

Mabe Parish Council

Tree Policy

Approved by Council – 16 December 2021

Mabe Parish Council owns and manages the land and trees at the Memorial Garden, Antron Hill, Mabe. As landowner, the parish council has a duty of care to those visiting and neighbouring the Memorial Garden.

The trees at the Memorial Garden give environmental and amenity value to the area and provide a habitat for wildlife. They are viewed as being of value to the local community.

Work that Mabe Parish Council will carry out on Parish Council owned trees

The parish council will:

- Regularly inspect the trees, with an annual inspection to be carried out by an arboriculturalist and interim inspections carried out by Tree Warden/s
- Remove dead and dying trees, and those presenting a hazard
- Remove dangerous and damaged branches from trees.

Concerns about trees can be reported to the parish clerk : mabeparish@gmail.com

Work that Mabe Parish Council will not carry out on Parish Council owned trees

The parish council has no obligation to carry out the following tree works:

- Cut back branches overhanging private property
- 'Top' trees or remove branches to increase daylight or decrease height in relation to property
- Remove branches to trees affecting views or to prevent falling leaves
- Remove roots from drains or repair root damage to structures, where there is no evidence of the tree being the principle cause
- Remove branches nearly touching buildings, walls, roofs, etc

The parish council will avoid felling trees unless it is necessary. Tree felling will usually be for health and safety reasons, or to prevent the spread of disease in trees. Trees may be felled to prevent overcrowding, to improve habitats, or to remove a tree inappropriate to its location.

Neighbouring property owners can note that pruning may be carried out on trees not subject to a Tree Preservation Order where they overhang a neighbouring property, vertically in line with the boundary.

The parish council would usually have no objection to property owners carrying out tree work or engaging a contractor at their own expense, provided that the council (via the clerk) is notified of the proposed work and commencement date, and that permission is sought if work is to be carried out from council owned land.

The parish council does not carry out work on privately owned trees.