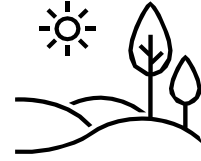


# Appendix C

Oliver Ward Tree Surveys



## ARBORICULTURAL REPORT TREE SURVEY

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*Thornbury Green  
Twyford  
Berkshire RG10 9RH  
March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

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## **Instructions**

Instructions have been received to carry out a health and safety inspection on principle trees.

This report advises on tree works in regard to both Health & Safety and Duty of Care obligations and makes recommendations, where appropriate regarding future management requirements.

## **Report limitations**

The trees have been inspected using the Visual Tree Assessment Method (VTA) from ground level. This is a basic data collection exercise and a record of the tree's condition at the time of surveying. It must be noted that no soil excavations or root samplings have been taken for the purpose of this report.

Trees are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly. The health, condition and safety of the trees should be checked on a regular basis, preferably at least once a year by a person competent in Arboriculture. In addition it is recommended that trees are assessed at different times of the year as different symptoms can manifest themselves during the different seasons.

The conclusions and recommendations in this report are valid for 2 years from the date of this report unless otherwise specified. This period of validity may be reduced in the case of any change in conditions to or in close proximity to the tree(s). There are no guarantees of absolute safety in the event of unusual or extreme weather.

Before undertaking any work that may be recommended within this report, it is advisable to check direct with the appropriate Local Authority to determine which planning controls are in operation; written consent must be obtained for works on trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and in the case of a Conservation Area (CA) 6 weeks' notice of intent must be forwarded before undertaking any such work. All tree works that may be recommended within this report should be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 'Recommendations for Tree Works' and in compliance with good practice as promoted by the Forestry Industry Safety Accord.

A small number of trees may have ivy present on the main stems and or within the canopy. Whilst it is acknowledged there are many benefits of retaining ivy, ivy has the ability to obscure defects. As such, where appropriate it has been recommended for the ivy to be severed and for the trees to be re-inspected to ensure that the trees are free from any significant defects or decay.

### **Outside No.7. Cedar.**

**Size; Large. Age; Mature.**

**Base; No evidence of old fungal brackets.**

**Stem; Poor. Extensive wound at ground level to 1 metre which has not deteriorated since the previous survey.**

**Since the last survey the Ivy has been severed and removed revealing another sizable wound opposite the above wound. Wound wood is good on one side but the bark is peeling on the other.**

**Main Union at 8 metres; This union is tight but not uncommon in this species.**

**Further Unions; Satisfactory.**

**Branches; The first main branch overhanging the street light and highway now has excessive end weight. The remaining branches are generally satisfactory although some minor deadwood is present.**

**Foliage; Good quantity and quality.**

**Recommended work; Obtain a level 3 survey (ultrasound and Picus resistograph drill) from Simon Holmes to ascertain the integrity of the base and lower stem.**

**Priority; As soon as possible.**

**If the Level 3 survey shows sound integrity at the base and the tree is retained we must significantly reduce by 66% the branch overhanging the street light and highway.**

### **Tag 144; Lime.**

**Size; Large. Age; Mature.**

**Base; Satisfactory. No evidence of old fungal brackets or decay.**

**Stem; Partially obscured by Ivy.**

**Unions; Partially obscured by Ivy.**

**Branches; Poor. The tree has previously been reduced at 4-6 metres. The re-growth is now becoming untidy with excessive end weight.**

**Buds; Good quantity and quality.**

**Recommended work; Reduce back to previous reduction points.**

## Glossary of arboricultural terms

|                 |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adventitious    |  | Describing shoots, roots or other plant organs which develop other than in their normal position of origin (i.e. terminal / axillary buds)                                                                                                   |
| Arboriculture   |  | The cultivation of trees in order to produce individual specimens of the greatest ornament, for shelter, or any other primary purpose other than the production of timber.                                                                   |
| Canopy          |  | The uppermost layer of twigs or foliage in a woodland, tree or group of trees.                                                                                                                                                               |
| Chlorotic       |  | Chlorosis is an atypical colouring, usually yellowish, of foliage, often symptom of mineral nutrient imbalance or inadequate root function.                                                                                                  |
| Crown           |  | The spreading branches and foliage of the tree supported by the trunk(s)                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Crown cleaning  |  | The removal of dead, dying, crossing and / or diseased branches                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Crown lifting   |  | The removal of lower limbs, generally back to the main stem or pruning lower secondary branches to give more clear space below the crown.                                                                                                    |
| Crown reduction |  | The tree crown is reduced by shortening branches, usually carried out all round the crown or canopy to maintain a balanced shape. Partial reductions may be useful for preventing branches contacting buildings, roofs and guttering.        |
| Crown thinning  |  | This reduces the density of the crown without changing the shape and form of the tree. Thinning reduces the amount of foliage and allows more light through the canopy or crown. This is usually specified as a percentage (%) of the crown. |

|                 |  |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dead wood       |  | In some situations, deadwood can pose a hazard as it can fall from the tree. However, it also provides a range of habitats both when in the tree or on the ground.                         |
| Die back        |  | The death of a part of a tree, usually starting from the branch tips and progressing in stages.                                                                                            |
| Epicormics      |  | Pertaining to shoots or roots which are initiated on mature woody stems; shoots may form in this way from dormant buds, or they may be adventitious.                                       |
| Included bark   |  | Bark of adjacent parts of the tree (usually in forks, acutely angled forks or basal flutes) which is a face-to-face contact, so that there is a weakness due to the lack of a woody union. |
| Occlusion       |  | The overgrowth of a wound with (callus) tissue which is produced subsequently.                                                                                                             |
| Pollard         |  | A tree cut once or repeatedly at a height above which grazing animals can reach the generating growth. Usually cut on a semi-regular basis with the whole or part of the crown removed.    |
| Reaction wood   |  | Usually laid down in wider annual increments than ordinary wood. Formed to help maintain the angle of a bent or leaning part of a tree by resisting the further bending downwards.         |
| Soil compaction |  | Soil compaction restricts the growth of trees, damages roots and reduce infiltration of water into the soil which over prolonged periods of time will be detrimental to the tree's health. |
| Stress          |  | In plant physiology, a condition under which one or more physiological functions are not operating within their optimum range.                                                             |
| Vitality        |  | In tree assessment, an overall appraisal of physiological and biochemical processes, in which high vitality equates with healthy function.                                                 |

|            |  |                                                                                                            |
|------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wound wood |  | Wood formed in the vicinity of a wound. Can also be used to describe the occluding tissues around a wound. |
|------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### **Bibliography;**

The Body Language of Trees - *Mattheck and Breloer* – HMSO1999

British Standard Recommendations for Tree Work – BS 3998:2010

Diagnosis of Ill health in Trees – *Strouts and Winton* – HMSO1998

Fungal Strategies of Wood Decay in Trees – *Shwarze, Engels, Mattheck Springer* 1999

Modern Arboriculture – *Shigo* 1991

Principles of tree hazard assessment and management – *Lonsdale* – HMSO1999

Trees of Britain and Northern Europe – *A Mitchell* 1974

Tree Guide – *Owen Johnson & David More* 2007

### **Qualifications held;**

TREE SURGERY FOR CRAFTSMEN; Cert 9406/064491/014001/DRR5053/1/05/02/65 (Distinction)

PROFESSIONAL TREE INSPECTION; LANTRA Cert HO00105617.

PROFESSIONAL TREE INSPECTION; Arboricultural Association Certificate.

All NPTC's for chainsaw use, climbing, working at height, felling and pesticide use.

RISK ACCESSMENT FOR COMMERCIAL ARBORICULTURE; LANTRA Cert HO00188653/547325

TREE PESTS, DISEASE AND FUNGI; Arboricultural Association Certificate

TREE RELATED LAW and PROCEDURES; Training and Development Certificate.

ARBORICULTURE and BATS; LANTRA Cert HO00164573/447082

LOLER REGULATIONS; LANTRA Cert HO00073998/84764.

I have 30 years' experience as an arboriculturist, formed Heartwood Trees in 1996 and have been undertaking tree surveys for the last 14 years.

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