

Ring Tree Update and Plans

As some of you will have noticed, the Ring Tree has been leaning to one side for several months. When this was initially identified the Parish Council had it assessed by several arborists and looked at various methods to rectify the problem. Going back to the supplier who provided and planted the tree, we explained the problem and by way of a solution they offered to install guy ropes to try to rectify the lean and help the tree start to grow straight. This course of action relied on giving the tree time to grow further and straighten up. Now the tree has grown but the lean is still there; it is obvious this method will not work.

Having consulted four different tree surgeons to assess the situation, two options have been proposed and duly considered. The first option involves anchoring the roots underground which is costly and requires the whole area to be dug up. There is also no guarantee that this will resolve the issue. The second option is to replace the tree again and ensure there is a dedicated team to keep a close eye on the development of the tree.

The Parish Council has voted to replace the Tree. The decision for this has been made based on our concerns that with the tree leaning to such an extent, as the tree gets bigger the situation will only worsen and in turn become dangerous. We know that the current state of the tree has caused concern for many of you based on the communications we have received, and although this was a difficult decision to make, we hope everyone agrees that this is a positive and proactive step forward for the village community.

As the community voted for a Whitebeam, a new Whitebeam will be planted this winter. If you would like to volunteer a little time to be part of the team that nurtures the new tree, please get in touch with the clerk: hillampcclerk@gmail.com

The Parish Council will be discussing with the Ring Tree Committee what temporary measures can be taken for the Christmas Lights, rest assured the event will be held as normal.

Thank you all for your understanding and we look forward to watching the new Whitebeam flourish together with the Village.