

## **TREE SURVEY, CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**OUR REF:** OB/5721/ R/mp

**YOUR REF:**

**DATE:** 5<sup>th</sup> March 2012

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**CLIENT:** Mr David Walker  
Writtle Parish Council

**SITE  
ADDRESS:** Writtle Green  
Writtle

**DATE/TIME OF VISIT:** AM 27<sup>th</sup> February 2012

**PEOPLE PRESENT:** Mr O. R. Booth

**REPORT COMPLETED BY:** Mr Oliver R. Booth MSc M.Arbor.A

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### **SUMMARY**

This report details the tree condition and hazard inspections carried out at the above site (plans attached). Recommendations have been made for tree works where appropriate, with suggested time scales.

In reading and understanding the contents of this report it should be remembered that no tree can be deemed risk free. As with all things in the natural environment, they are subject to unpredictable forces such as extreme weather, effects of disease, and man's influence upon them.

We investigate the tree's structure and its surroundings in reaching a conclusion as to a level of risk. These conclusions and recommendations seek to reduce the level of risk the tree(s) may pose to one that could be considered acceptable, given the tree's location, site use, and owners' acceptance of the level of risk and the perception of its value to the environment. No tree can ever be considered completely hazard free, and regular monitoring of the tree and its surroundings should be undertaken by the owner and their appointed specialist advisors, where necessary on a cyclic and recorded basis.

**1: Site Plan**



This plan is for illustrative purposes and not to scale.  
 All measurements should be read from the tree schedule.  
 Plan identifies trees as relevant and does not record all features of the site.  
 North is to the top of this site plan.

## **2: Instruction**

### **2.1 Brief:**

- I have been instructed by Mr David Walker to carry out a survey of trees within the area of Writtle Green, Writtle.
- This survey involves a ground level only inspection to establish the condition of the trees.

### **2.2 Aspects dealt with within report**

- The survey includes details of the physiological and structural condition of the trees.
- It includes an appraisal and recommendations based on the site visit as to the immediate and future management of the trees based on the site survey and assessment of the tree.
- A consideration of the ‘targets’ where targets are considered as those things, people and property that could be hit by the trees failure, whether partial or total.
- All observations are made from within the boundaries of the property on which the tree is situated.

### **2.3 Aspects not dealt with within report**

- Please also refer to Appendix 1.
- This report is concerned only with those trees within the area as identified on the enclosed map.
- The survey did not excavate around the root plate of any of the trees.
- Further in-depth investigations that are considered necessary/ (desirable) are highlighted within the management recommendations of the survey.
- The report only considers the current condition and health of the tree as identified.
- An assessment of the risk of subsidence, heave and direct damage to adjacent properties, built structures and drainage is not considered.
- Trees outside of the boundary of the property are not inspected. Comments are only made on these trees if they appear to be hazardous to the site at the time of the survey.

## **3: Background Information**

### **3.1 Identification and location of the trees:**

- All dimensions and measurements are estimated unless otherwise indicated.
- Please refer to maps as provided within section 1.
- The trees in question are situated on Writtle Green and St John’s Green.

### **3.2 Relevant Targets Associated with Tree**

- General targets associated with the trees would include pedestrians, road users and visitors to the Green spaces and duck pond. (Specific reference is considered within the survey).

### **3.3 Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas**

- It is not known whether any of the trees are subject to any statutory constraints. This must be checked with the relevant local authority before carrying out works.

## **4: Consideration of Recommendations**

### **4.1 Work schedule**

- In accordance with the instructions of this report, the recommendations given within the survey are measures needed to be taken in order to manage the vegetation in terms of good Arboricultural practice.
- I advise that the work be carried out by a contractor from the local authority list or one approved by the Arboricultural Association.
- The contractor should carry out all tree works to BS 3998 *Recommendations for Tree Work* (2010) and as modified by more recent research.

### 5. Explanation of category headings within Tree Survey:

<b>Tree No:</b>	The tree number as given to the tree or group of trees as shown on the site plan.
<b>Species:</b>	This is the general common usage name given to the tree. The scientific name maybe given in brackets afterwards if considered relevant.
<b>Height:</b>	This is an approximate figure given in metres. Measurements are estimated unless elsewhere stated.
<b>Age Class:</b>	Y= Young trees aged less than one third of life expectancy. MA= Middle age trees between one to two thirds of life expectancy. M = Mature tree over two thirds of life expectancy. OM= Over mature trees exceeding life expectancy.
<b>Physiological and Structural Condition and Observations:</b>	A single word summary is used to describe the tree. <u>Good:</u> A tree in generally good health and free of significant defects with an ability to resist pathogens. <u>Moderate:</u> A tree in generally good health but with significant defects requiring works. <u>Poor:</u> A tree in poor condition both structurally and physiologically with significant defects requiring substantial works or removal. This summary is followed by observations and comments on the visible physiological and structural condition of the tree on the day of the survey. They are brief and relate to unaided observations from the ground, unless otherwise stated.
<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	These recommendations are drawn from consideration of the structural condition and observations made at the time of the survey. Considerations are also made bearing in mind the need for more detailed inspections to investigate suspected defects and potential wildlife habitats.
<b>Targets</b>	Targets' in this instance are people and property that could be hit by the trees failure, whether partial or total.
<b>Work Priority</b>	<u>U= Urgent:</u> works required in next 7 days <u>H= High:</u> works required in next 30 days <u>M= Moderate:</u> works required in next 6 months <u>L= Low:</u> works required in next 12 months <u>N/W/P/R:</u> No works presently required
<b>Inspection Frequency</b>	<u>U= Urgent:</u> Further inspection required as detailed in management recommendations as soon as can be arranged. <u>H= High:</u> Re-inspect within next 6 months <u>M= Moderate:</u> Re-inspect within next 12 to 18 months <u>L= Low:</u> Re-inspect within next 1 to 3 years

**TREE SURVEY, CONDITION & MANAGEMENT PLAN  
BARTLETT CONSULTING**

**Client: Writtle Parish Council**

**Report No. OB/5721 /mp**

**Completed by: Mr O Booth**

**Site: Writtle Green**

**Date of Survey: 27.02.12**

<u>Tree No.</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Ht</u>	<u>Age Class</u>	<u>Physiological and Structural condition of tree and observations</u>	<u>Management Recommendations</u>	<u>Targets</u>	<u>Work Priority</u>	<u>Inspect freq</u>
T1	Lime	16m	MA	Basal condition obscured by epicormic growth. Historically pollarded at 2.5m and 3m. Decay evident at pollard bole at 3m minor deadwood within crown.	Remove epicormic growth to check basal condition. Remove deadwood and check structural integrity of pollard bole.	Footpath and road	L M	3yrs
T2	Lime	8m	Y-MA	Relatively young tree with minor deadwood.	Formative prune	Footpath and road	L	3yrs
T3	Lime	17m	M	Historically pollarded at 2.5, 4m and 10m. Decay evident at old pruning wounds at 2.5m to north-east. Pollard re-growth at 4m represents large lever arm effect on pollard point.	Reduce height by approximately 3-4m above last pollard points at approximately 10m. Reduce width by approximately 2.5m back to previous cut points. Check structural integrity of crown and pollard points.	Footpath, road, houses	M	1yr
T4	Lime	8m	Y-MA	Minor deadwood	Formative prune	Footpath and road	L	3yrs
T5	Lime	8m	Y-MA	Minor deadwood	Formative prune	Footpath and road	L	3yrs

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T6	Horse Chestnut	14m	M	Stem leaning towards road. Exposed buttress roots with girdling root. Cracking evident south side of main stem at approximately 1.8m beneath bark. Unable to establish severity. Large number of target cankers throughout tree reducing overall structural integrity of the crown.	Carry out non -invasive internal investigation in areas where suspected structural timber issues are noted.	Footpath, Road, Shops	M	1yr
T7	Silver Birch	12m	M	Suspected Heterobasidion annosum at base of tree to north-east, and north of tree. Areas sound hollow on tapping with mallet. Damaged exposed buttress roots. 10% deadwood within crown.	Carry out non- invasive internal investigation to check extent of decay. If decay found over 30% fell.	Footpath, green, road	H	6 months
T8	Oak	7m	Y	Minor deadwood and crossing branches	Formatively prune	Footpath green	L	3yrs
T9	Oak	7m	Y	Minor deadwood and crossing branches	Formatively prune	Footpath green	L	3yrs
T10	Willow	14m	MA	Exposed buttress roots. Minor decay and old pruning wounds. 2no laterals over roadway to south over extended and representing risk as a large lever arm.	Reduce 2no laterals over roadway to south by 3-4m.	Road, footpath	L	3yrs
T11	Willow	12m	MA	Large exposed and damaged basal root to south. Target canker to base of tree to south.	No works presently required.	Green	n/a	3yrs
T12	Willow	18m	M	Exposed basal roots. Possible hollow sound with mallet on main stem to north at approximately 1-2m. Hazard beam crack on lateral to north-west (over bench) at approximately 4m) Similar hazard beam crack to lateral to west at 6m. (not currently significant). Target canker at central stem to west at approximately 12m.	Carry out non-invasive internal investigation. Reduce lateral to north-west by 4m. Carry out climbing inspection to check structural integrity of tree.	Green Bench	M  H M	1yr

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T13	Willow	18m	M	Tree has historically been heavily reduced. Historic pruning wound to east at 2.5m shows signs of extensive exudates, probably indicating bacterial wet-wood. Wood around area of decay on stem. Sounds hollow when tapped with mallet. Further decay area at 3.5m to east on main stem at historic limb loss wound.	Carry out non-invasive investigation at area of exudates.	Green Bench	H	1yr
T14	Birch	14m	MA	Stem bifurcates at 0.5m. Tight inclusion at union . Minor deadwood within crown.	No works presently required.	Bench Green	n/a	1yr
T15	Horse Chestnut	7m	M	Historically heavily pollarded at 6m. Large area of bark loss/dieback from ground level to a height of 2m. Oyster Mushroom brackets evident at decayed/desiccated/exposed wood. Areas of Pseudomonas bleeding canker evident on stem to 2m. Main stem sounds hollow when tapped with mallet to north and east around 1m height.	Carry out non-invasive internal investigation of main stem.	Road, Footpath Green	M	1yr
T16	Lime	10m	MA	Minor deadwood and crossing laterals.	Formatively prune	Road, Green	L	3yrs
T17	Lime	16m	MA	Minor deadwood	No works presently required	Road, Green	n/a	3yrs
T18	Lime	20m	M	Mallet sounds large area of decay at base to north. Decayed area probed to 300m. Previously pollarded 5m. Areas of decay evident at old pollard points.	Carry out non-invasive internal investigation of main stem.	Road, Footpath, Green Property	Urgent	1yr



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T19	Lime	8m	M	Ganoderma bracket at base of tree to north. Area probed to 300mm. Extensive area of decay sounded with mallet to north and west of stem to a height of 1m. Tree has been recently heavily pollarded at approximately 6m.	Carry out non-invasive decay detection to base of tree to establish extent of decay.	Road, Green	H	1yr
T20	Oak	20m	M	Deadwood	Deadwood	Road, Green	L	3yrs
T21	Lime	8m	M	Recently pollarded at approximately 6m. Minor decay evident to old pruning wounds.	Continue re-pollarding regime. Cut every 5 years	Road, Green	L	3yrs
T22	Lime	6m	Y	Historic basal damage to south	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3rs
T23	Lime	6m	Y	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3rs
T24	Lime	8m	MA	Branches growing into adjacent street lamp	Cut back from street light	Road Green	L	3yrs
T25	Lime	12m	MA	Exposed and damaged basal root to north-east. Possible crack between lateral and stem at light inclusion to lateral to east at 3m (as seen facing south). Possible bacterial exudates on main stem at 5m.	Inspect possible crack at inclusion and remove lateral if required. Carry out climbing inspection at same time.	Road Green	L	3yrs
T26	Lime	22m	M	Dense epicormic growth at base of tree preventing full inspection. Tree has been historically pollarded at 6m. Tree has been more recently crown reduced. Areas of decay evident at old pollard points. Minor deadwood.	Remove epicormic growth and re-inspect base of tree. Re-assess recommendations once basal condition of tree has been established.	Road, Green, Property	H	1yr

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T27	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required.	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T28	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required.	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T29	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required.	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T30	Lime	22m	M	Deadwood and hanging branches	Crown clean	Road Green	M	1yr
T31	Lime	22m	M	Mallet sounds decay at base to south. Area probed to 300mm. Tree has been historically pollarded at 6m. Deadwood and hanging branches within crown.	Carry out non-invasive internal investigation to assess extent of internal decay	Road Green	H	1yr
T32	Lime	8m	MA	Historic basal damage to west	No works presently required.	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T33	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T34	Lime	22m	M	Minor deadwood and hanging branches within crown.	Crown clean	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T35	Lime	22m	M	Minor deadwood and hanging branches within crown.	Crown clean	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T36	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T37	Lime	8m	MA	Historic basal damage to west.	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T38	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs

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T39	Lime	22m	M	Historically pollarded at approximately 6m. Historic damage to main stem to east at approximately 2.5m. Wound tissue, and probe would suggest that decay has currently compartmentalised. Minor deadwood and hanging branches over roadway.	Crown clean	Road Green	M	1yr
T40	Lime	8m	MA	Minor deadwood and hanging laterals	No works presently required	Road Green	M	3yrs
T41	Lime	22m	M	Minor deadwood and hanging branches	Crown clean	Road Green	M	1yr
T42	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T43	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T44	Lime	12m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T45	Lime	22m	M	Historically pollarded at 6m. Deadwood and hanging branches within crown.	Crown clean	Road Green	n/a	1yr
T46	Lime	12m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T47	Lime	14m	MA	Laterals interfering with street light	Cut back laterals from street light	Road Green	L	3yrs
T48	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T49	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T50	Lime	8m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs

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T51	Lime	14m	MA	Damage to main stem to west at 0.5m currently insignificant. Numerous crossing and rubbing laterals.	Crown clean	Road Green	L	3yrs
T52	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T53	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T54	Lime	14m	MA	Minor laterals going into street light	Cut back laterals from street light	Road Green	L	3yrs
T55	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T56	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T57	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T58	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T59	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T60	Lime	14m	MA	Minor laterals growing into street light	Cut back laterals from street light	Road Green	L	3yrs
T61	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
T62	Lime	14m	MA	No comments	No works presently required	Road Green	n/a	3yrs
G1	Group of Prunus, Elder etc.	8m		Trees leaning toward pond area so represent little hazard. Basal condition obscured by Ivy and undergrowth. Area represents shelter area for ducks, etc.	No works presently required	Footpath Road	L	3yrs

## **Appendix 1: Limitations of Tree Report**

### Limitations of the Tree Survey and Scope of the Report

Please also refer to sections 1.2 and 1.3 at the beginning of this report.

- The survey was based on unaided, visual observations made from ground level only.
- All observations were made from within the boundaries of the property, or from public land unless otherwise stated. Trees within neighbouring property are inspected as closely as is reasonably possible from within the boundaries of the property or from public land.
- This report focuses on the physiological and structural condition of those tree/s as identified within the instructions or that fall within the parameters as detailed within section 1.1 and 1.2 of the report.

### Trees in relation to other Properties

- This report/survey only considers the trees in relation to the site as identified.
- It does not comment on possible effects of trees considered on neighbouring properties with regard to possible hazards presented by trees surveyed.
- Neighbouring owners of trees that are identified as hazardous or posing a possible risk to targets identified should seek their own advice as to possible effects of the recommendations given within this report.
- Damage to, or possibility of damage to, any other structure that is not referred to within the report is not considered unless otherwise specified. This includes both neighbouring structures and any other structure on the property.

### Consideration of the Trees in Relation to Subsidence/ Heave

- The report does not consider an assessment of the risk of Subsidence or Heave to any properties, built structures or drainage whether within the bounds of the site considered or adjacent to the site.
- Such considerations would be more appropriately considered within a specific report.

### Consideration of the Trees in relation to Direct damage

- The report does not consider direct damage related to tree root growth in relation to any structures whether within the bounds of the site considered or adjacent to the site.
- Direct damage in this instance is considered to be where the roots of a tree have physical contact with a structure.

### Assessment of 'Targets' as considered

- 'Targets' are considered as those things, people and property that could be hit by the trees failure, whether partial or total.
- These Targets are identified from an evaluation of the site at the time of the survey.
- Changes to the site from the time of the survey will affect the targets as considered within the report and will require review or re-appraisal of the report.

### Timing of the Survey and the Report

- The Appraisal and Conclusions within the report are valid only for a year.
- Such Appraisals and Conclusions will become invalid or necessary for review if changes occur to the site as considered that affect the condition of the tree, the site as evaluated or the hazards as identified at the time of the survey.
- Such considerations will include building works, changes to ground levels or tree works carried out.

### Trees subject to statutory controls

- It has not been established whether or not any of the trees mentioned within the report are covered by any statutory controls. This can be done if requested.
- If the trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or are located in a conservation area it will be necessary to consult the local authority before any pruning works, other than certain exemptions, can be carried out.
- The works specified above are necessary for reasonable management and should be acceptable to the local authority. However, the local authority may take an alternative point of view and have the option to refuse consent.

### Trees are subject to changes outside man's control

- Trees are living organisms subject to changes outside man's control. Trees and environment alter with the seasons it is as well to inspect trees whilst in full leaf and when out of leaf.
- If there are any harsh or unexpected weather conditions, or heavy storms it is also prudent to inspect trees.

- Changes to ground water conditions will affect the root growth of a tree. Such changes are not always the result of man's influence and others factors may be involved.
- The conclusions and recommendations in this tree report are only valid for one year

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I trust this report is helpful to you, should you have any queries or require further advice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**REPORT CLASSIFICATION:** Tree Survey, Condition & Management Report

**REPORT STATUS:** Preliminary

**REPORT COMPLETED BY:** *Mr Oliver Booth MSc M.Arbor.A*  
*Senior Arboricultural Consultant*

**SIGNATURE:**



**OLIVER BOOTH.....DATE: 05.03.2012**