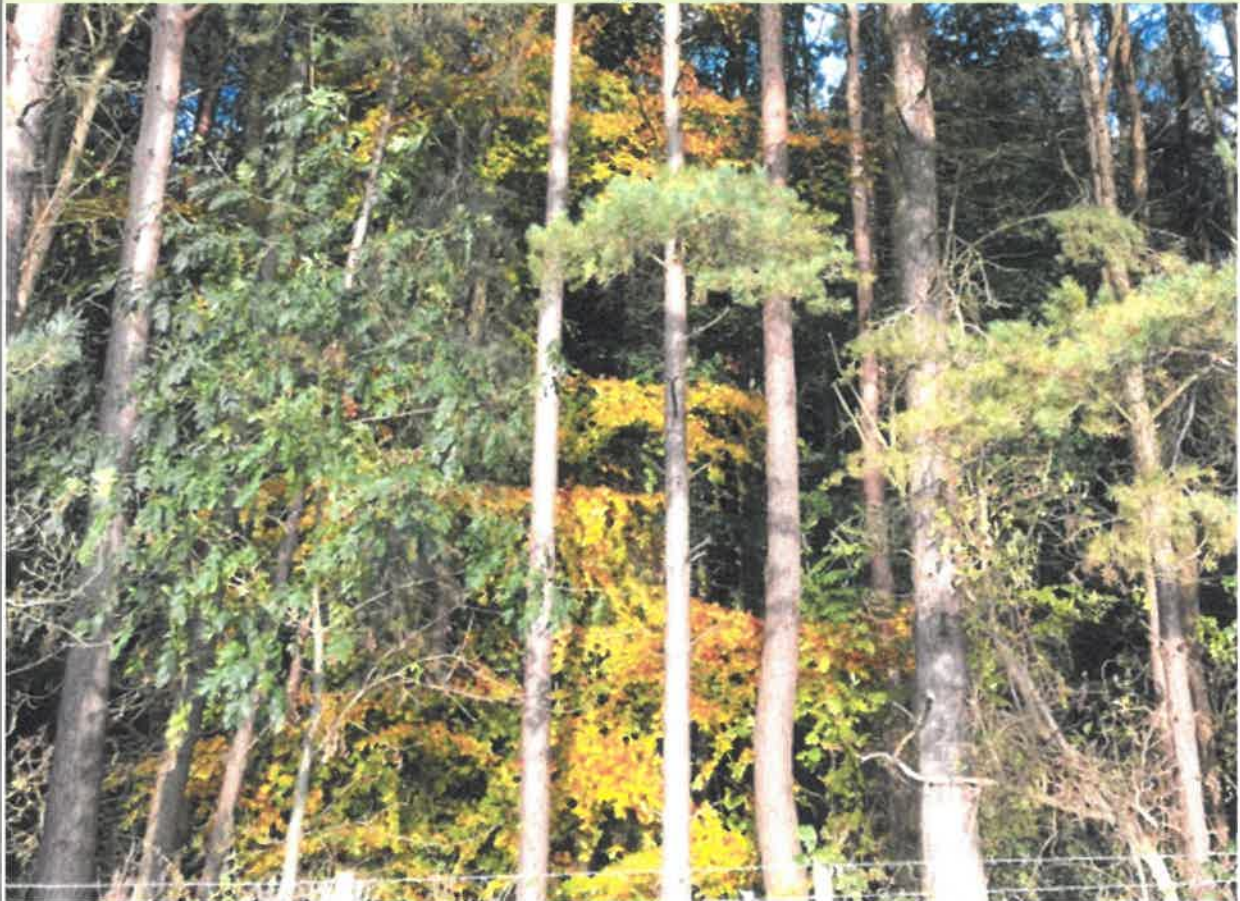




ARBORICULTURAL REPORT



at



Ribble Valley
Borough Council

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	1
1.1 Purpose of the Report.....	1
1.2 Terms of Reference	1
1.3 Scope of the Report.....	1
1.4 Survey Details	1
2. Site Description.....	1
2.1 Land Use	1
2.2 Topography	1
2.3 Treescape.....	1
2.4 Visual Amenity Value	2
2.5 Age Class Mix.....	2
2.6 Species Diversity	2
3. Status of the Trees	2
4. Tree Descriptions and Recommendations	2
5. Discussion	2
6. Conclusions	2
Appendix 1 – Tree Works Schedule.....	4
Appendix 2 – Explanation of Tree Descriptions.....	6
A2.1 Measurements	6
A2.2 Evaluations	6
A2.3 Retention Categories.....	6
Appendix 3 – General Guidelines.....	8
Appendix 4 – Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations.....	9

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

1.1.1 A report is required for

1.2 Terms of Reference

1.2.1 I am instructed by Ribble Valley Borough Council to visit the site and prepare my findings in a report.

1.2.2 For this report I have been supplied with

1.3 Scope of the Report

1.3.1 This report is compiled in accordance with BS

1.3.2

1.3.3

1.3.4

1.3.5

1.4 Survey Details

1.4.1 The surveying of

1.4.2

1.4.3

1.4.4

2. Site Description

2.1 Land Use

2.1.1

2.2 Topography

2.2.1

2.3 Treescape

2.3.1

2.4 Visual Amenity Value

2.4.1

2.5 Age Class Mix

2.5.1

2.6 Species Diversity

2.6.1

3. Status of the Trees

3.1

4. Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

4.1 Ground Protection

4.1

5. Discussion

5.1 Tree Condition and Recommended Works

5.1.1

5.2 Potential Arboricultural Implications and Design Advice

5.2.1

6. Conclusions

6.1

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Tree Works Schedule

[illegible]

Appendix 2 – Explanation of Tree Descriptions

A2.1 Measurements

- A.2.1.1 HEIGHT of the tree is measured from the stem base in metres. Where the ground has a significant slope the higher ground is selected.
- A.2.1.2 CROWN HEIGHT is an indication of the average height at which the crown begins. Also recorded is the height of the first significant branch and the direction of growth.
- A.2.1.3 STEM DIAMETER is measured at 1.5 metres above (higher) ground level. Where the tree is multi-stemmed below a height of 1.5 metres, the diameter is measured at the narrowest point below the fork.
- A.2.1.4 CROWN SPREAD is measured from the centre of the stem base to the tips of the branches in all four cardinal points.

A2.2 Evaluations

- A.2.2.1 AGE CLASS of the tree is described as young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature or over-mature.
- A.2.2.2 PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair, poor or dead. This is an indication of the health of the tree and takes into account vigour, presence of disease and dieback.
- A.2.2.3 STRUCTURAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair or poor. This is an indication of the structural integrity of the tree and takes into account significant wounds, decay and quality of branch junctions.
- A.2.2.4 LIFE EXPECTANCY is classed as less than 10 years, 10 – 20 years, 20 – 40 years or more than 40 years. This is an indication of the number of years before removal of the tree is likely to be required.

A2.3 Retention Categories

A.2.3.1 A – Trees of High Quality; Retention Most Desirable

These are trees of high quality and value with a good life expectancy. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

- A1) Particularly good examples; perhaps rare or unusual species, or forming an essential part of arboricultural features eg avenues.
- A2) Groups of trees having a significant landscape impact or with excellent screening properties, or whose softening the effect of existing structures.
- A3) Those having significant conservation or historical value eg veteran trees.

A.2.3.2 B – Trees of Moderate Quality; Retention Desirable

These are trees of moderate quality and value with a significant life expectancy. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

- B1) Trees that might be included in the high category but because of their numbers or slightly impaired condition, are downgraded in favour of the better individuals.
- B2) Groups of trees forming part of distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals.
- B3) Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits.

A.2.3.3 C – Trees of Low Quality but Which Could be Retained

These are trees of low quality and value which are in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

- C1) Trees not qualifying in higher categories.
- C2) Groups of trees which do not form a distinct landscape feature.
- C3) Trees with very limited conservation or other cultural benefits.

A.2.3.4 U – Trees Unsuitable for Retention: Trees for Removal

These trees are in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years. This may be due to any of the following:

- 1) Failure is likely due to serious, irredeemable, structural defects.
- 2) The trees are considered to be hazardous.
- 3) Diseases are present which may affect the health of adjacent trees.
- 4) They are in serious, overall decline or are already dead.
- 5) They are of low quality and suppressing adjacent trees of better quality.
- 6) Removal of other category U trees will render them exposed and unstable.

These trees should be removed or treated in such a way as to make them safe where they have high ecological value, such as a woodland setting.

Appendix 3 – General Guidelines

- A3.1 All must must be to BS3998:2010 – ‘Recommendations for Tree Work’.
- A3.2 Staff carrying out the work must be qualified, experienced and ideally be Arboricultural Association approved contractors. They should be covered by adequate public liability insurance.
- A3.3 This report is based upon a visual inspection. The consultant shall not be responsible for events which happen after this time due to factors which were not apparent at the time, and the acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with the guidelines and the terms listed in this report.
- A3.4 Any defects seen by a contractor or the employer that were not apparent to the consultant must be brought to the consultant’s attention immediately.
- A3.5 No liability can be accepted by Ribble Valley Borough Council in respect of the trees unless the recommendations of this report are carried out under the supervision of Ribble Valley Borough Council and within Ribble Valley Borough Council’s timescale.
- A3.6 It is advisable to have trees inspected by an arboricultural consultant regularly In this instance it is recommended that these inspections are made every year.

Appendix 4 – Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations
