

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Westlea Park & Pond Report

1. Background

- 1.1 Residents in the Westlea area have been proactive in the maintenance of their open spaces such as the brook, Westlea Park and surrounding footpaths. This has included regular litter picking, cutting back of shrubbery and clearing the waterway.
- 1.2 Residents are keen to continue to improve the Park and would like to work with West Swindon Parish Council to restore the pond. The pond is not linked to any waterway and water levels are determined by the water table. Over the years, the pond has become overgrown and unsightly. It often has visible rubbish and debris. Residents have linked with Swindon FAB and have ideas for planting and seating to give it a new focus.

2. Detail

- 2.1 Residents have asked that the small willow tree beside the pond is removed as it withdraws too much water and that remaining bramble and dead shrubbery is removed. This would be work undertaken by the Parish Streetsmart team.
- 2.2 Cllr Gattapur has had discussions with residents about the inclusion of small benches to provide a viewing/resting point.
- 2.3 An additional improvement would be to either remove or renew the entry sign to Westlea Park. Removal would likely be at no cost. Renewal could be £200 to £400 depending on size and type of replacement.

3. Recommendations:

- 3.1 That this Committee considers approval of the minor works to the pond area.
- 3.2 That this Committee considers removal or renewal of the Westlea sign.

Paula Harrison

Parish Manager