

Saxilby with Ingleby Parish Council

Non-confidential

Planting of Flowering Cherry Trees – Torksey Avenue

Report to: Planning and Development Committee

Report by: Clerk

Power/duty which decision falls under: Highways Act 1980, section 96

Which council objective(s) it falls under:

- Protect and enhance our green spaces and street scene
- Preserve and enhance heritage assets, environmental assets and wildlife
- Improve the well-being of residents
- To recognise the climate and biodiversity emergency and it should be considered as the basis of all decision and policy making

Public Sector Equality Duty

Consider how policies/decisions affect those protected under the Equality Act)

The proposed tree planting is considered to have a neutral or positive impact across all protected groups, improving the local environment and accessibility of public realm spaces without disadvantaging any identified group.

Duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity

The introduction of additional trees is expected to provide ecological benefits including habitat creation, pollinator support, and increased urban canopy cover, contributing positively to local biodiversity objectives.

Consideration on carbon reduction:

Tree planting helps the Council's environmental aims by absorbing carbon dioxide, improving local air quality, and helping the area cope better with the effects of climate change over time. Although each individual tree has a small impact, planting more trees across the parish adds up and makes a more meaningful contribution to reducing carbon and improving environmental resilience.

Does the report consider any new activity? If 'Yes', has a risk assessment, including risk management proposals, been included for consideration and adoption by the council?

(Financial Regulation 17b)

No.

REPORT

Purpose

To seek approval for the planting of flowering cherry trees along Torksey Avenue, within existing grass verges where gaps in tree coverage have been identified.

Background

A review of the street scene along Torksey Avenue has identified several gaps in the existing tree line. Enhancing these areas through additional planting would contribute to visual amenity, seasonal interest, and local biodiversity. Flowering cherry trees are considered suitable due to their ornamental value, manageable size, and compatibility with residential streets.

Currently pink and white blossom trees alternate along the street, but there are some gaps where it appears trees were planted but have failed over time

Proposal

To undertake a programme of planting flowering cherry trees in identified verge gaps along Torksey Avenue.

Prior to implementation, residents adjacent to the proposed planting locations will be contacted to seek their views and to identify any localised constraints or concerns that may affect suitability. Consent will also be confirmed from the Highways Authority.

Further locations across the parish with identified planting opportunities will be brought forward to the Planning and Development Committee for consideration in due course, in readiness for the forthcoming autumn planting programme.

Financial Implications

The works will be funded from the council's existing tree budget.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. Approve the planting of flowering cherry trees along Torksey Avenue in identified verge gaps, where no constraints or concerns exist and subject to Highways Authority permission.
2. Agree for planting to be scheduled and implemented by officers in the forthcoming autumn planting season.

