

# BAMPTON PARSIH COUNCIL

## Tree and Bush Policy

### Introduction

Bampton Parish Council recognises that trees and bushes around the village are valued by the public, and need to be properly managed.

The trees and bushes in the village comprise a mixture of types, with a mixture of ownerships, being the responsibility of the owners and occupiers of houses and businesses, Oxfordshire County Council, West Oxfordshire District Council, and the Bampton Parish Council. There are other trees and bushes which lie in land the ownership of which is unknown, but still need management.

### Policy

The Council shall inspect and maintain its trees and bushes to ensure it meets its legal obligations, and to maintain public safety. In this respect, the Council shall identify the location of the trees and bushes for which it is responsible, and, as far as is practicable, monitor their condition. In addition, where the Council identifies a tree or bush within the village, for which it is not responsible, but where its condition is such that it raises concerns, it will pass the details to the relevant Local Authority for their review.

Tree and Bush maintenance shall be carried out on the basis of *condition*, and can be characterised as falling to two categories, namely *Planned Maintenance*, and *Corrective Maintenance*.

*Planned maintenance* will be carried out based on the current inspection results.

*Corrective Maintenance* will be carried out in response to ad hoc reports of suspected problems, if the condition of the tree or bush, when inspected so requires.

The *criteria* by which the Council will carry out maintenance on trees and bushes which are its responsibility are as follows;

#### Safety

(Mandatory)

Where there is deemed to be significant risk to the public.

Where there is deemed to be significant risk to property.

To comply with The Highways Act 1980, S154

#### Tree and bush Health

(optional)

Where work is required to prolong life or promote the development of a good tree or bush structure.

Work shall not be carried out solely to alleviate problems such as;

- Shade, sunlight
- Falling leaves, blossom, sap, fruit, nuts, seed, bird droppings.
- Television reception.
- Lawn and garden issues.
- View.

#### Compliance

To comply with the policy, subsequent to a full survey of all trees and bushes by Bampton Parish Council, the Council will retain the services of, and act on the advice of a qualified Arboriculture Consultant as necessary.

Dated .....12<sup>th</sup> December 2012