

PRESS RELEASE



12/08/2026

Saltash Town Council Supports 'Tree Saltash' Tree Planting Project

Saltash Town Council supports the 'Tree Saltash' project through direct funding, access to Town Council land, streamlining approval, and Civic Party involvement in tree planting events.

'Tree Saltash' is a community initiative, led by Saltash Environmental Action (SEA) and the Saltash Town Council appointed Tree Wardens, with the goal to plant more trees in Saltash's urban neighbourhood.

The Saltash Tree Wardens highlight the importance of urban trees in sheltering us from the weather, providing food and shelter for wildlife, reducing air pollution, protecting against flooding, and making Saltash a more attractive place to live, work, and visit.

Since the beginning of the project in November 2022, the Tree Wardens have implemented their plan in four phases, planting over 85 trees and hedges across Saltash, with support and funding from Saltash Town Council and Forest for Cornwall.



Phase One

The formal opening of Tree Saltash took place on 30 November 2022, with former Mayor Cllr Richard Bickford attending the planting of a crab apple tree, planted by Saltash Town Council Library Hub with the help of children from Brunel Primary and Nursery Academy. This opening was followed by five further plantings in phase one, including the first main planting, jointly funded by Forest for Cornwall and Woodland Trust. Accessories and loaned equipment were provided by Saltash Town Council to support this.

Phase Two

The second tree planting season started in November 2023, to mark National Tree Week. Children from local primary schools helped former Mayor Cllr Richard Bickford to plant an oak tree in Longstone Park. This tree is known as the 'Coronation Oak', to celebrate the King's Coronation. Many more plantings took place from December 2023 to March 2024, including a big Planting Day on 5 December 2023.

Phase Three

Phase three begun in January 2025, with the Tree Saltash team working together with Saltash Town Council and Cornwall Council to plant the King's Coronation Oak in Victoria Gardens, a gift from the King. The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall and former Mayor of Saltash Cllr Julia Peggs each took their turn at planting.

Phase Four

In March 2026, as part of St Piran's Day celebrations, a silver birch tree was planted following the walk to England. Former Mayor Cllr Rachel Bullock and current Mayor Cllr Brian Stoyel, alongside fellow Saltash Town and Cornwall Cllrs each took in turns to plant the silver birch.



March 2026 also saw the planting of three flowering cherry trees, supplied by Saltash Town Council, at Fearnside Way, and some replacements for trees in Elwell Woods that were lost to storms.

The Tree Wardens prioritise planting native species of tree, as they are more valuable to wildlife. However, to bring some variation and colour to Saltash's trees, sweet gum and honey locust trees were planted in phase one. For the majority of the plantings in the coming years, there will be a focus on the planting of native trees.

Tree Saltash, while receiving donations and some funding, is a volunteer-led project. There is the opportunity for members of the public to 'adopt a tree', helping to ensure that the trees are maintained over time.

To find out more about Tree Saltash, you can [visit Saltash Environmental Action's dedicated 'Tree Saltash' webpage](#).

Saltash Town Council's support of this initiative demonstrates their commitment to acknowledging a climate emergency, as well as improving Saltash's green spaces and supporting the improvement of community wellbeing.

The Town Council will continue to work with SEA on future tree-planting work; providing ongoing support and preventing planting delays where possible.



Saltash Town Council is proud to support the Tree Saltash initiative and the dedicated volunteers who make it possible. The planting of more than 85 trees across our town is helping to create greener, healthier neighbourhoods for residents and wildlife alike.

We look forward to continuing our work with Saltash Environmental Action and the Tree Wardens to ensure Saltash remains a thriving and sustainable place for future generations.

— Mayor Cllr Brian Stoyel



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We've always been impressed by the great support for planting trees in our Tree Saltash project over the last four years. For planting, we've had help from SEA members, from Venture Scouts and from children in Brunel School. Local residents have welcomed the trees, knowing that trees bring so many good things for the community – which is what drives Tree Saltash. We're careful not to choose the wrong trees or plant them in the wrong place.

We also appreciate the great support we've had from Saltash Town Council, granting us permission to plant on their land, giving us some financial and equipment support, and helping water the new trees during the summer months, which is a life-saver. We're also grateful to Cormac who've done the same with the avenue of liquidambar in Yellowtor Road. Also, Forest for Cornwall have been crucial for the project, offering practical advice, providing trees, and organising the important checks so the trees' roots don't interfere with underground cables or pipes.

Our fifth project, which we are planning for November, is the biggest yet, so we will be giving more people than ever the chance to join us in this way of enriching our community.

— Adrian White, Tree Warden

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Notes To Editor

Saltash Town Council forms the third tier of local government and works with Cornwall Council who are our Unitary Authority. We are the largest Town Council in the south-east area of Cornwall.

The Town Council is committed to providing excellence in the Services and Facilities which it delivers. We aim to be responsive, accessible, and transparent in our approach and in the work delivered.

There are sixteen Councillors representing three Wards – Essa, Tamar and Trematon. Councillors are elected from the community every four years. Spaces are filled via by-elections, or by means of the Town Council choosing new Councillors via co-option.

The Chairman and Deputy Chairman are elected by Members of the Town Council annually at the Annual Town Council meeting held in May. The Chairman also undertakes the role of Mayor representing the Town Council and community at official engagements, with their consort.