Tree condition survey

at

Woodland areas, St Nicolas School, Redfields House, Redfields Lane, Church Crookham, Fleet, GU52 0RF

Surveyed by
Ben Abbatt

Dip. Arb. (RFS), BA (Hons), MICFor, MRICS, CEnv
Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant

Client
St Nicolas School
Redfields House
Redifelds Lane
Church Crookham
Fleet
GU52 0RF

Report date
29th June 2023

Report reference
J1118.12

Sapling Arboriculture Ltd
Holbache, Mount Pleasant Road, Alton, Hants,
GU34 2RS

T: 01420 550 160
E: enquiries@saplingarboriculture.com
W: www.saplingarboriculture.com

Table of Contents

1. INSTRUCTION 3

2. INTRODUCTION 4

3. STATUTORY CONTROLS 5

4. LIMITATIONS 6

5. TREE SURVEY FINDINGS 7

6. DISCUSSION 8

7. RECOMMENDATIONS 10

APPENDICES 11

Appendix 1: tree survey data 12
Appendix 2: tree survey plan 17
Appendix 3: general notes 19
Appendix 4: key to tree survey data 20
Appendix 5: surveyor qualifications and experience 21

1. Instruction

1.1 I was instructed by D T Canning, Bursar, to carry out a tree condition survey of the woodland areas to the south and west of the school site, paying particular attention to any features that may pose a significant hazard to persons or property, and to produce a tree survey report including the provision of management recommendations with priorities.

1.2 The tree condition assessment is to be carried out in relation to the landowner's duty under the Occupier's Liability Act 1984 and common law. Presumption for tree management will be in favour of retention of the tree(s) where appropriate.

1.3 The client has raised concerns relating to the trees including their condition, the use of the site and adjacent land.

2. Introduction

2.1 The site is to the northwest of Redfields Lane with separate entrance and egress from and onto Redfields Lane.

2.2 The trees subject to the survey stand principally to the south and west of the main school grounds, playing fields and nursery.

2.3 The main school areas are subject to a separate survey (J1118.10) and are excluded from this survey.

2.4 The trees on the frontage to the east are subject to a Felling Licence 019/1155/2021 and are excluded from this survey.

3. Statutory controls

3.1 The online mapping tool[1] provided by Hart District Council, accessed 29th June 2023, identifies that trees within the site are subject to Tree Preservation Order (TPO) (94/00462/HDC), but that no Conservation Area relates.

3.2 As the trees are subject to TPO, a Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 s16 Tree Works Application[2] will need to be issued to the planning authority and 'Consent' received prior to tree works commencing. Such tree works identified within any Consent will normally need to be complete before a 2 year period from the date of the Consent. Additional information on the process can be found at the government website[3]. This tree condition survey can be used to inform such a Tree Works Application.

3.3 Alternatively, works may be exempt from notice as detailed in The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012 sections 14 (exceptions)[4]. Such exceptions are given as a s14 'Notice of Intent' and a 5 working day period for the planning authority to consider the matter and relate to the imminent threat of harm or damage. This tree condition survey can be used to inform such a s14 (5 day) Notice of Intent. On this occasion, no imminent threats were found.

3.4 The Forestry Act 1967 may apply as the trees grow within the grounds of a commercial entity. As the works identified relate to the condition of the trees and the safe use of the site, the works detailed in this report, I believe, fall within the exceptions given in s9[5].

3.5 This document does not consider specific covenants.

---

[1] http://maps.hart.gov.uk/mycouncil.aspx
[2] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/605/regulation/16/made
[3] https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas#making-applications-tpo
[4] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/605/regulation/14/made
[5] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1967/10/section/9

4. Limitations

4.1 The tree survey was carried out on a negative return basis recording only those trees requiring remedial works. Specific attention to trees adjacent to the pedestrian and vehicular access routes, forest school area, and children's nursery was made.

4.2 The tree survey was carried out from ground level, with the aid of binoculars where appropriate, using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) process. The VTA process is used to identify significant tree features that may have significant bearing upon the condition (physiological and structural) and management of the tree.

4.3 Typical significant defects that are identified are referred to in Lonsdale, D., "Hazards from Trees, a general guide" (FCPG13) published in 2000 by the Forestry Commission, Lonsdale, D., "Principles of tree hazard assessment and management" published in 1999 and 2001 and reprinted in 2013 by the Forestry Commission, and Mattheck, C., "The body language of trees" published in 1994 by the Department of the Environment and 2015 by Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.

4.4 Reasonable access around the base of the trees is required to carry out a tree survey. Where this is not feasible, these parts of the tree may not be fully assessed. If a view of the entire structure of the tree(s) is limited, for instance by the properties in private ownership or obscured by vegetation, this is a limitation to the tree survey and some parts of the tree may not be able to be fully surveyed. In this instance access was mostly available, with the benefit of binoculars, a reasonable view of the trees was available. Exceptions relate where the trees have ivy growth obscuring the survey.

4.5 Trees are dynamic structures and as such their condition and health may change in a short period of time, particularly in relation to changes in their immediate environment and circumstances, and as such the survey relates only to the visible condition found on the day of the survey. Tree(s) should be re-surveyed on a regular basis so that the change in condition can be identified. An appropriate time period between surveys may be up to 5 years depending upon the species, condition of the trees, their maturity / size and the context within which the tree(s) grow. Recommendations for the period between surveys are given.

4.6 No soil investigations have been carried out.

5. Tree survey findings

5.1 The survey was carried out on 19th February 2023. Bruce Sharp, Staff, accompanied me during the survey of the birch woodland, forest school area and part of the boundary woodland. The weather on the day of the site visit was clear and dry with low wind speeds.

5.2 The table of findings of the tree survey can be found in Appendix 1.

5.3 I have plotted the approximate tree position on Ordnance Survey data, Ordnance Survey data (licence AC0000849896), to correlate between the tree condition survey (Appendix 1), the tree survey plan (Appendix 2), and the specific trees surveyed on site. Position of the tree plotted is approximate on the tree survey plan and the specific tree will need to be identified through their approximate position shown on the tree survey plan, condition notes given in the tree survey text. Additionally, aluminium tags have been placed on accessible trees to aid correlation between the trees on site, the tree survey plan and the tree condition survey notes. Typically, tags are placed on the side of the tree away from the main view or use of the site to avoid visual ‘clutter’ of the natural environment. Where trees have no reference number, these trees do not have a tag and reference to the tree is through the tree condition survey data and indicative position shown on the tree survey plan.

6. Discussion

6.1 Ash dieback is a disease of ash trees that can, over time, lead to the failure of branches, stem and the root-plate of affected trees. See https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/fthr/pest-and-disease-resources/ash-dieback-hymenoscyphus-fraxineus/ for more information. This relates to 3785 and several other trees. Remedial works to help control these risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.2 Woodpecker holes indicate internal decay and this can relate to deterioration of the structure of the tree increasing the potential for stem or branch failure. This relates to 768 and several other trees. Remedial works to help control these risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.3 Bark loss exposes the wood beneath and, in time, allows the decay of this supporting wood. Additionally, this area of bark loss is no longer able to function as the transportation system for water, nutrients and energy. Where the bark loss envelopes the entire tree or branch, this inevitably leads to the death of the stem or branch. This relates to tree 765 and others. Remedial works to help control the risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.4 Decay can be cause by fungi. The first indications of fungi related decay is often a fungal fruiting body. Where such decay is identified it is appropriate to assess the extent of decay and / or implement remedial works to reduce the risk of failure / harm / damage. The greater the extent of decay, the greater the potential for stem or root-plate failure. This relates to 3796 with *Phellinus ignarius*, 7332 with *Ganoderma resinaeceum*, 1999/7067 with *Ganoderma applanatum*, and 3590 with *Cerioporous squamosus*. Remedial works to help control these risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.5 Ceramic fractures at the base identify the potential loss of tensile strength increasing the potential for stem failure. This relates to 1996. Remedial works to help control these risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.6 Where trees are showing decline (reduced leaf and twig density, yellowing foliage, small sized foliage, reduced foliage volume) then this is an indication that the physiology of the tree is deteriorating / in decline. Causes for such decline is numerous. Diminished physiology means that there is less energy available for defence of the tree system which means secondary colonisers (for instance insects, decay fungi, etc.) are more able to colonise the tree and have further influence upon tree physiology and structure. Canopy deterioration / decline may also be an indicator that the structure of the tree may be compromised and there is an increase potential for root-plate failure, stem failure, and branch failure. This relates to 705 and other trees. Remedial works to help control the risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.7 Willow species are susceptible to structural failure due to the type of wood the tree develops and the pattern and rate of growth that the tree species produces. This increases the potential for structural failure. This relates to W1 and other trees. Remedial works to help control the risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.8 Ivy and climbing plants obscure the view of trees and impedes the tree condition survey. It is appropriate to cut the ivy, using hand tools, at the base and remove to 2m taking care to avoid damage to the bark beneath. The ivy will then die off over time to allow survey of the tree. It is recognised that ivy presents habitat and food for wildlife, however, where tree survey of specific trees is necessary, retention of ivy and climbing plants is not recommended. This relates to tree W1 and W2 and others. Remedial works to help control the risks are given in Appendix 1.

6.9 The greater the amount of pruning work carried out, the greater the potential for undesirable physiological and structural impacts upon the retained trees (refer to British Standard 3998:2010 Recommendation for tree works paragraph 7.2.4 extent of pruning works). Therefore, works recommendations given seek to reasonably control the risks identified whilst minimising the potential impact upon the retained tree(s) to aid its retention in the landscape for as long as reasonably practicable. Additionally, tree works recommendations are kept to a minimum to minimise the potential aesthetic impacts that can occur through excessive tree works.

6.10 Extent of works needs to be balanced by the adjacent land use, frequency of use, size of anticipated failure part, and consequence of failure.

6.11 The site is a frequently used site on a daily basis during the day and early evenings throughout the year.

6.12 To conclude, in my consideration of the site, its location, use, frequency of occupation, the potential hazards that the trees present, the condition of the trees and potential for failure, and the potential size of the failure parts, I have provided tree works recommendations with priorities to aid the retention of the trees in the landscape where feasible and these works are detailed in section 7 and Appendix 1.

7. Recommendations

7.1 I have considered the findings of the tree survey within the context of the health and vitality of the trees and the circumstances within which they are located.

7.2 Recommended works are detailed in Appendix 1 with associated priorities. The priorities mean that the recommended works should be carried out within specified timescales detailed in Appendix 3 key to tree survey data.

7.3 Trees considered 'High' priority and should be complete within 1 month from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the trees and their position and context. No trees surveyed meets this criteria.

7.4 Trees are considered 'Moderate' priority and should be complete within 3 months from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the trees and their position and context. There are 32 trees / groups / woodlands that meets this criteria.

7.5 The remaining trees, where works are recommended, are considered a 'Low' priority and should be complete within 12 months from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the trees and their position and context.

7.6 Tree works should be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Works and in particular biosecurity / avoidance of transmission of disease and pathogens (4.3), extent of pruning works (7.2.4), and natural target pruning (7.2.5). A tree contractor ought to carry out works in accordance with this British Standard and be aware of these specific elements.

7.7 Outside the priorities given, works ideally to be carried out in the late summer (September) or, to a lesser extent, mid-winter (December through to February) to aid the trees to respond to the pruning wounds in the most effective manner. The worst time to implement tree works to retained trees is in spring and secondly around leaf fall. Therefore, this time period (spring bud burst and leaf fall) ought to be avoided where possible to reduce the physiological impact upon retained trees. These time periods are secondary to the priority for the remedial tree works identified and are to be ignored if the there is a greater need to implement the tree works within the time periods given. Removal of trees can be carried out at any time of the year.

7.8 As the trees are subject to TPO, a s16 tree works application is necessary to be submitted to the planning authority and consent obtained prior to cutting of live wood.

7.9 No trees surveyed meet the requirement of 'imminently dangerous' that would justify the implementation of the tree works under the exceptions[6].

7.10 Resurvey of the tree ought to be complete by the 1st March 2025. Resurvey is important as the condition of trees alters over time.

[6] https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/605/regulation/14/made

Appendices

Appendix 1: tree survey data

Tree Condition Survey

Site St Nicholas School - woodland negative return survey
Date of survey 19th June 2023
Job reference J1118 / 12
Surveyor Ben Abbatt
Resurvey To be complete by the 1st July 2026

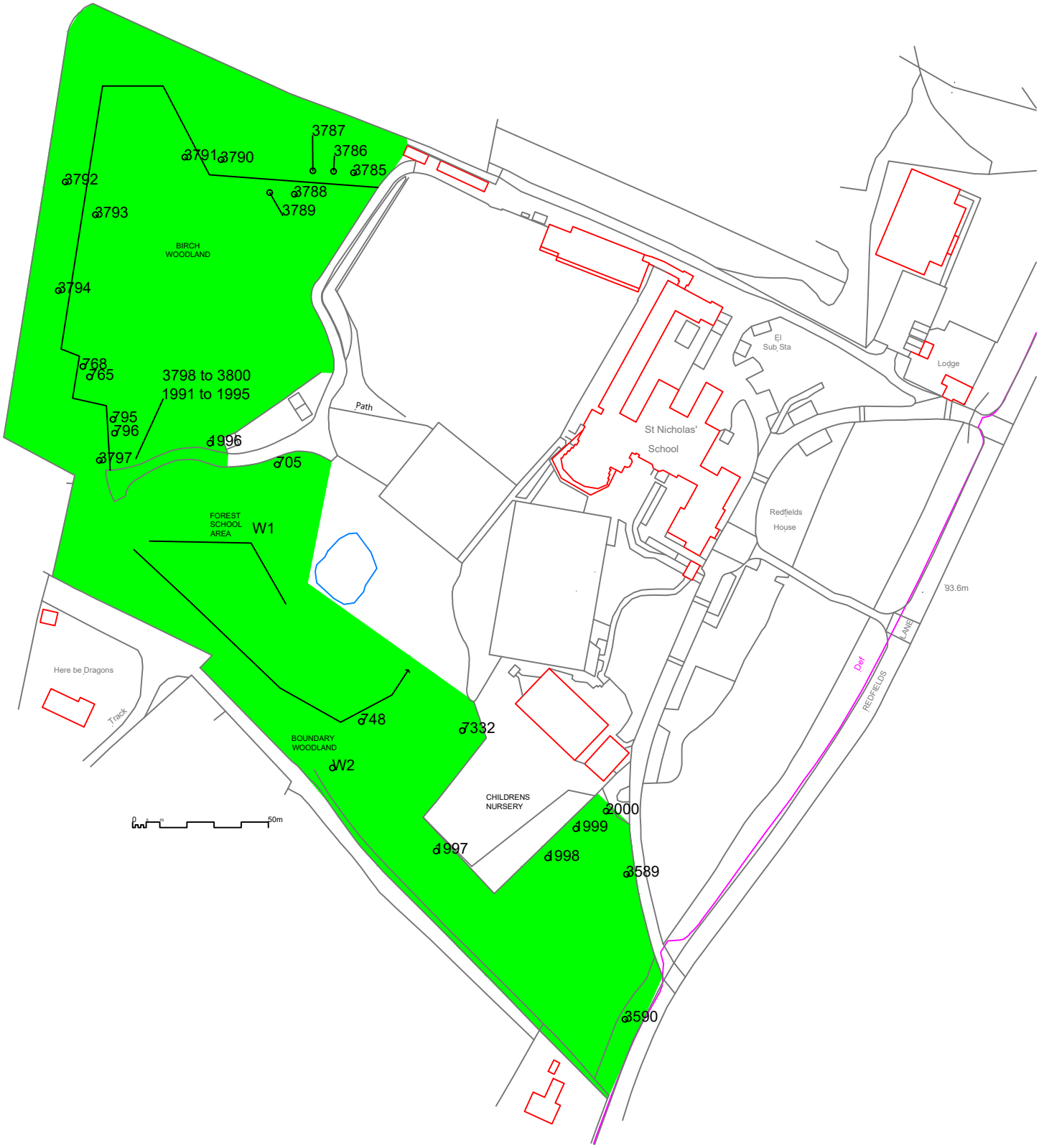
Designation	Reference number	Species	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
						Birch woodland		
T	3785	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		Approximately 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3786	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		Approximately 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3787	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		Approximately 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3788	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3789	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3790	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3791	Birch Betula pendula	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3792	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate

Designation	Reference number	Species	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	3793	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3794	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		Approximately 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	768	Willow *Salix*	Mature	Good	Poor	Woodpecker holes at 4m and Fomitopsis at 1m to 6m.	Remove.	Moderate
T	765	Willow *Salix*	Mature	Good	Poor	Significant bark loss at the base.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3795	Willow *Salix*	Mature	Good	Poor	Significant bark loss of lower stem.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3796	Willow *Salix*	Mature	Good	Poor	Branch failure at 8m. Decay fungi *Phellinus ignarius* at 4m	Remove.	Moderate
T	3797	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		Approximately 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3798	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Dead	Dead		Remove.	Moderate
T	3798	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Dead	Dead		Remove.	Moderate
T	3800	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Dead	Dead		Remove.	Moderate
T	1990	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Dead	Dead		Remove.	Moderate

Designation	Reference number	Species	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	1991	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Dead	Dead		Remove.	Moderate
T	1992	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	1993	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	1994	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	1995	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Poor		More than 50% canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback.	Remove.	Moderate
T	1996	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Middle aged	Good	Poor	Ceramic fracture of exposed wood at base .	Remove.	Moderate
						Forest School area		
T	705	Willow *Salix*	Mature	Poor	Fair	Canopy decline. Coppice from base.	Remove.	Moderate
W	1	High canopy oak, ash, sycamore willow with hazel understorey	Mature	Good	Good	Ash with ash dieback throughout.	Remove all ash within falling distance of the main used areas of the forest school.	Moderate
						Willow susceptible to structural failure.	Coppice all willow.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
						Boundary woodland.		
W	2	High canopy oak, ash, sycamore willow with hazel understorey	Mature	Good	Good	Ash with early stages of ash dieback.	School grounds maintenance to monitor on an annual basis and to remove ash with more than 50% canopy decline	Low
T	748	Oak *Quercus robur*	Mature	Fair	Poor	Slight canopy decline. Woodpecker holes on lower stem indicating structural weakness. Adjacent to the woodland running track.	Remove.	Moderate
T	7332	Oak *Quercus robur*	Mature	Fair	Poor	Adjacent to the childrens nursery. Birds nest at c12m. Ivy impedes survey. *Ganoderma resinaeceum* at the base.	Remove.	Moderate
G	1997	Willow *Salix*	Middle aged	Good	Fair	Self set, 6 stems, within drainage ditch.	Remove and treat to prevent regrowth.	Low
T	1998	Oak *Quercus robur*	Mature	Fair	Fair	Declining canopy. Access to base impeded by vegetation. Adjacent to childrens nursery.	Remove.	Moderate
T	1999 / 7067	Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	Mature	Good	Poor	*Ganoderma applanatum* at base. Adjacent to childrens nursery.	Remove.	Moderate
T	2000	Western Red cedar *Thuja plicata*	Mature	Fair	Good	Upper canopy with decline. Adjacent to turning head and bin store for	Crown reduce to a final height of 13m from 26m.	Low
T	3589	Oak *Quercus robur*	Mature	Poor	Poor	Severe decline. Immediately adjacent to access road.	Remove.	Moderate
T	3590	Oak *Quercus robur*	Mature	Good	Poor	Decay at base. Remnant *Cerioporous squamous* on southwest side. Within falling distance of the highway.	Remove.	Moderate

Appendix 2: tree survey plan



General / Key:

Indicative tree position

Indicative area surveyed

Site: St Nicholas School - woodland to the west and south

Data: Ordnance survey data provided under licence ©Crown Copyright and database rights 2023 OS Licence no. AC0000849896.

This drawing is produced in colour. Please ensure that you use a colour printing to ensure that the drawing is correctly interpreted.

Drawing title:

Tree survey plan

Drawing reference: J1118.12

Revision: -

Date: 19th June 2023

Scale: 1 to 2000 on A4

Sheet: 1 of 1

N

sapling
arboriculture limited
registered in england: 5414238

T: 01420 550 160
E: enquires@saplingarboriculture.com
W: www.saplingarboriculture.com

Ben Abbatt
Dip. Arb. (RFS), BA (Hons), MICFor, MRICS, CEnv
Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant

Appendix 3: general notes

The tree survey can only be an assessment of the tree at the time of the survey and the tree(s) should be re-surveyed on a regular basis. An appropriate time period between surveys may be up to 5 years depending upon the condition of the trees, their maturity and the target(s). Recommendations for the period between surveys will be given.

As trees are dynamic structures their condition and health may change in a short period of time, particularly in relation to changes in their immediate environment and circumstances. Therefore, the survey is an assessment of the trees at the time of the survey only. If there is a significant change in the immediate environment and circumstances, then this should be brought to the attention of the arboriculturalist so that they may advise accordingly.

I have not specifically checked with the planning authority whether the site is within a Conservation Area or whether the trees are under Tree Preservation Order (TPO), but I have relied upon their published map information. Prior to any tree works confirmation of whether these legal restrictions apply to the site or trees ought to be sought from the planning authority. If the trees stand within a Conservation Area designated under the Town and Country Planning Act the LPA will normally require 6 weeks notice of intention to carry out any tree works as detailed in the survey. If the trees are under TPO then the planning authority will normally require an application for any tree works. Some tree works are exempt, for instance if the trees are dead or dangerous, and certain works can be carried out without application. It is necessary to give the planning authority at least five days notice prior to carrying out any of these tree works under these exemptions. This survey, with recommendations, can be used to support any such application or notice.

Wildlife issues are of significant concern to the general public. A balance has to be found between the protection of wildlife and the need for safety when managing trees. The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1980) and Countryside Rights of Way Act (2000) give statutory protection to wild birds, bats, mammals, some invertebrates and plants. It is important to ensure that this legislation is properly considered when carrying out any works to trees.

Bird nests were not identified whilst on site. However, any Arborist carrying out the tree works should ensure that there is no disturbance to nesting birds prior to the works being carried out. Further guidance upon the appropriate timing of the works can be sought from DEFRA, if necessary. Where nesting birds are found, further information should be sought from DEFRA 08459 33 55 77 or helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk. Prior to any works being implemented the tree contractor must identify whether there are any bats or birds using the tree as roost or nest. If such habitation is identified, then the tree contractor must obtain the necessary licence from Natural England (0845 601 4523 www.naturalengland.org.uk) to carry out the works.

A bat survey prior to tree works is not recommended, except where there is a high potential for habitat. During the tree works, the contractor should carry out the tree works with bats as an active consideration and follow the current industry best practice, e.g. Arboricultural Association Guidance Note 1 Bats in the context of tree work operations 2011, BS8596 Micro guide to surveying for bats in trees and woodland https://shop.bsigroup.com/upload/273444/BSI-Bat-Microguide-UK-EN.pdf which a competent tree contractor should be familiar with.

Biosecurity measures: To minimise to potential for contamination of the tree from other tree works it is appropriate to sterilise tools to be used before and after the works are implemented. Appropriate disinfectant includes Propellar or Cleankill Sanitizing spray. Loose debris is to be brushed off prior to treating with disinfectant to ensure appropriate application. See http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/FCMS028-guidance.pdf/$file/FCMS028-guidance.pdf for further information on Biosecurity and http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-9fjd2d for disinfectant information.

Appendix 4: key to tree survey data

Desig	Designation (T is Tree, G is Group, H is Hedge, W is woodland, S is Stump)	
No	Tree number.	
Species	Species of tree.	
Height	Height measured in metres.	
Canopy spread	Canopy spread in metres is taken at the four cardinal points to derive an accurate representation of the crown.	
Height of crown	Height in metres of crown clearance above adjacent ground level.	
Age Class	**Young**	A tree considered to be less than approximately 20 years old.
	Middle aged	A tree in approximately the first 1/5th of its normal life span with apical dominance (rapidly growing with a clear main leader) and not yet fully at its environmental potential full height.
	Mature	A tree in its 2/5ths to 5/5ths of its normal life span with apical dominance lost and at its environmental potential full height.
Condition (Physiological and Structural)	**Good**	A tree of typical physiological and structural condition that requires only general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape.
	Fair	A tree of impaired physiological and / or structural condition that may require remedial and general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape.
	Poor	A tree of significantly impaired physiological and / or structural condition that will require remedial and general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape if feasible.
Recommendations	As per BS3998: 2010 Recommendations for Tree Works.	
Priority	**Immediate**	Works should be carried out immediately as the probability of harm or damage occurring is likely.
	High	These works are important to carry out as soon as reasonably possible and any budget available for tree management should be spent upon these trees before the moderate and low categories. Works in this category usually will relate to abatement of risk for harm and or damage to occur. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 1 month.
	Moderate	These works are important to carry out as soon as reasonably possible and any budget available for tree management should be spent upon these trees before the low categories. Works in this category usually will relate to abatement of risk for harm and or damage to occur and for the good arboricultural management of the trees. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 3 months.
	Low	Works in this category usually will relate to the good arboricultural management of the trees. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 12 months.
Re-survey	This is the time period in which it is recommended that the tree is surveyed again. This is based upon the condition of the tree, its location, previous, current and future management. It is normally expressed at a time period from the date of the report / survey, whichever is the sooner. If no time period is noted then the default period is one year.	

Appendix 5: surveyor qualifications and experience

Ben Abbatt has been involved in the arboricultural industry since the mid 1990s and has worked in a variety of roles within the industry, starting as a forestry contractor, progressing to the surveying and management of forestry and arboricultural contracts for a national forestry company and running the arboricultural section of a horticultural business overseas. Additionally, Ben has worked in local Government at Borough and County levels, providing planning related advice and managing Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas, as well as managing highways trees and contracts.

Since 2006, Ben has been the Director and Principal Consultant of Sapling Arboriculture Ltd.

Ben is a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF), Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), Society for the Environment (SocEnv) and the Arboricultural Association (AA), having been an Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant since 2006. He is also a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Royal Forestry Society.

He holds many arboricultural and forestry qualifications including the Professional Diploma in Arboriculture awarded by the Royal Forestry Society, the Technicians' Certificate awarded by the Arboricultural Association and an HNC in Forestry.

Ben is also a freelance trainer for LANTRA, delivering courses in Basic Tree Survey and Inspection and Professional Tree Inspection.