

Suggested native East Midlands trees for Southwell Town Council

Common name	Scientific name	Description	Habitat	Notes for Southwell
Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Fast growing tree that will reach 60m. Can be coppiced.	Grows on wet or flooded sites, often next to streams and ponds. Also on poor soils. Avoid acid soils, shady situations and very dry areas.	A versatile tree that can be used on reclamation sites or as a pioneer species.
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Large tree, up to 45m, that can live for some 200 years. Grey/green bark with distinctive black buds in spring.	Widespread, preferring limestone soils that are moist but well drained. Up to 450m altitude.	Grows well in mixed woodland if not too shaded. Comes into leaf late and often drops leaves earlier than other species. Very common in the town.
Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Can grow up to 40m. Large species which casts deep shade on the woodland floor.	Needs well-drained, sandy or chalky soils. Common in South East and Midlands Native only to southern England.	Popular as a hedging species in Southwell
Bird Cherry	<i>Prunus padus</i>	Grows to 15m. Native of the north Midlands northwards.	Common by streams in limestone areas such as north-west Yorkshire. Likes lime-rich soils.	Attractive in June when in flower and in autumn with its yellow and amber colours. Fruits edible for birds.
Black Poplar	<i>Populus nigra</i>	Grows to 20-35m. Now quite Scarce in the countryside.	Typically grows in damp soils, along stream and river sides.	Also known as the Manchester poplar. Very resilient to pollution and fast growing so was once commonly planted in cities Now rare and care should be taken to find stock of local provenance, some local trees extant.
Crab Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Grows to 2-10m. Spiny with white flowers.	Found scattered in all areas including oak woodland, hedgerows and hilly chalky areas.	The wild crab is one of at least four species from which the domestic apple is derived.
Crack Willow	<i>Salix fragilis</i>	Tall tree that grows to 10-18m. Has glossy elongated slender leaves	Likes deep moist soils or riversides. Abundant in SE England and present throughout the UK.	If twisted, brittle twigs crack at the base. In water it produces fine red, coral-like roots. A number alongside the Greet.
Downy Birch	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Similar to the silver birch, although even less demanding. Quick growing to 25m,	Common on poorly drained soils and heaths, peat bogs and damper areas. Also by streams and pools.	It is a pioneer species – often the first to colonise areas of cleared woodland or wasteland.

		but short lived		
		showing signs of aging at 60 years.		
English Elm	<i>Ulmus procera</i>	Once a common species in wet woodland, hedgerows and banks. Grows to 30m	Leaves dark green and rough above and pale beneath. Dark brown bark and cracked into rectangular plates	Tree numbers were devastated during the 1970's and 80's with outbreak of Dutch Elm Disease, thought to have killed over 80% of population. Root stock often remains and suckers from this but gets infected again between 5-10 years as bark matures.
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	The only native maple to Britain growing to 20m. Often used in hedges as either a shrub or tree	Common on chalk or limestone soils in the south to the Midlands. Less common in northern England and Scotland	A medium sized tough robust tree with colourful leaves that turn deep yellow in autumn. Fruit tinged pink in early summer. Some garden planting across the town.
Goat Willow	<i>Salix caprea</i>	More commonly a shrub but can grow to 10m. Found in many areas.	Hedgerows, woods and scrub, likes damp conditions.	Very distinctive in spring when branches are covered in green and yellow catkins. Distinctive silvery male catkins- gives the name pussy willow before bright yellow stamens emerge.
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Up to 12m	Often used as hedging species and excellent stock barrier. Provides a good habitat for birds and berries in the autumn.	Common in Southwell and locally called May
Hornbeam	<i>Carpinus betula</i>	A graceful tree that grows to a height of 30m. It also keeps its lower leaves in winter like beech. Prefers sheltered positions.	Found in woods and hedges fairly common in East Midlands. Grows well on heavy clay soils.	One of the hardest and strongest of native timbers. Historically used for cartwheels, still used for piano hammers.
Large leaved Lime	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Large tree that grows to 40m. Native to the Wye Valley and South Yorkshire.	Grows well in woods and often in limestone areas.	Often found in parks and avenues. First lime to flower – fragrant blooms hang in clusters in late June.
Osier	<i>Salix viminalis</i>	Between 3 to 6m	Commonly lining rivers and streams. Greyish – brown bark	Plants can be cut annually to provide flexible shoots for basket weaving Was

			and fissured. Twigs are long and straight. Catkins in late February, March and early April. Previously common in Southwell	planted in woods alongside the Greet, but now much less common.
Pendunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Usually grows to 20–35m known for its durability and longevity. Stalked fruit, the ‘peduncle’ gives it its name. Stalkless leaves	Best on damp heavy clays but will grow on sandy soils. Typically found in the eastern lowlands of Britain.	A robust tree that characterises the countryside. Supports a huge variety of insects throughout the year. Common across Southwell but few very elderly trees.
Purple Willow	<i>Salix purpurea</i>	Up to 5m	Damp places, frequently beside lakes and rivers. Leaves are narrow and long- oblong in opposite pairs on the twigs. Grey Bark, twigs yellow or grey sometimes tinged with red or purple.	Number of varieties grown for basket making across south of England.
Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Small attractive tree that grows to 20m. Very hardy and occurs at a higher altitude than any other native tree – up to 1000m	Grows in many different soil conditions, though natural habitat is mountainous areas or lighter soils. Does well when planted in open woods.	White flowers in early summer developing into red berries in autumn. High in vitamin C, they are eaten by blackbirds, thrushes and starlings. Fruit can also be used to make a jelly.
Sessile Oak	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	Majestic tree that grows to 40m. Not planted as often as <i>Quercus robur</i> . Stalkless fruit, stalked leaves.	Grows well in woodland preferring high rainfall areas on lighter acid soils. Western and northern Britain	Open birch and oak woods (upland oak) are the favoured habitat. The lesser common oak in Southwell.
Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Graceful tree that stands out in winter with its white trunk and branches, grows quickly when young and can reach 30m. Fairly short-lived species at about 70–100 years.	Native throughout UK, preferring lighter soils and shallow peats. Common on dry heaths and open woodland.	Pioneer species often first to colonise recently cleared areas. This is helped by its light seeds that are widely distributed by the wind. Widely planted in the Millennium Wood.
Small Leaved Lime	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	The other native lime with downward	Fairly hardy tree in lowland areas. Often planted as a street	Once thought to be more common than oak, it coppices well and is long

		dropping branches and heart-shaped leaves. Grows to about 30m in height.	tree or in avenues.	lived. It spreads by suckers with some trees more than 1,000 years old. Bees are attracted to the flowers in early summer. Few trees across the town.
Smooth Leaved Elm	<i>Ulmus carpinifolia</i>	Up to 30m	Native to Kent and East Anglia, rarer in East Midlands	Upright branches and dome shaped crown. Not common in the town.
White Willow	<i>Salix alba</i>	Native all over Britain except north-west Scotland. Grows to about 25m. Green/grey elongated leaves.	Common along lowland riversides and valleys, more frequent in southern areas. Likes damp or wet soils.	Suitable for pollarding. Helps to stabilise riverbanks, though not as common as crack willow.
Wild Cherry (Gean)	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Native in all parts, this attractive tree has white flowers before the leaves appear in April–May. Grows to 30m.	Found in woods and hedges. Prefers lime-rich and clay soils. Any position, but not deep shade.	Also common as park or street tree. Attractive to bees.
Wild Pear	<i>Pyrus pyraster</i>	Small Tree up to 15m	Rarer than the crab apple. Has quite spiny branches with particularly small and rounder fruits than other hybrids.	Distinctive grey or brown bark which breaks into small rectangular plates. White flowers in April. Fruits ripen in November.
Wild Service Tree	<i>Sorbus torminalias</i>	A relative of rowan and whitebeam, grows up to 25m. Maple-like leaves which turn deep red in autumn.	Grows on chalk, limestone and clay, traditional to East Midlands	Edible red fruits are attractive to birds. Will only self-sow on land that has not been previously cultivated.
Wych Elm	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	A dense canopied tree that can grow to 40m.	Often grows by water and likes damp and shady spots.	Very hardy tree that copes well with polluted air, so is often used as a city park tree.
Yew	<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Very hardy evergreen tree that is commonly found in churchyards. Can grow up to 25m.	Tolerant of all conditions except very wet ground. Prefers chalk and limestone, but found in oak woods on other soils.	Our oldest living tree with some specimens more than 2,000 years old. Very strong, durable wood that was traditionally used to make longbows. A few are in Southwell on the clays.
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Up to 12m	Often used as hedging species and excellent stock barrier. Provides a	Common in Southwell and locally called May

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