

Yaxham Village Amenities Association (YVAA) is the registered charity running Yaxham Village Hall, Recreation ground and facilities  
Charity registration number 275133

## **Policy for Trees and the Maintenance of Public Open Spaces**

### **Trees**

1. YVAA wish to protect and enhance the Parish's environment and will maintain the trees for which it is responsible and encourage tree planting in suitable locations.
  
2. For trees on YVAA owned land:
  1. The Trustees will agree and approve all significant work to be carried out.
  2. The Trustees will
    - (1) Where applicable, take advice from Breckland Council's Arboriculture Officer;
    - (2) Ensure that the proposed work conforms to relevant legislation, in particular that applying to the Conservation Area;
    - (3) Ensure that the work is carried out by suitably qualified and equipped persons;
    - (4) Where the anticipated expenditure exceeds £500, obtain three quotations;
    - (5) Proposals to plant trees on YVAA-owned land will be brought before the YVAA with information regarding the eventual height and spread, and the suitability of the species on the site;
    - (6) Work will not be carried out on trees that are not located within YVAA-owned land, except with the landowner's permission;
    - (7) An annual visual inspection of the site will take place in the spring, and the advice of a qualified arboriculturist will be sought if concerns are raised;
    - (8) A full inspection will take place every two years by a qualified arboriculturist.

### **Maintenance of Public Open Spaces**

1. YVAA will only cut overhanging branches with the explicit permission of the owner of the land from which the branches are

growing, and with the permission of the owner of the land, eg the drive over which the branches are hanging;

2. YVAA will endeavour to remove nettles and other plant growth from the car park;
3. Although YVAA own the Play Space, Yaxham Parish Council have signed a contract that runs until May 2025, with a review in May 2023, for the upkeep and maintenance of the Play Space. Under this contract, the Parish Council is responsible for the safety of all play equipment, and reviews thereof.
4. YVAA will ensure the Memorial Garden is kept in good order. We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Date Policy Reviewed: September 2022

Next Review Date: September 2023