

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS' LIAISON COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 11 APRIL 2024
title: RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY
submitted by: NICOLA HOPKINS - DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
principal author: DAVID HEWITT – COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER

1 PURPOSE

1.1 This year marks 50 years since Ribble Valley Borough Council came into being under the re-organisation of local government in 1974. To commemorate this milestone the Council would like to plant 50 Redwood trees across the borough.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Community Objectives - To help make people's lives healthier with a cleaner environment.
- Corporate Priorities - To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.
- Other Considerations – To contribute to the Council's Climate Change Strategy and action plan, in particular, the reduction of carbon emissions.

2 PLANTING SCHEME

2.1 Parish Council's will be aware that for some time the Council has been looking to identify sites for tree planting around the Borough. This year Ribble Valley Borough Council celebrates its 50th anniversary. To commemorate this milestone the Council have decided to plant 50 trees across the borough.

2.2 Redwood has been chosen as the species to plant for the following reasons:

- These trees are one of the largest living things on earth.
- The trees accord with the Councils climate change ambitions in that they capture and store carbon in their roots and other parts of the tree. One Redwood can in fact store something in the order of 250 times more carbon than the average tree, and more than a hectare of woodland. One Redwood tree planted, would equate to one person's lifetime carbon footprint and
- To help to safeguard an endangered species which, because of global warming, is now under threat in its remaining stronghold of California.

2.5 The current planting plan includes the planting two small groves of Redwoods on Council owned land in Longridge and Clitheroe, and if in agreement with each Parish Council, one tree could be planted by each of the 42 parish councils. The first tree was planted in Clitheroe by the Mayor, Mark Hindle, on Tuesday, 19 March 2024.

3 RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE

4.1 Note the contents of this report, and

4.2 For any Parish Councils interested in having a Redwood tree in their Parish to contact David Hewitt, Countryside Officer, directly to discuss a suitable site.

DAVID HEWITT
COUNTRYSIDE OFFICER
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NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

For further information please ask for David Hewitt, on extension 4505

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