

SEPTEMEBR 2020

WHITTON AND TOSSON PARISH COUCIL, NORTHUMBERLAND

Whitton and Tosson is a small parish (circa. 100 households) in rural Northumberland. Cllr Alan Winlow, Vice-Chair of the Parish Council, has been working to combat climate change by planting trees for some years now. Collectively, the council has planted hundreds of trees. This increases the tree cover of the local area while combating the carbon usage of the community and providing safe habitats for local wildlife.

Derelict lands, and wide road verges, have been identified as potential spaces to plant. Alan has worked closely with Graham Bucknall, Northern Area Highways Manager, Northumberland County Council, to ensure the most appropriate trees are planted in the right spaces. Alan works with a team of volunteers who plant, weed, and maintain the trees.

The trees are grown from seed by volunteers who are helping with the project. Many people donate tree seedlings which they have carefully nurtured. The team also transplant seedlings from where they have self-seeded in a less advantageous place to a more beneficial location.

In addition to this, the council purchases sapling for roughly 40-50p each which is a small expense. However, the expense comes with the need for tree shelter accessories. Fortunately, kind residents have donated copious amounts of these which have helped enormously with the costs of the project.

Cllr Winlow said “We have a team of volunteers helping us to plant and maintain the new trees, but we will always welcome new people. We also hope that residents may consider planting trees to the memory of loved ones; this would enable such memories to grow into the future for the benefit of many generations to come”.

Has your council done something similar? Then get in touch by emailing Claire.goldfinch@nalc.gov.uk

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