

WHPC Meeting 6th February 2024

Agenda Item 24/060

Another Landmark Tree for West Hill?

For Consideration: To consider the Devon Wildlife's offer of a Landmark Tree.

Background

Devon Wildlife is offering a of a Landmark Tree to every parish in Devon. This is a tree to be planted in a community space that can act as a focal point and be enjoyed by everyone.

Over the 5 years of the Saving Devon's Treescapes project (which started in 2020), Devon Wildlife plan to plant and nurture 250,000 trees outside of woodlands to help combat the devastating affect Ash Dieback is having on the landscape with a significant proportion of ash trees due to die in the coming years.

In 2020 WHPC accepted a similar offer and planted a [Landmark Tree](#) at Courtfield Close to replace the 1950's Coronation Tree which had died. Courtfield Close is also the location of another tree planted by WHPC to mark the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Both trees are oak trees.

Thanks to the kind attention of residents of Courtfield Close both trees are now established and growing well.

Issue

Such offers present a challenge as WHPC's doesn't own any land. EDDC have previously kindly granted permission for the trees to be planted on their land at Courtfield Close.

The Offer

Devon Wildlife have 50 trees available now, and these are being offered to East Devon, Torridge and North Devon recipients to be planted in a community space that can act as a focal point and be enjoyed by everyone. For example, some of the parishes that received trees in previous years linked the planting to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Queen's Green Canopy, or King Charles III's coronation. Local Councils are encouraged mark a national event or commemorate a local event or person.

The young trees are 1.2m – 2m tall. Half of the trees are potted and half bare-root and all need to be planted before the end of March (asap for the bare-rooted ones). The trees can be collected from the tree nursery at Meeth Quarry nature reserve, near Hatherleigh, by prior arrangement or they can be delivered. The tree will be supplied with a tree planting guide, stakes, tree ties and protection

The trees will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If demand exceeds supply this season there will be opportunities in the next couple of years.

The species available are:- (see appendix 1 for details)

Silver birch (*Betula pendula/pubescens*),

Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*),

Rowan (*Sorbus acuparia*),

Small leaf lime (*Tilia cordata*),

Black Poplar (*Populus nigra*),

Alder buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*)

In addition, Devon Wildlife offer up to 20 orchard trees to plant in any space which Town/Parish Councils have permission for, and that can be enjoyed by the wider community. Stakes, rubber ties and protective spirals are also provided.

For Decision

- a. Does West Hill Parish Council wish to accept Devon Wildlife's offer of a Landmark Tree?

If yes,

- b. To propose a location for the tree to be planted and to seek the landowner's permission.
- c. To nominate the Council's preferred species.

Anne Oliver, Parish Clerk

30th January 2024

Source: RHS website



Rowan

(Sorbus aucuparia)

Size

↑ **Ultimate height**
Higher than 12 metres

🕒 **Time to ultimate height**
20–50 years

↔ **Ultimate spread**
4–8 metres

Growing conditions

Loam Sand

Moisture
Well-drained

pH
Acid, Neutral

Colour & scent

| | Stem | Flower | Foliage | Fruit |
|--------|------|--------|---------|-------|
| Spring | | 🌸 | 🌿 | |
| Summer | | | 🌿 | |
| Autumn | | | 🍂 | 🍒 |
| Winter | | | | |

Position

☀️ Full sun 🌿 Partial shade

Aspect

South-facing or North-facing or West-facing or East-facing

Exposure
Exposed or Sheltered

Hardiness ⓘ
H6

Source: RHS website



Alder Buckthorn

(Frangula alnus)

Size

↑ **Ultimate height**
8–12 metres

🕒 **Time to ultimate height**
20–50 years

↔ **Ultimate spread**
4–8 metres

Growing conditions



Chalk



Clay



Loam



Sand

Moisture

Moist but well-drained

pH

Acid, Alkaline, Neutral

Colour & scent

| | Stem | Flower | Foliage | Fruit |
|--------|------|--------|---------|-------|
| Spring | | 🌸🌼 | 🌿 | |
| Summer | | | 🌿 | |
| Autumn | | | 🌿 | 🍒🍒🍒 |
| Winter | | | | |

Position



Full sun



Partial shade

Aspect

North-facing or West-facing or South-facing or East-facing

Exposure

Exposed or Sheltered

Hardiness 📘

H6

Source: RHS website



Wild Cherry

(*Prunus avium*)

Size

↑ **Ultimate height**
Higher than 12 metres

🕒 **Time to ultimate height**
20–50 years

↔ **Ultimate spread**
Wider than 8 metres

Growing conditions

 Chalk  Clay  Loam  Sand

Moisture
Moist but well-drained, Well-drained

pH
Acid, Alkaline, Neutral

Colour & scent


| | Stem | Flower | Foliage | Fruit |
|--------|------|---|---|--|
| Spring | |  |  | |
| Summer | | |  | |
| Autumn | | |  |  |
| Winter | | | | |

Position

 Full sun

Aspect
North-facing or West-facing or East-facing or South-facing

Exposure
Exposed or Sheltered

Hardiness 
H6

Source: RHS website



Silver birch

(Betula pendula)

Size

↑ **Ultimate height**
Higher than 12 metres

🕒 **Time to ultimate height**
20–50 years

↔ **Ultimate spread**
Wider than 8 metres

Growing conditions

 Chalk  Clay  Loam  Sand

Moisture
Moist but well-drained, Well-drained

pH
Acid, Alkaline, Neutral

Colour & scent

| | Stem | Flower | Foliage | Fruit |
|--------|---|---|---|---|
| Spring |  |  |  | |
| Summer |  | |  |  |
| Autumn |  | |  | |
| Winter |  | | | |

Position

 Full sun  Partial shade

Aspect
North-facing or South-facing or West-facing or East-facing

Exposure
Exposed or Sheltered

Hardiness ⓘ
H7

Source: RHS website



Small-leaved lime

(Tilia cordata)

Size

↑ **Ultimate height**
Higher than 12 metres

🕒 **Time to ultimate height**
20–50 years

↔ **Ultimate spread**
4–8 metres

Growing conditions

🌱 Chalk

🏠 Clay

🌱 Sand

Moisture
Moist but well-drained, Well-drained

pH
Alkaline, Neutral

Colour & scent

Fragrance: 🌸 Flower

| | Stem | Flower | Foliage | Fruit |
|--------|------|--------|---------|-------|
| Spring | | | | |
| Summer | | | | |
| Autumn | | | | |
| Winter | | | | |

Position

☀ Full sun ☁ Partial shade

Aspect
West-facing or East-facing or South-facing

Exposure
Sheltered

Hardiness ⓘ
H6