

URBAN TREE CHALLENGE FUND – update for Climate Change Members Advisory Board (8/12/20)

Martin Hall.

The Greenspace Development Team led on a successful bid to the Forestry Commission for Urban Tree Challenge Fund. This grant means that we now have funding to plant 13,842 small trees (1 – 2 years old) across 10 sites in Medway.

The Forestry Commission award is matched by funds from Ward Improvement Fund, Medway Norse and the Greenspace Development team.

The planting is planned for February 2021 and will involve volunteers working alongside council and Norse officers. A Teams call is being arranged with Ward councillors to discuss the sites as well as the planning / promotion of planting.

The Forestry Commission is stating that all the trees must be planted in the winter 2020/21 but we are pushing back to seek opportunity to split the tree planting across the next two winters.

Please see the full list of successful sites below.

Planting sites north of the river:

1. Chancel Drive
2. Wainscott Rec
3. Bligh Way Park

Planting sites in Gillingham:

4. The Strand
5. Beechings Playing Field
6. Luton Rec

Planting sites in Chatham & Rochester:

7. Priestfields (Jacksons had to be removed)

Planting sites in Walderslade:

8. Horsted Valley
9. Hook Meadow
10. Chestnut Avenue