Example Project

An example of a suitable project, Appendix 3, might be to improve the area for visitors to Windrush Cemetery, which is currently open to the elements and lacking in shelter when windy or wet. A pergola would help to address this and would also provide an area for people to gather before or after a funeral, while also serving as an area for people to sit and enjoy the peace and views over the town.

The pergola could be of either wood or metal - a good quality of 3m x4m costs between £3000 and £8000 and upwards. Other factors affecting cost are:

- Size and style of pergola
- Type and quality of materials
- Time of year
- Any prep work needed

In general planning permission is not required for pergolas in private gardens, but this may be different in the case of a public access cemetery.

Consideration may be given to the material least likely to be substantially damaged by vandalism. Using an open sided style gazebo or pergola will reduce the likelihood of attracting anti-social behaviour.

The sides could be planted with fragrant, low maintenance shrubs, such as rosemary, lavender climbing roses lavender, and quickly establishing climbers used to give additional cover to the pillars. Benches including accessible ones that permit the placing alongside of wheelchairs and pushchairs could also be included along with a water butt and rain collection system. Any additional features that might support biodiversity, such as a natural water feature, insect homes or bat and bird boxes, could be included in the design and the pergola could double up as a memorial feature if plaques could be affixed.

An information board that identifies the spires, chimneys and other landmarks visible on the skyline view from the cemetery would be a useful and attractive feature. The pergola could also serve as a memorial to those who have died in the pandemic or along with its planting scheme could serve as an installation to mark another cause or occasion such as the Queen's Platinum jubilee.