

CIVIC AMENITIES COMMITTEE

DATE: 10th January 2020

REPORT OF: Events, Projects and Tourism Officer

SUBJECT: Tree Charter

PART I

Recommendation:

To consider whether officers should investigate actions that could be taken in response to the principles of the Tree Charter.

1. BACKGROUND

The call for a Tree Charter was initiated in 2015 by the Woodland Trust in response to the crisis facing trees and woods in the UK. Before the launch of the charter, there was no clear, unifying statement about the rights of people in the UK to the benefits of trees, woods and forests. The Tree Charter was launched at Lincoln Castle on 6th November 2017. It sets out the principles for a society in which people and trees can stand stronger together. The National Association of Local Councils has stated that local (town and parish) councils have a key part to play in protecting trees and woodland and believes they can do this by embedding the ten principles from the Tree Charter into their everyday practice.

The ten principles are:

- Sustain landscapes rich in wildlife
- Plant for the future
- Celebrate the power of trees to inspire
- Grow forests of opportunity and innovation
- Protect irreplaceable trees and woods
- Plan greener local landscapes
- Recover health, hope and wellbeing with the help of trees
- Make trees accessible to all
- Combat the threats to our habitats

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- Strengthen our landscapes with trees.

Details on the Tree Charter are given at: <https://treecharter.uk/> and a copy of the principles is attached to this report. More in depth information and a resource kit is available on the nalc.gov.uk website at: <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/our-work/treecharter>.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation is to consider whether officers should investigate actions that could be taken in response to the principles of the Tree Charter. These would be presented to a future meeting of the committee for consideration to then make possible recommendations to the full Town Council.

Angie Weatherhead
Events, Projects & Tourism Officer