

Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council Meeting

29 September, 2020

Ward Reports

1) Councillor Warren-Howles - Avenue

St Peters Graveyard Conservation Project

Finally, after months of lockdown, I have been able to hold our first meeting with volunteers at St Peters Graveyard.

Having approached Coventry Diocese who granted me permission to transform the graveyard into a wildlife, conservation area, I also managed to secure a small grant from WCC with Councillor Dominic Skinner's help.

I have requested the involvement of a local botanist who heads up a similar project at St James in Alveston. On Saturday 5 September we all met at 9:30am to plan out our first steps, and the sun shone for us!

On 25 September, Craig Bourne and the Operations Manager from WCC met with me and a couple of my key volunteers, to discuss pruning some of the high broken branches. The pruning will be undertaken shortly, and the wood shavings will be put in our compost area.

Our plan is:

- To sow the area with yellow rattle seeds to increase species diversity;
- Install a number of bird and bat boxes. This will be with the help of the children;
- Make a compost area with wooden pallets. These I managed to obtain from Richard Howarth at the Herald;
- We will also mow and generally just tidy the area up. Everything in groups of six and at the required social distance!

I am also keeping Coventry Diocese updated with our progress.