



Ross-on-Wye Town Council Memorial Tree Planting and Donation Policy

INTRODUCTION

One way to remember the life of a friend or loved one is through the arrangement of a longstanding tribute, a reminder that they are not forgotten, and the donation of a tree is often considered on these occasions.

Donating a tree may also be considered to commemorate an anniversary or an historical event.

Ross-on-Wye Town Council is currently seeking offers of sponsorship for tree planting.

1. Types and size of trees suitable for donating

Ross-on-Wye sits within a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and also is a Site of Special Scientific Interest as well as being within a Conservation Area. Many areas of the town's open space sit on the edge of the beautiful River Wye which is sometimes prone to flooding and therefore careful consideration must be given to the species and location of the trees that we plant to ensure that they are suitable for the specified location.

The Council can provide a standard tree that has a 12-14 cm stem circumference at 1m height from the ground, generally this provides a tree which is between 3.6m – 4.5m in overall height, depending upon species and cultivar. The cost of a tree varies depending on its size and type, but on average would cost around £250 for a planted tree with appropriate staking and planting compost. A list of example trees is shown on Pages 3-7 for you to make your selection.

The Council will arrange sourcing of and planting of the trees that are selected. The choice of tree species and planting locations available may be discussed with the donor should they wish.

Alternatively, a donor may contact a reputable nursery or garden centre and pay and arrange for them to plant a tree. In this case, full approval must be obtained from the Council of the species, size and location of the tree prior to planting. Please note that should the tree be sourced independently there will be an initial cost for the maintenance and watering which will be discussed with you on application.

2. Location of donated trees

The Council's approved designated location for memorial trees is Caroline Symonds Gardens, on Wye Street. Within that area the location of the tree will very much depend on the soil conditions, exposure to prevailing winds, nearby water courses, proximity to buildings, underground services, road layout, etc. All trees that are planted will receive an appropriate level of management required to produce a well-balanced, mature specimen in time. If more than one tree is being donated, the planting will be carried out in such a manner that trees are given adequate space to develop independently. This may result in the planting being spread across several locations should insufficient room be available at a given site.

Undoubtedly over the years Ross-on-Wye has lost many of its trees due to development. Tree planting will greatly improve the appearance of the area and restore some of the trees that have already been lost as well as encourage more wildlife and support biodiversity and we see this initiative, along with the Council's policy of protecting trees wherever possible as a way of redressing this situation.

3. On-going maintenance of donated trees

It will be necessary, especially in the first year of planting, for donated trees to be kept well-watered for which the Council will take responsibility.

The checking and subsequent removal of tree stakes and ties required for the establishment of the young tree and any formative pruning will be carried out by the council's staff or by a suitably qualified contractor appointed by the Council.

Donated trees will be the responsibility of the Town Council for the lifetime of the tree and will be included in the Town Council's Tree Condition Survey and Risk Management Plan. If a tree fails, for whatever reason, it will be removed or remedial works carried out as appropriate. In such situations the Council would aim to contact the donor and update wherever possible. It should be noted the Town Council will not replace trees which fail, however the opportunity to donate a replacement tree will wherever possible be offered to the original donor.

4. Plaques and inscriptions

Trees may be dedicated with an engraved plaque, at the expense of the donor. If the dedication plaque becomes vandalised or goes missing it will be the responsibility of the donor to make good or replace. Prior to the erection of a dedication plaque, the size, shape and type of plaque and wording used, must be approved by the Town Council to ensure its suitability for the location.

5. Delivery and planting





Trees will be planted by the Town Council's grounds staff at locations agreed by all parties. If a metal tree guard is required, then this cost will be in addition to the original price to supply and plant the tree. The cost of tree guards may vary in price but will only be fitted in locations requiring this level of protection and this cost will be agreed prior to any planting agreement.





6. How to register for tree donation

Please make applications in writing to;

Operations Manager
Ross-on-Wye Town Council
The Corn Exchange
High Street
Ross-on-Wye
HR9 5HL



Reviewed by the Amenities Sub- Committee, January 2024

	<p><i>Alnus glutinosa</i></p> <p>common alder</p> <p>A deciduous tree to 25m, broadly conical in habit when young, with grey-purple buds and young catkins conspicuous in winter and rounded bright green leaves.</p>
	<p><i>Fagus sylvatica</i></p> <p>common beech</p> <p>Large, vigorous deciduous tree reaching 30m in height, with a broad, spreading crown. Leaves broadly elliptic, yellow-green in spring, rich golden copper to russet-brown in autumn. Small, green flowers in early spring, are followed by bristly fruits (nuts)</p>
	<p><i>Fagus sylvatica</i></p> <p>Atropurpurea</p> <p>copper beech</p> <p>Large deciduous beech trees reaching about 30m in height over time. Grown for their deep purple leaves, which become reddish copper in autumn.</p>
	<p><i>Betula nigra</i> 'Cully'</p> <p>black birch 'Cully'</p> <p>'Cully' a vigorous deciduous tree with creamy-brown, peeling bark and shiny dark green leaves turning yellow in autumn.</p>

	<p><i>Prunus padus</i></p> <p>bird cherry</p> <p><i>P. padus</i> is a large deciduous tree with toothed, ovate leaves turning yellow in autumn, and pendant racemes of fragrant white flowers 1cm wide in late spring, followed by small, bitter black fruits.</p>
	<p><i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i></p> <p>horse chestnut</p> <p>A large, broad-crowned deciduous tree. Leaves large, with 5-7 leaflets, turning red-brown early in autumn. Flowers creamy-white with a yellow spot that turns red with age. Fruit large, spiny.</p>
	<p><i>Castanea sativa</i></p> <p>sweet chestnut</p> <p>A large vigorous deciduous tree with rugged, grooved bark and glossy, serrate, oblong-lanceolate leaves to 20cm in length. Male catkins to 15cm in length, yellowish, followed by spiny fruits containing edible nuts</p>
	<p><i>Juglans regia</i></p> <p>common walnut</p> <p>A medium-sized, broad-crowned deciduous tree. Leaves with 5-7 large oblong leaflets, aromatic when bruised. Male catkins to 10cm in length; fruits green, globose, 5cm in width, with edible kernel</p>

		<p><i>Carpinus betulus</i></p> <p>common hornbeam</p> <p>A large deciduous tree developing a fluted grey trunk. Leaves 5-8cm long, ovate, conspicuously ribbed, turning yellow in autumn. Catkins open in spring, followed by hop-like fruiting catkins to 8cm. Good for woodland settings.</p>
		<p><i>Tilia x europaea</i></p> <p>common lime</p> <p>A large, deciduous tree reaching over 30m. The asymmetric heart-shaped leaves are green turning yellow in autumn. Highly fragrant flowers in summer are cream-green but scarcely visible. In the winter, the young, bare twigs are red-bronze</p>
		<p><i>Quercus robur</i></p> <p>common oak</p> <p>Q. robur is a large deciduous tree developing a magnificent, broad crown, the leaves with shallow, rounded lobes, turning reddish-brown in autumn. Inconspicuous yellow-green catkins among the young leaves</p>
		<p><i>Quercus rubra</i></p> <p>red oak</p> <p>Q. rubra is a fast-growing large deciduous tree with an open, spreading crown and broad leaves to 22cm in length, turning red or red-brown in autumn. Flowers greenish, inconspicuous</p>

	<p><i>Sorbus aucuparia</i></p> <p>rowan</p> <p><i>S. aucuparia</i> is an upright deciduous tree with pinnate leaves turning yellow in autumn, and flat clusters of white flowers in late spring, followed by orange-red berries in early autumn</p>
	<p><i>Salix babylonica</i></p> <p>Babylon weeping willow</p> <p>A deciduous tree, to 12m high and wide, with a spreading crown of weeping branches. Leaves are long, narrow and finely toothed, green with blue-grey undersides. Slender catkins are produced alongside the new leaves in spring</p>
	<p><i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i></p> <p>sycamore</p> <p>A large, fast-growing, resilient, deciduous tree with dark green, five-lobed leaves 10-20cm long. Yellow-green, catkin-like flowers in spring are followed by bunches of green, winged fruit</p>
	<p><i>Populus nigra</i> 'Italica' (m)</p> <p>Lombardy poplar</p> <p>A large, vigorous, narrowly columnar deciduous tree to 30m tall, with bright green ovate leaves and crimson male catkins before the leaves open in early spring</p>

	<p><i>Taxodium distichum</i></p> <p>swamp cypress</p> <p>T. distichum is a deciduous coniferous tree to 20m or more, with a conical crown, fibrous red-brown bark and soft, feathery, light green foliage turning rich yellow-brown in autumn. Small ovoid cones</p>
	<p><i>Acer rubrum</i></p> <p>red maple</p> <p>An oval to round-headed, deciduous tree about 10m tall. The 3-5 lobed palmate are leaves to 10cm long. The new spring growth is reddish-green, maturing to bright green in summer, then turning brilliant, fiery red in autumn if the weather is reliably cold. Upright clusters of tiny red flowers are borne in spring followed by dark red winged fruits in autumn. This selection keep its autumn tones for longer than other cultivars and its canopy especially symmetrical in shape</p>