

Memorial Tree policy Working Party Meeting – Notes

Date convened – 21st September 2022, – 7pm start.

Clerked by – J. Fullbrook

Members attending – Cllrs Young, Sullivan, Goldsmith, Alexander & Campbell

Resident in attendance – Representing the SCO – Roger Brown

Notes

- The group discussed the excellent work which had been undertaken in respect of memorial tree planting by the SCO within their Orchards, and especially in relation to the memorial tree planting on SPC land at the MPF and Abbey Road
- The group further considered the current SCO 'Policy for Memorial Trees' as described within the supporting paper kindly supplied by the SCO.
- Roger explained that beyond the trees that were already due to be planted and that had been agreed to be installed as per the policy and by agreement through the SPC, that as it stands there were no further opportunities for residents to apply for a memorial tree to be planted (on SPC land), and that indeed there was a waiting list for any future opportunities.
- The group further considered whether it worthwhile creating an SPC Memorial Tree policy if opportunities did not exist to plant trees on SPC land.
- The Clerk explained that opportunities would indeed arise possibly at Abbey Road, the MPF (primarily to replace trees that were having to be cut down) and possibly other SPC open spaces, and would certainly arise at Chandlers Way.
- Some opportunities might arise whereby the SCO could plant trees (including on Chandlers Way) and in which case it was suggested that their existing policy seemed adequate. However in order to provide the office with an opportunity to engage with requests from residents, if for no other reason than to start a possible waiting list (for trees that would not interest, or be maintained by the SCO, as they would not be 'Orchard Trees'), it was agreed to recommend to Community Committee that a revised wording of the SCO policy could be drafted for SPC by the Clerk and later embellished and approved to cover future resident requests – Please see a first draft below to be discussed at the next Community Committee meeting.

SPC Memorial Tree Policy First Draft (Outline)

- 1. The request will be reviewed by the SPC Community Committee. If agreed, a donation which will be determined at the time of committee agreement will be requested via cheque or BACS payment to SPC, to cover the cost of the tree, its planting, protection, and perceived ongoing maintenance.*
- 2. The SPC will also undertake to replace the tree in the first 3 years after planting, should it fail to survive for whatever reason. - the type and variety of tree will be the choice of the SPC, so that it aligns with the planting plans for the associated area of land in which it is to be planted.*
- 3. The planting time is at the discretion of the SPC. End of February/early March is the usual planting period. - SPC will install a plaque showing the variety, planting date and donor details.*