

## Calne Without Parish Council Plant a Tree Scheme

### Background

Last year, Calne Without Parish Council received the following suggestion from a resident:

*“In this Platinum Jubilee year it would be good if the Parish Council bought a tree for every household within the parish. There could be a variety of trees in different sizes to suit each situation. Any household that could/would not want to have a tree may donate it to the Woodland Trust or a similar organisation. This has a double bonus in that it uses CIL money and shows CWPC as pro-active in the fight against the impending climate emergency.”*

A similar scheme, known as “My Tree, Our Forest”, is currently being run on a national scale by the Welsh Government and Coed Cadw. The scheme gives people the opportunity to collect a tree of their own to plant, or, alternatively, to have one planted on their behalf. More about this scheme can be found at:

<https://www.gov.wales/every-household-wales-can-collect-and-plant-tree-over-50-hubs-open-across-country>.

If the UK’s target to become carbon net zero by 2050 is to be met, the percentage of woodland canopy will need to increase from 14.5% to 17.5% in England. (Source: [https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-environment-policy/consultation-on-environmental-targets/supporting\\_documents/Woodland%20cover%20targets%20%20Detailed%20evidence%20report.pdf](https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-environment-policy/consultation-on-environmental-targets/supporting_documents/Woodland%20cover%20targets%20%20Detailed%20evidence%20report.pdf) )

### Proposal

This proposal is for Calne Without Parish Council to operate a similar scheme, albeit at a much smaller scale. The scheme would be launched at the Energy Saving and Local Environment Event on 16<sup>th</sup> September, and further promoted through social media, posters, Inspire and the Villages Magazine.

Tree packs (containing small whips) may be obtained from the Woodland Trust as follows:

Tree Pack	Species Included	Options	Link
Garden Mix	Rowan, Silver Birch, Field Maple, Wild Cherry	30 @ £54.95	<a href="https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/garden-mix">https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/garden-mix</a>
Urban Tree Pack	Crab Apple, Hazel, Rowan	15 @ £24.00	<a href="https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/urban-tree-pack">https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/urban-tree-pack</a>
Bee Friendly Garden Mix	Goat Willow, Hazel, Guelder Rose, Rowan	30 @ £54.95	<a href="https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/tree-sforbees">https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/tree-sforbees</a>
Tree protection	Spiral Guards and Canes	105 @ £85.00	<a href="https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/spirals-and-canes-3">https://shop.woodlandtrust.org.uk/spirals-and-canes-3</a>

Residents will be asked to register for the scheme in advance and will be permitted to register for up to three trees per household (or one per child).

The tree packs will be procured in the Autumn of 2023, once the demand has been determined. Tree planting is best undertaken between October and March when the roots are dormant. The trees will be delivered as cell-grown saplings, ranging from approximately 15cm-60cm in height.

Residents who have signed up for the scheme will then be asked to collect them from designated collection points around the Parish at specified times. Residents will be given a briefing sheet on planting technique when they collect their trees.

### **Benefits**

The scheme will make a small contribution to mitigating the climate emergency and will contribute to improving biodiversity and increasing the tree canopy at a local level.

The benefit of the scheme will be measured by the number of residents taking up the scheme.

### **Recommendation**

It is requested that Calne Without Parish Council endorses the scheme and approves an initial budget of £550.00, to be funded from the Environment and Aesthetics Budget.

This funding would be sufficient to procure 210 trees and associated tree protection. Further approval may be sought, if necessary, once the demand has been determined.

Cllr John Barnes  
Climate and Environment Working Group

**Appendix A – Information about Species**

Tree	Estimated Full-grown Height	Description
Crab Apple	7-9m	Crab apple trees are associated with love and marriage and its small, hard fruits make excellent jelly.
Field Maple	15-20m	Field maple trees produce 5-lobed leaves that turn a rich golden yellow colour in autumn.
Goat Willow	6-10m	Also known as pussy willow, the male catkins of the goat willow look like cats' paws.
Guelder Rose	Up to 4m	The guelder rose brightens woods with spring blossom, autumn colour and vibrant berries.
Hazel	10+m	Catkins resembling lambs' tails, and late-summer nuts, loved by squirrels and hazel dormice.
Rowan	8-15m	Rowan has silvery-brown bark and fern-like leaves which turn burnt red in autumn. In spring there are clusters of creamy-white flowers followed by striking orange-red berries in autumn.
Silver Birch	15-20m	Silver birch is a striking tree which provides food and habitat for over 300 species of insect.
Wild Cherry	18-25m	Wild cherry displays clouds of blossom in spring and its bright summer fruits bring a splash of vivid colour.