

Willow Garth Update November 2021

420 trees from the Woodland Trust were planted by residents in Willow Garth, the majority were planted inside the rear boundary to create a solid hedge, others were planted in clumps within willow garth and in the front hedge to fill the gap, a few were planted across the road around Hessay Pond. The varieties chosen were hawthorn, dogwood, wild cherry, silver birch, rowan, hazel with the aim of providing interest and a food supply,

Deadwood and the lower branches of the small trees have been trimmed to allow light to penetrate the canopy, some larger branches have been trimmed & removed into log piles which will themselves form a wildlife habitat.

Although Coronavirus restrictions have delayed some of our plans, there has been much community involvement in Willow garth.

More log piles have been created using fallen wood, trimmed branches and wood moved from around Hessay Pond

It is our intention to hold more work parties and to dig the pond slightly deeper using a mini digger at the same time as we do some work to create a hardstanding area for the picnic table in Hessay pond.

We have continued to allow the nettles to grow for their wildlife benefit in keeping with the historic use of willow garth as a wildlife haven. It should be noted that Tawny Owls are frequently spotted with the tree canopy.

The electricity board have indicated that they may need to trim the trees near to the power lines to ensure the village electricity supply is not jeopardised.

Thank you to everyone who has joined in.

Mark Barratt,
November 2021