

# DILTON MARSH PARISH COUNCIL

# DILTON NEWS

---

## FEBRUARY 2022

---

### PARISH COUNCIL LEADS ON PLANTING NEW HEDGEROW AT THE PLAYING FIELD

In November 2021 the Parish Council reported that it had been successful in obtaining a grant from the 'Close the Gap' hedgerow fund to plant hedging and trees at the rear of the playing field. Although Storm Eunice impacted the planting, members of the Council and volunteers managed to carry out the planting on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Thanks go to all those volunteers who turned out to help in such atrocious weather.

A mixture of trees and hedgerow plants have now been planted and we look forward to seeing them settle in and grow over the coming months and years. Please do go and take a look.

### Keeping your shed or garage safe and secure

Many people don't secure their shed or garage in the same way they do their homes - often using an easy-to-break lock or padlock to protect valuable contents such as a car, bike or lawnmower. An opportunistic burglar will try a shed or garage first because they can find the tools they need to break into the main house. First off, check that your insurance covers the contents of your shed or outbuildings from theft. Take a look at your shed and consider how you would break in. It's worth having a good padlock on the door with no exposed screws. Pay attention to hinges, as these are sometimes easily removable. If you have windows, then these could be vulnerable unless they're secured with wire mesh or grills. And keep it locked at all times.

**Alarm it** - Consider a battery-operated shed alarm. They look low key but they respond to movement or door contact with an extremely loud siren.

**Lock it, hide it or mark it** - Don't give them the opportunity or the tools to commit a crime. Lock everything away securely. Tools can be locked inside a locker or box or secured with a chain.

Secure your bike to the ground or a lockable stand within a locked shed or garage. Visit Sold Secure to search for ground anchors and other locks designed to fix to floors and walls. It's always worth draping an old sheet or blanket over the top of mowers or bikes to keep them covered from view. Property marking your items is advisable and some tools can be painted with your name or postcode. Forensic marking is also an option.

Although it might sound like stating the obvious, never leave your garage or shed door unlocked if you're not around.