

Planting and Maintenance of Trees on the Greensward



Objectives

- To lay out clearly the guiding principles for decisions.
- To maintain and enhance the appearance of The Greensward and not detract from its prime recreational purpose.
- To lay out clearly the limit of the number of trees that can be planted.
- To establish clearly the responsibilities for maintenance, repair and replacement of donated trees.
- To be respectful and easily understood by applicants.

Application process

- All requests should be made in writing to the chair of the Residents Association (RA) who will pass on the request to the company directors of East Dean Greensward Ltd. (EDGL).

Terms

- Requests can only be made by current or past residents of East Dean and Friston.
- EDGL will make the decision as to whether there is a suitable spot on which a tree can be planted.
- Given a suitable spot has been identified and agreed, if someone is donating a tree in memory of a relative EDGL should be responsible for ordering and planting the tree, not the donor. This is so that a good planting policy can be enforced and good quality stock, complete with plant passports, can be mandatory.
- For newly-planted trees, EDGL will only choose native species with characteristics such as suitability for sites with medium to chalky soils with a moderate level of exposure, and that do not become too large (tall or with wide canopy).
- For the time being EDGL will not plant any flowering cherries (*Prunus*) owing to their apparent disease and drought susceptibility as well as their short longevity. This will also apply to replacements.

- EDGL will provide a list of approved species that are wildlife friendly, such as with autumn berries or flowers suitable for wild pollinators, that tolerate chalky soils and that will more easily withstand the drier summer conditions. See Appendix 1.
- In general, EDGL aim to only plant larger saplings (2+ m) in order to reduce mortality and allow the tree to get established rapidly.
- When trees are planted, a hole should be dug at least 60 x 60 cm wide by 40 cm deep, and some form of soil conditioner added (e.g. compost, manure) in order to improve establishment and ensure initial ability to withstand occasional dry periods.
- Planting should be done in the autumn to allow the root system to develop before spring growth and any summer droughts.
- Newly-planted trees should be watered during dry periods as required for at least the first two years.
- EDGL will undertake an annual inspection of all trees, write a brief report which will be publicly available, and decide on any necessary management required. Some jobs (removal of small branches, dead growth) will be undertaken by EDGL, while larger works will be undertaken by professional tree surgeons.

Adopted: March 2024

Review date: March 2026

APPENDIX 1

TREES FOR QUICK DRAINING CHALKY SOILS AND DROUGHT-TOLERANT

Medium sized trees:

- *Crataegus* (Hawthorn or May) - tough, drought- resistant trees. Flowers late spring. *Crataegus* species are shrubs or small trees mostly growing to 5–15 m (15–50 ft) tall.



- *Malus* (Ornamental Crab) - a wide range of varieties. Attractive flowers followed by fruits. Mature trees grow to around 10m in height.
- *Sorbus aucuparia* (Mountain Ash) - lovely summer flowers and attractive autumn berries. Mature trees can grow to 15 m in height.

Larger trees

- *Fagus* (Beech) - ideal for extreme alkaline soils, shallow rooted. Mature trees grow to a height of more than 40 m and develop a huge domed crown.
- *Carpinus* (Hornbeam) - like a small Beech. Mature trees can reach a height of 30 m.

