

PRESS RELEASE

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## **Queen's trees planted on Turn Moss by Kate Green MP**

Friends of Turn Moss this week celebrated the planting of two trees which had been donated by the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy, a unique network of forest conservation initiatives, which was launched in 2015. Kate Green, MP for Stretford & Urmston, planted the trees on a sunny and chilly morning, on the highest point of Turn Moss fields, which were saved from part-privatisation earlier this year.

"I was really pleased to give two saplings," Ms Green said, "donated to me as part of the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy project, to the Friends of Turn Moss to plant. Turn Moss is a lovely green space to enjoy in our community and I'm really looking forward to seeing the trees grow."

Victoria Johnson, who is coordinating the Friends' work in boosting the biodiversity of the areas that are not used for sports, commented, "The Friends group, as representatives of the many users of Turn Moss, are delighted to have the opportunity to join with the 52 other Commonwealth nations and contribute to indigenous woodland to be preserved hopefully forever.

"Thanks to Kate Green," she added, "we will have a graceful silver birch on the highest point of the fields where it will be a symbol of community visible from Stretford, Chorlton, Trafford and Manchester. During spring we aim to establish swathes of native grasses and wildflowers around the birch, providing a haven for insects, butterflies & birds. The second tree we planted, a hazel, has been planted amongst a stand of mature trees as a successor for a recently felled ash."

Friends' committee member, Gill Moore, who took the fine photo of the planting, added, "We have been working hard to bring quick improvements to Turn Moss, and with the backing of the Council we have been able to get planting, which is really exciting. But improvements to the sports facilities remain our highest priority. We were delighted the goalposts got repainted at the start of the season and everyone agreed the pitches looked terrific. But more needs to be done and we are determined that the changing rooms will be renovated as swiftly as possible. In fact, we are about to announce some really good news in that regard, so watch this space."

## FURTHER INFORMATION.

Queen's Commonwealth Canopy:

<https://queenscommonwealthcanopy.org/>