

Parks and Estate Committee meeting 23rd May 2022

Incredible Edible proposal to adopt a flower bed in the Lake Pleasure Grounds

**Recommendation**

Members approve the request from Incredible Edible to adopt and maintain a bed in the Lake Pleasure Grounds.

**Purpose of the Report**

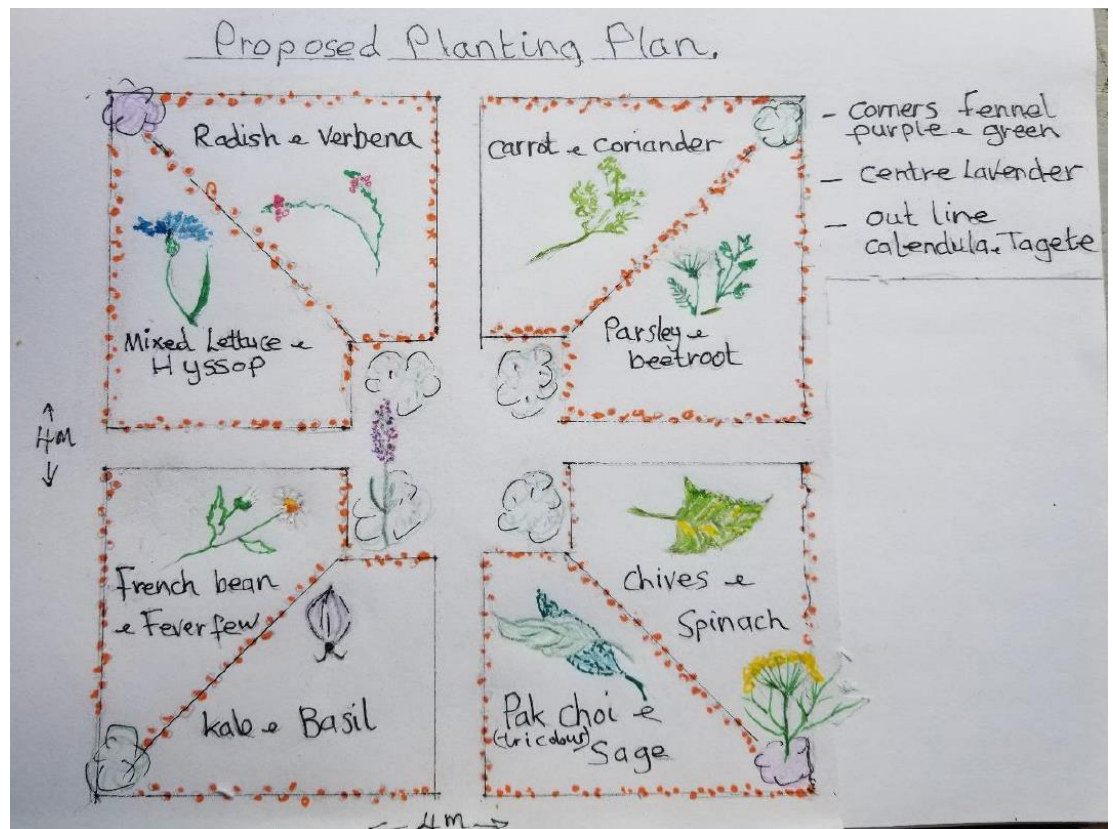
To inform members.

**Background**

Incredible Edible have approached the council to request that they be permitted to adopt and maintain a bed at the Lake Pleasure Grounds in the hope of raising awareness of Incredible Edible Warminster and demonstrating to the community who use the park that even a small piece of land can be productive and enrich the environment.

**Findings**

The plan from Incredible edible for the bed in the park is based on the French kitchen or 'Potager' concept where gardeners have intermingled vegetables, fruit, flowers, and herbs since medieval times. Potagers are very popular in France where more than 23% of the fruit and vegetables consumed by the French are home-grown. This is a concept that is increasing in popularity in the UK as people are

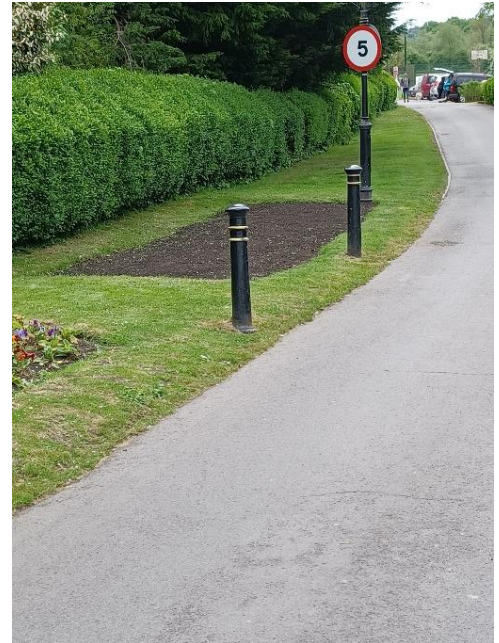


becoming more concerned about the source of their food and impact on the environment. A Potager Garden can be designed to be informal, romantic, and flowing or it can follow a geometric design. Either way, its inspiration is a complicity with nature rather than a desire to impose order and the planting of a combination of vegetables, herbs and companion plants promotes biodiversity attracting a variety of fauna, birds, and insects. An element of spontaneity is required as the produce is harvested and replaced. The positioning of plants of different colours, heights and textures complement each other and produce an overall effect which is attractive as well as being edible. It is a similar idea in many ways to an English cottage garden, except that it is centred on vegetables rather than flowers.

WTC could also fund a sign with a brief explanation of the project and how to find further information. As the town council does with the school flower beds.

## Location

Currently all but one of the flower beds within the LPG are used by schools or for wildflowers. The bed not used is shown below opposite the putting green, in the second flower bed. This would be the best location for the proposal.



## Conclusion

This proposal from Incredible Edible is a good opportunity for a local group to be involved in the LPG. It only requires a small amount of assistance from council staff.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The only additional finances required will be the cost of a sign at £35.

## Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

The Council has the power to provide this service under the General Power of Competence.

## Environmental Implications

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider but will take into account the council's policies.

## Risk Assessment

Incredible Edible will carry out their own risk assessment.

## Crime and Disorder

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider under the Crime and Disorder Act.