

Green Space update

As you know, Guilden Sutton Green Space have been trying to arrange the purchase of the two fields behind the Old School in School Lane for the community of Guilden Sutton. Over the past year, we have been dealing with two or three obstacles, mostly to do with securing access via the track beside the Old School. Covid has not helped.

Funding for the Green Space is available from several sources. Contributions have already been agreed with the Mersey Forest Project (which means we have to plant a lot of trees) and with CWAC under what is known as Section 106 funding.

There is now an exciting opportunity to bid for additional funding from CWAC's newly launched Climate Emergency Fund. We should hear the outcome of this application by the end of October at the latest.

If we are successful, then we can begin Phase 1. This is to buy the back field and to develop and plant it with native woodland trees starting this coming winter. There won't be any vehicular access to the field. Access will be primarily via the Green Lane byway until Phase 2 is underway (although it will also be possible via the track off School Lane and then through the front field). The long-term plan has always been to create a Green Space which is accessible to all, including residents who have specific mobility needs. This remains the case and would form part of Phase 2 of the project.

Phase 2 will be to purchase the front field. Funding will be obtained from several sources and this phase will take place once we are completely sure of the future access via the track off School Lane.

We want to thank the Parish Council for their involvement in the project and their help in obtaining funding from several sources. They will be discussing some of the issues at the next Parish Council meeting tomorrow, on Wednesday 2 September. The meeting is via Zoom, and you are welcome to listen in to the decisions being made. The agenda and login details are on the [Guilden Sutton website](#)

Please visit the Green Space website for further information and, fingers crossed, we look forward to seeing you on the site of your woodland. If, in the meantime, you can spare a moment it would be great to hear from you by email with feedback – this would help our bid to the Climate Emergency fund as it would show that the fantastic support we have had for the project so far is still very much alive. Phase 1 will include planting a total of 4,000 trees and creating a designated green space of 4.7 acres - hopefully the first step in what could become a shared community response to the Climate Emergency here in Guilden Sutton?