

ITEM 9 – Supporting Information

Please read from the bottom up

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From: **Richard**

Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2024 at 10:51 AM

Subject: RE: Village Planted Trees

To: A Wallage <cllrwallage@gmail.com>

Hi Avril, thank you for your reply.

One suggestion for a suitable species is Silver Birch, which does well in exposed settings, as shown by the healthy trees in the two attached photographs –



'Birch Trees – South Street', taken between the Costcutter and the school and *'Fairview'*, taken just up the road from the Costcutter

Mountain Ash (Rowan) is another suggestion – there are examples of healthy specimens in the village.

These two species are both native trees, having advantages in terms of supporting biodiversity in the village, so from a personal point of view I favour them. However I accept that this is an attribute that others may not view with the importance that I do, so I recognise that any planted tree, whether ornamental or native is a great asset in the village, providing it flourishes.

Secondly, on the subject of trees I have recently been corresponding with Sue Mullinger at Durham CC, responsible for certain planting schemes in the village. I recently took the attached photograph '*Ornamental Cherries – Fairview*' of a group of three trees within her patch, adjacent to 60 Fairview that are not flourishing. My view is that dead and dying trees are far less attractive than no trees at all, and she has written to say that they will be considered for replacement in due course. The dead tree and its stakes in the foreground of this photo have already been removed. I have suggested that Silver Birch trees would be a suitable choice here as well, given the lovely specimens in similar positions nearby.

Also regarding trees, I have been corresponding with Jack Beckwith, Environmental Officer for Believe Housing. He has asked if I could suggest sites which would benefit from further tree planting, and sent me a detailed map of green space that Believe Housing own in the village. He made the understandable point that any recommendations would have to be signed off by various internal Believe Housing teams (such as Development, in case the site is required to build properties on in future). I had passed this request to two of our Green Group members, Laura Scott and Jack Lee, who were keen to be involved.

Thanks and best wishes,

Richard

From: A Wallage <cllrwallage@gmail.com>

Sent: 02 October 2024 16:18

To: Richard Hockin <richardhockin35@outlook.com>

Subject: Re: Village Planted Trees

Hi Richard,

Yes, the trees were planted as part of 12 cherries planted around the parish at the request of the Parish Council by DCC a few years ago .

I know one was knocked over by cars parking on the corner when the Avant homes development first started. The supports were never very good either.

I will need to refer the request to remove and replace
to PC and then discuss with DCC about replacement and cost.

What would you suggest as a resilient tree that will tolerate exposed conditions?

Avril

On Tue, 1 Oct 2024 at 14:51, Richard Hockin <richardhockin35@outlook.com> wrote:

Hi Avril,

I am doing some factfinding and hope you are able to help....

I attach photographs of two ornamental cherry trees located at the junction of Benridge Bank and the A690. They would have been planted with the best of intentions but unfortunately now do nothing for the attractiveness of the village and are clearly in need of removal and hopefully replacement.



As a first port of call I have been in touch with Sue Mullinger at Durham CC, whose role includes tree planting. She has responded that these trees have not been planted under one of the schemes that she runs.

Would they have been planted under a scheme that the Parish Council has implemented in the past? If so, would it be possible for them to be removed and replaced with resilient trees that tolerate exposed conditions.

If the trees have not been planted under a Parish Council scheme do you know who might be responsible for them?

Thank you,

Richard

Richard Hockin