



## Green Waste Policy.

Combe Martin Parish Council has an extensive estate of land is committed to dealing with the grass, plants, bushes, hedges, and trees in a responsible manner.

The management method will vary depending on the situation – within Adderstable Woods it would be appropriate and beneficial to leave fallen trees to rot, where they fall (assuming this doesn't obstruct a footpath). In other areas of the village, it would not be appropriate to do this.

Where there is legislation covering the disposal of waste, the Council will comply with it. If the Council has to deal with large amounts of unexpected green waste or in a situation not covered by this policy, it will try to do so in the most practical way possible.

The Council will try to manage the land to reduce the amount of waste that needs to be removed or dealt with. – On grassed areas, this would mean cutting it often enough that the cuttings can be left on the ground without damaging the grass. Trees will be left to grow and mature naturally, except where they are posing a danger to property, or where the regular Arboriculturalist survey recommends management. In the event of tree management being required within a park or gardens, then the tree surgeon will be asked to remove all debris. Bushes and hedges will be cut back (if required) with due concern to nesting birds and other wildlife. If practical or desirable any cuttings will be shredded and left around the base of the hedge/bush to decompose naturally. If it is not practical or desirable, these cuttings may be disposed of by burning. (Any fires to be sited appropriately and with due consideration to the wind direction and weather conditions.)

## Flotsam and windfall

The tide regularly washes seaweed up onto the beach. In small quantities this provides natural habitat and food resources to the marine life on and around the beach. In larger quantities, rotting seaweed affects the bathing water quality, and this is something the Parish Council are keen to protect. When quantities of seaweed wash up, the Council will rake it up (either manually or using the tractor) and remove it from the beach, for composting. The Council are happy for villagers to come onto the beach and manually remove any seaweed they want for personal use.

There are occasions when the tide washes in tree branches or other wood. The Council will usually cut the wood up into manageable sizes and leave this by the slipway. The Council are happy for villagers to come onto the beach and manually remove any washed-up wood they want for personal use. In the event this is not removed in a timely manner, then the Council will dispose of it or use it themselves.