
CONDITION OF THE WILLINGTON CHRISTMAS TREE

EMAIL 4;

From:

Sent: 22 September 2021 14:09

To: [Willington PC Clerk](#)

Subject: RE: Christmas tree

Hi Deb,

Thank you for your response.

It's not our intention to levy any further charge on the PC. We undertook the original planting on the understanding that we would guarantee the tree's successful establishment.

I've been postulating further why the other trees might have failed. Although there are other trees and shrubs growing in the vicinity, there has been nothing planted to my knowledge where the Christmas tree is located. Is it possible that there could be contaminants present in the soil, such as oils or chemicals, as a result of the redevelopment of the station?

Best regards,

EMAIL 3;

From: Willington PC Clerk <Clerk@willingtonPC.org.uk>

Sent: 22 September 2021 12:03

To:

Subject: RE: Christmas tree

Hi

Many thanks for your speedy response – it is very much appreciated.

Please could you just confirm what the costs would be to the Parish Council if we had to have an excavator to dig a bigger hole.
It would be great if we could get it all sorted and make a decision in October.

Thank you again.

Deb

Debra Townsend CiLCA

Parish Clerk/RFO
Willington Parish Council

www.willingtonpc.org.uk

EMAIL 2;

From:

Sent: 22 September 2021 11:50

To: [Willington PC Clerk](#)

Subject: RE: Christmas tree

Hello Debra,

Thank you for your email.

It's been on my mind to get in touch regarding the tree. We installed a watering tube and we've been watering the tree through the summer. I had noticed the lower branches had died back.

I find it most unusual for the tree not have taken and started growing healthily by now; it's now in its second growing season. We installed a watering tube When we planted it we replaced some of the existing soil and added compost. I can only assume there is something 'toxic' around planting hole which the tree doesn't like. When we took out the first tree, after we agreed to replace it, we potted it up and it grew really well. We subsequently sold it around 12 months later.

We've successfully planted hundreds of different trees over many years and this is the first time we've ever been faced with this situation. Woodgrow continues to stand its replacement guarantee and I'm of the opinion that the PC should not be out of pocket. We would be happy to replace it for a third time, but this time I would recommend that we have an excavator on site to dig a much larger planting pit and replace at least 1m3 of the existing substrate with our best screened topsoil. If the PC agrees to our plan, we can undertake this work in November, in time for this Christmas.

I understand that public money is at stake and all expenditure has to be accountable. With this in mind, the alternative is for us to remove the tree and refund the original amount paid. Hopefully our two offers can go on your next agenda and be agreed quickly, one way or the other.

Best regards,



EMAIL 1;

From: [Willington PC Clerk](#)
Sent: 22 September 2021 11:09
To:
Subject: FW: Christmas tree

Morning

I have been forwarded pictures of the Christmas tree that we have had previous correspondence with you about. Obviously it is in a very poor state, and I will be reporting this to Council at October's meeting, as it is quite clearly not fit to have Christmas lights this year!

Before this meeting, I would be grateful for any comments or suggestions of remedial action from yourself. In a previous email (23.9.19), you had confirmed that you would look after this tree, including remedial pruning for a couple of years free of charge. However, something seems to have gone wrong as it seems to be dying from the bottom up, and any growth appears to be negligible.

I would be grateful if you could provide any comment before our October Meeting when it will be discussed fully.

Regards

Deb

Debra Townsend CiLCA
Parish Clerk/RFO
Willington Parish Council