

Tree Warden Report for October 2023 PC meeting by Sandra James-Parish Councillor nominated Tree Warden

Tree Planting Season is upon us!

The optimum time for planting within each year (October-March) is now here, so I am looking for suggestions of where tree planting could potentially go within the parish. Given I am new to this role I do not always know what has been discussed on this subject beforehand and therefore please take the following suggestion of a potential site in that manner.

- Possible site: New church graveyard – hedge and tree planting around curtilage.

TPO signage

At the September 2023 PC meeting I presented the TPO signage that had been prepared and paid for before I took over. Having discussed this signage with Roger Hayles (Parish volunteer tree warden) and taken his input and that of Clive Timlin (2nd Parish volunteer tree warden), there is a feeling that these signs are not ideal nor necessarily what we want to see within the parish. They are very much on the garish side being very bright in colour and seem to present a forceful approach towards the trees and surrounding area, which I daresay might well have been their intent.

The feeling from the September PC meeting appeared to be similar, but I was specifically tasked to find out from the CDC Tree Officer, his direction on TPO tree signage.

The response from Henry Whitby (CDC Tree Officer) is that CDC do not have any signage on TPO trees preferring instead a tree mapping approach which is made publicly available. He stressed that this information had previously been given to Mr Archer and Mr Hayles and that TPO signage was not considered an approach by CDC.

Mr Whitby described the fines for interfering with TPO trees without permission – a fine of upto £20,000 for felling or for illegal pruning upto £2500 if this came before a Magistrates Court or a jail sentence if the matter came before a High Court.

TPO Trees within the C&H parish

33 TPO's currently

Earliest TPO dates from 1968

The most recent TPO application (which is pending) is from 2022.

Tree Grants from CDC (Re Michael Pierce- Trees outside Woodlands Officer) his email dated 12/9/2023)

The free/subsidized tree planting from CDC is no longer available. The following 'pilot' schemes are available but I have no specific details as yet for each category nor the process for applying.

- Trees on Farms pilot
- Urban tree planting pilot
- Targeted tree planting pilot
- Community Orchards grant upto £10k

Date of report 1/10/2023 Sandra James