

**APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) GRANT
FOR A PROJECT IN THE WOLVERCOTE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AREA
2021 Round 1**

<p>TITLE</p> <p>Short title by which the project will be known</p>	<p>Tree planting on Nixey's Field</p>
<p>PROJECT APPLICANT(S) & CONTACT DETAILS</p> <p>Name of person (not organisation) who has initiated the project, with email & phone number</p>	<p>Dr Val Tate</p>
<p>APPLICANT ORGANISATION</p> <p>Name and type of organisation and, if applicable, charity number</p>	<p>Wolvercote Tree Group – a volunteer, community-led group which promotes the importance of trees as guardians of our environment. We highlight the need to protect trees and shrubs, maintain the Wolvercote Community Orchard, and support tree planting in and around Wolvercote Ward.</p>
<p>OUTLINE PROJECT DESCRIPTION</p> <p>Short description so others not associated with the project can understand its purpose and scope. Include aims & objectives, and expected beneficiaries (max 150 words)</p>	<p>Nixey's Field was purchased by Cala Homes as a receptor site for wildlife displaced by the Wolvercote Mill development. In November 2019, CALA Homes funded 500 native tree and hedging whips which were planted by the Wolvercote Tree Group and local volunteers in front of the field boundary facing the A34 embankment and around the reptile receptor site ponds. Two years on, exceeding expectations, around half of the whips have established. Hawthorns have done particularly well, poplars and aspen less so. Of the alder, willow and hazel about half survived. Many showed signs of deer nibbling as shoots emerged above the tree guards. The proposal is to infill plant with 100 larger whips in late autumn and to replace all the tree guards with taller units to prevent deer damage. Everyone will benefit as the trees sequester carbon and pollutants from traffic on the A34 and help mitigate climate change.</p>
<p>MAIN TASKS</p> <p>A list of the main tasks and, if appropriate, an initial project plan with timescales</p>	<p>Main tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Purchase whips and tree guards 2. Assemble volunteer planters 3. Hand dig holes and plant. 4. Replace existing guards with taller guards 5. Recycle old guards

	Planting takes only one day. The project would ideally be completed by mid-November 2021 but could stretch through the winter, dormant season.
STAKEHOLDERS & DETAILS OF CONSULTATION (e.g. Council, Highways, site owners or asset holders, community organisations, businesses, neighbours)	CALA Homes have been approached through their land agents for permission to access the field across the Wolvercote Mill development and to work in the field. Such works would be overseen by CALA Homes and subject to their risk assessment and Health & Safety guidelines. There will be no impact on properties adjoining the field.
RELEVANCE TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN How does the project enhance or develop our neighbourhood?	The Wolvercote Neighbourhood Plan emphasizes the importance of conserving and enhancing green space and biodiversity - primarily for residents' well-being. It notes that opportunities for enhancement of green spaces should be sought to help mitigate the effects of climate change. In particular, the Plan encourages greater biodiversity in green spaces beyond grasses and suggests introducing more variety by planting additional native species. There were very few trees on Nixey's Field before the Tree Group championed further planting. The proposal is to maintain and enhance the 2019 planting aiming to create a wooded copse which would in turn provide homes for a wider range of animal and plant species.
CONSENTS REQUIRED Are any legal consents required before the project can go ahead (e.g. from a Council department such as Highways, Planning, Building Control, or other statutory organisation)?	No
FINANCE How much will this project cost in total? What proportion is being sought from CIL funding? What other sources of finance are being pursued? Are you seeking matched funding? What will the CIL grant be spent on? PLEASE INCLUDE COPIES OF COST ESTIMATES (Two quotes are needed for applications for more than £1000.) <i>[WNF note - Bucknell's catalogue was supplied, but as "locked" pdf, so not included here.]</i>	We are asking for the whole cost of materials - £850.00. Planting and maintenance is voluntary and therefore free of charge. We approached CALA Homes two months ago but have not yet received a reply despite prompting. The CIL money would be spent on purchasing 50 off 6/7 foot (£250 total) field-grown whips of native species trees, specifically alder, white poplar and willow. We require 200 off 5ft tree guards (£2.25 each) to protect the new whips and some of the established whips which are particularly attractive food sources for the local deer population. We can source and collect trees and guards from a wholesale tree nursery – Bucknell Nurseries - in Shropshire (see attached catalogue pages 5 and 32) which greatly reduces the cost burden relative to buying through a local nursery.

<p>MAINTENANCE</p> <p>How will the outputs of the project be maintained and by whom? Please note that CIL grants cannot be used to cover ongoing costs.</p>	<p>The Wolvercote Tree Group will use its volunteer network to maintain the plantings.</p>
<p>RISK ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Are there any financial or other risks to the completion of this project? Are there any safety issues associated with the project?</p>	<p>No financial risks. A full risk assessment will be completed before the trees are planted to ensure the safety of our volunteers.</p>
<p>MONITORING AND REPORTING</p> <p>How will the success of the project be monitored? Over what timescale?</p>	<p>The Tree Group carries out inspection visits every six months or as required to identify any concerns or necessary works. Weeding around the new trees will take place on an annual basis.</p>
<p>OTHER COMMENTS OR INFORMATION</p> <p>Please list anything else of relevance you wish the Committee to be aware of.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Completed applications, WITH COPIES OF COST ESTIMATES/QUOTES WHERE APPLICABLE, should be sent with a covering email to wolvercotenf@gmail.com</p>	