

# *Harrogate* BOROUGH COUNCIL

# Media Release

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## **MORE CHERRY TREES FOR MILTON WAY**

**ONE** of Harrogate's prettiest and greatest loved walks is set to flourish with the planting of 30 new cherry trees along what is fondly known as Cherry Tree Way, which runs across The Stray.

As part of the celebrations to mark the Queen's Coronation in 1953, 100 cherry trees were planted on Milton Way. And each spring the avenue has been covered in a swathe of pink blossom, which has given pleasure to many thousands of people for over half a century.

When considering the replacement trees, Councillor Pat Jones, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Amenity Services was determined that the tradition of cherry trees on Milton Way continued. She said: "Unlike Her Majesty, these trees have not grown old gracefully. They have, however, given a lifetime of pleasure but a large number have had to be removed because of disease, vandalism and excavation work leaving gaps in the avenue. Only about 50 of the original trees remain and these are coming to the end of their natural life. But I am delighted that, although it was very difficult to source this type of mature cherry tree, we have purchased 30 new double-flowering pink cherry trees. A generation has enjoyed these trees and now future generations will be able to enjoy the blossom for years to come."

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: 11.00 am Monday, 20 December when the planting of the 30 new cherry trees on Milton Way from York Place to Leeds Road will be overseen by the council's Arboricultural Manager.**

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Councillor Pat Jones is available for comment on 01423 872466. Further technical information is available from Mr Jerry Gunton, Arboricultural Manager at Harrogate Borough Council on 01423 556749.