

TREE CONDITION ASSESSMENT OF SEVEN LIME TREES LOCATED ON THE EASTERN BOUNDARY OF 86 WHALLEY RD WILPSHIRE

Client: Mrs E Fisher. Resident Occupant.

Date of Tree Inspection: 16.4.26

Weather conditions: Clear mild.

REMIT

The Lime Trees in question are within A1 of a TPO administered by Ribble Valley Borough Council and any planned works will have to be discussed with the Local Authority and no works (excepting the removal of deadwood) carried out without formal permission from the council. The client is concerned that the trees may represent a risk of harm to road users and her neighbour at 88 Whalley Road and has requested that we investigate the condition of the trees and make application for any required treework to mitigate the risk of harm

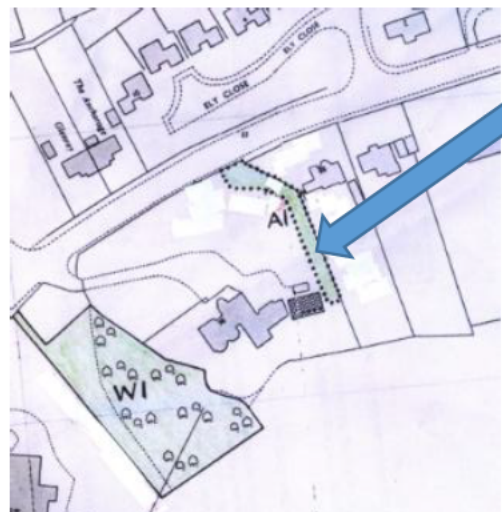


The Tree Inspector

I am Ken Linford, a consulting arborist, trained in Pre-development Tree assessment, Quantified Tree Risk Assessment and Tree Defect identification. I have experience as a tree care contractor for more than 25 years and have been providing a consulting service for Local Councils, private persons and architects for 20 years. My CPD record is open to inspection if required. I am covered by PI insurance by Trust Insurance to £1m.

SUMMARY CONDITION REPORT

1. The trees are all mature with a DBH of 500-600mm, a height of 21m and a canopy spread radius of 5m. It is our view that the trees were planted as a line of screening prior to the building of 88 Whalley Road. Originally a greater number of trees were planted. One of the trees within the TPO is now within the property of No. 88 and there is evidence of the stump of a lime felled or failed many years ago on the client's side of the fence line.
2. The limes were in early *Bud break* and are shown in the distance in the photo above and arrowed.
3. For identification purposes the trees have been tag numbered 001-007 starting at the north end of the boundary as shown on the plan and within the dotted area of A1.



4. A Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) was carried out using hammer tests and drill tests where appropriate. It was noted that the buttress root strength and development was most noticeable on the western and eastern side of the trees suggesting that the prevailing winds from the west had made the trees develop root strength to mitigate the chances of windthrow from the west. There was no evidence of pathogens such as Kretchmaria deusta. No evidence of past Root plate lift was found. The epicormic growth around the base of the limes and overall vigour of the canopies was positive evidence of tree structural health.
5. Tree canopy cover in the garden of 86 Whalley Road include tall trees and these together with the tree cover within W1 (shown on the plan) would help reduce the force of the prevailing westerly winds

RECOMMENDED WORKS

1. It is accepted that Climate change includes a likelihood of more gusting winds and higher rainfall which characterizes the weather conditions likely to dominate in the coming years. Extreme pruning strategies such as Pollarding can be counterproductive and result in branch failure and the creation of stress growth and increased wind exposure as well as amenity loss.
2. A thinning of the upper third canopy of the trees by 10% removing branches at root junctions and avoiding stub cuts and creating cut diameters of less than 60mm will reduce the wind catch of the trees. As part of this process the overall height of the trees can be reduced by 3m. This will reduce the lever arm of the tree and further reduce the likelihood of wind induced failure. All works must meet the requirements of BS 3998 (2010)
3. Work will have to take place after the end of Birds nesting season in September 2026.

Ken Linford
CONSULTING ARBORIST

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