We took back over a piece of land belonging to us that had previously been used as a private garden by one of the school employees. It was in a poor state as the amount of work in recent years had declined. This include in the middle of the plot a medium size contorted/twisted willow and a birch tree that is planted very close to it.

It is our intention to level the site to allow it to be used by pupils as a play area. To this end I asked our Arboriculture contractor (Andrew Brightman) to look at these 2 trees and to give an opinion on them as the willow was showing signs of dieback and contains a lot of dead wood. He has indicated that this tree is in decline and has only a few years before it will die.

Given the unsuitability of the willow tree in a school environment and predicted demise of the tree in an area to be used by pupils we would like to fell the willow and the birch tree close to it (it has grown one sided due to it being planted so close to the willow and offers little amenity value) This will leave us an open, more usable and safe place for pupils to be in.

We will if it is possible replant with a more suitable species of garden tree (Amelanchier or crab apple). If this is not possible then we will replant 2 oak trees in our estate instead.