

# St Austell Town Council



## Tree Planting Policy

Trees are a highly valued feature of St Austell, they make an enormous contribution to the character and beauty of the town landscape and create and maintain environments rich in biodiversity. St Austell Town Council values its trees and recognises both the human and environmental benefits of having a healthy and sustainable tree population.

- The Town Council will strive to increase the quality and quantity of the tree stock in the towns parks and open spaces by planting appropriate species in suitable locations to enhance enjoyment, increase canopy cover and to conserve the environment;
- Annual Tree Safety Surveys will be carried out on all trees owned and maintained by the Town Council. The surveys will be undertaken by an approved arboriculture contractor, and the Council will follow any recommendations from the reports to ensure the Council maintains a safe and healthy tree stock;
- The Town Council will aim to plant deciduous trees with autumn colour which are native to the UK. However, some non-native species may be planted in suitable locations to enhance the horticultural and visual element of the town's parks and open spaces. Greater use of semi-mature planting in urban areas and green spaces will provide instant visual impact and is far more resistant to strimmer damage, drought, disease and vandalism;
- In all new tree planting schemes the Town Council will seek to establish the "right tree in the right place" and to ensure that newly planted trees have a long life-expectancy and can survive future environmental conditions brought on by climate change, such as hotter, drier summers and wetter, milder winters;
- The Town Council will increase the resilience of our trees by planting a mixture of species rather than having too many of the same tree in any one location, due to an increased risk of loss of one or more species of tree to pests, disease or other environmental factors;
- Where trees are removed from land that is owned or managed by the Town Council, replacement planting will be carried out at a ratio of 5 new trees for every 1 tree felled, where possible;
- The Town Council will only purchase trees that are propagated and grown within the UK;

- Each summer a schedule of tree planting for the coming winter will be developed, details of which will be promoted on social media and public feedback on the plans will be encouraged;
- The Town Council will aim to organise community tree planting events at least once a year on its parks and open spaces to promote community involvement and environmental awareness;
- To avoid damage to underground or overhead services from trees, the Town Council will consult with utilities companies and other authorities who may have services installed nearby before commencing planting;

As of 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

Site	Trees planted and size	Planned future planting
Chy Pons	None	2 fruit trees to be planted by Edible St Austell
Truro Road Park	4 oak saplings, and 1 Cedar tree approx. 9 feet in height to replace felled tree	None planned, due to the site already being heavily populated with a diverse range of trees
Poltair Park	14 oak saplings, however due to vandalism only 4 remain	More mature trees of 7-8ft in height are favoured in future
Woodland Road Park	None	No
Woodland Close Park	5 fruit trees and shrubs donated by Edible St Austell	4 semi-mature trees being planted in Feb 2020 (Maple, Rowan, Alder, Honey Locust)
Prince Charles Park	5 oak saplings, all of which have now been vandalised and pulled out	None
Thornpark Road Park	190 Beech trees planted to create hedge	None
Landrew Road Park	None	None
Polmarth Close Open Space	10 oak saplings	2-3 medium-sized horse chestnut trees
Linear Park	9 fruit trees planted by Edible St Austell, and 6ft high Sycamore, Oak and Horse chestnut planted to replace 3 felled trees	Area to the west of the silt trap could be planted with 5-10 semi-mature trees to increase canopy cover
Sandy Hill Park	4 Magnolia, 4 Cherry, 2 Laburnum inside fenced-off area 1 Acer 12ft Ash (donated)	None
Bethel Park	6 oak saplings that have since been vandalised and removed	Possibility to add further trees when play area is redeveloped

Jubilee Meadows Open Space	None	Opportunity to make use of open space by planting 8-10 trees 6-7ft in height, to create small copse
The Meadows Open Space	10 Oak saplings 1 Scots Pine, 1 Hornbeam, 1 Beech, 1 Horse Chestnut	Re-evaluate in winter 2020
Chapel Field Play Area	None	None
Penmere Road Open Space	6 Oak saplings 1 Sorbus Whitebeam	10 larger trees (6-7ft) could be added in open area as opposed to around periphery
Cosgarne Triangle	2 Laburnum saplings	5 fruit trees will be planted in 2020 by Edible St Austell