



Please support our planning application to help grow Pear Tree Community Farm! Deadline 27th August

Dear Neighbours and Friends,

Our planning application to Wiltshire Council for the essential infrastructure needed to bring Pear Tree Community Farm to life has now been submitted. This is a really exciting milestone and we'd love your support to help us take the next step.

We would really appreciate it if you could please consider adding a comment on the planning portal. Your support will help show that this is a project the local community wants and values. Planning officers take genuine local feedback into account when making their decision, so every thoughtful comment can make a difference.

Please keep your comment short, relevant and in your own words. **The deadline for comment is 27th August.** Thank you for helping us bring Pear Tree Community Farm to life!

How to comment (2 minutes)

Either head straight to our application [here](#) or:

1. Go to Wiltshire Council's planning portal [here](#)
2. Search reference: PL/2026/04461
3. Click 'Comments' and fill in the form
4. Submit before the consultation deadline 27/8/26

Ideas for your comment

- Why fresh, nature-friendly, climate resilient, local food matters to you and your family
- The value of a community-owned, biodiverse farm for health, wellbeing and connection and how it supports a thriving local economy.
- Support for children's learning and skills outdoors, close to home.
- The efficient and sensitive design and value of a central community location
Planning policy supporting the application.
- **Wiltshire Core Strategy, Core Policy 48 (Rural Areas)** – supports countryside development meeting a genuine local need.
- **Wiltshire Core Strategy** – supports rural economic diversification and low-impact, well-connected development.
- **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)** – supports rural community facilities and a healthy, sustainable environment.
- **Wiltshire and Swindon Local Nature Recovery Strategy** (adopted Oct 2025) – the site is identified as having strategic potential to become of importance for biodiversity; building soil health, hedgerow and tree planting and pollinator strips will deliver biodiversity net gain.
- **Wiltshire's Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy (2022)** – supports sustainable, low-carbon local food growing and soil/biodiversity improvement.
- **Wiltshire Council's Climate Emergency declaration (2019)** – working towards a carbon neutral county.

Why this matters nationally

- **Defra's Farming Roadmap 2050** (published 24 June 2026) – a national vision for profitable, productive, sustainable and resilient farming, backing a shift to nature-friendly, regenerative and agroecological practices.

· **Defra/JIC National Security Assessment on Biodiversity Loss** (Jan 2026) – identifies ecosystem protection and resilient food systems as a national priority for maintaining UK food security.

Pear Tree Community Farm will be a community-owned project, with land and assets held in perpetuity for Freshford, Limpley Stoke and neighbouring villages by our Charitable Community Benefit Society. Detailed information can be found in our business plan, see www.peartreecommunityfarm.org. Or contact us with any questions hello@peartreecommunityfarm.org

If all goes well we hope to receive a decision by mid September.

Thank you for your support and please share with your neighbours, friends and family – every comment, no matter how brief, helps.

Warm wishes

Clare, David, Debbie, Elli, Fiona, Gemma, Jake, Neil, Rupert, Tania
(The Pear Tree Community Farm Team)

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