

## Ribblesdale View / The Cottage. Tree Maintenance

This report concerns 5 trees situated at Ribblesdale View (4 trees) and The Cottage (1 tree) on Greenside, Ribchester PR3 3ZJ.

Over the years these trees have grown to an excessive size and shape and are no longer acceptable to enhance the expected high standards of the Ribchester conservation area. They are also causing considerable distress in many ways to residents of Greenside. A synopsis of each of the trees identified on the sketch plan, follows.

**Tree A.** Tree A is a Rowan (Mountain Ash). It is now unreasonably tall and mis-shapen due to its proximity the adjacent birch. Its presence hides light from my greenhouse and from adjacent houses across Greenside. (See photograph.)

Required action: To reduce the height of the tree and remove branches selectively to recreate an acceptable shape.

**Tree B.** Tree B is a silver birch now of massive dimensions. Its branches overhang Greenside obstructing the vision of tall vehicles drivers and impinging on vehicles as they drive through Greenside. The tree is leaning towards Greenside at an estimated angle of 15 degrees, which is probably the cause of the the perimeter wall bowing outwards towards the road. (See photograph.) If it were to fall, it would incur substantial damage to the house opposite. The owners of the house have expressed their concern to me and the lady of the house, being of a nervous disposition, suffers severe mental anguish at times of high winds.

Required action: In order for me to exercise a reasonable duty of care towards my neighbours, it is essential that the height of the tree is reduced by several metres and then reshaped to allow all vehicles a clear passage through Greenside.

**Tree C.** Type not known with dark red leaves. The tree is excessively high and impinges against the branches of its two adjacent trees

creating a mis-shapen appearance. Also of a significant issue is the tree's interference with my neighbour's Sky television satellite signal, which is low on the horizon. This has been confirmed by a BT technician.

Required action: The tree requires selective reshaping to allow clear passage of the Sky television satellite signal and to improve its visual appearance.

**Tree D.** Tree D is a type of oak tree. It has grown to an unacceptable size and its footprint contains large branches that overhang Greenside. Its foliage also contributes to the satellite signal problem detailed above.

Required Action: The branches that overhang Greenside require removal and some reshaping carried out.

**Tree E.** Tree E is a silver birch that is positioned in the dividing hedge between The Cottage and Ribblesdale View. Over the years it has grown into a very tall and mis-shapen isolated tree that is massively contaminated with ivy. Its visual effect is not conducive to the high standards of the conservation area especially as it is adjacent to the public road leading to the Roman Baths site.

Action required: Tree E should be removed.

Action already taken: I invited Mr John Gornall (tree surgeon and arborologist) to visit the site, view the trees in question and identify the works required. He examined the requirement and said he was able to undertake the work defined in this written report after I had submitted notification of the proposed tree works to the RVBC.

Michael Sabben

28 Sep 2020