

## Parish Matters.

### 1. Retrospective Memorial Tree Application

An application has been received for retrospective permission to plant a memorial tree within Orchard Meadow. The applicant has stated the tree is a miniature Quince and the tree is in memory of Sandy Lovelock.

**Recommendation:** To approve the retrospective memorial tree application.

### 2. Orchard Meadow Volunteer Day

Due to the appalling weather, the Orchard Meadow Volunteers had to give up on the work party in December. Another volunteer day is planned for 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024. During this session the plan is a light trimming of shrub areas, including areas around the apple trees, and this time including the dogwood block.

### 3. Thanks, from Puddletown Village Hall.

A letter of thanks has been received from the Puddletown Village Hall Trustees, thanking us for the donation made in December. Stating the timing was perfect, due to repair works required to the rotten rear door!

### 4. St Mary's footway access. – Email sent to Cllr's 22-12-23

"As discussed, I met with Brian at the school earlier this month as there was a request for accessible drops to be put in see below to encourage pupils not to walk up the school access road but use the internal footpath.

The area appears to be within the extent of highway and links to an inspected linked footway I/F20339/105 Section Name: southeast corner of 10coombe road south to 9 coombe road, Puddletown Site USRN: 43212298.

@Phil Goodland on your next inspection of the footway due on the 27th of February 2024 can you please ensure that all the actionable defects under the CoP are actioned.

I'm unsure that the drops alone will address the issues of the design of the existing footway as there are two area where it accesses the highway will no warning measures for pedestrians or drivers.

The main issue here though is accessibility as the footway is very narrow and has a number of stepped location with no ramped alternatives, it may be worth going down either, the safe route to school assessment <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/school-transport/safety-of-route-between-home-and-school> or as a footway improvement scheme Highway improvements - Dorset Council which will require Parish and or Member support to progress.

Regards"