



Open Spaces – Tree Policy

Policy

The Parish Council recognises that it has a duty of care to ensure that all trees growing on land belonging to the Council are maintained in a safe condition. The Council will take all reasonable precautions to maintain the safety of the public and of property within the Parish. The trees will be inspected in accordance with the schedule set out below and any remedial work required will be carried out as soon as reasonably practicable taking into account the nature of the work to be undertaken and the likely danger to the public. All decisions relating to this policy may be taken by the Open Spaces Committee of the Council unless it is deemed necessary for the matter to be referred to the Council.

Identification of trees included in policy

The Committee will identify land belonging to the Council and the trees growing on that land. It will prepare and maintain a register of the land/trees identified. The register will be updated from time to time as deemed necessary by the Council.

Inspection schedule

The following inspections will be undertaken:

1. An annual inspection will be carried out by an Arboriculture Consultant appointed by the Committee.
2. A bi-monthly inspection will be carried out by members of the Committee. This inspection will be a visual inspection from ground level only.
3. A weekly inspection will be undertaken by a member of the Council of trees identified by the Committee to be in areas more regularly frequented by members of the public (Days Green). This inspection will be a visual inspection from ground level only

Reporting requirements

The annual inspection will be commissioned each year and the subsequent survey will be considered by the Committee at its next meeting after the report is available. All remedial work identified in the survey and subsequently authorised by the Committee will be undertaken in accordance with the priority indicated in the survey.

Any problems identified by members of the Committee in the bi-monthly inspection will be reported to the next meeting of the Committee. If deemed appropriate estimate(s) will be obtained for the remedial work to be undertaken, such estimate(s) to be considered by the Committee at the following meeting.

Any problems identified by members of the Council during the weekly inspection will be reported immediately to the Clerk of the Council ("the Clerk"). Such problems will be considered by the Committee at the meeting following notification to the Clerk.

If any problems identified at 2 and 3 above, or which are reported to the Clerk by a member of the public, are considered by the members of the Committee or the Clerk to require urgent attention the Clerk will obtain an estimate for remedial work to be undertaken as soon as possible. The work and estimate will be approved by two members of the Committee.

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