

Heathgate

- Damaged chestnut removed and replaced with a disease resistant variety of horse chestnut (*Aesculus glabra* 'Red October')
- Removal of two trees which despite having been cut down, were growing alarmingly large and dominating the People's border
- Removal of the diseased fuchsia and reduction of the large buddleia
- Wood chippings from Neil used to thickly mulch the border there
- General maintenance of the grass and surrounding hedging and plants

- New bench put in

Next:

- Continue to acquire and use the mulch from Neil as it has had a significant and positive impact upon the soil and consequently the plants in the border.
- Extend the People's border along the fence

Rock Road

- Three Silver Birch trees planted
- New bin installed
- Picnic bench put in.
- Ongoing maintenance of the pitches and the surrounding area.



Next:

- Add more trees along the fence line

War Memorial

- General maintenance of the bank and hedge
- Scaffold pole added to small crab apple to add support
- Border mulched with wood chippings from Neil
- Pear Tree from Glebelands re-planted here

Next:

- Gravel added on a regular basis
- Build more compost bins
- Continue to mulch with chippings yearly

Broadcroft

- General maintenance of grounds and surrounding area
- Reattached ball stop net to the posts
- Picnic bench has been put in

Next:

- Continue to maintain and monitor the area



Burial ground

- General maintenance of grounds
- Cut large hedge which borders the houses there
- Cleared all the detritus from behind the memorial garden
- Restorative work on border hedge
- Inspections of gravestones

Next:

- Removal of some small and sickly trees
- Continue to maintain the area

Allotments

- Put up new notice board
- Inventory of plot markers
- Put up signage
- Cut path and border regularly



Next:

- Taking on the challenges of maintaining the new allotments.

The Open Spaces

Continue to maintain and monitor all areas.

Next:

- **Barberry Farm Road:** Reduce hedge along the tree line. Plant one or two new trees there
- **Cadbury Farm Road:** Re-seed to repair the area damaged by Gigaclear
- **Well Lane:** Remove the ivy from the large cherry tree