



Summary of public comments on draft tree planting plan for

Downend Park Farm Open Space

November 2021



A draft tree planting plan was circulated to immediate neighbours and posted in numerous locations around the open space. Thank you to everyone for taking the time to comment. Below is a summary of the comments and enquiries received; Bristol City Council's response; and any minor revisions to the plan if appropriate.

Areas of concern raised:

We have given these concerns consideration and provide our responses with any action below.

Comments:

1. Concern raised regarding public safety.
2. Two comments received about tree maintenance – especially in regards to October Lane and access to the garages.
3. What is the woodland species mix?
4. What is the orchard species mix?
5. Will the community garden have raised beds?
6. Will a footpath be incorporated into the design and what will happen if it becomes too wet and muddy?

Bristol city council response:

1. Smaller, woodland trees have been selected and sight and desire lines will remain in place to help with public safety.
2. OTPC run volunteer sessions every week throughout the year. Trees planted by OTPC will be maintained outside of the planting season by our volunteer group. We will take into account the comments received regarding keeping October Lane and the track to the garages free from overhanging branches by leaving a parallel section alongside each track unplanted.

3. The woodland will be small, native woodland species such as Hawthorn, Dogwood, Crab Apple and Viburnum.
4. The orchard will be a mix of apple, pear, plum and cherry.
5. The community garden will be coordinated by the local community group at a later date.
6. Yes, a footpath will be incorporated into the design. If the path becomes unusable in the wet/winter months, we can provide wood chip to help.

Tree plan revisions:

None

Other comments and enquiries

Comments:

1. We received eight comments of support.
2. The Council should allow more time to respond to consultations.
3. Could the orchard area be increased?
4. Could a rewilding element be included?
5. Why is there a short hedge section?

Bristol city council response:

1. Thank you – we are looking forward to planting on this site.
2. Our consultation response time for tree planting is three weeks as standard.
3. This will depend on the development of the community garden. OTPC can reassess the orchard size once the garden plans are finalised by the community group.
4. We feel that rewilding it is not appropriate for this site as it will be well used and maintained regularly.
5. The short hedge section on the plan aims to provide privacy to the properties opposite.

What happens next?

Planting will take place during the winter planting season between November 2021- March 2022.

Visit the Bristol City Council Webpage [for more information on this winter's One Tree Per Child community planting events.](#)

You can contact One Tree Per Child by:

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