

Verification of application Evidence

The application is made by:

Marianna Pentek, Grounds and Bloom Officer

Location: Howard Palmer Gardens

Aim: to remove laurel hedge and replant with native species to encourage local wildlife

Removal of Laurel Hedge

Steps:

- 1) Acquire permission to carry out works – **13/11/2024**
- 2) Cut Down the Hedge: Use pruners or a chainsaw to cut the hedge down to ground level. – start on **20/12/2024**
- 3) Remove Roots: Dig out the roots to prevent regrowth. This may require heavy equipment if the hedge is extensive. – **27/01/2025**
- 4) Dispose of Debris: Properly dispose of the removed plant material via green recycling centre
- 5) Soil Preparation: -
 - a. Clear the Area: Remove any remaining debris and weeds.
 - b. Amend the Soil: Improve soil quality by adding organic matter such as compost to enhance nutrient content and drainage.
- 6) Planting Native Species: (already received from Woodland Trust)
 - a. 15 x Rowan, 15 x Hazel, 15 x Dog Rose, 30 x Blackthorn, 15 x Elder, 15 x Crab Appl, 90 x Hazel, 30 x Elder, 60 x Dog Rose, 90 x Crab apple, 45 x Rowan, 105 x Blackthorn
- 7) Plan the Layout: Design a planting scheme that includes a variety of species to provide food, shelter, and breeding sites for wildlife.
- 8) Plant the Saplings: Follow the recommended planting depth and spacing for each species. Water them thoroughly after planting.
- 9) Maintenance and Monitoring:
 - a. Watering and Mulching: Regularly water the new plants, especially during dry spells. Apply mulch to retain moisture and suppress weeds.
 - b. Monitor Growth: Keep an eye on plant health and growth, and replace any plants that fail to establish.
 - c. Encourage Wildlife: Install birdhouses, feeders, or small water features to attract wildlife.
- 10) Community Involvement:
 - a. Engage the Community: Involve local community members or wildlife organizations in the project to raise awareness and gather support. Thee planting will be delivered by the Rotary Club and Friends of Howard Palmer Gardens
 - b. Educational Signage: Consider adding signs to educate visitors about the benefits of native plants and wildlife conservation.