

**Notes on the
Open Meeting
Trees for Tomorrow
Chapel School Room
3rd December 2019 at 7pm**

1 Attendance

14 people signed the attendance sheet

2 Apologies

Four people sent their apologies

3 Introduction

D Simpson welcomed people to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

The Parish Council (RPC) have recently approved a note submitted to them proposing a Trees for Tomorrow programme to run for the life of the current RPC

RPC would encourage a group to be formed along the lines of the Care for our Village group and RPC had agreed some funding (in the £100s). Being a group under RPC would mean insurance was covered and there would be no need to have a bank account.

A member of the Care for our Village group confirmed the benefit of such an arrangement and the group operated with only a "light touch" from RPC.

RPC have agreed to become a Charter member of the Woodland Trust

One of the purposes of the meeting was to establish a steering group.

It was important to cover the whole Parish and not just the main settlements.

Although the programme was called Trees for Tomorrow, the programme would also cover hedges.

It was anticipated that a range of tree species and sizes would be planted. Any in well used public space, e.g. the Green, were likely to be at least 1.5/2m tall, while in other locations they might be small saplings.

A number of people/organisations have offered to sponsor a tree.

A number of people have offered trees.

All sections of the Scouts have offered to help plant the trees.

The School has been approached and awaiting a reply.

RPC has limited amount of land, so other landowners (private, commercial, public, sports club) would need to be involved for a significant number of trees to be planted.

Those on the initial mailing list have been sent an edited version of the paper submitted to RPC and a series of images from Google Maps/Google Street View of potential areas for trees within the Village. This was not an exhaustive list. At least four trees and a large bush shown on the images were no longer present.

DS will add all those who left an email address on the sign in sheet to the mailing list.

The programme has a page on RPC's web site

<http://www.rudbyparishcouncil.org.uk/trees-for-tomorrow.php>

An email address has also been set up for the group
hr.trees.for.tomorrow@gmail.com

2 Discussion

Among the items discussed were :-

- Undertaking an audit of the trees in the Parish - potential cost - possible funding sources/help
- The use of a drone to survey the area
- Any trees planted on RPC land would need to be added to the annual tree survey undertaken by RPC of trees on their land
- There were potentially three categories of land for planting :-
 1. Public land (e.g. the Village Green)
 2. Private land close to public footpaths/roads or very clearly visible from public footpaths/roads
 3. Private land not very visible from public footpaths/roads
- All three options were considered to have merit.
 1. Public - Amenity value, benefit wildlife, help the climate crisis, protect/enhance green infrastructure/corridors
 2. Private - Less amenity value than 1, benefit wildlife, help the climate crisis, protect/enhance green infrastructure/corridors, protect the landscape character

3. Private (Limited visibility) - No amenity value, benefit wildlife, help the climate crisis, protect/enhance green infrastructure/corridors, potential for significant protection/enhancement of the landscape character (e.g. river banks, additional hedgerows)

- Any planting on public land will need to take into account the need for trimming/management and additional leaf fall.
- The Tennis Club has space for some planting
- Two landowners in Skutterskelfe would welcome hedging and trees on their land
- Examples of tree planting proposals nearby were mentioned; e.g. trees along the flood banks in Stokesley, hedging in Great Ayton
- Potential areas for planting within the Village were considered
- There was a strong expression of support for the initiative
- A question was raised about how large the Steering Group might be and when it might first meet
- Bearing in mind people's availability, if there was a reasonably large steering group then it would be easier to have meetings with a sufficient number of people in attendance. It would also mean that work could be split between groups of two/three people.
- It was hoped to hold a meeting before Christmas as the window for planting bare root stock is winter.
- Nine people volunteered for the Steering Group