

Dear Mr. Sargeant,

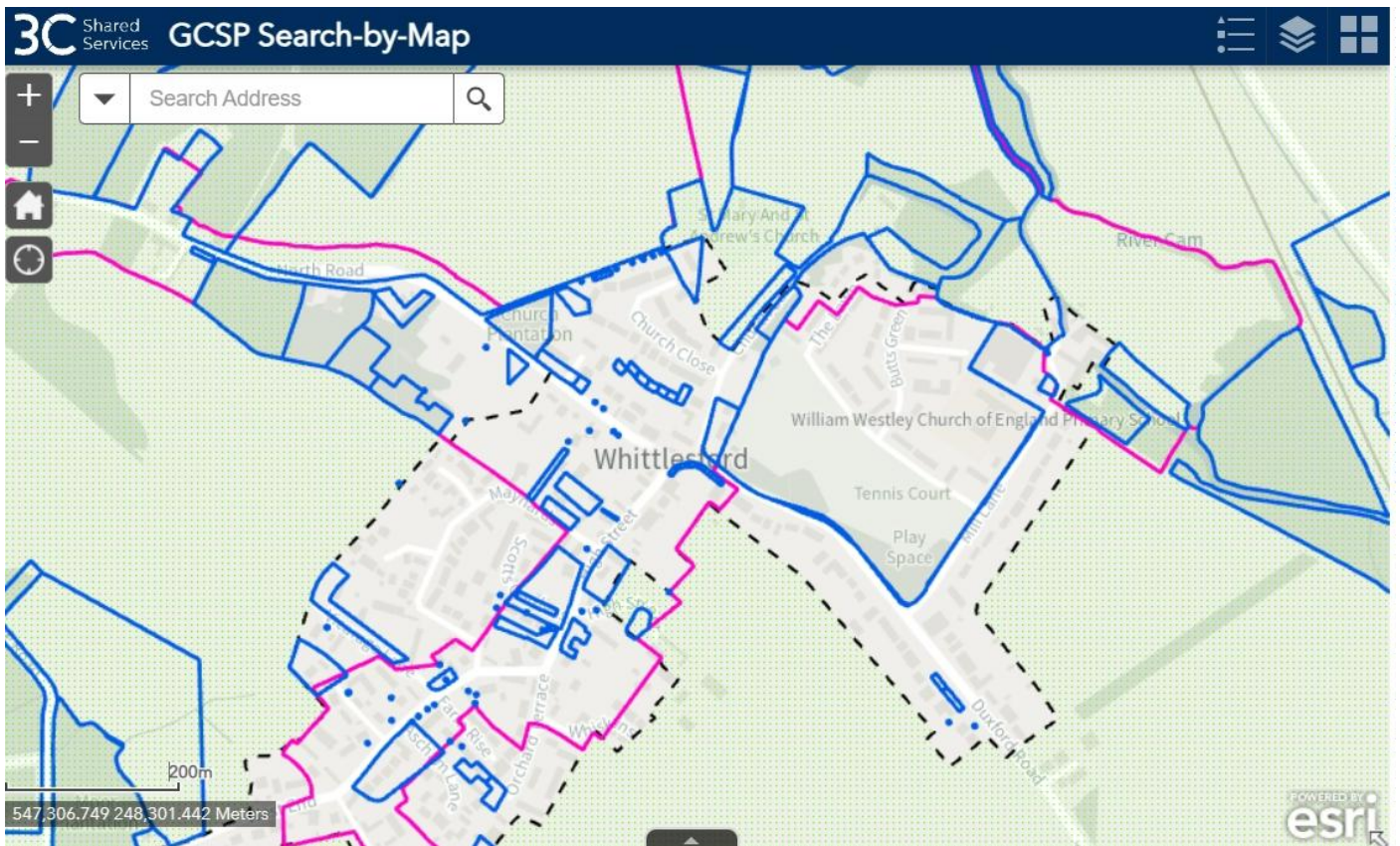
Please accept this document as proper 5-Day Notice of intended works to a tree in the Whittlesford Conservation Area. Neither Tree T1 nor Tree T2 is Scheduled under any Tree Preservation Order.

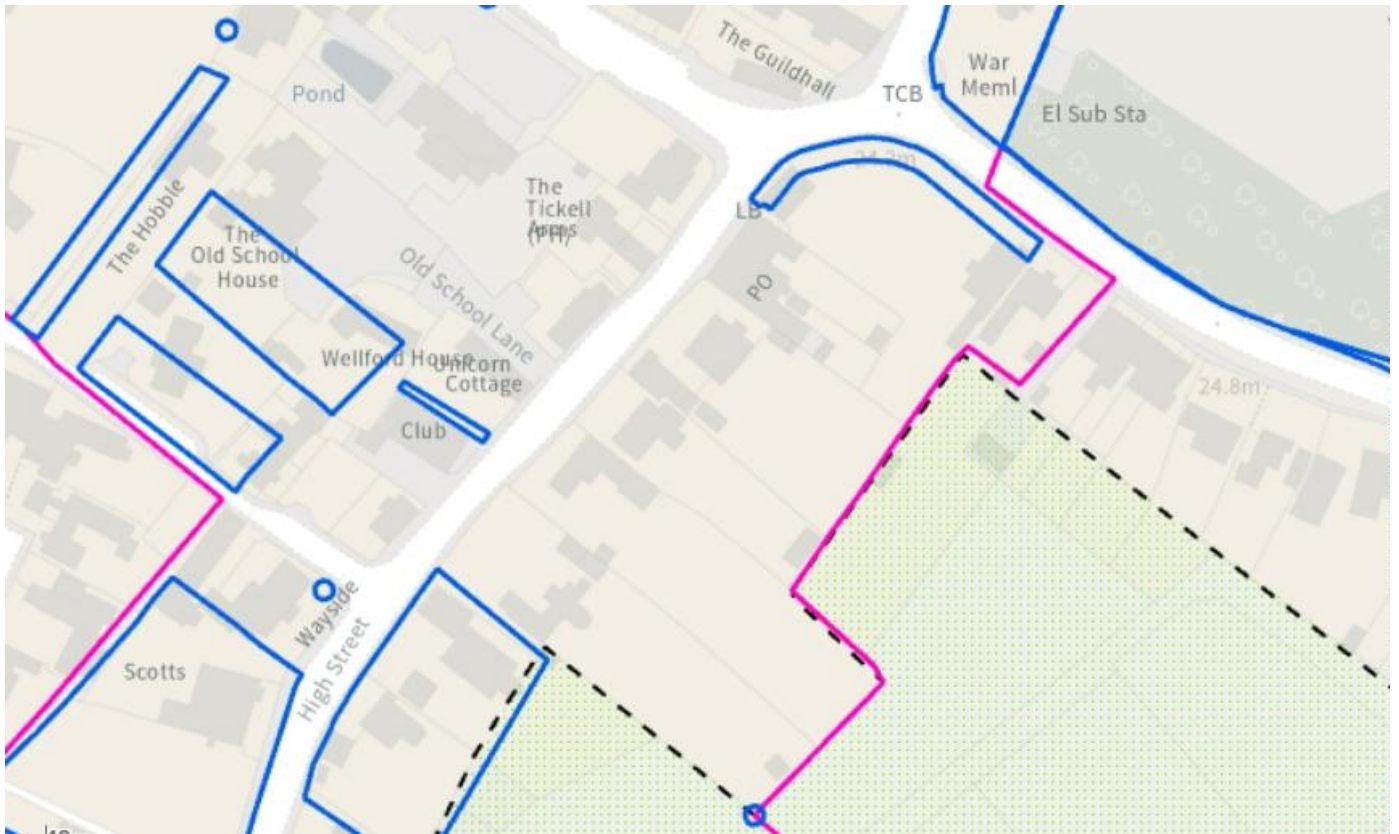


Location Plan, more detailed below.



Location of Tree T1 and Tree T2

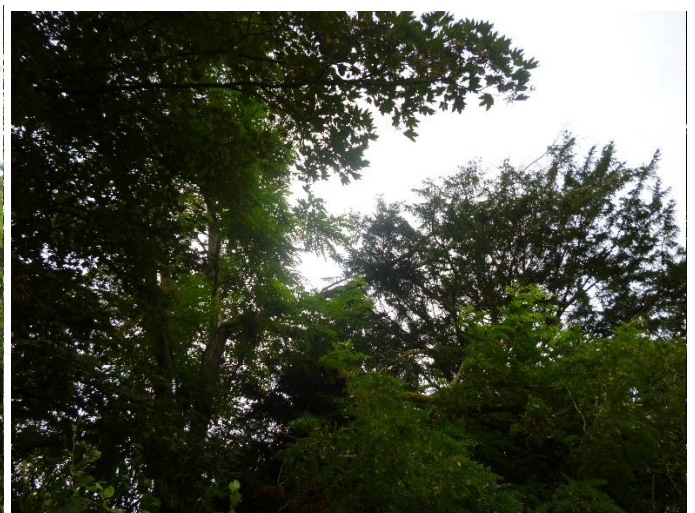




No. 3 High Street, Whittlesford Post Office / Village Shop together with No. 2 Duxford Road are all within the Purple Line of Whittlesford Conservation Area.

Tree T1 = A mature *Robinia pseudoacacia*

Tree T2 = A mature *Taxus baccata*





Hopefully the images above will show that this mature *Robinia psuedoacacia*, Tree T1, has had two limb failures at 8000 mm above ground, caused by the winds in mid-July. These failures were unknown to me at the time as they fell away from my property into the mature *Taxus baccata*, Tree T2, at the rear of my neighbour's property. Both limbs are still attached. The vascular system of the higher one has been compromised and this limb now shows little sign of life. The vascular system of the lower of the two limbs has remained vital hence the fallen part remains in full leaf.

As stated above this issue was only made known to me on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023. I am still waiting to hear from the tree surgeon Mark Lewis about how to resolve this matter. This is the first opportunity I have had to notify you.

Ordinarily I would submit a 'works to trees' form in line with Section 211 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. However, due to the dangerous nature of this situation my professional advice is to make contact and submit to you a 5 Day Notice, under The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 Paragraph 2 (b) as stated below.

(2) Where paragraphs (1)(a)(i) or (1)(c) apply, notice in writing of the proposed activities shall be given to the authority—

(a) in the case of works urgently necessary to remove an immediate risk of serious harm, as soon as practicable after the works become necessary; and (2) Where paragraphs (1)(a)(i) or (1)(c) apply, notice in writing of the proposed activities shall be given to the authority—

**(b) in any other case at least five working days prior to the date on which the works are to be commenced.**

The works involved would initially be to remove the two broken limbs of Tree T1 from the neighbouring Tree T2.

I fear though that even if these limbs are removed consistent with B.S. 3998:2010, a weakness within this tree will remain. I am therefore proposing in this 5-day notice to remove this tree altogether. In the neighbouring garden of No. 2 Duxford Road, about 4 years ago there was a catastrophic failure of a mature Robinia pseudoacacia. A large limb 12 metres long crashed into the garden, luckily no one was injured. The tree had had previous surgery to B.S. 3998: 2010 but rotted very rapidly. Axiomatically, I would wish to avoid a repeat of that incident in this case.

Robinia pseudoacacia is native only to two areas of eastern United States. Although it is widely planted and has freely naturalised, it is a neophyte introduced to the U.K. in 1634 AD. As a relatively recent introduction it supports very few species of indigenous invertebrates, two beetles, one sawfly and two species of micro moth together with a few species of scale insects. Its removal therefore will not reduce the biodiversity of the area. There are other examples of this species in my garden. I propose to replace this tree with a Betula pendula in a different part of the garden; Tree 1 is currently at juxtaposition to my garden wall, less than 1000 mm. This is obviously a true native species that is known to support up to 220 species of native invertebrates. **These invertebrates are vital in supporting the food chain above Thus when all is complete the biodiversity of my garden should be significantly enhanced.**

**I look forward to your response within 5 working days.**