

Memorial Policy

From time to time the Steeple Woodland Project Group has received requests to plant trees or install seating on the site, for example as a memorial to a loved one. As a policy the Group has discouraged built infrastructure and signage on the nature reserve to maintain the naturalness of the site which is a key attraction of the reserve.

Preserving and enhancing the naturalness of the the nature reserve is a core principle of the management of the site, enshrined in the Group's constitution, with one of the objects of the group being:

“To develop and manage the nature reserve according to the current Management Plan with an emphasis on preserving and enhancing the ‘naturalness’ of the site.”

The Group has discussed the issue of third party requests for seating on the nature reserve several times, most recently at a general meeting on 22.6.20. The decision was again to not allow any third party seating installations or any memorabilia as to do so would set a precedent. The planting of memorial trees is to be encouraged instead.

The concerns of the Group with respect to seating installations include that it would detract from the naturalness of the site, that the Group could be held liable for any issues relating to such seating, for example in the event of wear and tear rendering seating unsafe, or the occurrence of damage to seating. Further, the installation of seating is outwith the Licence Agreement held by the Group with the land owner, Cornwall Council.

The Group would like to encourage anyone wishing to have a physical memorial to a loved one on the nature reserve to request that a tree is planted. The species and location would need to be approved by the Group. Only locally native tree or shrub species can be considered. The Group can assist with species selection and planting as required.

Steeple Woodland Project Group
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