

**Briefing Document**  
**Old Witney Road Play Area**  
**Oak Tree Planting**



6 Oak saplings have been offered by Peace Oak Association for use in the new play area hedge

This wasn't part of the original planting scheme when the project was first agreed.

A number of questions were asked in previous EPC meetings. I've taken advice from Edward Whorwood, the OCC Tree Officer

The use of sentinel trees in hedging is very common in Oxfordshire.

**Are Oak trees suitable for a play area?**

Yes, these are strong trees that rarely drop branches

**What maintenance is required?**

1-25 years – formative pruning; removal of lower branches to encourage upwards growth

Would be done same time as hedge

25-40 years – Heavier pruning may be necessary to reduce crown

**What spacing is required between trees?**

Should be spaced at least 8m apart

**How close can oak trees be to buildings?**

Could be as close as 3m between crown of tree and a building

**Other**

Using locally grown saplings is good for biosecurity. It doesn't risk bringing disease into the area

I have arranged to meet Ed at the Park on Monday 15<sup>th</sup>. Full report in meeting on Tuesday