



TREE POLICY

This policy sets out the approach Sandhurst Town Council takes regarding their owned trees:

Tree Inspection –

STC Ground Staff carry out a daily check of the Memorial Park and a twice weekly check of Owlsmoor Park. This includes trees. Any remedial work identified will be undertaken by the Grounds Team if it is within their skill set. Should there be a need for specialist work, a professional is engaged to complete the task.

STC will engage a specialist to carry out a tree audit every two years. The tree specialist appointed must be skilled and be independent from those contractors who may undertake the work. All work recommended by the tree specialist will be reviewed and actioned accordingly.

Resident Requests to carry out tree work NOT specified in the Tree Audit –

At times STC receive requests from residents who live adjacent to land owned by the Town Council to carry out tree work. If the work has not been recommended by the Tree Audit, then it is unlikely to be work that is essential for either the health of the tree or the health and safety of the public. However, it may be that the tree is causing a legal nuisance such as obstructing footpaths or damaging buildings. An assessment for legal nuisance will be carried out by the Grounds Team. If such nuisance is determined, the appropriate corrective action will be undertaken. Legal nuisance does not cover overhanging branches (which can be removed by the party); right to light or bird mess from nearby trees.

Replanting trees –

Where trees are removed due to a recommendation from the tree inspection or where trees fall due to weather conditions, a suitable replacement tree will be planted in the vicinity.

Requests for memorial trees-

All requests will be considered in line with the Commemorative policy which states-

- The type of tree, plant or wildflower and position of planting will be agreed with STC.
- The planting will be undertaken by the Ground Staff.
- There will not be any commemorative plaques permitted. Instead, an entry into the commemorative book will record names and locations of Memorials.