



**SOUTH
KESTEVEN
DISTRICT
COUNCIL**

Council

27 June 2019

Notice of Motion

Councillor Ashley Baxter



Charter for Trees

The Woodland Trust is not only a significant employer in Grantham but also the UK's largest woodland conservation charity.

The Trust exists to protect and campaign on behalf of this country's woods, plant trees, and restore ancient woodland for the benefit of wildlife and people. Established since 1972, the Trust has over 500,000 members and supporters and more than 1,000 sites, covering over 26,000 hectares, all over the UK.

In 2017 the Woodland Trust initiated a Tree Charter in response to the crisis facing trees and woods in the UK. There was no clear, unifying statement about the rights of people in the UK to the benefits of trees, woods and forests. The UK's trees and woods face:

- low planting rates;
- lack of legal protection;
- inconsistent management;
- declining interest in forestry and arboriculture careers;
- threats from housing and infrastructure development, pests, diseases and climate change.

In light of the important work of the Woodland Trust in our district and across the nation...this Council resolves:

a) to adopt the Woodland Trust's Charter for Trees and the ten principles within it

[The ten principles are as follows:

1. Sustain landscapes rich with wildlife
2. Plant for the future
3. Celebrate the power of trees to inspire
4. Grow forests of opportunity and innovation
5. Protect irreplaceable trees and woods
6. Plant greener local landscapes
7. Recover health, hope and wellbeing with the help of trees
8. Make trees accessible to all
9. Combat the threats to our habitats
10. Strengthen our landscapes with trees.]

b) to develop a Tree Strategy for South Kesteven

[to be led by the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Holders, the Woodland Trust and the wider community of South Kesteven]