East Horsley Parish Council

The Horsleys C.A.N.

Climate Action Network

West Horsley Parish Council

Introduction of Blue Heart Verges to West Horsley Village, as part of SCC's Blue Campaign

One of The Horsleys' C.A.N. group's objectives is to preserve and enhance our natural environment. As Surrey County Council (SCC) are encouraging villages to do this through the introduction of the Blue Campaign, we would like to seek support and finance to be able to this in West Horsley.

The Blue Campaign involves identifying suitable locations, including grass verges, which can be left to grow wild through reduced mowing, to encourage wildflowers to grow naturally and increase biodiversity. This can be supplemented through the planting/sowing of wildflowers and identifying such areas through registration with SCC, and the placing of decorated Blue Hearts.

The scheme has already been successfully introduced to Fetcham, Bookham, and Effingham.
Further details can be found on this link: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/trees-grass-and-hedges/grass/the-blue-campaign-increasing-biodiversity-in-grass-verges

Proposed Locations
We have identified several locations which will enable us to implement this scheme as follows:

1. Entrance to Weston Lea from East Lane, left hand side where it is quite wild already – wildflower area.
2. Entrance to The Wheelhouse, left hand side near the bus stop – a small bee friendly zone.
3. Around the Youth Council Noticeboard towards the back – wildflower area/nectar point.
4. Small area towards the back of the Village Green – wildflower area/nectar point.
5. Small area in the Village Orchard – it already has plenty of wildflowers growing, but we would like to recognise this with a Blue Heart.
6. Butler's Hill verge – opposite the Village Pound, already some wildflowers there – a small bee friendly zone.
7. Verge at Cranmore School – we believe they did their own planting last year, so this would be a 'no mow' area (1m in mown to preserve site lines).
8. Opposite the entrance to Cranmore School by the Pump House, already a wild area – wildflower area.
9. Verge between Farleys Close and Woodside – wildflower area.
10. Opposite the entrance to West Horsley Place – wildflower area.

Budget
6 Large Hearts (305 x 285mm, fully decorated with stick) @ £10 each = £60.00
4 Medium Hearts (235 x 220mm, fully decorated with stick) @ £8 each = £32.00
Purchase of wildflower seed/plugs. Spend anticipated to be no more than £80.00.
Total Budget £172.00

Recommendation
The Horsleys' C.A.N. group are requesting the Parish Council's support for the proposed locations, including those on Parish Council land, and the required funding. This will enable us to implement the Blue Campaign in West Horsley.

Thank you.
Catherine Young, Chair, The Horsleys' C.A.N. group