



**BUCKINGHAM TOWN ACTION COMMISSION (TAC)
Tree, Hedgerow and Open Spaces Report**

Action Plan

Current – In place and continuing					
No	Action	Timescale	Led By	Summary progress against actions	RAG
C1	Confirm ownership of all open spaces within the Town Council area	End June 2017 <i>then continuous when required</i>	Environment Committee / Estates Manager / AVDC Green Spaces / Other land owners		Yellow
C2	Set maintenance priorities and create routine maintenance plans	To be set for each Financial Year	Environment Committee / Estates Manager / AVDC Green Spaces / Other land owners		Green
C3	Make use of Assets of Community Value designations to provide additional protection to open spaces when ownership is unclear	<i>When Necessary</i>	Environment Committee Action List		Green

Short Term – New Actions					
No	Action	Timescale	Led By	Summary progress against actions	RAG
S1	a) Contact local schools to create more interest in trees, hedgerows and green spaces b) encourage them to take part in activities and send / share success stories to raise public awareness	End June 2017	Town Clerk		
S2	Create Tree Warden information leaflet(s) and support pack, to include information from AVDC enforcement, Forestry Commission, Wildlife Trust.....; circulate to and train all Tree Wardens	Environment Committee 17/07/2017	Environment Committee / Deputy Town Clerk	Leaflet and information pack produced and available. Leaflet uploaded to website, and information pack circulated to existing tree wardens	Green



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Short Term – New Actions					
No	Action	Timescale	Led By	Summary progress against actions	RAG
S3	Create a Tree Warden Working Group a) Contact interested parties, identified through TAC survey; and existing tree wardens to determine availability & areas of preference to cover b) Determine training requirements and support needs c) Organise wardens according to location / availability Hold regular meetings & provide support to tree warden volunteers	a & b - June 2017 c & d - September 2017	Existing Tree Wardens / Environment Committee / Planning Committee	All existing tree wardens contacted to determine areas that they can cover. Work is ongoing to contact people who expressed an interest in becoming tree wardens, through the recent TAC survey.	
S4	Include outstanding trees in “Town Trails” leaflet	End July 2017	Buckingham Society / Tree Warden Working Group		
S5	Raise public awareness by publicising relevant information / leaflets on website, local forums, noticeboards etc... including links to relevant websites such as check-a-trade, trust a trader etc.	End August 2017 and Ongoing	Deputy Town Clerk	Leaflet uploaded to website, and posters displayed in Town Council noticeboards	
S6	Produce information for property owners detailing their legal responsibilities under the planning system (<i>utilise expected Tree Charter</i>)	End August 2017	Planning Committee Estates Manager		
S7	Organise an annual clean up event for green and open spaces, (<i>coordinate with River Rinse</i>)	October 2017	Town Centre & Events Committee		
S8	Encourage Conservation Groups to hold “information sessions” and invite people to visit areas and learn about conservation, and promote important areas of town	October 2017 and Ongoing	Conservation Groups / Environment Committee		



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Long Term - Ongoing Solutions			
No	Action	Timescale	Led By
L1	Create an arboreal, hedgerow and open space management plan, based on Vision and Design Statements	With Neighbourhood Plan	Environment Committee Planning Committee
L2	Identify ownership of all trees within the Town Council area <i>If possible, utilise previously available AVDC database of trees</i>	Ongoing	Environment Committee / Estates Manager / AVDC Green Spaces / Other land owners
L3	Identify ownership of all <u>planned</u> open spaces, tree or hedgerow developments	Each Planning Committee	Planning Committee
L4	Extend and complete the existing network of footpaths and embryonic linear parks, in conjunction with local authorities and community groups	When Possible	Planning Committee
L5	Provide advice to property owners: a) Give advice where possible, and when appropriate, regarding tree maintenance and planting b) provide information leaflets (<i>upload and make available leaflets from actions S2 & S6 when completed</i>)	a) Ongoing b) When actions S2 & S6 available	Tree Warden Working Group / All
L6	Encourage more tree wardens	Ongoing	Environment Committee / Tree Warden Working Group
L7	Encourage residents and local organisations to take ownership of maintenance	Ongoing	Environment Committee / Tree Warden Working Group
L8	Pay greater attention to boundaries when examining planning applications, particularly if boundaries contain trees and hedgerows making sure these are protected as far as possible <i>Consider requesting root protection zones, Tree Protection Orders, fenced off protection areas as standard when considering planning applications</i>	Each Planning Committee	Planning Committee