



DUCKWORTHS
ARBORICULTURE LTD.

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

TREE CONDITION SURVEY

93 READING ROAD
WOKINGHAM
BERKSHIRE
RG41 1EN

CLIENT: MR. E. KOOIKER

DECEMBER 2024
Ref: 06596 / 2024

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CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	INSTRUCTION.....	4
1.2	INSPECTION INFORMATION.....	4
1.3	QUALIFICATIONS	4
1.4	INSURANCE.....	4
2.	STATUTORY TREE PROTECTION	5
2.1	TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS.....	5
2.2	CONSERVATION AREAS	5
3.	GENERAL GUIDANCE.....	6
3.1	TREE WORK GOOD PRACTICE.....	6
3.2	PROTECTED SPECIES	6
4.	CAVEATS & LIMITATIONS.....	7
4.1	SCOPE	7
4.2	CAVEATS	7
5.	ARBORICULTURAL INSPECTION DATA	9
6.	SITE PLAN.....	11
7.	GALLERY.....	12

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 INSTRUCTION

This Arboricultural Report has been commissioned by Eddie Kooikjer, owner / occupier of 93 Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 1EN. I have been asked to provide a report on the condition of one Oak Tree (T2) growing within the front garden of the property.

This report is to specify any necessary remedial tree works to address identified hazards from the tree whilst acknowledging and respecting its significance to amenity and ecology of the local area.

1.2 INSPECTION INFORMATION

The tree was inspected on Thursday 28th November 2024.

The weather was clear. Visibility was satisfactory.

For the purposes of this survey all dimensions of the tree and its associated parts are measured using a laser measure or clinometer where possible. Where access is restricted measurements have been visually estimated unless otherwise stated.

1.3 QUALIFICATIONS

Surveyor: Sarah Duckworth

- Royal Forestry Society's Professional Diploma
- Arboricultural Association's Technicians Certificate (with Distinction)
- LANTRA qualified Professional Tree Inspector
- Arboricultural Association Professional Member
- QTRA & VALID Licensed User

1.4 INSURANCE

For your peace of mind, Duckworths Arboriculture Limited is insured with Hiscox Insurance:

- Public Liability £10,000,000
- Professional Indemnity £2,000,000

2. STATUTORY TREE PROTECTION

2.1 TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

I have confirmed on the Wokingham Borough Council website that the Oak is protected as T2 of Tree Preservation Order (ref TPO-1326-2009).

No works should be undertaken to protected trees without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority – exemptions apply.



Figure 1 – Wokingham Borough Council TPO Map

2.2 CONSERVATION AREAS

93 Reading Road is not within a Conservation Area.

3. GENERAL GUIDANCE

3.1 TREE WORK GOOD PRACTICE

Where possible, recommended tree works should be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.

Chippings arising from the work should not be piled around the bases of trees on or off the site. Wood, brash and any other arisings from the tree work should not be burnt on site.

When undertaking tree work, you are advised to use a properly qualified and experienced company who carry Public and Products Liability Insurance with a minimum of £2,000,000 cover and the relevant Employers Liability Insurance. A List of approved contractors is available from the Arboricultural Association – www.trees.org.uk.

3.2 PROTECTED SPECIES

In accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act - 1981, Conservation - Natural Habitats - Regulations 1994 and Countryside Rights of Way Act - 2000, you must consider the timing and type of tree work operations including hedge pruning to avoid causing disturbance to any nesting or breeding birds or bat roosts that may be present within trees and hedgerows.

It is an offence (subject to exceptions) to intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places.

Non-urgent major tree work involving tree removal or reduction and hedge cutting operations should not be undertaken during the bird nesting or breeding season, which is considered to be from 1 March to 31 July. However, depending on seasonal temperatures, some birds continue breeding into August and September.

All wild birds, their young, their eggs and active nests are protected under law. It is an offence to damage a nest intentionally while it is in use or being built. Tree work where birds are nesting is highly likely to damage nests or cause them to be deserted.

4. CAVEATS & LIMITATIONS

4.1 SCOPE

T2 (Oak) has been looked at in detail using the 'Diagnosis of Ill Health in trees' and Inspecting Trees for Signs of Decay' methodologies described by R.G. Strouts and T.G. Winter¹.

My visual assessment is a non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of a tree. Non-invasive inspection equipment (plastic-headed mallet and metal probe) were used to make an assessment of the structural integrity at the base and trunk of the tree where the visual inspection identified the need. The lower trunk of the tree was tapped with a plastic-headed mallet to check for acoustic indication of internal decay. The differing sound intonation can often reveal some types of decay or hollow trunks.

The report is to identify visible defects on the tree and to specify any necessary remedial tree works which may be required to address identified hazards from the tree whilst acknowledging and respecting its significance to the local area as a Veteran status tree.

The report refers to the condition of tree(s) and an assessment of the site on the days the evaluation was undertaken. The tree was assessed from ground level only and was not climbed.

4.2 CAVEATS

The extent of the survey was limited to a visual inspection of 1x Oak tree as viewed from ground level only.

This report is not a property structural report, and it does not consider the structural integrity of the property and its use as such is invalid.

It is the client's responsibility to ensure that this report covers all areas under the brief of the tree inspection and refer any concerns regarding this matter back to the Arboricultural Consultant.

The report is for the sole use of the client and its reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by the author.

The survey looks for defects which may make the failure of all or part of the tree foreseeable. The report then makes recommendations for remedial works which would reduce the probability of failure where the hazard presented poses an unacceptable risk to persons or property.

The report is valid for normal weather conditions only. Healthy trees or parts of healthy trees may fail in normal weather situations, although the risk increases with storm conditions and, as the consequences of such weather events are unforeseeable, Sarah

¹ R.G Strouts & T.G. Winter, 'Diagnosis of Ill Health in Trees' Published for the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, under license from the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright 1994.

Duckworth (trading as Duckworth's Arboriculture Limited) cannot be held liable for any such failures.

Trees are dynamic living organisms subject to change, whose health and condition can be subject to significant change influenced by internal and external factors. The assessment, conclusions and recommendations from the report are based on the condition of the tree and surrounding ground conditions at the time of my visit. If the condition of the tree evidently changes or where tree(s) are subject to development or ground works within their rooting areas or extreme weather conditions, further inspection may be required.

This report is valid for two years from the survey date. Further inspection is recommended prior to 28th November 2026. Any changes in tree condition or growths around the base before this date should be brought to the attention of the Arboricultural Consultant promptly.

Trees can never be guaranteed 100% safe. Regular inspections by competent and / or suitably qualified arboriculturists will help identify potential problems before they become acute.

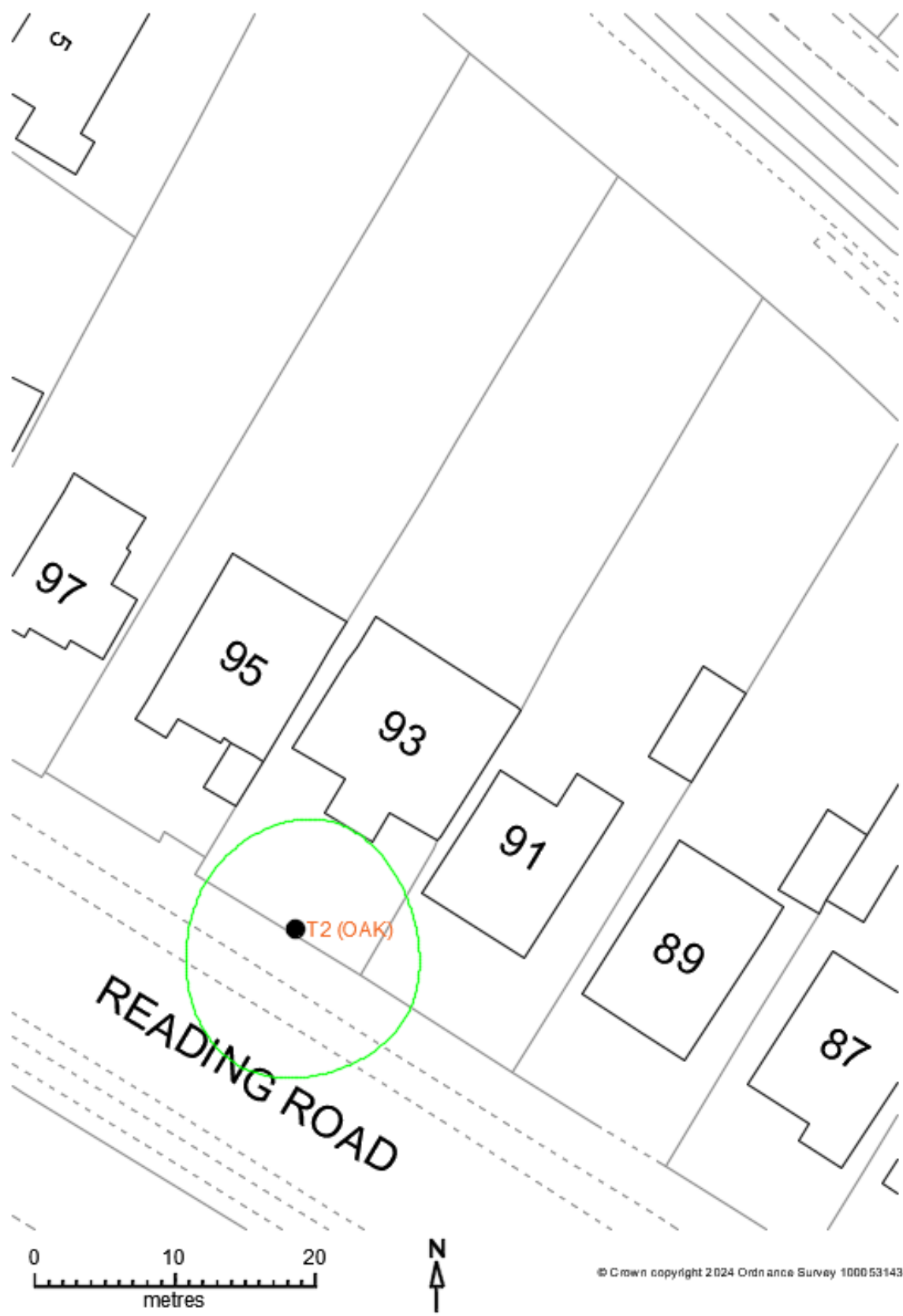


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5. ARBORICULTURAL INSPECTION DATA

Tree Ownership			Site Address					
Mr. E. Kooiker			93 Reading Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 1EN					
Tree Number		T2		Tree Species			Age	Mature
				Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)				
Diameter:	1200mm @1.5m	Height:	19m	Canopy spread	N: 7.5m	E: 9.5m	S: 10m	W: 6.6m
SITUATION: A mature Oak in a prominent location adjacent to Reading Road. The Oak is growing on a raised mound adjacent to the highway verge, 6m from the road, 2.7m from public footpath, 1.8m from drive and 7m from the dwelling. Rooting area mostly tarmac or adopted highway. BASE: Single stem on raised bank. Dense low shrubbery – <i>Hypericum hidcote</i> around the base. Healthy broad buttress roots adapted to bankside location. Historic wounding on one root on northwest side, wound fully occluded. No fungal fruiting bodies evident, sound intonation even and satisfactory, no audible decay. STEM & UNIONS: Single stem with epicormic shoots from 1.8m above ground level. Historic pruning cuts on trunk from previous branch removal, some are occluded, others have not. Nesting boxes on trunk. CANOPY: Broad crown. Stem / branch forks are well-formed and in a satisfactory condition. Deadwood over pavement and driveway. Short stump of branch on north side of canopy has decay/cavity. Canopy autumnal. Large branches 400-500mm diameter over highway. Canopy has previously been reduced. 2-3m Regrowth on previous reduction points. Decay pockets on some previous reduction points. Buds slightly sparse in upper and central crown. Growth clustered towards branch tips. Major deadwood in crown. Northern side of crown overhands roof of property. Asymmetric canopy south side due to two large side branches from 5m on southeast and southwest side of canopy. Southeast side has been reduced – cuts 100mm – 2-3m regrowth, southwest less so. DISCUSSION: T2 (Oak) is a large and visually prominent tree. The tree is in good health and has no visible structural defects. The tree has a notably asymmetrical canopy, and works have previously been undertaken to reduce the larger dominant side of the canopy over the public highway. The shoots / regrowth from previous reduction is 2-3m long and not very large or at risk from breaking. The Oak currently has few live growth points in the lower / central canopy therefore it is unlikely to respond well to further canopy reduction at this time. However, works are likely to be required in 5-10 years to selectively reduce the regrowth from the previous reduction points and reduce the asymmetry of the crown once the vitality of the canopy has improved.								
Recommended Tree Works: - Remove deadwood. 1. Reduce lateral spread of lower branches on the north side towards dwelling by 1-1.5m to 1) Reduce weight of new growth beyond previous decayed pruning stump & 2) create reasonable clearance to dwelling - Remove epicormic shoots on the northeast side of the canopy only over parking/drive to create 4m canopy clearance above ground level.					Priority		Within 6 months	
					Re-inspection due		24 Months	
					Date		28 th November 2024	

6. SITE PLAN



7. GALLERY



Photo 1 – Base of T2 (Oak)

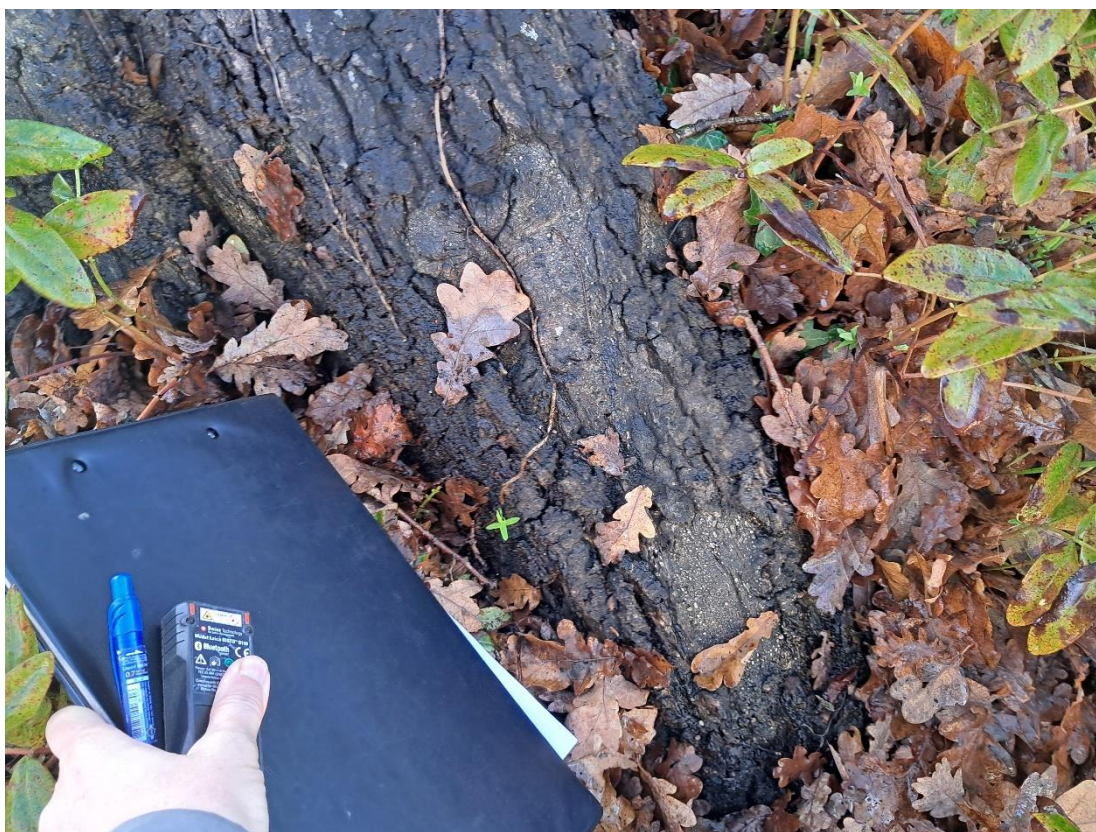


Photo 2 – Old, occluded wound on buttress root



Photo 3 - Asymmetrical canopy - west side of tree



Photo 4 – Canopy of tree as viewed from the south



Photo 5 – Indicative line of proposed reduction of regrowth from decayed stump on north side of crown (circled)



Photo 6 – T2 (Oak) viewed from southwest with line showing extent of epicormic growth removal over property access.