



## Motion to Town Council

<b>Subject:</b>	SCRUB CLEARANCE MILL FIELD – RIVER OVER SHADOWED	
<b>From:</b>	Gary Harrison	
<b>Date:</b>	13/09/2023	
<b>For information only</b>		
<b>Summary of decisions or actions requested (including timing):</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agree to clearance of Low-Lying Riparian Scrub Areas of the Mill Field to allow daylight to reach up to 60% of the river. To be completed before bird nesting season 2024. Cost of up to £1600.</li><li>• Agree to Cllr Harrison approaching the Cornbury Park Estate Office to ask them to consider completing similar work on the bank areas on the other side.</li></ul>		
<b>Financial implications: Up to £1600 consisting of £1000 from Mill Field budget and £600 from Mill Field allocated reserves.</b>		
<b>Communications: Not Required</b>		

### **NEED:**

Our section of the River Evenlode which bounds the Mill Field is suffering from years and years of neglect. Large areas of Blackthorn, Bramble and Scrub have been allowed to dominate and have over-shaded the river resulting in very low aquatic plant growth along this section of the river. The river has largely become a dead over-deepened channel with very little bio-diversity. Recommendations from the ECP and Wild Oxfordshire are that the river should have 60% Light and 40% Shade. This would be achieved by removing the scrub areas and leaving the Riparian trees. Anne Miller has also been consulted and is in agreement.

### **DECISION:**

Instruct a contractor to clear the scrub areas to achieve the recommended 60%/40% ratio of light and shade. Wood chippings to be distributed on site.

Approach the Cornbury Park Estate Office to ask them to consider completing the same work on their side of the river.