

# NKDC Free Trees

## NON-CONFIDENTIAL

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Report to: Parish Council 2/2025

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NKDC had two schemes available offering free trees to communities.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of North Kesteven District Council being established they were offering 50 single specimen trees to communities around the district. They were also offering free fruit trees to establish community orchards in North Kesteven as part of the Coronation Living Heritage Fund.

They specified that sites should be accessible to the public to some extent (e.g. amenity land, parks, village greens) and there should be plans for community engagement (such as tree planting or fruit picking).

<https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/climate-change/natural-environment/trees-communities>

We were recently notified by a member of the Cricket Club that they had applied for and obtained 10 fruit trees under this scheme, and they wanted to plant them at Potterhanworth Road, along the existing tree line around the perimeter of the playing field. The trees have been temporarily planted in their garden pending a decision from council as to whether these can be planted at Potterhanworth Road and if so, where.

The resident has offered to maintain them, but council needs to consider the longer-term implications of these additional trees.

We have just been notified by NKDC that a single tree (Whitebeam) has been requested on behalf of the parish council, with the intention of it being planted at Station Road, near to the pavilion and play park, but away from the accessible footpath. NKDC are awaiting formal agreement from council before delivery of the tree to Metheringham Depot (where it will need to be collected).

Council needs to consider whether we are happy to receive this tree and whether the suggested location will be suitable. Any agreed location should not impact the sightline of the CCTV at the pavilion (taking into account the tree's potential growth).

### **Recommendation:**

1. Council considers the offer of 10 fruit trees for Potterhanworth Road, taking into account location and future maintenance.

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2. Council considers the offer of a single Whitebeam for Station Road, taking into account location and future maintenance.