

Committee Report: Volunteer Day

Date: Sept 5th, 2024

To: Leisure & Recreation Committee

From: Andrew Briggs – Ops Manager

Subject: Acknowledgment of Volunteer Contributions to St Marks Park Maintenance

Council Priority: To provide a high standard of services & facilities. To protect and improve our environment and Strengthen Communities.

1. Introduction

The report is to provide Members with an update on the recent volunteer efforts at St Marks Park, undertaken by a dedicated team who work for ESRC UKRI.

2. Detail

On the 17th of September a group of willing participants generously gave their time and skills to support our ongoing efforts to improve and maintain the park's grounds.

Work Completed

The volunteers focused on several key areas of the park's maintenance, including:

- **Litter Picking:** Volunteers collected and removed litter across the park, significantly improving the overall cleanliness and appearance of the public space.
- **Weed Removal:** Weeds that had begun to overgrow certain sections of the park were thoroughly cleared, ensuring a more aesthetically pleasing and safer environment.
- **Removal of the Dead Box Hedge:** The team took on the challenge of removing the dead box hedge, which had become an eyesore and potential hazard.

Impact

The contributions of the volunteers had an immediate and visible impact on the condition of St Marks Park (see photos below). Not only have they improved the physical environment, but their efforts also reinforce our commitment to maintaining high standards in public spaces for the enjoyment and safety of our community.









With the excellent work carried out by the volunteers, we are now in a better position to proceed with planned future projects at St Marks Park, including the planting initiatives outlined in the CSNPC Tree Planting Proposals. This also aligns with our broader goals of sustainable environmental management and community engagement.

3. Recommendation:

On behalf of the committee, I would like to formally recognise and extend our gratitude to those volunteers who gave up their time to help.

To continue to look for collaborative partners and initiatives to help support ongoing maintenance of this and other areas.