

Sponsored & Adopted Tree Policy

Context

Since 2013 we have encouraged supporters of Crick Jubilee Wood to sponsor new trees or adopt existing trees. This approach has been hugely successful in enabling donors to support the development of the woodlands and help finance our tree planting programmes. We are grateful for all of the support we have received in establishing and nurturing our woodland areas.

As the woodlands have steadily matured, we have now reached a point where the space available for new planting in both Jubilee and Millennium Woods has greatly reduced and where clusters of trees now need to be actively managed to maintain species diversity and healthy growth.

Need for a policy

We hope that all of our trees thrive; staying strong and healthy as they mature. As an actively managed woodland, however, there will be occasions when trees including our sponsored and adopted trees, may need to be removed.

This policy sets out the process should this need arise.

The decision to remove a sponsored or adopted tree will be made when:

- The tree is showing signs of disease, damage or distress and as a result may be a danger to visitors.
- The tree is growing too close to other less common species, which need to be preserved to maintain diversity of trees in our woodland.
- The tree is growing too close to a tree of the same variety and similar size which is considered to be a better specimen and a longer-term prospect for woodland management.

Policy on the management of sponsored and adopted trees

Before any action is taken to remove a tree, we will always attempt to contact the sponsor/adopter named on our application form, using the contact details provided, or more recent records if available. We will use email, post and a phone number if known, to make contact. Despite using all methods available, if a reply is not received from a sponsor/adopter within 3 months we will continue with our proposed action. In which case, we will transfer their sponsorship/adoption to an alternative tree, of a similar variety and age, preferably in a nearby location.

Wherever possible, we will consult with the sponsor/adopter and will always aim to give a clear explanation of the reason(s) why the tree needs to be removed.

We will invite the sponsor/adopter to transfer their sponsorship/adoption to an alternative, existing tree, of a similar variety and age.