

KPC Tree Warden Report

Ref: KPC Meeting 5 May 2021 Appendix 5

Parish Tree Warden Report to 31 March 2021

This has been a very inactive year. Other than pruning apple trees and providing a modicum of advice to a few householders on tree removal or reduction, I seem to have done nothing at all. (Nor have I been asked to do anything!)

I would, however, just like to make a few points.

- The trees planted jointly by the pre-school group and the Action Group on the village green in November 2019 were regrettably all mown down by the contractors the following spring, neither of the bodies involved having remembered to inform the KPC in time to prevent this.
- The apple trees planted in The Avenue over the past 11 years continue to flourish although several have been damaged by strimmers. A letter asking householders to be aware of the dangers of strimmers was delivered in January. It was badly received in one case but the householder in question was grateful subsequently when intervention by the Parish Clerk managed to get ESCC to remove a shard of metal from the verge outside her house. The apple trees were, again, pruned in February. The apple tree planted in November 2018 on St Pancras Green in memory of Vic Barber is still in a healthy state.
- Opportunities still exist to plant trees (small trees; and also shrubs) on KPC-owned land in both “Fox Twitten” and “Bumpy Lane”, something discussed last year but not actioned because of Covid
- Ash dieback continues to spread among the trees on land owned by Kingston Farm, notably those on Kingston Hill and in the plantation below it. It seems inevitable that almost all of these – and there are several hundred trees involved – will die within the next decade or so. The much older ash trees around St Pancras Church are not yet showing any signs of disease, nor those on Snednore but it is too soon to conclude that they will escape.

Steve Berry
Tree Warden