

Ashover Tree Group

Summary Minutes of meeting: 17 May 2018

The Minutes of last meeting on 15 March 2018 were agreed with actions carried forward as follows:

1. Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)

- 1.1 Our plans to re-survey NEDCC's TPO plans (with their blessing), have been described in previous Minutes.
- 1.2 NEDCC have now provided us with a CD record (2 x copies) of their latest TPO records for the parish from which we now have hard copies. There is a need to validate these as the plans and schedules don't marry up in every case – some have one and not the other.
- 1.3 The Tree Warden is progressing the extrapolation of TPO data onto A4 size maps of the parish.
- 1.4 Noted that there may be local trees in the parish, currently lacking TPO protection, which might be suitable for nomination. Description / location / photos to be sent to the secretary who will put a proposal together for submission to NEDCC.

2. Expert input

Currently no speakers lined up for future meetings but we can review this later in the year.

3. Planning applications

Planning applications. Status of current, relevant, applications is as follows:

- 3.1 The hydro: pruning of a giant redwood proposed. The Tree Warden is sympathetic but will inspect and confirm
- 3.2 Jetting Street - Planning application for 6 houses. May have impact on both trees and archaeology. Agreed the group would meet for a walk around the general area on 24 May to form views.
Apparently there is an archaeology survey for the area and this will be checked/shared
- 3.3 Ravensnest – Butterley. Rumoured there has been an application to remove bushes/hedges (3 x hawthorns?) Unclear whether there are obligations to report such intentions. Need to monitor for any formal applications.

3. Member reports for the areas they represent around Ashover.

Highoredish. Nothing to report.

Ashover Show-ground.

A map of the Show-field has been used to plot what trees are there at the moment, the types of tree and their current condition. Alongside the tree survey report this will help us shape a proposal for the land-owner and the Show Committee on what a programme of additional planting might look like. See also Item 6 below regarding WW1 Commemoration.

Kelstedge. Amber House: limited tree clearance continues but no sign yet of it opening as a wedding venue. Otherwise, nothing to report.

Fabrick. Recent working party to clear footpaths and relocate some whips for future re-planting.

Great Eastern Plantation. Saplings / whips will be re-planted at some point, once protection from the cows is available.

Milltown. See above comments about planning application for Jetting Street. Response may include TPO applications.

4. Tree planting.

We have a selection of tree saplings, recently supplemented by whips from the Fabrick and the 'nursery' has more capacity. These are available for re-planting around the parish, especially on Common Land such as Hill Road, Great Eastern etc.

5. Working party

Thursday morning working parties, around 10.00 – 12.00 continues. Current focus is on:

- Hill Road.
- Brash clearance on the slopes above Demonsdale – so people walking along the track will be able to see the caves again.
- initial work has begun clearing brash at targeted sites.

6. 2018 centenary marking the end of WW1. Suggested that next year's anniversary could perhaps be celebrated in the village by the planting of a tree(s) accompanied by a suitable plaque. This was raised with the Parish Council and we have been asked to progress this as a project.

Ashover show-ground may be a suitable site for commemoration with some new trees and we have flagged possible budgetary implications with parish clerk.

Possible engagement/involvement with local school raised and the secretary will pursue this with head-teacher.

7. Common Land. Agreed we should collate the information we have and explore how we might tidy up each site and assess suitability for planting some of the whips we've been keeping in our 'nursery'.

Co-ordination of maps/schedules to yet to be completed.

Updates on individual sites discussed during the meeting.

8. AOB

None

Date of next meeting: 7.30, Thursday, 19 July 2018.