

Negative Aspect Visual Tree Assessment

Client: Barry Malki - Bisham Parish Council

Site: The Orchard, Green Lane, Bisham, Marlow, SL7 1RY

Date: 17.08.2018

Prepared by: Stephen Arnold

Tree No	Species	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Observations	Recommendations	Work Priority
1	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	SM	Good	Good	Tree originally pollarded at 5m with 10m+ regenerated growth. The unions present at branch break appear well formed. The canopy is 1.5m above ground level over the footpath and road. Branches are in contact with the pole and power lines. There is major deadwood present throughout the canopy and there is Ivy present on the stem of the tree, projecting 6m. High target area.	<p><i>Option 1</i> Lift the crown to a height above ground level of 5m above ground level and selectively prune to give a minimum clearance of 2m to the power lines and remove deadwood and Ivy</p> <p><i>Option 2</i> Re-pollard the tree just above the last points of pruning in late Summer or late Winter. Remove the Ivy and any remaining deadwood.</p>	6 months
2	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	SM	Good	Good	Tree originally pollarded at 5m with 10m+ regenerated growth. Some of the unions have formed inclusions, one of which recently failed. This inclusion evidence can clearly be seen as the failed branch was still present for inspection. There is one weakly attached branch present, over-hanging the verge. Minor deadwood present and Ivy projecting 5m up the stem of the tree. High target area.	<p><i>Option 1</i> Pollard the failed limb at just below the point of failure and remove the weakly attached branch, deadwood and Ivy.</p> <p><i>Option 2</i> Re-pollard the tree just above the last points of pruning in late Summer or late Winter. Remove the Ivy and any remaining deadwood.</p>	6 months

Tree No	Species	Age	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Observations	Recommendations	Work Priority
3	Group of self-set Common Ash, <i>Fraxinus</i> , Hazel, <i>Corylus</i> and Poplar <i>Populus</i>	Y	Good	Moderate	Self-set tree group, some of which are heavily suppressed by the neighbouring mature trees. Not all trees present are suitable to be retained in the long-run. High target area.	Remove the poorly structured trees and undertake formative pruning on the remaining trees. Ensure adequate height clearance over the road.	6 months
4	Grey Poplar <i>Populus canescens</i>	SM	Good	Poor	Large cavity present at the base of the stem possibly through mower damage. The Poplar does not have a very durable heartwood and will continue to cavity until eventually the tree fails. High target area.	Remove as close to ground level as practicable and treat the stump with a suitable herbicide to help prevent regeneration. Stump grinding can only be carried out when the stump has stopped regenerating.	6 months
5	Chinese Weeping Willow <i>Salix babylonica</i>	M	Good	Good	Evidence of cut Ivy present. Major deadwood present over the foot bridge and throughout the canopy. Conflicting with the SM Lime tree planted within 5m of the stem. Overall condition consistent with a tree of this age and species. High target area.	Clean the canopy by removing major deadwood and dead Ivy. Ensure the Willow is not damaging the younger Lime tree.	6 months
6	Common Lime <i>Tilia x europaea</i>	SM	Good	Good	Conflicting with the Willow canopy. Canopy below head height and over-hanging the road. High target area.	Ensure adequate height clearance over the road by selectively pruning/lifting as appropriate.	1 year
7	Hornbeam <i>Betulus carpinus</i>	SM	Good	Good	Canopy below head height and over-hanging the road. High target area.	Ensure adequate height clearance over the road by selectively pruning/lifting as appropriate.	1 year
8	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	M	Good	Moderate/ Good	Foliage health, quality and extension all consistent with a tree of this age and species. Early included union present at bi-furcation. Canopy below head height. High target area.	Ensure adequate height clearance over the road by selectively pruning/lifting as appropriate.	1 year

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9	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	SM	Moderate	Good	Die-back throughout the canopy. Pale foliage present. Moderate target area.	Re-inspect Spring 2019	1 year
10,11	Common Hazel <i>Corylus avallana</i>	OM	Moderate	Poor	Lapsed coppice. Die-back present throughout the canopies with multiple dead stems and evidence of historic stem failures present. High target area.	Coppice the trees in late Summer	6 months
12	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	OM	Poor	Poor	Major die-back throughout the canopy with chlorotic foliage present. Extensive hollowing present at the base of the stem. <i>Ustulina deusta</i> fruiting bodies present.* High target area.	Reduce to a 2m habitat pole. Retain as much stem and cord wood in lengths on site as practicable as a useful habitat.	3 months
13	Dead Ivy stricken tree	N/A	N/A	N/A	Failed 'hung up' tree. Not in falling distance of the road or footpath. Low target area.	No works required at this time.	N/A
14	Common Walnut <i>Juglans regia</i>	M	Good	Moderate	Located by the field gate. Ivy stricken tree. Triple stemmed tree, with one failed limb. The tree is sheltered and supported by the field-side Ash trees. Is this a well-used area?	No works required at this time.	N/A
15	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	SM/M	Good	Good	Three dead trees present. The remaining trees condition is consistent with trees of this age and species. Moderate target area.	Remove the three dead trees as close to ground level as practicable.	6 months

- *Ustulina deusta*, regrettably, is a known pathogen. This pathogen affects the cellulose-rich layers of the secondary cell walls, eventually making the wood brittle. Prolonged development can lead to a catastrophic brittle failure, with a ceramic-like fracture-surface. There are usually no warning signs of bulging or cracking. Also, certain kinds of decay detection devices sometimes show a normal reading in wood affected by this fungus.

General Management note: There is a lot of regenerating Ash trees present that we recommend are thinned. This dense regrowth of self-set trees will influence the structure of the developing saplings, encouraging poorly developed structure or suppressed growth habits. Thinning would manually select the best trees and give them space to develop into good quality, viable trees for the future.