

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 Linford
Consulting Arborist

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