



TREE POLICY

Market Weighton Town Council own, lease or are responsible for a number of areas of land in and around the town which contain mature trees.

Residents buying land or property adjacent to these boundaries and trees and which could be affected by falling branches, growth of branches or damage by roots, should take out adequate insurance against any damage as a result of their location as they cannot claim against the Council insurance unless the Council can be shown to be negligent.

To avoid this possibility Market Weighton Town Council carry out regular checks and inspections with its own staff and by qualified arboriculture professional to ensure all trees under their control are safe as can reasonably be expected.

If residents own or buy a property which is, or becomes, under the canopy of a Council owned tree they should ensure no items or persons are under the canopy during high winds to avoid damage or injury. During high winds and some other weather conditions even healthy trees can shed branches so residents should be always aware of the risk and ensure their visitors or family are similarly aware.

Trees on Council land will continue to grow so if they have concern about growth of tree branches over their property, residents have a right under common law to remove these branches except in the case of trees with a Tree Protection Order on them, or trees in a Conservation Area.

Residents should consult Market Weighton Town Council to ascertain any trees status before carrying out any work.

If the tree has a TPO or is in a Conservation Area it will be the resident's responsibility to obtain the relevant permission to carry out the work from the local authority and any costs involved for the permission or removal of branches will be the responsibility of the resident.

Similarly when residents access any Council controlled land for recreation or other private pursuits they should take adequate steps to avoid any areas under or near trees which may be adversely affected by weather conditions and carry out these pursuits entirely at their own risk.