

Garden Visit on 21st October 2025

These notes were produced by Kevin Essex following his visit to the Church grounds on 21st October 2025

Raised bed adjacent to the car park needs work to remove tree side shoots and tidy up to clear and preserve head stones.

Trees in the garden cast shadows onto bungalows in Church Close and so need to be trimmed (probably severely trimmed). Any more trees planned for this side of the Church need to be dwarf varieties.

Arch and lockable gate for access to the back of the Church? Issue with who to open and lock every day. Can Men in Sheds help with the making of the arch and gate?

Clearing of undergrowth by the back fence – needs a skip or two.

Remove cut branches placed along the back fence – replace with hawthorn type bushes for wildlife and security.

Lot of paths to be installed for access to all – slabs, compressed gravel?? What does the disabled community recommend?

Final site of sheds?

Wild area around back of sheds?

Is the plan of the area finalised?

What to do with the headstones / grave in area to the right of the Church and in the area at the back?

Is it sensible to put the community area at the side of the Church and the remembrance / reflective area at the rear? Keeps reflective area quiet and away from busy road, but potential noise area next to Church Close

Trees at the back need trimming to enable access to the rear.

What is the route of the sun? need to look at protection from the sun for play / tots area

Tots area requested – issues with

- type of surface,

- should it be covered

- who cleans and tidies (assuming it is open to all – which it should be)

storage

use of stored toys by others

Maintenance of area – make as low maintenance as possible

Walkway from side to rear – honeysuckles, jasmine, wisteria.....

Nothing prickly or poisonous

Raised planter at the front (adjacent to the Church) for herb garden for people to take as they need

Grass cutting

Shrub beds to the right of the Church

Lots of benches for reflection to the rear

Need to re-assess the 'compost heap'

Are the headstones by the 'compost heap' permanent

How many raised beds and size? Can Men in Sheds construct these?

Paths between beds for access

Rockery from local stone - can Crown donate?

Pond for wildlife -

location

safety

cleaning

No mow policy – leave grass between paths to grow until May (or whenever the recommended mowing season is now)

Water butts from new guttering – location?

Seed raising area (to supply garden / sell for funds / to support community)?

Local business for donations – Crown, Brockwells, Atherstone fencing....

Install sponsor board to reflect business support?

Tree survey

CCTV?

Picnic style benches in community area?

Do we need a play area with the recreation ground and Grange Road rec close by?

Cats in sand pits!!!!

Can council provide old slabs / manpower to install?

Skips for waste (Crown?)

Initial / immediate needs for funding

Skips

Size of beds and timber

Amount of compost required

Membrane to line and preserve beds

Hedging for rear fence

Tree surgeon

Paths

Arches

Shrubs / trees / plants