DUCKWORTHS
ARBORICULTURE

TREE CONDITION SURVEY

TREES ON RESIDENTIAL AMENITY LAND AT FIELD PARK AND BERRYCROFT BRACKNELL BERKSHIRE

MAY 2021
Ref: SCD 05530 / 2021

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2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Instruction

This Arboricultural Report has been commissioned by Martin Kidd of Fielden Springs Management Limited. I have been asked to undertake a 'Level 2' detailed visual inspection of trees growing within two areas of amenity land at Field Park and Berrycroft, Bracknell in order to assess their future management needs and identify any short term health and safety works which may be required, whilst acknowledging and respecting their local significance to local biodiversity and to the amenity of the residential area.

The trees have has been looked at in detail using the Visual Tree Assessment[1] the basis of which is the identification of symptoms produced by a tree in reaction to a defect, or area of mechanical stress. VTA is a non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of an individual trees. Trees have been tagged with a circular aluminium numbered disk.

The trees were inspected from ground level only. Non-invasive inspection equipment (mallet, metal probe) were used to make an assessment of the structural integrity at the base and trunk of the trees where the visual inspection identified the need.

Where appropriate works have been prioritised according to the hazard and taking into account the presence of high-risk areas such as the public highway, buildings, footpaths and private residential gardens.

2.2 Inspection information

The trees were inspected on Tuesday 13th and 23rd May 2021 by Sarah Duckworth, Arboricultural Consultant. Trees were viewed from the accessible areas of public open space and from ground level only. Further inspection is recommended within 18 months.

The weather clear and bright. Visibility was considered to be good.

2.3 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
- Consulting Arborist Society (CAS) Member and LANTRA endorsed 'Mortgage (Home Buyer) Tree Reports' Consultant.

2.4 Insurance

Sarah Duckworth t/a Duckworth's Arboriculture is insured with Hiscox Insurance

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

[1] Mattheck and Breloer 1994

2.5 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 and 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 was noted at the time of my survey that there are a number of cavities on the veteran Oak (T1) in which birds appear to be nesting. 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.

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.

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.

When tree or vegetation clearance work has to be undertaken during the nesting season, a pre works survey needs to be carried out by a suitably competent person. As a general rule, it should be assumed that birds will be nesting in trees, and the contactors should assess, record and confirm that any works carried out in the management of trees and other vegetation has not disturbed actively nesting birds.

2.6 Tree Preservation Orders

I have confirmed with Bracknell Forest Council's online Tree Preservation Order maps that a number of trees are subject of Tree Preservation Order ref. 372 which was served on 18th February 2021. No works should be undertaken to the protected trees on site without the prior written consent of the Borough Council (certain exemptions apply).

The property is not within a Conservation Area.

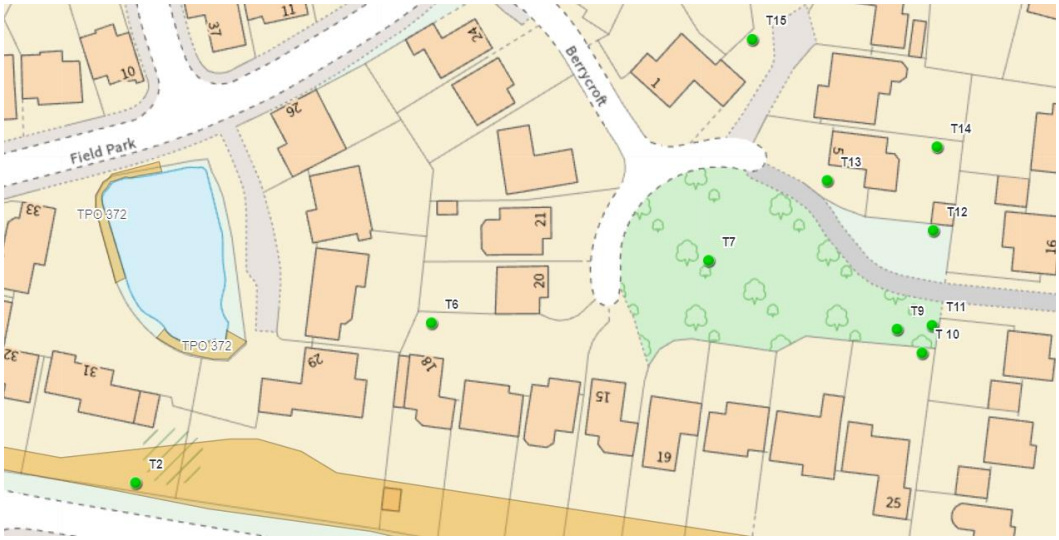

Fig. 1 – Extract from Bracknell Forest Council's online Tree Preservation Order Map

2.7 Occupancy

There is free and unrestricted pedestrian access around the trees for all residents and members of the public in both locations.

At Field Park there are residential parking areas and driveways around the pond. Trees at Field Park pond area are considered to be growing in a high occupancy location.

The amenity verge at Berrycroft has been bordered with a knee high post and rail access to discourage pedestrian movement in this area. Notices on the railings warn about the risk of falling branches from the veteran Oak (T1). There is an informal cut through along the southern boundary of the site. Dense shrubbery in certain areas restricts movement and most of the area under the canopy of T1 (Oak) is less frequently used public open space. Trees on site are therefore considered to be in a moderate occupancy area.

2.8 Tree Work Good Practice:

All tree works specified should be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.

In order to limit the harm to trees caused by the pruning operations, pruning work on live trees is best undertaken in the summer months (July and August) avoiding periods of drought. The next best time to carry out works is within the winter period when deciduous trees are dormant (December – January). Aside from tree felling, no tree pruning work is recommended during the period immediately before or after leaf break (February to June) when the trees' energy reserves are most depleted.

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.

You are advised to use a properly qualified and experienced company will be employed 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**.

2.9 Management of Deadwood

Dead and decaying trees are vital components of a properly functioning ecosystem and play a key role in sustaining biodiversity and soil fertility. A balanced and healthy ecosystem features deadwood in a various locations both on the ground and in the canopy. It is therefore undesirable to remove all areas of dead or decaying wood from the trees as this would harm the natural ecosystem. Standing deadwood, dead branches and other defects with ecological value have been retained where it is considered reasonable and safe to do so.

Where trees and dead branches or timber have been identified for removal in this survey, a percentage of the wood, (particularly wood already decayed) should be stacked and left on site for habit value where possible.

2.10 Veteran Trees

T1 (Oak) is considered to be a 'Veteran' status tree with significant wider amenity value. A veteran tree is usually in its second or mature stage of its life. Veteran trees get their name from signs of premature aging, having the connotation of a 'battle-scarred survivor'. As such a veteran tree has features which increase its value as habitat for wildlife (dead wood, cavities etc.). Such trees are expected to have started hollowing and have patches of decay, broken branches or flaking bark that provide holes, cavities and crevices in the trunk and large limbs which are especially important for roosting and nesting bats and birds. The trees have enormous value to local ecology.

Veteran trees have a large number of habitat features which may also be considered 'structural defects' and are frequently colonised with wood decay fungi. Branch and stem failure is therefore possible as the decay progresses through the tree.

T1 (Oak) has been previously subject to two enhanced visual inspections and a combination of decay detection testing via Picus Sonic Tomograph and IML PD500 Micro-Drill. The first assessment was by Atworth Arboriculture on the 28th October 2019, the second by Hayden's Arboricultural Consultants on the 17th February 2020.

Both surveys have confirmed the presence of advanced decay around the lower trunk of the tree particularly around the soil horizon and buttress roots. Both surveys have noted limitations to the results due to the formation of buttress roots but conclude that a full reduction of the tree's canopy is required in order to reduce the weight of the canopy above the evidently decayed stem.

The only way to completely reduce the risk of failure of all or part of a veteran tree would be to remove the tree or reduce it to such an extent that its amenity value and character would be irreparably harmed. However, due to the age of the Oak, its intrinsic habitat value and heritage association with the pre-development landscape, it is also highly desirable to retain the tree for as long as it is reasonable to do so during their senescence. This report recognises and respects the ecological and heritage value of T1 (Oak). The tree works specified are considered to be the minimum required to reduce the weight of the canopy and branches above the identified areas of decay or weakness and the associated risk of major branch failure in this moderately-high occupancy location whilst seeking to preserve the health of the tree as far as is reasonably possible.

The final specification for the proposed reduction has been determined having viewed the tree in leaf and the extent of works which may be appropriate given the physiological condition of the tree. I have referred to the findings of both reports in my assessment of the tree and used the results of the Picus and drill tests to guide an appropriate works required in order to reduce the risk posed by the tree in this location.

Appropriate works to a tree of this age will always be subject to some discussion. It is of the utmost importance to get the tree works specification right given the significance of the tree in terms of age, amenity and heritage value. With this in mind, I would be happy to meet a representative from the local authority to review the tree and discuss the tree works specification further should they wish to do so.

2.11 Ivy

Ivy is an attractive habitat for insects and invertebrates and consequently bird and animal life can benefit as a result of an increase in available food source. Bats, which are rare and protected by law regularly roost amongst ivy, as well as inside small cavities in suitable trees. Ivy growth is not a threat to the health of otherwise healthy trees; however it does obscure the base, trunk and forks of trees. Although ivy foliage was moved aside to better assess the trees where accessible and if the visual inspection of a tree identified the need; it was beyond the scope of this report to sever all stems and ivy to allow a full inspection of all tree trunks.

For certain individual trees within the site I have specified for the removal of ivy from trees in order to carry out a detailed inspection of the condition of a tree. Where trees are in a less strictly managed, in lower occupancy areas or where the trees are young and vigorous, ivy does not need to be removed and can be left to benefit local wildlife.

When severing established ivy it is important to use sharp hand tools only. Ivy stems should be cut at ground level and 1.5m, taking care not to damage the tree bark. Cut stems should then be removed to height of 1.5m. The ivy growth above 1.5m can be left in the canopy (unless it obscures another necessary point of inspection) from where it will die back and eventually fall from the tree.

2.12 Soil Amelioration

There is substantial evidence for the benefit of mulches around the bases of old trees in order to increase their root development and improving tree health and physiology. Removing the turf and applying the mulch around the base of T1 (Oak) could significantly improve the health of the tree and increase **its** longevity.

Fig. 2 - An example of a well-mulched Veteran tree.

In order to mulch trees, turf around the base of the tree should be removed by hand using sharp spades to lift a thin layer of grass and roots. The radius of the mulched area should be as large as possible – out to the edge of the canopy would be best but any mulched area, however small will benefit the growing conditions for the tree.

Once the turf has been removed a mulch of **well-rotted** bark chip or fully composted organic material should be raked over the area 60- 100mm deep taking care not to obscure the natural root flare around the base of the tree.

The mulch will improve mycorrhizae growth (beneficial root fungi), stabilise soil temperature and moisture levels, reduce compaction and improve soil nutrient levels and porosity for the benefit of healthy tree root growth.

Lawn weed and feed is potentially toxic to trees. You are strongly advised not to use any chemical products on the grass area around T1 (Oak) where it would be harmful to the tree. Works are also recommended to remove Sycamore saplings from under the tree's canopy in order to prevent them from shading the Oak's canopy.

2.13 Management of Ash Dieback

There are a number of Ash trees on site. The client is advised that Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) poses a significant threat to the health of Ash trees in the UK and in many areas of the UK a significant percentage of Ash trees have already been affected by Ash dieback to varying degrees.

Experience in continental Europe, which is now being seen replicated in the UK, indicates that Ash dieback can kill young and coppiced ash trees quite quickly. However, older trees can resist it for some time until prolonged exposure, or another pest or pathogen, such as *Armillaria* (honey fungus), attacking them in their weakened state eventually causes them to succumb. There is no known cure.

Current management guidelines from Forest Research (Great Britain's principal organisation for forestry and tree related research) confirmed that a landowner is not legally required to take any particular action if you own infected ash trees, unless your country forestry or plant health authority serves you with a Statutory Plant Health Notice (SPHN) requiring action. This is unlikely.

With the exceptions of felling for public safety or timber production, Forest Research recommend a general presumption against felling living ash trees, whether infected or not. This is because there is good evidence that a small proportion will be able to tolerate an Ash Dieback infection. There is also the possibility that a proportion of ash trees can become diseased, but then recover to good health. These trees would be valuable for research.

For the purposes of a tree survey therefore, Ash trees are retained unless their condition is so undermined that recovery is not considered viable or without the structure of the tree being severely impaired as a result.

Publication by the Tree Council 'Ash dieback disease: a guide for tree owners' (June 2020) grades the extent of dieback into 4 classifications.

- CLASS 1 100%–76% of the crown remains
- CLASS 2 75%–51% of the crown remains
- CLASS 3 50%–26% of the crown remains
- CLASS 4 25%–0% of the crown remains

The extent of dieback has been recorded where relevant on trees to enable monitoring as part of any future assessments.

Public safety is the priority, and tree owners' are advised to keep an eye on the trees' safety as the disease progresses, and prune or fell them if they or their branches threaten to cause injury or damage. In particular, watch for basal lesions (lesions, or cankers, forming near the bottom of the trunk), which can weaken the trunk and make the tree more prone to falling.

This survey was undertaken in May when the Ash trees were out of leaf and it is not always possible to ascertain the extent of Ash Dieback or the physiological health of the trees. Monitoring of the Ash trees should be undertaken when the trees are in leaf as part of the ongoing maintenance of tree stock.

2.14 Caveats

The report refers to the condition of tree(s) and an assessment of the site on the day the evaluation was undertaken. The trees were assessed from ground level only and not climbed. My assessment of trees was limited where direct access was not available to the adjoining properties.

The boundaries of the survey have been defined by the annotated land registry plan provided by the client. Fences where present on site have been taken as the presumed site boundary. 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.

A Tree Inspection takes into consideration predictable seasonal variation of weather but cannot predict the response of the trees in the event of unpredictable (extreme) weather conditions. If the condition of the tree evidently changes or the tree is subject to extreme weather conditions before this date; further inspection may be required.

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 trees and surrounding ground conditions at the time of my visit and is valid for 18 months. Any alterations to the subject site or any development could change the current circumstances and may invalidate the report and any recommendations made.

The survey of the trees is preliminary in nature. The assessment of tree health and condition is based on a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) and no invasive / destructive tests have been undertaken. I have not taken any soil or root samples for analysis. This report is not a structural report not does it consider the structural integrity of the property and its use as such is invalid.

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

The report is valid for normal weather conditions only. Healthy trees or parts of healthy trees ay fail in normal weather situations, although the risk increases with storm conditions and, as the consequences of such weather events are unforeseeable, Sarah Duckworth (trading as Duckworth's Arboriculture) cannot be held liable for any such failures.

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.

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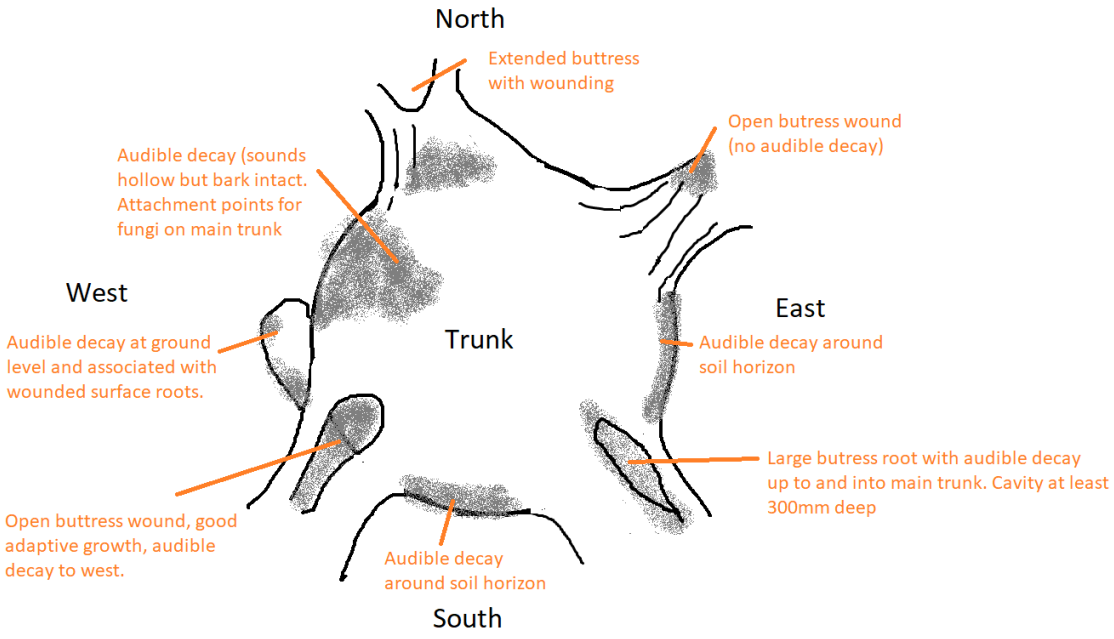
3. ARBORICULTURAL INSPECTION DATA

Tree Ownership				Site Address				
Fielden Spring Management Limited.				Amenity land at Berrycroft, Bracknell.				
Tree Number	**T1**		**Tree Species**	Oak (*Quercus robur*)			**Age**	Veteran
Dia @ 1.5m:	**1500mm (est)**	**Height**	**20.5**	**Canopy spread**	**N: 13.5m**	**E: 11.4m**	**S: 11m**	**W: 12.4m**

Context Target, setting, position in landscape.	SITUATION: Veteran Oak tree growing within an area of public open space. Low level knee-high railing runs around the site, discouraging causal public access. Notices advise on the risk of falling branches. Rooting area around the tree is turfed or covered with dense vegetation. BASE: Mechanical damage to exposed surface roots. Significant stem wounding associated with a number of large buttress roots. Audible decay at ground level around areas of the trunk between buttress roots. Most extensive and audible areas of decay is on west side where trunk sounds hollow from ground level to approximately 1.5m high and 0.7m wide. Three scars associated with this area from previous fungal attachment – presumed to be *Pseudoinonotus dryadeus* given the location, pattern of decay evident and the species of tree although previous surveys from Atworth Arboriculture have noted the presence of *Fistulina hepatica on the tree*. STEM & UNIONS: Single stem to 2.5m with 9 main scaffold branches above stem fork. Branch unions as viewed from ground level appear to be in a satisfactory condition. No major areas of audible decay higher up on trunk. Bark intact. CANOPY: Extremely broad canopy with long extended branches particularly on the west to north quadrant of the canopy. Decay pockets in various old pruning cuts many of which appear to be hosting nesting birds. 1 large spilt branch stump in canopy with associated area of decay. Another wound from split limb with limited end weight to branch. Uneven canopy vitality with foliage in upper crown more sparse, some apical decline. Minor deadwood at branch tips. DISCUSSION: This is a veteran tree with intrinsic habitat value and one which is significant in terms of age and size for the species. The tree has evident decay around the trunk base and buttressing which is not uncommon on a tree of this age. The attachment points of a couple of decay fungi are visible on the west side of the trunk my thoughts are that these may be from *Pseudoinonotus dryadeus* given their location and pattern of decay evident and the species of tree. Previous surveys confirmed the presence of Beefsteak fungus – *Fistulina hepatica* This is a slow acting fungus that causes brown staining of the wood before making the wood brittle by degrading the cellulose. Generally this happens very slowly in the principal host tree species (Oak) but it can be significant in advanced stages when breakage of the affected parts can occur. *Pseudoinonotus dryadeus* fungus if present causes a 'selective white rot'. Early degraded wood is light and brittle. With progressive degradation the wood becomes soft, fibrous and bleached. This can lead to bulging and fibre buckling. In early stages the fungus, where degrading the butt and heartwood, *Pseudoinonotus dryadeus* is not likely to undermine the structural integrity of a tree and the two can co-exist for decades without any significant increase in risk posed by the tree. However, where the decay is present on the tree roots below ground, the extent of decay is difficult to monitor and any risk posed by the tree becomes somewhat hypothetical. Much of the decay noted in the Picus tests and from my own audible assessment, appear to be at the very base of the tree at the soil horizon therefore it is reasonable to assume the tree's roots are also degraded. The marked loss of vitality noted in the upper canopy of the tree is also commensurate with a decline in the condition of the tree's roots. Where tree roots are significantly decayed there is an ever present risk of ductile fracture or wind throw after root fracture. The tree has been subject to two recent Picus tests in the recent past – 2019 and 2020, both of which indicate extensive basal decay. Both Consultants recognise that the fluting and buttressing will result in an over exaggeration of the decay at the base of the tree, however, even factoring this in, the results from the Picus and supporting IML PD500 Micro-Drill investigation as well as sounding the tree with a rubber mallet, it is clear there is significant decay around the tree's base and trunk. A canopy reduction is therefore essential in order to reduce weight and wind sail of the canopy.
Roots & Surrounding Ground Cracking, heave, compaction	
Buttresses Decay, ffb, physical damage, structural integrity	
Trunk Ffb,biotic/abiotic damage, exudates, structural integrity, slenderness	
Main Union Ffb, decay, other plants, exudates, structural integrity	
Primary Ascending Stems Biotic/abiotic factors, deadwood, structural integrity	
Main Branches Biotic/abiotic factors, deadwood, structural integrity	

	In the first report in 2019, Atworth Arboriculture recommended a canopy reduction but was not specific as to the extend of the reduction. Following this report Hayden's Arboricultural Consultants also recommended a complete canopy reduction the extent of which is to be determined once the tree is in leaf. I have viewed the tree in leaf and identified what I consider to be a suitable first phase reduction of the tree. Phasing the canopy reduction will reduce the impact of the work on the tree's health and improve the rate of recovery. In order to achieve the necessary reduction in canopy, cuts specified will unfortunately need to exceed 100mm, the maximum size identified as being appropriate within the BS:3998 'Tree Works Recommendations' The tree will need to be managed in a reduced form with a second cut is anticipated to improve the shape and which ultimately will result in a greatly reduced but sustainable tree canopy. The second cut will be defined and scheduled by the response of the tree to the initial pruning works and will require a new application to be submitted to the Council for consent under the TPO. The tree will require regular follow-on inspections following this work.

Recommended Tree Works 2021: • Selectively reduce height by 6m – from 20.5m to approximately 14.5m using nearest suitable reduction points. • Grade height reduction into a reduction of over-extended low, lateral branches particularly on the west to north quadrant of the canopy reducing branches by approximately 2-4m. • Reduce two low branches on west side of canopy by 4/6m as required to reduce weight of low lateral branches back to suitable growth point • Work is intended to reduce weight and sail area of tree's canopy above area of basal decay • Remove Sycamore saplings growing under the tree's canopy. In order to limit the harm to trees caused by the pruning operations, pruning work on mature, live trees should be undertaken in the summer months (July and August) avoiding periods of drought. No tree pruning work is advisable during the period immediately before or after leaf break (March to June) when the trees' energy reserves are most depleted.	**Priority**	3 months
	Re-ins	2 years
	Date	13th May 2021



Sketch showing approximate areas of audible decay detected during 2021 visual inspection - Do not scale

Ref	Species	Condition	General Observations	Tree Works Recommendations	Priority
T2	Oak (*Quercus spp.*)	Fair	Slender tree – bark suggests it may be Turkey Oak? – partial leaf break so hard to tell at this time of year. Base and trunk obscured by dense ivy growth. Reasonable form.	No works identified.	-
T3	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	Fair	Twin stem from 0.3m. Tight compression fork. Sub-optimum structural form. Reasonable vitality but life expectancy reduced by threat of Ash Dieback Disease. (Ash Dieback Class 1)	No works identified.	-
T4	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Fair	Early-mature tree, foliage slightly sparse. Ivy growth cut in the past leaving dead stems in tree. Asymmetrical canopy due to competition with adjacent trees. Reasonable vitality. Where accessible base clear, bark intact. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay.	No works identified.	-
T5	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Fair	Early-mature tree, foliage slightly sparse. Ivy growth cut in the past leaving dead stems in tree. Reasonable vitality. Where accessible base clear, bark intact. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay.	No works identified.	-
G6	3x Oak (*Quercus robur*) 1x Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	Fair	Early-mature group of trees grown together forming a single canopy spread. Individual trees have supressed or etiolated canopy shapes as a response to competition for light. Most of the trees are covered in prolific ivy. Restricted access to base due to dense ivy and vegetation (Holly). Branch tips within 100mm of adjacent streetlight. Although no visual inspection possible of trunks trees of this age / form / vigour few significant stem defects are anticipated – ivy to be retained for habitat value..	Cut back branch tips to give 1m clearance to street light.	Within 12 months
T7	Coastal Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*)	Fair	Large stem, deeply fluted trunk commensurate with growth form of species. Hammer test inconclusive due to dense bark. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or visual signs of decay (frass etc). Base clear, bark intact. Foliage dense and even, reasonable vitality. Tall tree. No significant defects recorded. Pendulous lower canopy to ground level.	No works identified.	-
G8	4x Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) 2x Ash	Moderate	Stems of various sizes including sucker growth from Holly. Shrubby form, light ivy coverage. One over-extended stem grows over footpath. Tips sparse 'cup' union at base. Marked loss of vitality, poor form. (Ash Dieback Class 1)	Reduce selected individual stem which is growing over footpath, back approximately 5m to nearside of footpath.	Within 3 months
T9	Silver birch (*Betula pendula*)	Good	Slightly kinked trunk. Fair form, no significant defects recorded. Remains of decayed stump at base.	No works identified.	-
T10	Coastal Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*)	Fair	Two large stems from approximately 1.6m. Union satisfactory. Hammer test inconclusive due to dense bark. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or visual signs of decay (frass etc). Base clear, bark intact. Foliage dense and even, reasonable vitality Some organic matter build up around base. Pendulous canopy to ground level. Lower canopy in direct contact with neighbour's shed.	Crown-lift to give 1-1.5m clearance to neighbour's shed.	Within 12 months
T11	Whitebeam (*Sorbus spp.*)	Fair	Mature specimen, foliage dense and even. No significant defects recorded.	No works identified.	-

Ref	Species	Condition	General Observations	Tree Works Recommendations	Priority
T12	Cherry (*Prunus spp.*)	Fair	Twin stems entwined and lightly fused in three separate locations. Good vitality, no works identified.	No works identified.	-
T13	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	Fair	Small sapling, fair condition. Bramble in canopy. Reasonable vitality but life expectancy reduced by threat of Ash Dieback Disease. (Ash Dieback Class 1)	No works identified.	-
T14	Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	Fair	Two stems at ground level. Base and trunk obscured by dense ivy growth. Foliage dense and even. Light dieback in upper canopy but overall reasonable vitality.	Sever ivy and epicormic growth prior to next inspection	Within 12 months
T15	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	Good	Early-mature tree, Base clear bark intact. Slight kink in trunk. Minor dieback in canopy. Bud distribution dense and even.	No works identified.	-
T16	Portuguese laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*)	Fair	Large shrub / small tree. Foliage dense and even. Reasonable vitality. Light ivy coverage, sucker growth on lower stem.	No works identified.	-
T17	Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*)	Fair	Young tree, stake remains at base (but not tied in). No significant defects. Asymmetrical canopy due to competition with adjacent trees.	Remove stake	Within 6 months
T18	Portuguese laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*)	Fair	Large shrub / small tree. Foliage dense and even. Reasonable vitality.	No works identified.	-
T19	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Fair	Young slender tree on edge of pond. Reasonable vitality. Asymmetrical canopy due to competition with adjacent trees. Reasonable vitality.	No works identified.	-
T20	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Fair	Early-mature tree with high etiolated canopy. Reasonable vitality. No works identified.	No works identified.	-
T21	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Moderate	Kinked stem and epicormic growth at 1m. Asymmetrical canopy due to competition with adjacent trees. Outer branch tips approximately 2-3m from dwelling. Wound on west side of trunk at approximately 1.3m above ground level with a small open cavity. Metal probe extends in 200mm horizontal and at least 350mm vertically up into old wound site which is around 800mm high on outside of tree (but occluded for most of this area).	Selectively reduce canopy by up to 2m back to suitable reduction points to improve balance of canopy, reducing weight and wind loading above point of stem cavity.	Within 3 months
T22	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Fair	Early-mature tree with high etiolated canopy. Reasonable vitality. No works identified.	No works identified.	-
T23	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Moderate	Slender Oak with historic wounding (folly occluded) on the lower trunk. Stem fused to that of the adjacent T22 (Oak) at 3m above ground level. Asymmetrical canopy over pond. Foliage dense and even. Reasonable vitality.	No works identified.	-
T24	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Poor	Large, historic stem wound from 0.3m above ground level to approximately 1.6m. Trunk splayed, slightly oval in shape around wound. Frass and insect activity evident in heartwood. Some adaptive growth. Very slender tree with compact canopy in a sheltered location. One to monitor but condition not a concern at this time.	No works identified.	-

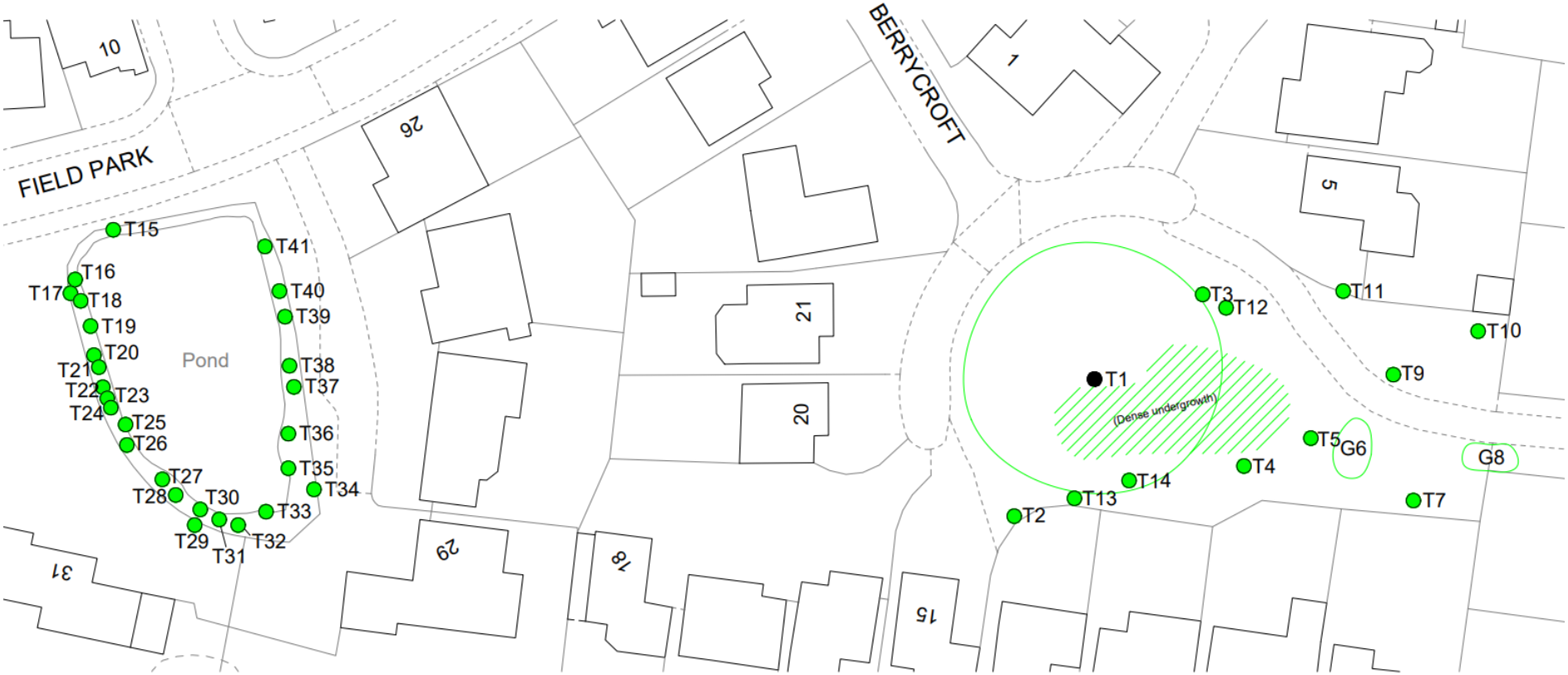
Ref	Species	Condition	General Observations	Tree Works Recommendations	Priority
T25	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Poor	Slender tree growing on edge of pond. Poor form with kinked trunk from approximately 2.5m having been supressed by adjacent trees. Pronounced buttressing and fluting on lower trunk. Canopy asymmetrical over pond area.	No works identified.	-
T26	Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*)	Fair	Base clear, bark intact. Young tree with potential to grow significantly larger – might not be suited to this location. Multiple leaders in upper canopy. Reasonable vitality.	No works identified.	-
T27	Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	Fair	Slender small Hawthorn in sheltered location. Co-dominant leaders. Reasonable vitality.	No works identified.	-
T28	Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)	Fair	Base obscured by dense vegetation. Two stems from ground level entwined. Good vitality. Small shrubby tree.	No works identified.	-
T29	Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)	Moderate	Supressed small tree, low vitality. Foliage slightly sparse.	No works identified.	-
T30	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Moderate	Small fungal fruiting body at base(south side) appears to be *Ganoderma resinaceum.* Elsewhere base clear, bark intact. Hammer test even, no audible decay around base. Swept stem to south with strong buttressing on south (compression) side. Single stem to 8m, stem fork union open and well formed. Tree has previously been reduced with 2-3m regrowth from previous reduction points. Not overly dense. Reasonable vitality. Minor deadwood in canopy. Old branch tear out wound on west side of canopy – not a significant wound.	No works identified.	-
T31	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Fair	Swept stem south due to competition with T30 (Oak). Foliage lush and dense. Base clear, bark intact. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay.	No works identified.	-
T32	Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)	Moderate	Two stems of Holly from ground level. Stem wound and decay present in wound site on the smaller of the two stems. Small tree, sheltered location. Low risk.	No works identified.	-
T33	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Moderate	Large tree with unusual, horizontal growing lower trunk resting on ground, probably as a result of root failure when the tree was young, from which position the tree has adapted and continued to grow. Main stem grows upright. Base clear, bark intact. No fungal fruiting bodies evident or audible decay. No obvious buttressing but this is not unexpected given the growth form of the tree. A number of pruning cuts on the lower stem following works to lift the tree's canopy. Canopy open, gappy. Foliage dense but clustered. Moderate vitality. Minor dead twigs throughout the canopy.	No works identified.	-
T34	Portuguese laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*)	Fair	Three stems from ground level. Branches removed on east side. Large shrub / small tree. Reasonable vitality.	No works identified.	-

Ref	Species	Condition	General Observations	Tree Works Recommendations	Priority
T35	Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)	Fair	Three stems, two of the three stems have a tight fork with area of bark inclusion and associated weeping lesion from fusion point. Young and vigorous tree – not a concern at this time but one to monitor – stems may fuse completely or part as the tree matures.	Monitor condition of stem base as part of any future grounds maintenance	Ongoing
T36	Birch (*Betula pendula*)	Good	Pronounced buttressing. Asymmetrical canopy to west due to competition for light with adjacent trees which have now been removed (stumps remain). Light ivy coverage, fair form and vitality.	No works identified.	-
T37	Oak (*Quercus robur*)	Good	Early-mature tree. Light ivy coverage. Base clear, bark intact. Foliage slightly sparse and etiolated – perhaps due to competition for light with adjacent tree in early years which has now been removed (stump remains). Reasonable form and long term potential.	No works identified.	-
T38	Alder (*Alnus cordata*)	Fair	Slender tree with slight curvature to trunk. Asymmetrical canopy due to competition with adjacent T37 (Oak).	No works identified.	-
T39	Alder (*Alnus cordata*)	Fair	Stocky tree, ivy clad. Reasonable vitality. Base and lower trunk obscured by ivy growth and dense vegetation. Although no visual inspection of trunk, age / form / vigour means no significant stem defects are anticipated. Retain ivy for amenity / habitat value.	No works identified.	-
T40	Alder (*Alnus cordata*)	Fair	Stocky tree. Base and trunk obscured by prolific ivy growth. Good vitality. Foliage dense and even. Although no visual inspection of trunk, age / form / vigour means no significant stem defects are anticipated. Retain ivy for amenity / habitat value.	No works identified.	-
T41	Portuguese laurel (*Prunus lusitanica*)	Good	Light ivy coverage, three stems from ground level. Large shrub / small tree. Reasonable vitality	No works identified.	-

4. TREE WORKS SCHEDULE (IN PRIORITY ORDER)

Ref	Species	Tree Works Recommendations	Priority
T1	Oak	• Selectively reduce height by 6m – from 20.5m to approximately 14.5m using nearest suitable reduction points. • Grade height reduction into a reduction of over-extended low, lateral branches particularly on the west to north quadrant of the canopy reducing branches by approximately 2-4m. • Reduce two low branches on west side of canopy by 4/6m as required to reduce weight of low lateral branches • Work is intended to reduce weight and sail area of tree's canopy above stem and base which has confirmed decay • Remove Sycamore saplings growing under tree's canopy.	Summer 2021
G8	4x Holly 2x Ash	Reduce selected individual stem which is growing over footpath, back approximately 5m to nearside of footpath.	3 months
T21	Oak	Selectively reduce canopy by up to 2m back to suitable reduction points to improve balance of canopy, reducing weight and wind loading above point of stem cavity.	3 months
T17	Whitebeam	Remove stake	6 months
T10	Coastal Redwood	Crown-lift to give 1-1.5m clearance to neighbour's shed.	12 months
G6	3x Oak 1x Hawthorn	Cut back branch tips to give 1m clearance to street light.	12 months
T14	Hawthorn	Sever ivy and epicormic growth prior to next inspection	12 months
T35	Sycamore	Monitor condition of stem base as part of any future grounds maintenance	Ongoing

5. SITE PLAN



DO NOT SCALE –
Trees on this plan have been plotted by eye and their positions measured against fixed structures on site. As such the plan should not be taken as exact but is considered to be a fair representation of the position of the trees in relation to the property

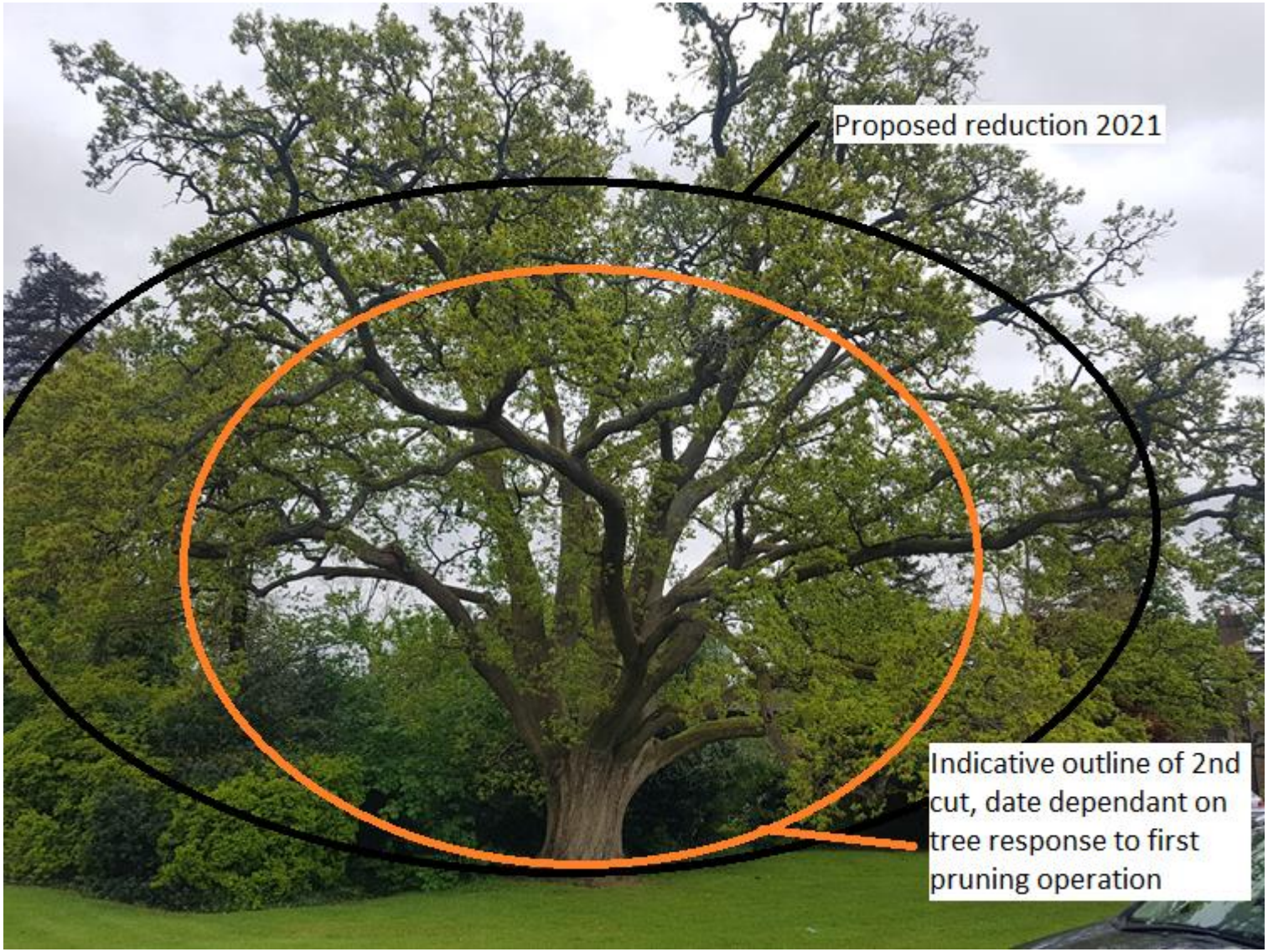


Image 1 / 6 – Phased reduction points for T1 (Oak)

Image 2 / 6 – Reduction of 2 lower lateral branches on west side of T1 (Oak)

Image 3 / 6 – Remains of *G. resinaceum* at base of T30 (Oak)

Image 4 / 6 – Cavity and old occluded wound on stem of T21 (Oak)

Image 5 / 6 – Kinked stem at base of T33 (Oak)

Image 6 / 6 – Weak compression fork and weeping lesion T35 (Sycamore)