

## **Armed Forces Community Garden has a visit from Age UK Veterans Club**

Yesterday (30 September), The Armed Forces Community Garden in Hillfield Park was visited by the Age UK Veterans Club.

The veterans entered through the archway and gathered at the circular seating area where they were greeted by the Planting Our Future team and Elaine Butler, Royal British Legion County President for Warwickshire & Birmingham, who then spoke to the group about the garden and its meaning.

The one hectare span of The Armed Forces Community Garden has been carefully designed to help veterans and the community alike to heal in a place of peace and tranquillity, with both mental and physical needs in mind. From the circular seating area with its embracing design, to the gabion basket panelled walls and seating specially designed to reduce anxiety for its users.

The circular seating area facing the garden allows a clear line-of-sight along the walkway through the wildflowers and orchard, giving visitor's peace of mind. The sloped walkways enable visitors to access and explore the garden with ease; with seating and benches fitted with hand-rails and gaps for wheelchairs, and planters built to a height for all to enjoy the sensory flower and herb mix.

**A member of the Age UK Veterans Club said:**

**"I'm so pleased to have heard the talk and learned the meaning behind the garden, I can't wait to visit again, and see it in the spring. You can feel the enthusiasm that went into it."**

A huge thank you to Elaine who brought so much passion and vibrancy to the garden, even on a dreary autumn morning.

If you would like to be involved in joining activity groups, please contact [plantingourfuture@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:plantingourfuture@solihull.gov.uk)

For more information on the project please visit our website: [lovesolihull.org/armed-forces-community-garden](https://lovesolihull.org/armed-forces-community-garden) or follow us on Facebook @PlantingOurFutureSol Twitter and Instagram @LoveSolihull #PlantingOurFuture