

# **EVALUATION OF CONDITION OF TREES AT THE ROOKERY, OVERLOOKING CROW TREES GARDENS AND ADJACENT PROPERTIES.**

**Client:** Mr J J Clayton, The Rookery, Crow Trees Brow, Chatburn, Clitheroe, Lancs

**Date of Tree Inspection:** 28.3.18

**Weather conditions:** Clear and wet

## **BACKGROUND, METHODS AND REMIT**

1. The inspection was carried out as a follow on from an inspection in 2013-14 listing a small amount of work relating to removing deadwood in trees. The trees shown on the plan T1-13 have been inspected and recommendations made for works including the removal of three lesser trees which may soon fail causing damage to walls in the garden. The trees were viewed from ground level and were in a dormant state. Acoustic hammer and small drill investigation techniques were used together with normal VTA methods
2. The purpose of the report is to assess the condition of the trees and determine given their location and the nature of any defects if remedial work is required to assist the property owner in fulfilling his duty of care. The plan has been provided by the client to determine the extent of the site boundaries. Please recheck that the trees listed for work are within your garden. If they are within the curtilage of a neighbouring property it would be advisable to notify the neighbour of the problem.
3. The trees are within a Conservation Area and any work proposed will need to be cleared by the LPA by giving six weeks' notice of intent in writing. Removal of deadwood does not need LPA permission.
4. The trees are all mature and late mature and are consisted in age with the main property this being assumed to be circa 1850. The trees are tag marked in certain cases and are also located on the attached plan. The schedule below lists the trees and assesses the scale of risk they may present and indicates the nature of any work required.

## **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

1. Two trees are regarded as immediately hazardous and tree work should be carried out within 3 months. Most of the neighbours (Older people living in single storey properties in close proximity to the 22m high trees) have reported branch loss onto their gardens in the past but observation suggests that these issues have not been repeated. One tree near to the river requires an aerial inspection which should be carried out before the summer.
2. The risks of harm have been calculated bearing in mind the normal wind patterns of the area. Extreme climatic conditions of high wind and rainfall have not been allowed for where root plate lift and total tree and building failure can occur. No tree can be regarded as safe in the everyday sense of the word and reinspection after high winds and at regular intervals is recommended.
3. Some work recommended in 2013 has not been completed and has been rescheduled in this report.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

1. Reinspection should occur again in 2023.
2. The attached schedule of works should be completed within the next three months subject to permission being obtained.

We will make an application to RVBC for permission to carry out the works. We make an admin charge of £40 for this procedure. Once permission is obtained you can ask a local contractor to price the work. If you have difficulty in locating a competent and insured firm please let us know and we will try and advise.

Ken Linfood  
Consulting Arborist

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## Photo record of trees



Birch T14



Cavity in ash T12



Wall damage by Birch T9



Ash T12

No	Location	Species	Hgt (m)	Girth Dia (mm)	Canopy Spread (Radius N/S/E/W in metres)	Age Class Y/EM/M/LM/OM	Condition (Good/Fair/Poor)	Target rating (H/M/L)	Size of part L/M/S	Likelihood Of failure H/M/L	Risk of Harm	Work required	Urgency H/M/L
T1	See plan	Beech	26	1600	11N	LM	Good. Root plate sound, loss of vigour in upper canopy, no poor attachments or deadwood. Butt sound to test. No recent branch loss	M	S	L	Low	Monitor	
T2	See plan	Sycamore	20	400	9N	M	Good, Tree suppressed to south. No deadwood or evidence of basal decay.	M	S	L	Low		
T5	See plan	Sycamore	26	950	9 <sup>E</sup>	LM	Fair, Upper canopy is loosing Vigour. See photo to illustrate potential height reduction	L	S	H	Low	Reduction of the declining upper canopy by 25% will encourage growth in the lower canopy and make the tree less wind exposed	Low
T6	See plan	Sycamore	25	950	9S	LM	Good, <b>Remove low branch</b> adj minor codominant fork. Fall range of Neighbouring garage	M	M	M	Medium	<b>Remove low branch</b>	Med
T7	See plan	Copper Beech	25	650	8S	M	Good,	L	S	L	Low		
T8	See plan	Copper Beech	25	650	8S	M	Good,	L	S	L	Low		
T11	See Plan	Sycamore twin stem	26	780+850	8S	M	Good, conjoined trees at root plate level, wind protected. Some 50mm dia deadwood	L	S	L		Remove deadwood	low
T9/10	See plan	Birch (2)	12	200	4w	M	Fair, suppressed trees located close to wall and Wardens parking area	M	M	L	Low	Remove yellow spotted birch fouling boundary wall	Med
T12	See Plan	Ash	10	400	5	M	Fair, Large cavity at base, close to wall and canopy over parking area.	M	M	L	Medium	Fell and remove or reduce to nature stump (check Ownership)	High
T14	See Plan	Weeping Birch	10	500	3	LM	Central cavity, decayed buttress root, lean to wall, 25% canopy dieback. Electric connected to tree	H	H	H	Medium	Fell and poison stump	High
Tag 350	See plan	Sycamore	24	800	9	LM	Fair, bark canker on main stem. No trace of internal decay or Fruiting bodies. Thinning canopy and branch deadwood. Twin stem with low fork	H	M			Remove deadwood and examine upper unions for leisons or fractures. Climber to report any adverse findings	Med
Tag 749	See plan	Sycamore	24	850	7	LM	Fair, slow growth, light deadwood	M	L	L	Low	Remove deadwood and sever ivy	Low
Tag 349	See plan	Beech	22	930	10	M	Good, Triple stem	M	L	L	Low		
Tag 353	See plan	Sycamore	23	880	6	M	Good fastigate form. Light deadwood and hanging deadwood					Remove deadwood and sever ivy	Low
Tag 357	See Plan	Beech	19	740	9	LM	Good, well rooted into bank. No indications of root plate movement,	M	L	L	Low		

T13 referred to two late mature and fire damaged sycamores at the top corner of the garden, The trees have central cavities and have been damaged in the past by garden bonfires. The trees are not near structures and appear stable so no action is recommended at this time. Try to keep fires at least 5m from the trees.

Tree Location Plan.

