

TREE PLANTING POLICY

The Full Council agreed the following:

Types of Trees

1. Bird Cherry
2. Flowering Cherry
3. Liquidambar Styraciflua Worplesdon
4. Whitebeam

All trees to be agreed in consultation with our tree surgeon. The types noted above are suggestions but we will be guided by the tree surgeon.

Planting Sites

1. Broyle Lane Recreation Ground
2. Northeast section of the Village Green

Trees will only be planted by Ringmer Parish Council's Contractor in a position identified by the Clerk in consultation with the tree surgeon.

1. Trees will be standard tree size 6/7 feet, type as agreed.
2. Trees will only be planted at suitable times of the year – generally November to February. Trees will not be planted in the summer months as it is not possible to keep young trees watered to the required level.
3. Adequate spacing (both above ground and underground) must be present to allow healthy growth to maturity.
4. Location must be conducive to good management practices and does not significantly disrupt maintenance activities or utilities.
5. Trees shall not be planted where they would interfere with the growth of other trees in the immediate area or be overshadowed by an existing tree.
6. Planting site shall allow 5ft minimum distance from gas, electric or water meters.
7. Location shall be 15ft from streetlights, 10ft from fire hydrants and 5ft from walkways, driveways or other hardscape features.

Pruning/Maintenance Policy

Ringmer Parish Council will consider the trees for maintenance in accordance with our tree survey recommendations.

Pruning is carried out in accordance with good arboricultural practice to:

1. Alleviate, as far as it is practical, any loss of daylight to dwelling and associated problems.
2. Keep trees in a safe and healthy condition.
3. Enable trees to grow into the desired shape and form.
4. Reduce the risk of tree-related subsidence damage to building by limiting trees' foliage area and subsequent water demand.

Removal Policy

Trees should only be removed for the following reasons:

1. If the tree is dead, dying, diseased, dangerous or otherwise in a poor condition.
2. As a result of an insurance claim where evidence has been presented implicating a tree and no other practical steps are available to resolve the problems.

Application Process

1. Residents wishing to purchase a memorial tree shall first complete the Memorial Tree Application Form.
2. A price will be agreed with the contractor, which will cover the cost of the tree, planting, 2 years' maintenance and replacement within 2 years if tree dies.
3. The Full Council will consider the application.
4. Once the application is agreed, the Clerk will arrange tree planting.
5. Ringmer Parish Council are not bound to accept an application.
6. Information noting the planting site will be included on the tree inventory.
7. Ringmer Parish Council will acknowledge by email to the applicant the arrangement for the memorial tree and where it is planted and an invoice will be sent.
8. Memorial Tree applications meeting this policy's criteria are automatically approved until a tree surgeon confirms that the designated planting area is full.

Price

Price on application to allow for:

- 6 to 7 ft tree
- Tree stakes and ties
- Planting labour
- 2 year's maintenance including mulch top up & replacement if tree dies within 2 years
- Engraved memorial plaque

General

1. The memorial scheme restricts residents to purchasing a tree and plaque only. It is not permitted to lay/bury ashes on the site or to adorn the area with other commemorative items.

Next Review Due:	October 2029
Policy Amended:	8th July 2025
Last Reviewed at Full Council:	8th October 2024
Adopted at Full Council Meeting:	11th April 2023