

Sherwood's Landscape of Trees and Hedges project

Why do we need this project?

Trees and hedgerows are a vital component of Sherwood's farmed landscape. We know that they are important not only for their wildlife and landscape value, but also for their cultural and emotional connections to people. However, there is limited information about the health of trees and hedgerows throughout Sherwood. This project will improve our knowledge whilst enthusing local people about what we have now and what we can improve for the future.

Informal observations suggest many of the remaining trees in Sherwood's farmed landscape are old, with few younger trees growing as potential replacements, however, we don't have much detailed data. This project will collect valuable data about the distribution and



condition of trees and hedges and provide a basis for encouraging and supporting better management of our existing trees and hedges. It will enthuse landowners and communities in planting a new generation of trees, including some that commemorate local legends and stimulate new community celebrations.

What are we going to do?

Tree and Hedgerow Survey

Working with landowners and land managers we will identify areas which would benefit from a tree and hedgerow survey. Trained volunteers will undertake surveys which will record information such as species, age, condition, numbers and location of hedgerow and landscape trees and will identify options and opportunities for new tree or hedge planting.

Land Owner Support

Using the tree and hedgerow survey data we will discuss with landowners the options and opportunities for new planting. A small grants scheme is available to support improvements such as tree and hedge planting, tree tagging and arboriculture work to significant landscape trees. This work will help sustain the visual appeal of the Sherwood landscape, so loved by local people and visitors to the area.

Community Celebrations

Community Groups and Parish Councils will be invited to propose the planting of new heritage trees. These will be significant trees for the future, planted on publicly accessible land and named to commemorate a local legend, character or story of interest. We will support the communities involved to organise a celebration event e.g. tree dressing, community picnic, music or drama – to link to the tree planting.

How can you help?

There are several ways you can get involved in this project:

1. Tree and Hedgerow Surveys

We are seeking volunteers to help us with survey work. We are following the advice issued by the UK Government and Public Health England and any close contact elements of this project are currently suspended. However, we still welcome enquiries from individuals, landowners and community groups wishing to get involved in the project or would like further information. When restrictions are lifted, we will provide training, support and the materials necessary so that you can carry out the 'health check' survey of a hedge and associated hedgerow trees.



2. Landowner Involvement

We want to work with farmers and landowners to look at the options for hedgerow and hedgerow tree management and the wider benefits hedges can provide. We shall be offering advisory visits; training and a small grant scheme is available to support works such as tree and hedge planting, tree tagging and arboricultural work to significant landscape trees.

3. Community Celebration



We are inviting community groups and parish councils to propose the planting of new heritage trees. These will be significant trees for the future, planted on publicly accessible land and named to commemorate a local legend, character or story of interest. We will support the communities involved to organise a celebration event e.g. tree dressing, community picnic, music or drama – to link to the tree planting

For further information – please contact nic.wort@nottscc.gov.uk