

HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Sally Willis

<http://www.harpole-pc.gov.uk>

E-mail: clerk@harpole-pc.gov.uk

Members of the committee (Cllrs Gardner, Bess, Callaghan, Gibbins, Philips, Smethers, Taylor) are summoned to attend a meeting of the Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee to be held at the Methodist Chapel, School Lane, Harpole on Monday 30th June at 7.00pm for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Signed:

S Willis

Clerk & Proper Officer to Harpole Parish Council

Date: 24th June 2025

Members of the press and public are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

64/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.

65/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Councillors are invited to make any declarations in relation to items on the agenda.

66/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public are invited to address the Committee.

67/25 MINUTES

To receive and approve the minutes of Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 27th May 2025.

68/25 PLANNING

To consider a response to planning applications:

- a) [2025/2199/FULL](#) – Single Storey rear extension and internal layout alteration – 11 Chester Avenue
- b) [2025/2147/LBC](#) – Listed Building consent to replace damaged low level plaster and skirting boards – 72 High Street
- c) [2025/2249/FULL](#) – part demolition of existing wall and outbuilding and provision of new entrance into land – Land adjacent to 9a Upper High Street

69/25 EMERGENCY PLANNING

To receive updates from working party and to consider and approve any proposed actions

70/25 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

- a) To consider and approve next steps on road safety survey
- b) To consider correspondence regarding parking on Garners Way and what options are available to the Parish Council.
- c) To receive updates on Conversations with WNC regarding Larkhall Lane

HARPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

- d) To receive update on blocked drain on playing field
- e) To receive an update on outstanding issues

71/25 ALLOTMENTS

- a) To consider correspondence regarding speeding cars on allotment
- b) To receive updates for information only

72/25 STREET FURNITURE

- a) To consider if a new dog bin is needed on Glassthorpe Lane
- b) To consider if council would like to replace benches in the village
- c) To consider and approve draft of village maps
- d) To receive update on Defibrillator
- e) To receive updates on outstanding items

73/25 CHURCH

- a) Update on burial ground

74/25 CHRISTMAS TREE

To consider quotation for a Village Christmas Tree

75/25 CLIMATE CHANGE

To consider actions that can be taken by the parish council to help with climate change to enable a policy to be considered

76/25 ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 28th July 2025



Chairman – Mr F Smethers

Clerk – Mrs S Willis

www.harpole-pc.gov.uk

E-mail: clerk@harpole-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Planning, Highways and Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 30th June 2025, in the Methodist Chapel, School Lane at 7.00pm.

Present – Cllrs K Gardner (chair), M Callaghan, J Gibbins, S Philips, F Smethers, G Taylor

Also present – Clerk, Clement Nnadozie and 1 member of the public

Meeting Start: 7pm

64/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllrs Bess, Gibbins and Taylor were not present at the beginning of the meeting. Cllrs Gibbins and Taylor joined late. Cllr Bess offered apologies after the meeting.

65/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Re 68/25 c – Cllr Smethers is a trustee of Harpole Combined Charities who have submitted the application.

66/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public present

67/25 MINUTES

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of Planning, Highways & Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on 27th May 2025.

68/25 PLANNING

- a) 2025/2199/FULL – There were no objections to the application
- b) 2025/2147/LBC – There were no objections to the application
Cllrs Gibbins and Taylor and 1 member of the public joins the meeting.
- c) 2025/2249/FULL – There was discussion about whether there was a historical reason for the building to not be demolished. There was a discussion about impact on the highway. It was proposed that the clerk ask for a copy of the Highways response and to ask for a short deadline to allow discussion at the full council meeting on 14th July.

As a member of the public had joined after the public forum they were asked if they wished to address the council. The member of the public was just present to observe.

69/25 EMERGENCY PLANNING

There has been a meeting and there is a first draft of a plan detailing key persons. The group would like to run this past the emergency planning team at WNC but having issues contacting them. Clerk to chase. Clerk to be advised of ditches that we believe need clearing and to write to landowners asking them to clear. There is also a first responder in the village. Cllr Callaghan to pass details to clerk to contact asking if they are happy to have contact details in the plan.



70/25 HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

- a) A road safety survey had been circulated. A few minor typos to be corrected and then to be promoted for the parish to respond. Links to be sent to the school asking that they circulate to parents. Clerk to add link to facebook pages and to have printed copies available. If there is not much uptake this can be sent out again.
- b) Correspondence had been received asking if the service road on Garners Way can be widened as cars are driving up a high kerb and over the green to pass parked cars. This has been discussed in the past. Whilst the parish council own the green, the service road is the responsibility of Grand Union. There are many services running under the green which would prevent widening of the road. The road is a service road and is not intended to be parked on for long. It was agreed that the situation has not changed since the last time this was discussed and to advise the resident as such.
- c) There are no further updates on potential footpath on Larkhall Lane. WNC Cllr Bignell has been chasing Highways for a response but has not received any. Clerk to ask both WNC councillors to meet to show situation. Crossing Sandy Lane is very dangerous in the mornings when children are trying to get to the school.
- d) There had been a report about a blocked drain on the playing fields. This has been cleared but there has not been any considerable rain to see if this has solved the problem.
- e) Sandy Lane Relief Road is now running late. Council to push for a response and new timing.
Clerk to chase for pedestrian crossing signs on the A4500
Kislingbury happy to meet regarding the bridge. Cllrs Gibbins and Callaghan offered to meet. Clerk to arrange meeting.

71/25 ALLOTMENTS

- a) Tenant had asked for 5mph signs on the site. There are already 10mph signs. Other signs asking people to please drive slowly can be added.
- b) Clerk advised that the school have asked for access in August to allow cutting of hedges on their perimeter.

72/25 STREET FURNITURE

- a) A request had been made for a new dog bin on Glassthorpe Lane. It was thought that this could be discussed at the same time as benches on Glassthorpe Lane after the solar farm works have taken place. It was noted that there should be a bin in the new country park on Western Gate. Clerk to ask developer for permission.
- b) There was a program for renovating benches but it was thought that some benches need replacement. Councillors to take a look at which would take priority and to have a program of replacement. Clerk to ask handyman if there is possibility of bench on High Street / Glassthorpe Lane Green can be raised at all.
- c) Map was discussed and some amendments proposed. Clerk to contact artist.
- d) Cllr Smethers will pass contact details of electrician to clerk to arrange defibrillator installation at Manning Watts House
- e) Flagpole to be installed 16th July. Cllr Smethers details to be passed to the contractor.



73/25 CHURCH

- a) No updates on burial ground. Clerk to see if surveyor will survey without proper access.

74/25 CHRISTMAS TREE

Once we have a tree this will need to be a regular event. It was agreed to not have a tree this year, but to consider and budget for 2026 onwards.

75/25 CLIMATE CHANGE

A list of proposed items had been forwarded to councillors. Each to input back to the clerk items they think should be a basis of a climate change policy by 18th July.

76/25 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

To ensure time to report back on meetings being held.

All Councillors were reminded to read papers before the meeting and come prepared.

Meeting closed 9.15pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 28th July at 7pm

Signed

Dear Harpole Parish Council,

Please can you relook at the area around the green at the top of Garners Way by the bungalows on the right hand side, (going up the street).

There has been previous contact between residents and yourselves regarding the width of the service road running along the front of these dwellings.

The Parish Council advised that it belongs to highways, highways advised that it belongs to Grand Union and Grand Union advised that it doesn't belong to them, its Parish Council or highways!

It has got to be someone's responsibility. Or maybe it just about passing the buck because no-one wants to take ownership and even consider looking for a solution, because of cost implications.

To say, as one of the Parish Councillors did, that even though the green is owned by the PC there are too many services running underneath for any consideration to be made about taking a small amount off the edge.

If this cannot be done, then logic says look for another solution. Maybe take the kerb stones off and put in drop kerbs for ease of passing or put a hard surface round the edge of the green to give it some strength (as has been done at the bottom of Carrs Way).

Vehicles are currently having to bump up the kerbstones to pass parked cars and heavier vehicles are doing the same or running across the green. The edges all around the green are battered, kerbstones are loose and the soil has eroded on the inner side making it hard to pass and vehicles are scraping the bottoms of their cars as they manoeuvre go over it.

Not only is this unsightly (worse in the winter) but its a hazard as cars struggle to pass by.

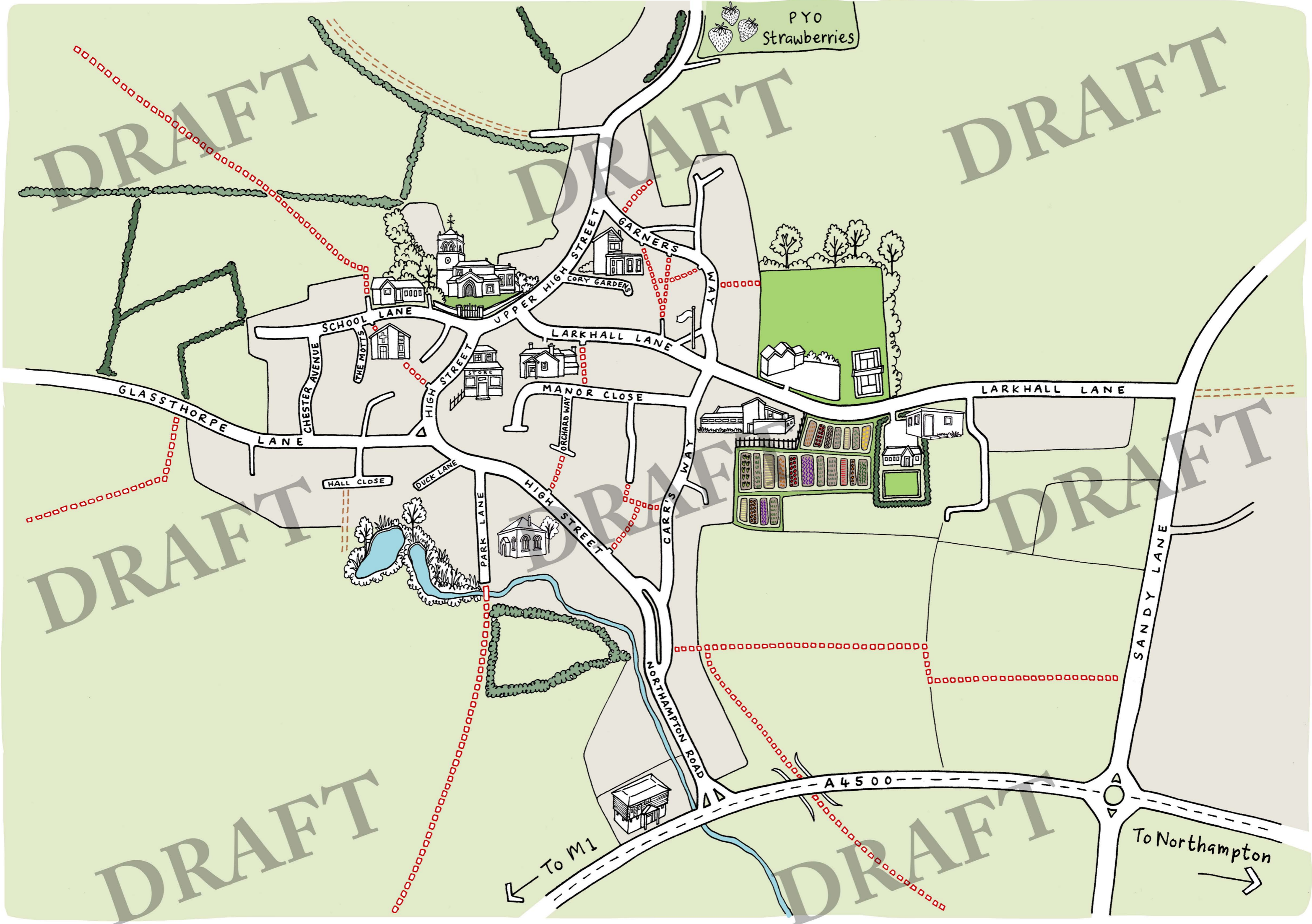
Parked cars are being scratched or bumped and emergency vehicles struggle.

When the bungalows were built people didn't have vehicles like they do today.

I know the section 106 & other monies that the PC has coming in may be earmarked, to be used as a benefit to the majority of members of the Parish however something needs to be done.

What may benefit some won't work for others - there are more and more parked cars around and householders from other parts ie Mount Pleasant are having to park further down Garners Way which means the road is narrowed and traffic has to mount the green on all sides.

I could park on the grass but that is not the answer (especially as the greens get badly cut up when its wet) and it is something I know from past experience should be deterred.



PYO Strawberries

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

DRAFT

GLASSTHORPE LANE

SCHOOL LANE

THE MOTTS

HALL CLOSE

DUCK LANE

PARK LANE

HIGH STREET

MANOR CLOSE

ORCHARD WAY

NORTHAMPTON ROAD

To M1

UPPER HIGH STREET

LARKHALL LANE

MANOR CLOSE

HIGH STREET

GARNERS WAY

CARR'S WAY

To M1

CORY GARDENS

LARKHALL LANE

SANDY LANE

To Northampton

A4500

What can Harpole PC do to help with Climate Change?

Friends of the earth have developed a list of 20 things that Parish and Town councils could do (some may not be relevant to HPC).

They also have a tool that can be used to assess sources of carbon emissions in the area.

Actions?

- 1 – Encourage formation of Climate Action Groups – Friends of the earth can provide resources and training for such groups (takeclimateaction.co.uk)
- 2 – Support Local Plan Policies that help tackle climate change and boost nature – use statutory powers to influence.
- 3 – Promote practical action by local people – Produce a guide of local accredited businesses and renewable energy assessors and installers or green transport options.
- 4 – Bring people together for bulk purchases – Installing renewable energy may be cheaper if many in a street / area of the village purchased together.
- 5 – Develop and promote lift-sharing scheme – reduce carbon emissions and foster new friendships.
- 6 – Use your voice – Oppose high carbon infrastructure projects and promote sustainable living.
- 7 – Save energy – ensure council buildings are energy efficient and Street lighting has well directed LED lamps – Get an energy audit.
- 8 – Produce green Energy – Install renewable energy at council buildings. Let people see first hand technology available. There could be a display of how much money and CO2 is being saved.
- 9 – Reduce pesticide use – reduce activities that harm wildlife – look at options for weed killers and reduce light pollution.
- 10 – Manage land for Nature – Friends of the Earth and Bug life have produced a guide to help develop action plan for management of Allotments, open space, burial grounds etc.
- 11 – Increase Tree cover – Forestry Commission is aiming for 20% tree cover.
- 12 – Buy Green – Buy Green and Local
- 13 – Use Green Transport – Encourage employees and councillors to walk, cycle, use public transport or lift-share. Use electric only vehicles.
- 14 – Minimise waste going to Landfill – Recycle where you can, but also provide recycling options for items not recycled by WNC - eg. clothes banks. Encourage reusable cups rather than disposable.
- 15 – Invest Money wisely – invest in low risk sustainable banks
- 16 – Ensure you know the climate change or nature implications of decisions – What is the impact – if needed press planning authorities for more information.
- 17 – Designate areas in Neighbourhood Plan for trees, renewable energy and nature restoration
- 18 – Use Neighbourhood plan to make sure new homes are energy efficient, nature friendly and have good public transport links.

19 – Use neighbourhood plan to identify safe walking and cycling routes.

20 – Use differential car parking charges to support low carbon vehicles – car park charges.

Other suggestions from SLCC

- Community orchards
- Promote not wasting food – larders etc.
- Community recycling – repair shops or swap shops
- Engage in national events to promote greener travel – walk to school, cycle to work, catch the bus
- Local run mini bus
- Anything being done by WNC or local PCs that we can be part of?
- Other local groups we can support with promotion of events, offering space, work with on projects

Action Plan

- Make a pledge – either to aim for net zero or declare a climate emergency
- Make a plan – work with the community. Keep this simple and encompassing.
- Harness community support – include school, church and other local groups

Other places for advice:

Community Works

SLCC Sustainability officer

Centre for sustainable energy

Centre for alternative Technology

Carbon Copy

There are various places for funding if needed (See SLCC fact sheet)

Welford Tree Farm Real Tree for near Flagpole

	Just tree
18ft Tree	370
20ft Tree	395
25ft Tree	624

With Stand		incl del & install	with mains lights	With Battery lights	remove and recycle
18ft Tree	970	1220	1734	1320	350
20ft Tree	995	1605	2185	1705	350
25ft Tree	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Prices based on hire of stand at £600. Stand can be purchased for £1800

with sleeve		incl delivery	with mains lights	with battery lights	remove and recycle
18ft Tree	820	1070	1334	1170	350
20ft Tree	845	1495	1825	1595	350
25ft Tree	1074	1724	2054	1844	350

Solar Powered Trees

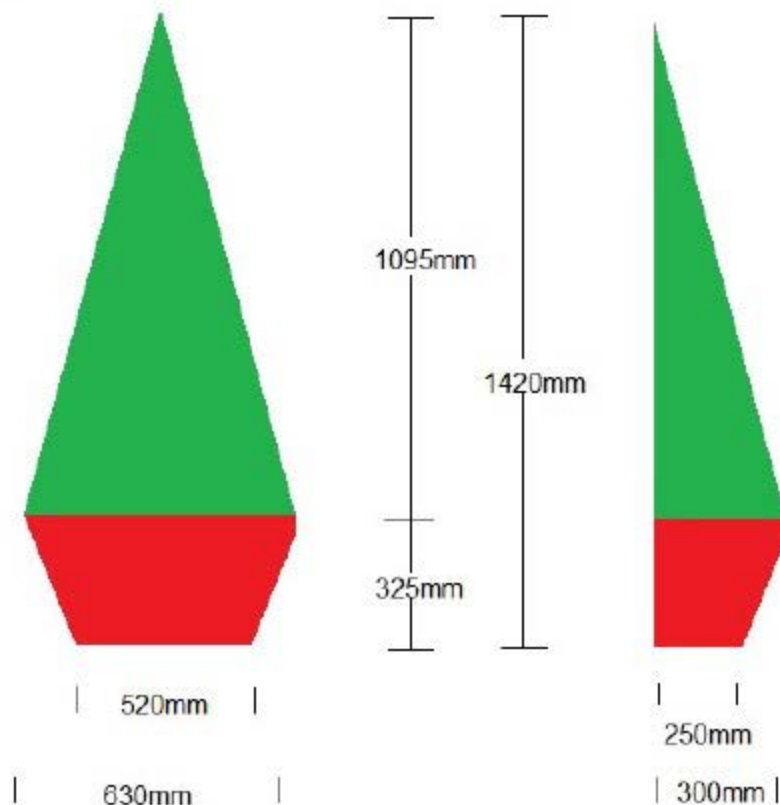
see Solar Powered Trees in action <https://youtu.be/wQC7GMgjwIY> or <https://youtu.be/S7I340Ot9Uc>

Lamp post trees

Half tree	105
Half tree decorated	125

Can have both sides of pole to make full tree around pole
Price includes programming, install and removal

Solar Powered Christmas Trees - Dimensions and Weights



Weight - 13.5 kgs

Windage

Tree & Base - 0.5267m²

Side - 0.2536m²

Plantscape's Solar Powered Christmas Trees



Lamp post installation

We know it seems early in the year but we are already getting a lot of orders for our now famous Solar Powered Christmas trees. We need to make sure that everyone nationally who wants to go green this Christmas gets the opportunity to do so. All you need are posts that have been load tested and we will take care of the rest.

Benefits:

- Solar powered - comes complete with battery pack, making them completely self-sufficient and removing any need for wiring or electrical certification
- All component parts are made from recyclable materials
- Fit onto our standard Holestar brackets - no drilling required!
- Weight is the same as standard hanging basket
- No cutting down Christmas Trees
- No electricity bills or storage costs

Hanging bracket installation

Everyone loves Christmas illuminations; they bring festive cheer to almost any location and this year Plantscape Ltd is spreading light to even more places – with the UK's first hanging solar-powered tree.

Benefits:

- Fits any sturdy hanging basket bracket
- 80 twinkling LED lights
- Advanced solar panels
- In-built timer
- Completely self-sufficient – no wiring or electricity bills
- All component parts made from recyclable materials
- Saves time and money
- Charges even in ambient winter conditions

Contact us for further product information or to request a quote:

📍 Plantscape, 7 Outrams Wharf, Little Eaton, Derbyshire, DE21 5EL

✉ info@plantscapeuk.com

☎ 0330 555 0121 option 4/5

🏠 www.plantscapeuk.com

