

Consecration of the New Cemetery at Pear Tree Fields

An event of truly momentous significance in the history of our community took place on 23 November, when the Right Reverend Robert Paterson conducted a service of consecration at our new cemetery at Pear Tree Fields. He was assisted by Rev. Fr. Philip Morton and an invited congregation of County and District Councillors, Parish Councillors, a local grave digger and monumental stone mason, West Mercia Police and residents representing groups within our community, as well as Wychavon staff who are closely involved with the project.



This will provide burial space for many years to come within our community and avoid the prospect of burials and interments of ashes having to be in Evesham and at a much higher cost. Bishop Robert conducted a moving yet friendly service which left all present feeling they had been part of something unique in most of our lifetimes.

Photographs and video were taken of the event which will be shared with residents on badseypc.uk and we intend to hold a proper public opening of the site in mid-2022. Residents wishing to access the site before then are welcome to contact the Council.



“For Today, for Tomorrow, for Always” - progress of the project



Late January (above) and October (below)



Photographs were taken in late October by a resident using his licensed drone. As well as the newly-occupied allotments near the North Gate car park, the fenced area of the cemetery itself and the East Gate car park are clearly visible. More recently, the access drive from the East Gate to the cemetery has been completed to a high standard by our local contractor and the ornamental gateway to the cemetery is now in place giving access to the internal pathways and central feature, soon to be planted in accordance with the design produced by Lynn Gibson. The cemetery will also be screened by the planting of hedges and the wide strips closer to the western and southern boundaries, as well as other areas, will be planted with overwhelmingly native species of trees and shrubs to create a valuable habitat for fauna and flora. This process is already under way and the planting is scheduled for early December. The large areas to the east of the cemetery and allotments will be planted during the period after Christmas with areas of appropriate local fruit trees and the process of creating wild flower meadow areas will begin.

Christmas at the Wheatsheaf is back!

Friday 10th December from 6.30 pm



Badsey Christmas at the Wheatsheaf will be returning this year after a break due to Covid. Whilst certain changes are being made to ensure the safety of our residents, we feel it's the right time for this wonderful celebration to return. The event will be held on the Wheatsheaf car park with plenty going on for the whole family.

We are welcoming back the Vale Connection, Badsey First School choir and the singers from “Freedom”. They will be singing carols and getting us all into the festive mood! Several local traders will be holding stalls so you even get a chance to do a little shopping whilst enjoying a mulled wine and a mince pie! We even have a few fun stalls to keep us entertained, including a human fruit machine!!

For all adults that attend, a free prize draw will take place so make sure you get your free raffle ticket! We can't wait to see you all and look forward to an evening of fun! But do remember to keep your eye open for a very special man in a red suit! We're hoping he may pop in if he's not too busy!

Badsey & Aldington Computer Group

The Parish Computer Club is starting again in the New Year. If you need help of advice with using your computer, why not drop in to one of the computer group sessions run on a Monday morning at 10.30 in the back room of the Wheatsheaf? Sessions are very informal, and usually consist of a short presentation and then time to talk over individual issues over as much coffee and tea as is necessary. There is no charge and no need to sign up or make any form of commitment, just drop in when you want. Sessions start on Monday 10th January and are then every two weeks from 10.30 to about 12.00.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 10th January 2022
Monday 24th January 2022
Monday 7th February 2022
Monday 21st February 2022
Monday 7th March 2022
Monday 21st March 2022
Monday 10th April 2022



“For Today, for Tomorrow, for Always” - allotments at last!

On 16 October the Chair, Vice-Chair and Clerk spent a pleasant morning at Pear Tree Fields showing some of our new tenants their allotments, which generated a great deal of excitement and good-humoured chatter. The ground and pathways had been well-prepared by our contractor, Steve Underhill, and some tenants began work on their plots very soon indeed!



Our community has waited many years for the provision of allotments, and it is pleasing to see the enthusiasm and joy with which plot holders have embarked on their tasks. Tenants range from complete beginners to real experts. They have a WhatsApp Group to keep in touch and share expertise and more. The heavy Vale of Evesham clay soil is already receiving quantities of organic material to improve the soil condition, and residents with livestock have offered assistance with this also. We wish them many years of happy growing!

[Cycle and car parking in use. “First fork in”. One month on and progress is already tremendous.]



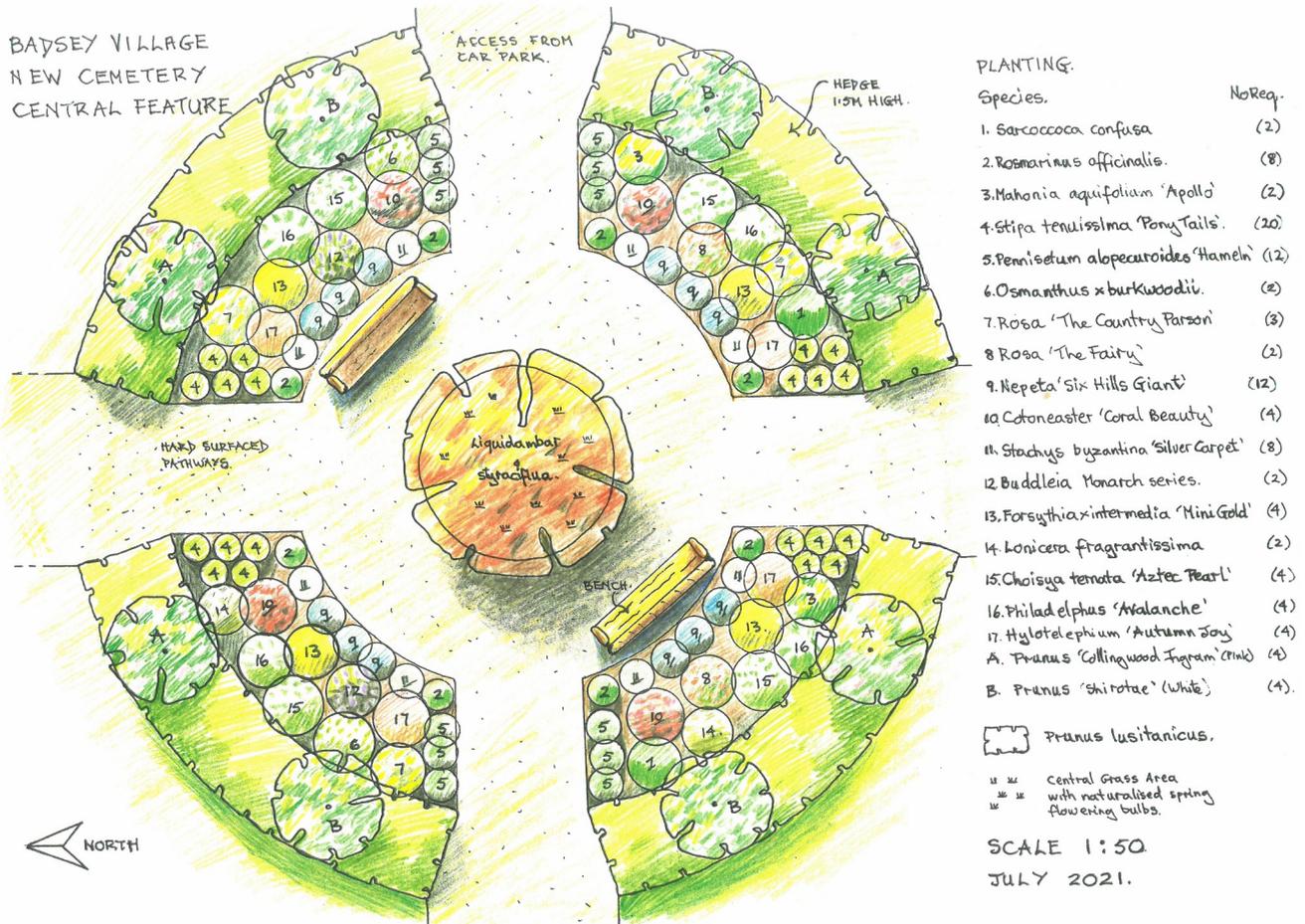
Planting for the future

As well as the magnificent central feature in the heart of the cemetery itself (shown here), which was designed by Lynn Gibson and benefits from her huge expertise, our local contractor will be planting hedges as screens, along with canopy trees and smaller underplanting to make, as it matures, an area of real value to residents and wildlife alike.

Badsey WI as well as the Parish Council have requested trees from the Woodland Trust, and these and other plantings will begin in early December. We hope to enjoy financial and moral support from Natural Networks in conjunction with Worcestershire Wildlife Trust to help transform what has long been a species-poor area of grazing land into an area rich in native plants and traditional orchard species of which residents can be proud and where they will for many years to come be able to walk and enjoy something very special.

In early 2022 the planting of fruit trees, many with local connections, will be undertaken in groups, interspersed with wildflower meadowland, something which has long been very rare in our countryside.

A scheme for the maintenance for the future of the whole site will be in place, with mowings and prunings kept on site for composting as far as is possible. The large-scale composting system to be constructed in the coming months will in due course help with improvement of the soil of the allotments, too, while benefiting the wild flower plantings by giving them the less rich soils in which they thrive.



Contact the Clerk, Mrs Andrea Evans:

By email: badseypc@yahoo.co.uk
 Via the website: badseypc.uk
 By mail: Ty Gwyn, Church Street, Offenham, WR11 8RW
 By telephone: 07591 533557 during office hours: Mon – Thur 9.30 am until 3 pm ONLY.

Councillors' contact details are on the website: badseypc.uk