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Planning
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Arboricultural Report

24 January 2023

Subject Property: Berkswell Open Space
Berkswell

Instructing Client: Berkswell Parish Council
PO Box 6379
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CV6 9LP

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Brief:** We are instructed to inspect the trees in the areas of open space, comprising The Spinney and the Village Green, in Berkswell and to provide an arboricultural report including a tree risk assessment and individual tree management advice.

1.2 **Authorship:** This report has been prepared by Chris Shortis, Associate Director of Midland Forestry Ltd, based on field data I collected.

1.3 **Qualifications and experience:** This report is based on our site observations and the provided information, and I have come to conclusions in the light of my experience. I have experience and qualifications in arboriculture and list the details in Appendix 1.

1.4 **Scope of this report:** This report is only concerned with health and safety and the management of individual trees. It includes tree assessments based on visual inspection of the trees from ground level and acoustic sounding using a nylon mallet (a basic but effective diagnostic tool). The recorded data is included in the survey schedule in Section 5 of this report. Aerial tree inspection, invasive procedures and sub-soil investigations are outside the scope of the report. Should further assessment involving any of these be required it will be highlighted in the survey schedule. This report is valid for three years.

1.5 **Identification and location of the trees:** The trees have been tagged using black plastic Signumat Arbortags. We have indicatively plotted the tree locations onto the Ordnance Survey base map using GPS cross-referenced against site features. The tree locations and crown spreads are for illustrative purposes only and should not be used for directly scaling measurements. The tree survey plan is included as Section 7.

1.6 **Caveats**: Trees are dynamic living organisms capable of achieving considerable size and structural complexity. They are exposed to and can become damaged by the elements and by human activity, and have co-evolved with decay-causing organisms that can degrade and sometimes destroy their structural integrity. Due to genetic characteristics and local microenvironmental factors this integrity can be innately uncertain. The laws and forces of nature dictate a natural failure rate even among trees that are healthy and structurally sound. By their very nature, therefore, trees cannot be considered entirely hazard-free.
Tree surveys and / or tree inspections are, inherently, only a snapshot in time of the physiological and structural condition of the trees concerned.
Unless otherwise stated in our reporting material, all such surveys and inspections are undertaken from ground level and no internal inspections or tests have been undertaken beyond those described in the methodology below. Any structural defects present might not be visible, for example being masked by vegetation, whether the tree's foliage, plants growing round the base of the tree, or climbing plants growing on the stem and into the crown.
Unless otherwise stated, the survey data should be considered time-limited to a maximum of three years, at which point a further inspection should be completed.

2 NOTES ON THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

2.1 **Background:** The Occupiers' Liability Act 1957 & 1984 established that the site owner or occupier holds the liability for the safety of visitors and those on adjacent lands. Where incidents are both reasonably foreseeable and reasonably preventable the owner or occupier may be held liable for losses (physical harm to life and/or property). In order to be in a position to foresee and therefore prevent harm arising from a tree failure, it is necessary to subject the tree or trees in question to 'regular inspection' by someone competent both to identify any defects present and to interpret their significance for public safety.

2.2 **Assessment Methodology:** The risk assessment method is Tree Hazard: Risk Evaluation and Treatment System (THREATS). This is a structured and systematic method to inspect trees, record the findings and specify remedial works using a timescale for intervention suitable to discharge duty of care.

2.3 **The Risk Evaluation Process**

2.3.1 **Failure Score:** The tree assessment includes identification of defects, if any, present. And, of these defects, the most significant is evaluated and graded against one of five failure criteria, ranging from *Unlikely ever* to *Imminent / Immediate.* The failure score is judged using my qualifications and experience as listed in appendix 1.

2.3.2 **Target Score:** The occupation and use of the fall radius is assessed at the time of the site survey and graded against the set of predefined criteria. Where targets are liable to include unsupervised children &/or the elderly or infirm, target values are upgraded by one category to reflect the enhanced duty of care identified in the Occupiers Liability Act.

2.3.3 **Impact Score:** The impact scores relate specifically to the nature of failure and how the target may be struck; the part of the tree likely to strike the target is the part that is assessed irrespective of whether the mode of failure is single branch or whole tree failure.

2.3.4 **Risk Evaluation Sum:** The above generate numerical values which are multiplied and graded against a framework for defining a defensible, phased response to identified hazards.

2.3.5 **Insignificant defects:** Defects that were assessed as insignificant are awarded a zero score and therefore no values are ascribed.

2.4 **Recommendations:** Remedial work is specified to address the defects as assessed. Where more than one defect is present, and it is judged cost effective, the works specifications are to remediate all defects, even if they are not currently significant.

2.5 **Timescales:** The THREATS outcome provides a defined timescale for intervention. This time scale is deliberately prescriptive to ensure Duty of Care is discharged and reflects the risk level posed rather than the nature of the remedial works. For defects with outcomes towards the lower end of the scale the response will typically be reinspection or deferred action.

2.6 **Further Information**: The above is a brief summary of the system. Further details of the methodology can be provided on request.

3 TREE POPULATION OVERVIEW

3.1 Summary

3.1.1 The village green has a single mature oak and a pair of hawthorns. The oak is in good condition, showing minor defects that are typical of an oak of this age and not structurally significant. One of the hawthorns is a replacement for an old tree. A strimmer guard has been fitted following my last inspection, which has prevented further damage and given the tree the best chance of recovery. In light of what has happened to this hawthorn it is disappointing to see a young oak planted close-by without a strimmer guard and some strimmer damage already visible (see picture). A guard should be fitted to this tree as soon as possible.

The older hawthorn remaining on the Green is showing signs of decline, mainly due to old age. The structural condition is satisfactory at present but removal will be required in the near future.



3.1.2 The spinney is an attractive small woodland that is part of a larger woodland extending to the north. It contains a range of native and naturalised species forming a dense and nearly continuous canopy. Beneath the canopy is a shrub layer that is dominated by holly, hazel and yew with occasional other species present. There was very little ground flora evident at the time of the survey – only snowdrops were visible poking through the fallen leaves. The apparent absence of ground flora maybe a reflection of the time of year of the survey, but I suspect the heavy pedestrian use prevents flora from becoming established.

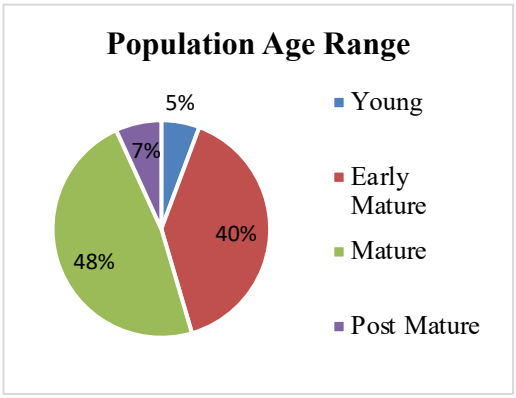
3.1.3 There occasional trees in decline among the larger species and a number of trees have been removed in recent years. The loss of trees is always disappointing but is a natural part of the cycle of a woodland. Without the loss of older trees there will not be the increased light levels at ground level that is necessary for regeneration.

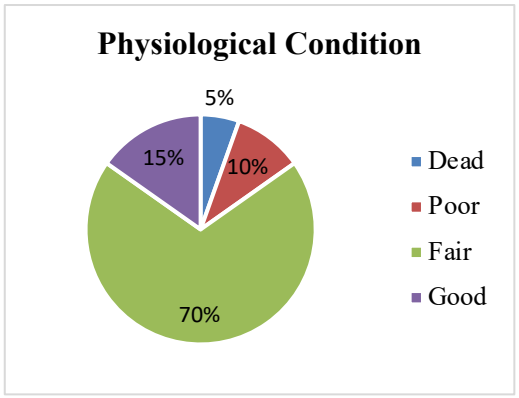
3.1.4 The only significant regeneration is from sycamore. There are occasional young ash as well but the long term future for these is bleak as ash dieback disease spreads around the country. Squirrels are a problem for the regeneration, stripping bark off the branches leading to dieback and structurally poor form in the trees. Where there is a risk the damaged branches failing a recommendations is made to prune out the damaged branches. If the damage is so severe the tree will always be comprised a recommendation is made for felling.

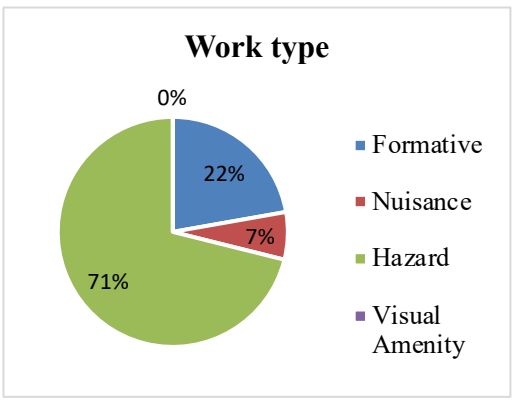
3.1.5 There has also been a notable increase in ivy on the trees. This is rarely a problem in itself, but once it becomes dense the ivy limits effective inspection. There are habitat benefits to the presence of ivy and recommendations are made to sever the ivy which allows it to naturally die off. During this time any wildlife present has time to relocate rather than being effectively evicted when ivy is stripped from trees.

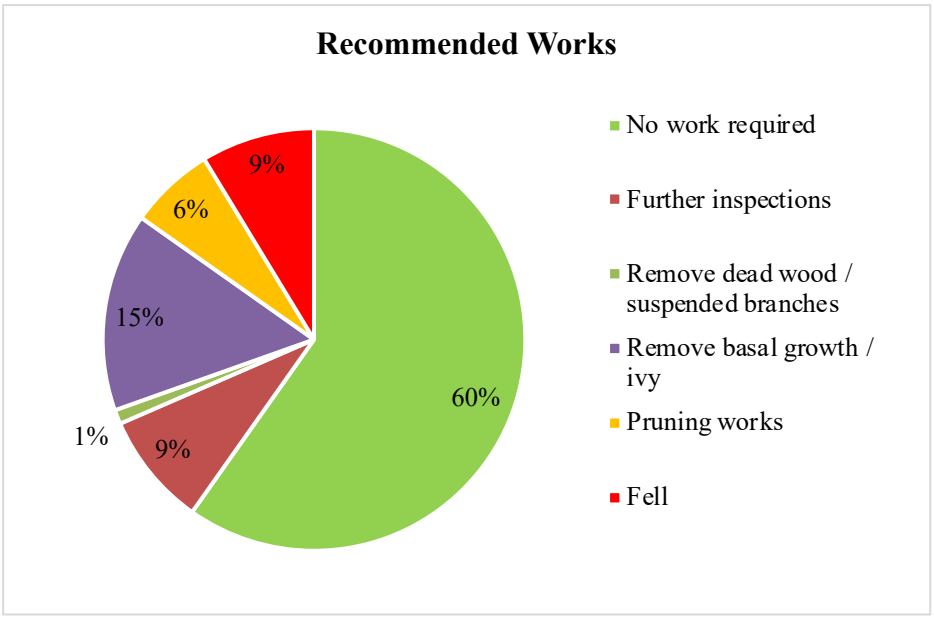
3.1.6 As noted previously the occasional elms that are regenerating from root stock will continue to succumb to Dutch elm disease as they increase in size. Several are noted for removal during this survey. This is a pattern that will continue due to the way elms regenerate from the roots (the removal of every root is not technically possible and would be very damaging to the roots of the other trees in the vicinity) and grow until they reach a size where they become attractive to the bettles that spread Dutch elm disease.

3.2 Below is a graphic representation of the dynamics of the tree population.









4 TREE WORKS

4.1 **Present requirements – Hazard mitigation:** Table 1 is the list of recommended works to be completed within 5 years. Note these recommendations include some further inspections. I make a general recommendation for all trees across the site, including these, should be reinspected in 3 years. The purpose of the recommendation is to highlight particular issues where a progression of decay for example may have occurred.

Table 1: Schedule of hazard works

Tree no.	Species	Structural condition and notes	Management recommendations	Time scale
886.1	Elm	Standing dead tree.	Fell to ground level	13 wks
885	Pedunculate oak	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Historic branch failure(s) leading to a wound in the stem with brown rot visible. Fragile major dead wood through crown.	Reduce height by approximately 3m pruning to suitable live growth. Stabilize major deadwood.	1 yr
824	Pedunculate oak	Prolific ivy on stem and through crown. Crown dieback with robust and fragile major dead wood in the upper crown.	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level. Stabilize dead wood with a diameter greater than 75mm.	1 yr
804	Sycamore	Tree in terminal decline. Crown dysfunction/dieback and live growth limited to epicormic shoots. Fungal fruiting bodies. Kretzschmaria deusta. Extensive decay apparent from sounding and visual inspection. Crown is very small and sheltered from wind-loading. Low occupancy in the fall radius, though enhanced level of risk due to presence of children as indicated by the den building at the base.	Fell to ground level.	1 yr
870	Elm	Standing dead tree.	Fell to ground level	1 yr
895	Elm group	Close-set group with most leaning over the road from competition for light. One dead tree and the rest are likely to succumb to Dutch elm disease.	Fell to ground level	1 yr
812	Sycamore	Twin stems. Union robust. Prolific ivy obscures the stems. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Minor squirrel damage through crown (larger damaged branches appear to have been removed). Branches over the school playground have been reduced back to the boundary.	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.

Tree no.	Species	Structural condition and notes	Management recommendations	Time scale
820	Sycamore	Basal cavity, structurally sound. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Ivy obscures stem and some of the scaffold branches. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
825	Ash	Leaning for light. High crown. Stem is slender. Ivy becoming prolific in the crown.	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
826	Ash	High crown. Stem is slender. Areas of bark loss on stem. Exposed wood appears sound. No apparent significant defects	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
827	Sycamore	Prolific ivy on stem and through crown. Minor squirrel damage through crown. Minor dead wood through crown	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
836	Sycamore	Prolific ivy on stem and through crown. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
849	Sycamore	Twin crown stems from 1.5m above ground level. The union is robust. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown limiting inspection.	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
850	Sycamore	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Ivy partially obscures stem. Stem is slender. No apparent significant defects	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
851	Sycamore	Twin stems from ground level. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Ivy partially obscures stem. Moderate squirrel damage through the crown. No apparent significant defects	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
854	Pedunculate oak	Prolific ivy on the stem limiting inspection. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light.	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
889	Sycamore	Ivy partially obscures stem. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. No apparent significant defects	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
897	Sycamore	Twin stems. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown limiting inspection	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	1 yr.
873	Sycamore	Twin crown stems from 1m above ground level. Union robust. Old pruning wounds on the scaffold branches. Squirrel damage through crown over parking area.	Prune out the squirrel damage.	3 yrs

Tree no.	Species	Structural condition and notes	Management recommendations	Time scale
878	Pedunculate oak	Tree is in decline and the crown is sparse. Light epicormic growth on the stem. Fragile major dead wood through crown. Sounding indicates localized decay at the base.	Reduce down to the remaining live growth.	3 yrs
898	Sycamore	Multiple stems. Early bark inclusion. Areas of bark loss at base of the two central stems is leading to crown dysfunction and dieback. Sounding indicates localised decay. Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown. Crown is slightly sparse. Telephone cables through crown.	Remove two central stems. Prune back from telephone cables.	3 yrs
901	Hawthorn	Areas of vascular dysfunction and stereum fungus on the stem to the scaffold branches. Crown is sparse. Crown dysfunction/dieback. Does not appear to be any significant structural issues, but the tree is in terminal decline and of very limited aesthetic value.	Fell to ground level and remove the stump. Plant a replacement tree ensuring a strimmer guard is fitted.	3 yrs
875	Sycamore	Multiple stems. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Moderate squirrel damage through crown	Prune out the squirrel damage.	3 yrs
894	Sycamore	Areas of vascular dysfunction and bark loss at base caused by honey fungus and affecting 60% of the stem circumference. Sounding indicates localised decay. High crown. Crown is sparse. Minor dead wood through crown	Fell to ground level	3 yrs
823	Holly	Twin stems from ground level. Prolific dead ivy on stem and through crown. Crown is sparse. Areas of bark loss at base. Sounding indicates localised decay. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Upper crown dieback of the top 6m to one stem. Other stem in contact with the school boundary fence.	Fell to ground level	3 yrs
861	Sycamore	Multiple stems. Early bark inclusion. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Minor dead wood through crown. Extended lateral branches	Further inspection to assess stem unions and lateral branch structure	3 yrs
838	Sweet chestnut	Areas of bark loss at base and in the upper crown. The exposed wood is sound. Sounding indicates a separate area of moderate basal decay. Leaning but stable. Robust major dead wood through crown. Upper crown has been reduced.	Further inspection to assess is the decay is increasing	3 yrs

Tree no.	Species	Structural condition and notes	Management recommendations	Time scale
839	Holly	Multiple stems. Union robust. Raised surfaces roots showing damage. Open cavity with sounding indicating moderate decay in the stem towards the footpath.	Further inspection to assess is the decay is increasing	3 yrs
848	Sycamore	Joint canopy with adjacent trees, but individually of poor form. Basal cavity with moderate decay	Further inspection to assess is the decay is increasing	3 yrs
842	Sycamore	Basal growth. Epicormic growth. Minor dead wood through crown. Minor squirrel damage through crown. Occluding wound with small opening at 13m above ground level in the stem.	Further inspection to monitor the extent of the wound at 13m.	3 yrs
819	Sycamore	Joint canopy with adjacent trees and the crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Extensive squirrel damage to low diameter branches through crown	Further inspection for squirrel damage to larger branches	3 yrs
862	Holly	Multiple crown stems from 2.5m above ground level. Early bark inclusion. Crown is congested. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects.	Further inspection to assess stem unions	5 yrs
871	Sycamore	4m stem with bark loss throughout and moderate decay. Insufficient mass to result in failure.	Further inspection to check structural integrity	5 yrs

4.2 **Present requirements – Advisory works:** Table 2 is the list of recommended works. Where there is a significant benefit to be gained from completing the works sooner rather than later a recommended timescale is given.

Table 2: Schedule of tree works

Tree no.	Species	Structural condition and notes	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
829	Pedunculate oak	Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown limiting inspection and beginning to obstruct the footpath. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. No apparent significant defects.	Sever ivy and remove the ivy blocking footpath	Nuisance	1 yr.
802	Sycamore	Multiple stems. Union robust. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Extensive squirrel damage through crown. Crown dysfunction/dieback. The extent of squirrel damage means this tree will always be of poor form and shedding small branches and therefore does not warrant retention.	Fell to ground level	Nuisance	5 yrs

Tree no.	Species	Structural condition and notes	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
829.1	Field maple	Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Low branch causing a minor obstruction of the footpath.	Remove low branch over the foot path	Nuisance	

4.3 **Implementation of works:** I advise that a contractor approved by the Arboricultural Association carry out the work. Their Register of Contractors is available free from The Malthouse, Stroud Green, Standish, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 3DL (Telephone 01242 522152, website www.trees.org.uk).

5 TREE SURVEY

5.1 Explanatory notes

- **Tree number:** Individual tree identification number for the purpose of this survey and report.
- **Species:** The species identification is based on visual observations and the common name of what the tree appeared to be is listed. In some cases, it may be difficult to quickly and accurately identify a particular tree without further detailed investigations. Where there is some doubt of the precise species of tree, it is indicated with a '?' after the name in order to avoid delay in the production of the report. The botanical name is followed by the abbreviation sp. if only the genus is known.
- **Age Class:** Young (less than one quarter life expectancy), Early mature (less than half life expectancy), Mature (less than three quarters life expectancy), Post-mature (last quarter of life expectancy, decline common).
- **Height:** An accurate estimate of the tree height taken using a clinometer and laser measure.
- **Phys. condition:** An assessment of the physiological condition (i.e. health/vitality) status of the tree summarised into:
  - Good - Generally in healthy condition
  - Fair -Condition satisfactory though below mean species performance
  - Poor -Tree in decline
  - Dead - Self-explanatory
- **Structural condition & Notes:** Notes on the structural integrity of the tree based on visual tree assessment, including damage, decay fungi, pests, etc as appropriate, plus other pertinent observations.
- **Failure, Target and Impact scores, and Risk Evaluation sum:** See section 2.3 in the main body of the report.
- **Management recommendations**: Recommendations for intervention (e.g. tree surgery, felling, etc) to remediate defects identified in the risk evaluation process. Or recommendations to address issues of nuisance, visual amenity or formative pruning.
- **Work type:** Defined as Hazard, Nuisance, Visual amenity or Formative
- **Timescale:** The timescale, in months or years, for works to be remediated within

5.2 Tree Survey Schedule

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
801					Felled							
802	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Multiple stems. Union robust. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Extensive squirrel damage through crown. Crown dysfunction/dieback. The extent of squirrel damage means this tree will always be of poor form and shedding small branches and therefore does not warrant retention.	2	7	1	14	Fell to ground level	Nuisance	5 yrs
803	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Poor	Light epicormic growth on the stem and scaffold branches. Minor dead wood through crown. Limited live growth and poor annual shoot extension. Upper crown is sparse and the dead wood was stabilized after the last inspection. No apparent significant structural issues, but the tree is in decline. The period of decline for an oak can be extremely extended and is rarely rapid unless there are secondary factors, none of which were apparent at the time of the survey.					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
804	Sycamore	Post Mature	<7	Poor	Tree in terminal decline. Crown dysfunction/dieback and live growth limited to epicormic shoots. Fungal fruiting bodies. Kretzschmaria deusta. Extensive decay apparent from sounding and visual inspection. Crown is very small and sheltered from wind-loading. Low occupancy in the fall radius, though enhanced level of risk due to presence of children as indicated by the den building at the base.	2	20	4	160	Fell to ground level.	Hazard	1 yr
805	Sycamore	Mature	15-18	Good	Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Old pruning wounds on stem. Localised cavities forming in old pruning wounds. Minor squirrel damage through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
806					Felled							
807	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	High crown. Stem is slender. Area of bark loss where a branch from an adjacent tree is rubbing the stem. The exposed wood appears sound.					No action required prior to the next survey		
808	Sycamore	Mature	15-18	Fair	Light basal growth. Old pruning wounds on stem. Localised cavities forming in old pruning wounds. Areas of bark loss on stem. Exposed wood superficially decayed. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
809	Sycamore	Mature	15-18	Fair	Leaning for light. Basal cavity, structurally sound. Old pruning wounds on the stem with localised cavities forming. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
810	Sycamore	Mature	7-14	Fair	Multiple stems. Union robust. Ivy partially obscures stem. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Some stems heavily topped with healthy new growth. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
811	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Good	Leaning for light. Epicormic growth. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Historic branch failure(s). Crown is congested. Robust major dead wood through the crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
812	Sycamore	Mature	7-14	Fair	Twin stems. Union robust. Prolific ivy obscures the stems. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Minor squirrel damage through crown (larger damaged branches appear to have been removed). Branches over the school playground have been reduced back to the boundary.	2	20	1	40	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
813	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Minor squirrel damage through crown. Minor dead wood through crown. Localized pruning of branches overhanging the school.					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
814	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Old pruning wounds on stem. Minor squirrel damage through crown					No action required prior to the next survey		
815					Felled							
816	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Fair	Basal growth. Old pruning wounds on stem. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Robust major dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
817	Sweet chestnut	Mature	18-29	Good	Areas of bark loss at base. Exposed wood has superficial decay but is structurally sound. Basal growth. Epicormic growth. The top of the stem has been removed. Upper crown dieback and robust major dead wood through crown					No action required prior to the next survey		
818	Sycamore	Early Mature	18-29	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Minor dead wood through crown. Past squirrel damage through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
819	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees and the crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Extensive squirrel damage to low diameter branches through crown	2	7	1	14	Further inspection for squirrel damage to larger branches	Hazard	3 yrs
820	Sycamore	Early Mature	18-29	Good	Basal cavity, structurally sound. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Ivy obscures stem and some of the scaffold branches. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
821	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Fair	Basal cavity, structurally sound. Extensive squirrel damage pruned out after an earlier survey. Crown size remains below expected.					No action required prior to the next survey		
822	Sycamore	Early Mature; Young	<7	Fair	Approximately crescent shaped group around tree 1821. All are leaning for light and developing asymmetrical crowns. Minor squirrel damage in all. Branches over the school playground.					No action required prior to the next survey		
823	Holly	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Twin stems from ground level. Prolific dead ivy on stem and through crown. Crown is sparse. Areas of bark loss at base. Sounding indicates localised decay. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Upper crown dieback of the top 6m to one stem. Other stem in contact with the school boundary fence.	0.8	20	4	64	Fell to ground level	Hazard	3 yrs
824	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Fair	Prolific ivy on stem and through crown. Crown dieback with robust and fragile major dead wood in the upper crown.	2	25	4	200	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level. Stabilize dead wood with a diameter greater than 75mm.	Hazard	1 yr
825	Ash	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Leaning for light. High crown. Stem is slender. Ivy becoming prolific in the crown.					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
826	Ash	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	High crown. Stem is slender. Areas of bark loss on stem. Exposed wood appears sound. No apparent significant defects					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
827	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Prolific ivy on stem and through crown. Minor squirrel damage through crown. Minor dead wood through crown	2	0	1	0	Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
828	Ash	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
829	Pedunculate oak	Young	5-10	Good	Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown limiting inspection and beginning to obstruct the footpath. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. No apparent significant defects.					Sever ivy and remove the ivy blocking footpath	Nuisance	1 yr.
829.1	Field maple	Young	0-5	Fair	Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Low branch causing a minor obstruction of the footpath.					Remove low branch over the foot path	Nuisance	
830	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Dead ivy on stem and through crown. Minor squirrel damage through crown. Crown shape is poor.					No action required prior to the next survey		
831	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Dead ivy on stem and through crown. Extensive squirrel damage pruned out after the last survey.					No action required prior to the next survey		
832	Elm				Felled							

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
833	Sycamore	Mature	7-14	Fair	Dead ivy on stem and through crown. Minor squirrel damage through crown					No action required prior to the next survey		
834	Pedunculate oak	Mature	Over 29	Fair	Leaning but stable. Old pruning wounds on stem. Epicormic growth. Historic branch failure(s). Robust major dead wood through crown. Recent or past pruning works. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
835	Elm				Felled							
836	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Prolific ivy on stem and through crown. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
837	Pedunculate oak	Post Mature	18-29	Dead	Standing dead tree. The branch structure has been reduced back to just the scaffold branches. There is superficial decay at the base, and sufficient structural wood remains for the tree to be retained for its habitat value.					No action required prior to the next survey		
838	Sweet chestnut	Mature	18-29	Good	Areas of bark loss at base and in the upper crown. The exposed wood is sound. Sounding indicates a separate area of moderate basal decay. Leaning but stable. Robust major dead wood through crown. Upper crown has been reduced.	0.8	7	10	56	Further inspection to assess is the decay is increasing	Hazard	3 yrs

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
839	Holly	Mature	7-14	Fair	Multiple stems. Union robust. Raised surfaces roots showing damage. Open cavity with sounding indicating moderate decay in the stem towards the footpath.	2	7	4	56	Further inspection to assess is the decay is increasing	Hazard	3 yrs
840	Sycamore	Mature	7-14	Poor	Twin stems. Union robust. Crown is sparse. Old pruning wounds on stem. Minor squirrel damage through crown					No action required prior to the next survey		
841	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Fair	Bleeding cankers previously observed, but not present in 2016 or 2023. Robust major dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
842	Sycamore	Post Mature	15-18	Fair	Basal growth. Epicormic growth. Minor dead wood through crown. Minor squirrel damage through crown. Occluding wound with small opening at 13m above ground level in the stem.	0.8	15	4	48	Further inspection to monitor the extent of the wound at 13m.	Hazard	3 yrs
843	Ash	Young	<7	Fair								
844	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Raised surface roots with localised bark damage and causing distortion of the surrounding tarmac. Bleeding cankers. Minor squirrel damage through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
845	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Old pruning wounds on stem. Heavily pruned to remove the squirrel damage.					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
846	Pedunculate oak	Post Mature	<7	Dead	4m dead stem. Sounding indicates moderate decay.					No action required prior to the next survey		
847	Sycamore	Mature	15-18	Fair	Leaning for light. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Areas of bark loss at base. Exposed wood appears sound. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
848	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees, but individually of poor form. Basal cavity with moderate decay	2	7	4	56	Further inspection to assess is the decay is increasing	Hazard	3 yrs
849	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Twin crown stems from 1.5m above ground level. The union is robust. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown limiting inspection.					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
850	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Ivy partially obscures stem. Stem is slender. No apparent significant defects					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
851	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Twin stems from ground level. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Ivy partially obscures stem. Moderate squirrel damage through the crown. No apparent significant defects					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
852	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Good	Basal growth. Old pruning wounds on stem. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
853	Sycamore	Mature	15-18	Fair	Basal growth. Basal cavity, structurally sound. Old pruning wounds on stem. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
854	Pedunculate oak	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Prolific ivy on the stem limiting inspection. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light.					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
855	Holly	Mature	7-14	Fair	Multiple stems. Union robust. Crown is congested but sparse. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
856	Sycamore				Felled							
857	Sycamore				Felled							
858	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Fair	Epicormic growth on the stem. Recent or past pruning works. Robust major dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
859	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Fair	Once formed a joint canopy with adjacent trees, but these have been removed. Basal growth. Old pruning wounds on stem. Localised cavities forming in old pruning wounds. Ivy partially obscures stem. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
860					Felled							

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
861	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Fair	Multiple stems. Early bark inclusion. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Minor dead wood through crown. Extended lateral branches	0.8	20	4	64	Further inspection to assess stem unions and lateral branch structure	Hazard	3 yrs
862	Holly	Mature	7-14	Fair	Multiple crown stems from 2.5m above ground level. Early bark inclusion. Crown is congested. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects.	0.8	7	4	22.4	Further inspection to assess stem unions	Hazard	5 yrs
863	Sycamore	Post Mature	<7	Dead	4m standing dead stem. Sounding indicates moderate decay. No significant target in the fall radius and high ecological value.	0.8	0	6	0	No action required prior to the next survey		
864	Holly	Mature	7-14	Good	Multiple stems. Union robust. Crown is congested. No apparent significant defects. Den at the base.					No action required prior to the next survey		
865	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Basal growth. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
866					Felled							
867					Felled							
868	Pedunculate oak	Young	7-14	Fair	Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects. Commemorative tree.					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
869	Sycamore	Dead	15-18	Good	Open cavity at 0.5m above ground level, sounding indicates localised decay. Old pruning wounds on stem. Exposed wood appears sound. Minor dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
870	Elm	Dead	5-10	Dead	Standing dead tree.	8	20	1	160	Fell to ground level	Hazard	1 yr
871	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	4m stem with bark loss throughout and moderate decay. Insufficient mass to result in failure.	0.8	7	1	5.6	Further inspection to check structural integrity	Hazard	5 yrs
872	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Leaning for light. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
873	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Twin crown stems from 1m above ground level. Union robust. Old pruning wounds on the scaffold branches. Squirrel damage through crown over parking area.	8	15	1	120	Prune out the squirrel damage.	Hazard	3 yrs
874	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Leaning for light. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Ivy partially obscures stem. Minor squirrel damage through crown					No action required prior to the next survey		
875	Sycamore	Mature	15-18	Fair	Multiple stems. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Moderate squirrel damage through crown	2	15	4	120	Prune out the squirrel damage.	Hazard	3 yrs
876	Gean	Mature	<7	Fair	Leaning for light. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Historic branch failure(s)					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
877	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Good	Basal growth. Old pruning wounds on stem. Minor dead wood through crown. Minor squirrel damage through crown					No action required prior to the next survey		
878	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Poor	Tree is in decline and the crown is sparse. Light epicormic growth on the stem. Fragile major dead wood through crown. Sounding indicates localized decay at the base.	2	15	4	120	Reduce down to the remaining live growth.	Hazard	3 yrs
879	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Fair	Robust major dead wood through crown. Old pruning wounds on the scaffold branches, in particular the scaffold branch over the path, which was reduced after the 2019 survey. There has been substantial occlusion growth. In other wounds the exposed wood appears sound. Extended lateral branches					No action required prior to the next survey		
880	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Fair	Epicormic growth. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Robust major dead wood through crown. Historic branch failure(s). Old pruning wounds on stem around mid-height with a visible cavity, but plenty of occlusion growth.					No action required prior to the next survey		
881	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Fair	Epicormic growth. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Robust major dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
882	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Poor	Epicormic growth. Crown dysfunction and dieback leading to robust major dead wood through crown. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
883	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Good	Robust major dead wood through crown. Light epicormic growth on the stem. Crown is congested. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
884	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Good	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Robust major dead wood through crown. End-loaded branch to east. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
885	Pedunculate oak	Mature	18-29	Good	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Historic branch failure(s) leading to a wound in the stem with brown rot visible. Fragile major dead wood through crown.	2	20	6	240	Reduce height by approximately 3m pruning to suitable live growth. Stabilize major deadwood.	Hazard	1 yr
886	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Poor	Root disturbance to pathways. Crown is asymmetrical from past competition for light. Minor dead wood through crown. Annual shoot extension is poor. No apparent structural defects.					No action required prior to the next survey		
886.1	Elm	Dead	5-10	Dead	Standing dead tree.	8	15	4	480	Fell to ground level	Hazard	13 wks
887	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Twin stems. Union robust. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
888	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Small impact wound at the base. Old pruning wounds on stem. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
889	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Ivy partially obscures stem. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. No apparent significant defects					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.
890	Sycamore				Felled							
891	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Twin stems. Union robust. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
892	Sycamore	Early Mature	<7	Fair	Multiple stems. Union robust. Crown is asymmetrical from competition for light. Old pruning wounds with localised decay. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		
893	Sycamore	Early Mature	15-18	Fair	Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Dead ivy on stem and through crown					No action required prior to the next survey		
894	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Fair	Areas of vascular dysfunction and bark loss at base caused by honey fungus and affecting 60% of the stem circumference. Sounding indicates localised decay. High crown. Crown is sparse. Minor dead wood through crown	0.8	20	6	96	Fell to ground level	Hazard	3 yrs

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
895	Elm group	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Close-set group with most leaning over the road from competition for light. One dead tree and the rest are likely to succumb to Dutch elm disease.	8	20	1	160	Fell to ground level	Hazard	1 yr
896	Sycamore	Mature	18-29	Poor	Areas of bark loss on stem. Exposed wood appears sound. Old pruning wounds on stem. Major dead wood pruned out after 2019 survey. The crown is sparse and the annual shoot extension is poor.					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
897	Sycamore	Early Mature	7-14	Fair	Twin stems. Joint canopy with adjacent trees. Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown limiting inspection					Sever the ivy at ground level and remove from the stem to 1m above ground level.	Hazard	1 yr.

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
898	Sycamore	Mature	7-14	Fair	Multiple stems. Early bark inclusion. Areas of bark loss at base of the two central stems is leading to crown dysfunction and dieback. Sounding indicates localised decay. Prolific ivy on the stem and through the crown. Crown is slightly sparse. Telephone cables through crown.	2	15	4	120	Remove two central stems. Prune back from telephone cables.	Hazard	3 yrs
899	Pedunculate oak	Mature	15-18	Good	Raised surfaces roots showing damage. Small pocket of decay at the base to the north with Coriolus fungal fruit bodies. Neither the fruit bodies nor the decay is significant. Old pruning wounds on stem. Old pruning wounds on the scaffold branches. Crown is congested. Minor dead wood through crown. Stabilized dead wood through crown. Bleeding cankers on old pruning wounds. No apparent significant defects					No action required prior to the next survey		

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Height	Phys Cond	Structural condition & Notes	Failure score	Target score	Impact score	Risk Ev. Sum	Management recommendations	Work type	Time scale
900	Hawthorn	Young	<7	Poor	Strimmer guard has been fitted from the recommendation at the last survey. The tree continues to struggle to establish as a result of the existing damage but now has the best chance of recovery.					No action required prior to the next survey		
901	Hawthorn	Post Mature	<7	Poor	Areas of vascular dysfunction and stereum fungus on the stem to the scaffold branches. Crown is sparse. Crown dysfunction/dieback. Does not appear to be any significant structural issues, but the tree is in terminal decline and of very limited aesthetic value.	2	15	4	120	Fell to ground level and remove the stump. Plant a replacement tree ensuring a strimmer guard is fitted.	Hazard	3 yrs

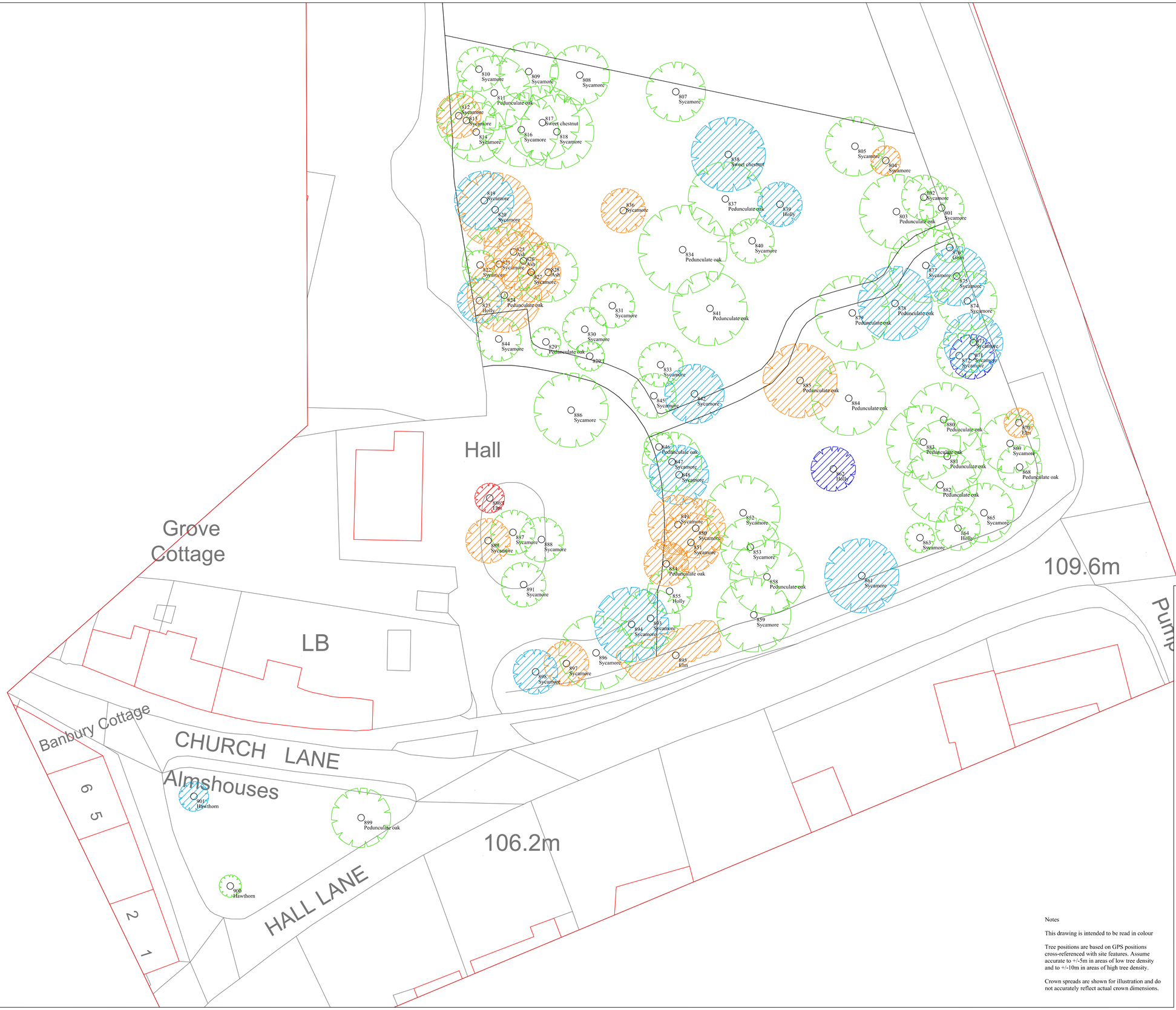
6 TREE SURVEY PLAN

6.1 Tree identification numbers: All individual trees and the approximately central tree in groups are tagged on site using Signumat Arbortags at 2.4m above ground level.

6.2 Tree locations are plotted using GPS and cross-referenced against site features. Accepting the weaknesses of GPS signal under tree canopies we consider the tree positions to be accurate to within 5m.

6.3 Crown spreads are shown for reference and not intended to accurately reflect the actual extents of the crown.

6.4 The Tree Survey Plan is a single sheet colour document and should be printed as such for effective use. The text height is 2.2mm when printed at A1 and 1.1mm when printed at A3. Printing smaller may render the text illegible.



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Client: Berkswell Parish Council

Ref: MF/11671

Drawing Title: Tree Survey Plan

DWG No.: MF.13529.01

Date: 19-01-23

Scale: 1:250 @ A1

Key

Trees (no works)

Works within 13 weeks

Works within 1 year

Works within 3 years

Works within 5 years

Advisory works

Notes

This drawing is intended to be read in colour

Tree positions are based on GPS positions cross-referenced with site features. Assume accurate to +/-5m in areas of low tree density and to +/-10m in areas of high tree density.

Crown spreads are shown for illustration and do not accurately reflect actual crown dimensions.

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Appendix 1

Brief qualifications and experience of Chris Shortis

1. Qualifications

- Royal Forestry Society Professional Diploma in Arboriculture.
- Arboriculture Association Technician Certificate (Credit).
- National Certificate in Arboriculture and Forestry (Double Distinction).
- Awarded Warwickshire College Arboriculture Student of the Year.
- LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection
- Post Graduate Certificate in Multi Hazard Risk Assessment

2. Practical experience:

- Bournville Landscapes and Tree Care Ltd: Arborist.
- Midland Forestry Ltd: Arboriculturalist.
- Midland Forestry Ltd: Arboricultural Consultant
- Midland Forestry Ltd: Associate Director

3. Continuing professional development:

Midland Forestry is committed to continuing professional development to ensure all staff continue to learn and develop throughout their careers, so they keep their skills and knowledge up to date and are able to work safely, legally and effectively.

Sample of the seminars and conferences attended:

- International Society of Arboriculture conference 'Defensible Tree Management Systems'
- Practitioners guide to Visual Tree Assessment
- Arboriculture Association conference 'New Horizons in Arboriculture'
- Visual Tree Assessment, Tree Safety Diagnosis and Failure Analysis seminar by Dr. Claus Mattheck
- Preparing for and giving evidence at Public Local Inquiries
- 40th National Arboriculture Conference
- Fungal Decay Process & Applied Engineering
- The Institute of Chartered Foresters' conference Trees, People & the Built Environment
- Designing with Trees
- Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees
- Dynamic Structural Analysis of Trees Subject to Wind Loading & the Biomechanical Implications

4. Membership of professional bodies:

- Professional Member of the Arboriculture Association.
- Member of the Royal Forestry Society.