



# Ringshall Parish Council

## Tree Warden TOR

V1.0

## Version Control

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# Background

Tree Wardens can be volunteers appointed by the Parish Council to assist the Council in improving and increasing the provision of trees and hedges in the Parish. The Tree Wardens, not necessarily Parish Councillors, work to the terms of reference delineated below.

There is a national feeling that we should plant more trees, hedges and woodland and protect those we have already. This would improve air quality, mitigate climate change, reduce flooding and erosion, support wildlife - and visually enhance the environment.

Further background information on the role of a Tree Warden can be found at <https://www.suffolktreewardens.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/The-Role-of-a-Tree-Warden.pdf>

## The Role

1. The role of Tree Warden of the Parish Council is a voluntary position and the appointment of a volunteer will be confirmed each year at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, at the discretion of the Council.
2. Tree Wardens must work in accordance with the Parish Council's *Volunteering Policy* (when available).
3. Tree Wardens will discuss possible locations for new trees and/or hedges with the landowner and then, with the agreement of the landowner, bring preliminary proposals to the PC for consideration.
4. Discussions with landowners necessitate a sensitive approach and it being made clear by the Tree Wardens that they have no power to agree actions on their own account but must first obtain the agreement of the Parish Council.
5. In addition to proposing new plantings, Tree Wardens maintain a watching brief on the trees and hedges in our Parish on behalf of the Parish Council including advising on TPOs.
6. Any tree or hedge work undertaken by Tree Wardens must have the prior approval of the Parish Council.

7. Prior to any tree or hedge work being undertaken by Tree Wardens, the landowner must have confirmed in writing that no responsibility for maintenance will lie with the Parish Council.
8. Tree Wardens will investigate the possibility of obtaining grants for each scheme.
9. Trees and/or hedges may be planted by the Tree Wardens, themselves, or planted by others, as previously approved by the Parish Council.
10. As a volunteer working on behalf of the Council those appointed Tree Warden, will enjoy the cover provided by the Council's insurance policy.
11. The Tree Warden will be expected to join the Suffolk Tree Wardens Network.
12. The Tree Warden will abide by all the STWN advice over procedure and protocols, except where they directly conflict with this document.