

## **Stroud wants to plant a forest to help tackle Climate Change**

24 September 2019

On October 3, Stroud councillors will be considering proposals to turn five acres of grassland into a communal woodland.

This comes after the planting of 100 trees at Stratford Park last year, and the planting of a cherry tree outside Ebley Mill last Friday by councillors.

Later on Friday, the council planted two oak trees at Stratford Park, which had been generously donated by a member of the public.

“Climate change is the biggest challenge facing the world, and while we’re a relatively small part of it, we are determined to do whatever we can to tackle it,” explained council leader Doina Cornell.

“Planting trees is one really positive thing the council can do to take excess CO2 out of the atmosphere, as well as all the other benefits in protecting biodiversity and combating air pollution. As a council we can’t do it alone and it is great also to see other organisations and communities starting active tree planting schemes across the district.”

If the Strategy and Resources Committee approve the report, the planting of trees on five acres of the former Stratford Park estate will begin in 2020.

Stroud District Council will also begin looking for other land that they could buy to turn into woodland, and work with partners to start a carbon offset fund to pay for that.

“It’s clear that the effects of climate change will be disastrous,” said Green councillor Catherine Braun, who attended the planting on Friday.

“As a council, we are limited in what we can do to tackle it but we have declared a climate emergency and we are acting on it in every way we can, and I would urge our partners to join us.”

Source: <https://www.gloucestershirelive.co.uk/news/gloucester-news/stroud-wants-plant-forest-help-3354469>