



## **ALLBROOK PARISH COUNCIL**

### **TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY**

This policy identifies the council's approach to the management of trees on land owned by the Parish Council. It is intended to act as a point of reference for the public, Councillors and Council employees to ensure a clear, consistent and structured approach to the management of trees.

If a tree falls and causes injury or damage its owner could be held negligent if they had omitted to take sufficient care of the tree. As landowner, the Council has a duty of care to ensure that all of the trees on its land are kept in an acceptable condition and do not put persons and property at unreasonable risk.

The Council will ensure that inspections of trees are carried out by a qualified person on all land owned by the Parish Council. These inspections are to be carried out on a yearly basis, unless the need arises for more frequent inspections, such as heavy rainfall and/or high winds. The survey will prioritise any work needed as high, medium or low risk and acted on accordingly.

Only dead, dying, diseased or dangerous trees will be removed or made safe, whichever is deemed necessary.

Consideration will always be given to the impact of any tree pruning or felling on local wildlife.

Tree work will be scheduled to take place in periods where the impact on local wildlife is minimised. Dead wood will be left standing or on the ground in habitat piles wherever appropriate.

A prioritised programme of tree work will be maintained based on the inspections and with an emphasis on planned rather than reactive tree maintenance.

The Council will ensure all tree works are carried out to BS3998/ 2010 British Standards for Tree Work (and any subsequent revisions). Tree pruning will only be undertaken where there is sound justification for the work. Where pruning is undertaken it will be in accordance with good arboriculture practice to ensure minimum harm to the tree and every effort will be made to ensure the general shape and character of each tree is retained.

The Council will not fell or prune trees on Council owned land solely to alleviate problems caused by natural and/or seasonal phenomena. The Council will not fell or prune trees for reasons of light.

The Council will not fell or prune trees solely for the reason that they are causing interference with television or satellite reception, unless complainants have taken

other measures to improve reception without success and it can be proven that pruning will improve reception.

In considering any action the Council will take account of the amenity value of the trees concerned.

The Council will consider any complaints or requests regarding trees on Council owned property, considering its tree management policy and/or advice from a qualified tree surgeon.

Adopted 22.06.2021 (CG)