

The Last Year

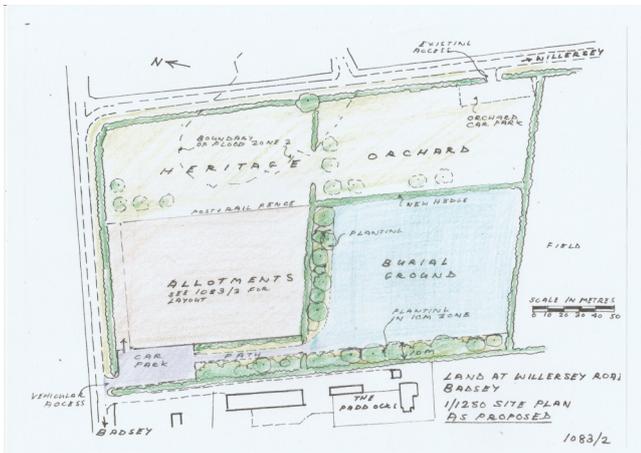


Who had heard of “Zoom” before Covid? But even schools and churches have been working over the internet for at least some of the time. Not absolutely everything stopped in Badsey, however. The 100th birthday of the Recreation Ground was celebrated, if with a smaller attendance than it deserved. New play equipment was installed. The Badsey Society organised its events via “Zoom”. And many people did what they could to help one another through a difficult time. For that, we should all be grateful. Meetings of local councils moved to “Zoom” last summer, but become “live” again from May. There was still business to be done, decisions to be made, and our Wychavon Heritage Grant Land Project carried on. Details below!

As we begin to believe we might be returning to some sort of normality, we look back on a long period with no organised events—not even at Christmas. Even in 2021 the Flower Show, cancelled in 2020, will be on line. There will be no Carnival. The Badsey Soapbox Derby will once again not take place; but it’s time to get ready for 2022! It may be a bit early to be dusting down the lights just yet, but the Council decided at the April meeting to aim for our normal Christmas event, assuming all goes well over the coming months. Let’s make it one to remember!



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



On the left is an image of the approved layout of the project at Pear Tree Corner, showing the Heritage Orchard along the east side, the allotments in the north west and the new cemetery in the south west. Other detailed drawings can be found on the Wychavon website. Car parking areas and the northern and eastern gateways are approved and underway, hedges have been trimmed and ditches made fit for purpose. Wherever possible, we have used local contractors for the work and have throughout been supported by our colleagues at Wychavon in making use of the Wychavon Legacy Grant that finances the project.

A lot of time seems to have passed since last we reported on progress! The history can be found at badseypc.uk under “documents, land project,” but much has happened since our planning application was approved in August 2020, with its many conditions attached. The southern part of the land needed quite a lot of attention as soon as we took possession, there being no adequate entrance for our purposes, and local contractors were engaged to create a new gateway and access to the highway and to do some much-needed ditching work along the Willersey Road and the western edge of the land. We learned a great deal during the creation of the first gateway, including how not to fall foul of planning conditions! The finished entrance has already proved its worth many times over as various tasks have been done.



Before ...

...after.



In December a geophysical survey was carried out in preparation for archaeological investigations on the ground, as agreed with Wychavon, since there was a possibility that Roman remains might be present. A magnetic resonance and ground-penetrating radar survey showed, not surprisingly, the old ridge and furrow of the mediaeval fields and a few “anomalies” to be looked into.



Trenches were dug by archaeologists in April to investigate these anomalies, and we were again able to use a local contractor and machine for the trenching. Nothing of real archaeological interest was discovered, and surprisingly few finds of any sort. A link to the archaeologist’s report can be found on the website.



With the trenches back-filled and the archaeological condition discharged, and with the gateways and car parking also approved, work could move on more quickly.

Councillors spent a couple of Saturdays removing skiploads of rubbish from the perimeter, and preparation of the ground for both the burial ground and the allotments has at last begun.

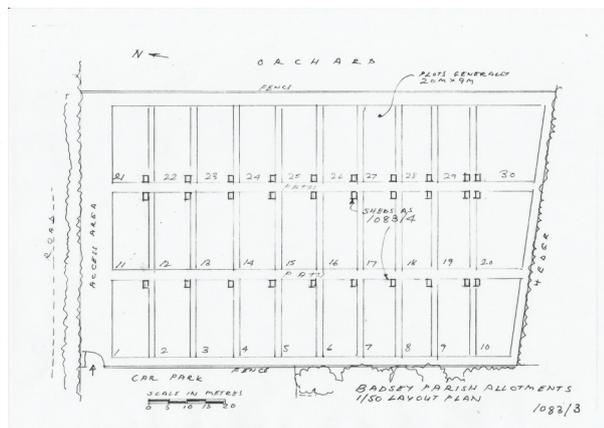


Already we have had many enquiries about allotments, and if you also are interested you should contact Andrea Evans in the first instance. Details will be sent when the layout is complete, but there will be 30 plots, generally 20m x 9m, shown in the drawing here.

Plans to fence off the burial ground area and screen it with hedges and other planting are advanced, though actual planting will have to be done in the appropriate season.

The scheme for general landscaping and planting is currently under preparation, as are ideas for the Heritage Orchard planting.

During consultation with residents before the legacy grant application we spoke to a number of local people with specialist knowledge and skills in these areas, and others who just wanted to help. We would like to hear from anyone in the community who would like to be involved in the creation of the orchard. If you think you might have an interest, please contact us via the usual channels:



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