

Summersdale Residents Association - **Environment Report** - 14th September 2022

The exceptional Summer weather, which threatens to become the norm, ends as our summers do in thunderstorms.

In our environment some plants, insects, animals have prospered, others not so well. For our trees, even well established trees like the oaks, they have shown signs of drought induced stress, yellowing of leaves, and shedding smaller than usual acorns, earlier than usual.

A number of roadside trees, in Summersdale Road, Highland Road to name but two areas have had trees shed all their leaves, I am told some might come back!

Thanks to a number of 'tree angels' all of this years planting of roadside trees in Summersdale, seem to have survived.

As I reported earlier the CDC scheme to increase trees on public open spaces, with the exception of 'Steel's Plantation' 'Maplehurst/Ferndale', show a 100% failure rate. Canes and guards will be left in place until the spring, when lifeless sticks will be removed.

Chichester Tree Wardens (CTW), The Chichester Society and the SRA (JH) as well as some residents have commented on the application by WSCC to fell 2x Giant Redwoods, planted about 1900 in Rew Lane.

CTW have also commented on redevelopment plans for Cathedral Square, which does not retain the existing 6xLimes.

CTW have also expressed concern that Chichester university have chosen to fell 27 trees in an improvement to the car park scheme, NE of the main campus.

It seems to be taking an inordinate amount of time for all to grasp that the tree canopies in Chichester, mean we have benefited from lower temperatures and reduced harmful airborne particles reaching us this summer.

Of course the benefit to the environment generally is multi-faceted and all year round.
