



Tree condition survey of trees
at
Manor Drive, Cuckfield, RH17 5BT

Surveyed by
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Report date
27th November 2024

Client
Mr R Barry
19 Manor Drive
Cuckfield
RH17 5BT

Report reference
J1301_05

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1. Instruction

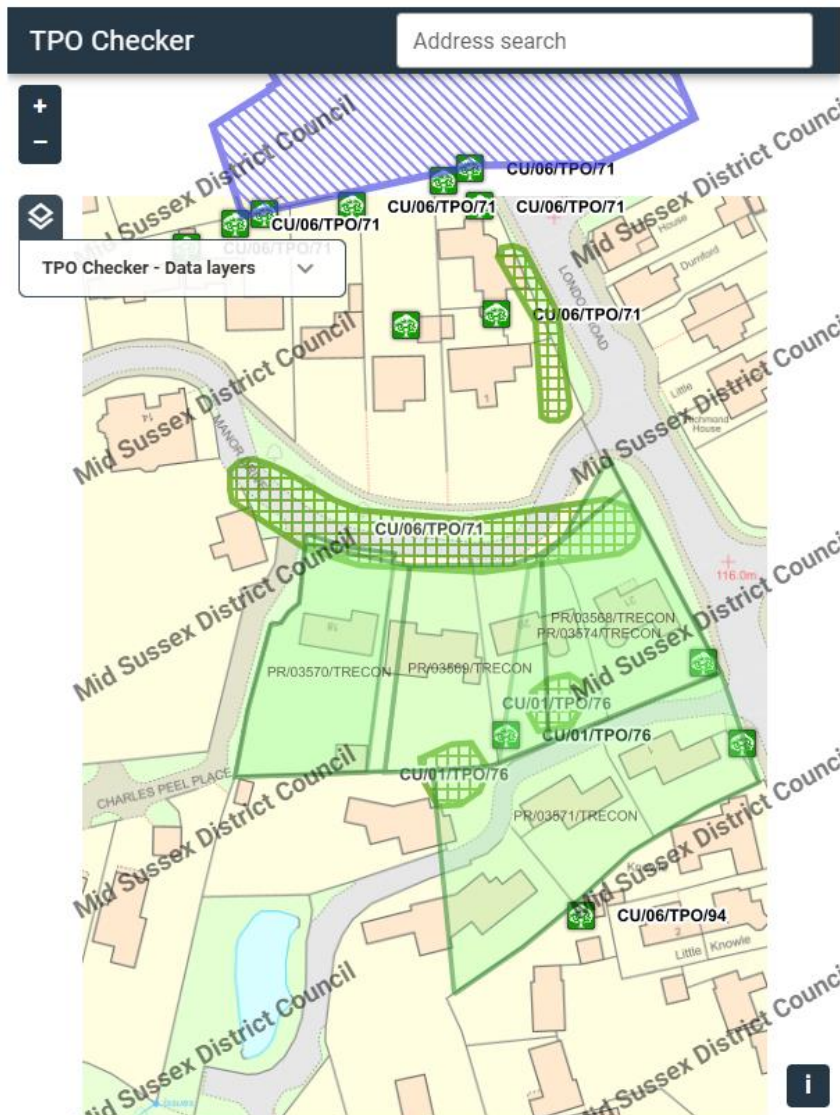
- 1.1 I was instructed by Mr R Barry to carry out a tree condition survey of trees along the access road of Manor Drive within the shared private open space, paying particular attention to any features that may pose a significant hazard to persons or property, and to produce a tree survey report including the provision of management recommendations with priorities.
- 1.2 The tree condition assessment is to be carried out in relation to the landowner's duty under the Occupier's Liability Act 1984 and common law. Presumption for tree management will be in favour of retention of the tree(s) where appropriate.
- 1.3 The client has raised concerns relating to the trees including their condition, proximity to the dwellings and access road.

2. Site details

- 2.1 Manor Drive is to the west of the main road through Cuckfield, London Road. The site has a shared private open space to the north of the access road. The access road leads to other residential properties further to the west. The site has a gentle aspect towards the south.
- 2.2 The trees subject to the survey stand on the north side of the access road in the shared open space and within the frontages of properties along the south side of the access road.
- 2.3 A prior tree failure has occurred with damage to the access road opposite 19 Manor Drive.
- 2.4 Tree works have been given consent for the removal of other trees and a reduction in height and canopy spread of the remaining trees in DM/20/3920.
- 2.5 Replacement planting to mitigate the lost / removed trees are establishing in the private open space and private frontages to the properties on the south side of the access.

3. Statutory controls

- 3.1 The online mapping tool¹ provided by Mid Sussex District Council, accessed on 27th November 2024 identifies that the site is not subject to Conservation Area controls. However, the site is subject to Tree Preservation Order. See image SAL1:



SAL1 Image from council website.

- 3.2 In the first instance, due to the position of the two defined areas of green hatch, I believe that the trees T2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2396, 2397, 2398, and 2399 are subject to Tree Preservation Order EH1192 of 2022. The PDF copy of the TPO document and plan were not available from the council website on the day of accessing the data. Other trees are subject to TPO south of the Manor Drive access road.

¹ <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/planning-building/trees-and-hedgerows/tree-preservation-order-tpo-map/>

- 3.3 As trees are subject to TPO, a Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 s16 Tree Works Application² will need to be issued to the planning authority and 'Consent' received prior to tree works commencing relating to these trees. Such tree works identified within any Consent will normally need to be complete before a 2 year period from the date of the Consent. Additional information on the process can be found at the government website³. This tree condition survey can be used to inform such a Tree Works Application.
- 3.4 Alternatively, works may be exempt from notice as detailed in The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012 sections 14 (exceptions)⁴. Such exceptions are given as a s14 'Notice of Intent' and a 5 working day period for the planning authority to consider the matter and relate to the imminent threat of harm or damage. This tree condition survey can be used to inform such a s14 (5 day) Notice of Intent. On this occasion, no imminent threats were found.
- 3.5 Works in accordance with the Highways Act 1980, section 154⁵, overrides the town and Country Planning Act and can be implemented without reference to the planning authority. However, it is appropriate to inform the planning authority to avoid unnecessary waste of officer time investigating whether the works are exempt. In this instance the trees are distant from the highway and / or no imminent remedial works were identified.
- 3.6 The Forestry Act 1967 does not apply as the trees grow either within the private residential open space or residential gardens.
- 3.7 This document does not consider specific covenants.

² <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/605/regulation/16/made>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas#making-applications-tpo>

⁴ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/605/regulation/14/made>

⁵ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1980/66/section/154>

4. Limitations

- 4.1 The tree survey was carried out from ground level, with the aid of binoculars where appropriate, using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) process. The VTA process is used to identify significant tree features that may have significant bearing upon the condition (physiological and structural) and management of the tree.
- 4.2 Typical significant defects that are identified are referred to in Lonsdale, D., "Hazards from Trees, a general guide" (FCPG13) published in 2000 by the Forestry Commission, Lonsdale, D., "Principles of tree hazard assessment and management" published in 1999 and 2001 and reprinted in 2013 by the Forestry Commission, and Mattheck, C., "The body language of trees" published in 1994 by the Department of the Environment and 2015 by Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.
- 4.3 Reasonable access around the base of the tree is required to carry out a tree survey. Where this is not feasible, these parts of the tree may not be fully assessed. If a view of the entire structure of the tree(s) is limited, for instance by the properties in private ownership or obscured by vegetation, this is a limitation to the tree survey and some parts of the tree may not be able to be fully surveyed. In this instance views of the trees were impeded by ivy and / or epicormic growth.
- 4.4 Trees are dynamic structures and as such their condition and health may change in a short period of time, particularly in relation to changes in their immediate environment and circumstances, and as such the survey relates only to the visible condition found on the day of the survey. Tree(s) should be re-surveyed on a regular basis so that the change in condition can be identified. An appropriate time period between surveys may be up to 5 years depending upon the species, condition of the trees, their maturity / size and the context within which the tree(s) grow. Recommendations for the period between surveys are given.
- 4.6 No soil investigations have been carried out.

5. Tree survey findings

- 5.1 The survey was carried out on 18th November 2024. Mr Barry and one other member of the Resident's Committee accompanied me during the site visit. The weather on the day of the site visit was overcast, light rain with low wind speeds.
- 5.2 The table of findings of the tree survey can be found in Appendix 1.
- 5.3 I have plotted the approximate tree position on Ordnance Survey data, Ordnance Survey data (licence 100019980), to correlate between the tree condition survey (Appendix 1), the tree survey plan (Appendix 2), and the specific trees surveyed on site. Position of the trees plotted is approximate on the tree survey plan and the specific trees will need to be identified through their approximate position shown on the tree survey plan, condition notes given in the tree survey text and the photographs in Appendix 3.

6. Discussion

- 6.1 The prior failure of a tree, approximately February 2020, on the north side of the access road prompted a survey of the trees. This survey is a continuation of the management of the trees. This survey has identified a number of features requiring remedial works. To aid consideration of the features identified I have provided below additional information on the features in order of the first occasion of their occurrence as well as additional notes.
- 6.2 The prior reductions have regrown, particularly on the mid and lower canopy. To aid retention of the trees in the long term, it is intended to repeat the reduction works to reduce the risk of tree or branch failure.
- 6.3 Dead branches or stems (deadwood) deteriorates over time. The longer such wood is within the trees, the greater the potential for it to fall from the tree canopy. Additionally, the larger the deadwood, the greater the potential outcome if the failure falls on to an individual, vehicle or structure. It is appropriate to remove deadwood where such outcomes are likely and / or foreseeable. It is also appropriate to retain deadwood in the canopy where there is a low risk of harm or damage as such deadwood can provide habitat. In this instance, deadwood habitat is not appropriate due to the frequency of use and expectation of a 'safe' environment. Lime trees are prolific in their deadwood development and such works are likely to be necessary on a regular cycle (for instance every three years).
- 6.4 Where regrowth has redeveloped maturing upright growth on branches, this creates a loading on the branch potentially increasing the risk of torsional branch failure through the wind loading twisting the branch. Whilst the risk is low, if other works are being implemented, it is appropriate to manage these uprights.
- 6.5 Low branches can impede the use of the access road and views beneath tree canopies. Pruning is appropriate to avoid impact damage to users of the access road.
- 6.6 Epicormic growth is typical on lime and occurs at the base, lower stem and forms the regrowth from pruning works that then develops and matures. Such epicormic growth is from axillary buds in the bark. Due to the formation of the growth from the bark, the attachment to the tree structure can be weaker and more prone to failure compared to a normally formed branch. Epicormic growth can also impede the survey of trees, as in this instance.
- 6.7 Ivy can impede the survey of trees obscuring features that may be of significance to the tree structure.
- 6.8 An asymmetrical canopy predisposes the tree to fail in the direction of the asymmetrical canopy. The greater the asymmetry, the greater the potential for failure. Remedial works to rebalance and reshape the form of the tree to a more even canopy shape and balance will reduce concerns of an unbalanced canopy. Such rebalancing or crown reduction works may also improve the aesthetic form of the tree and aid the retention of the tree in the landscape for longer. Due to the avenue form of the lime trees, effectively all the mature trees have an asymmetrical canopy.

- 6.9 The greater the amount of pruning work carried out, the greater the potential for undesirable physiological and structural impacts upon the retained trees (refer to British Standard 3998:2010 Recommendation for tree works paragraph 7.2.4 extent of pruning works). Therefore, works recommendations given seek to reasonably control the risks identified whilst minimising the potential impact upon retained trees to aid their retention in the landscape for as long as reasonably practicable. Additionally, tree works recommendations are kept to a minimum to minimise the potential aesthetic impacts that can occur through excessive tree works.
- 6.10 To conclude, in my consideration of the site, its location, use, frequency of occupation, the potential hazards that the trees present, the condition of the trees and potential for failure, and the potential size of the failure parts, I have provided tree works recommendations with priorities to aid the retention of the trees in the landscape where feasible and these works are detailed in section 7 and Appendix 1.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 I have considered the findings of the tree survey within the context of the health and vitality of the trees and the circumstances within which they are located.
- 7.2 Recommended works are detailed in Appendix 1 for each tree or group with associated priorities. The priorities mean that the recommended works should be carried out within specified timescales detailed in Appendix 3 key to tree survey data.
- 7.3 Works are considered a 'High' priority and should be complete within 1 month from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the tree and its position and context. No trees were identified as being subject to a high priority.
- 7.4 Works are considered a 'Moderate' priority and should be complete within 3 months from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the tree and its position and context. No trees were identified as being subject to a moderate priority.
- 7.5 Works are considered a 'Low' priority and should be complete within 12 months from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the tree and its position and context. The remaining trees were identified as being subject to a low priority.
- 7.6 Tree works should be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Works and in particular biosecurity / avoidance of transmission of disease and pathogens (4.3), extent of pruning works (7.2.4), and natural target pruning (7.2.5). A tree contractor ought to carry out works in accordance with this British Standard and be aware of these specific elements.
- 7.7 Works recommended are in accordance with BS3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Works, Table B.1 where the works are *"To protect people or property from" "tree failure"* and *"storm damaged branches"* and *"To maintain health or longevity by means of" "good structural integrity"* and *"disease or pest control"*.
- 7.8 Tree works, except high priority and felling works, ideally to be carried out ideally in the late summer (September) or mid winter (December to February) to aid the trees to respond to the pruning wounds in the most effective manner. The worst times to implement tree works to retained trees is particularly in spring (bud burst) and secondly autumn (around leaf fall) and, therefore, these time periods (bud burst and leaf fall) ought to be avoided where possible to reduce the physiological impact upon retained trees.
- 7.9 Resurvey of the trees ought to be complete by the 30th December 2027. Resurvey dates assume implementation of the tree works recommended within the timescales given. Resurvey is important as the condition of trees alters over time. Resurvey assumes the entirety of tree works recommended to be complete within the timescales given.
- 7.10 If the condition of the trees alters from their current recorded condition, this should be brought to the attention of an Arboricultural Consultant.

Appendices

Appendix 1: tree survey data

Tree Condition and Hazard Survey Data

Site Manor Drive, Cuckfield
 Date of survey 18th November 2024
 Job reference J1301.05
 Surveyor Ben Abbatt
 Resurvey To be complete by the 30th December 2027



Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	2385	Lime <i>Tilia</i>	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occasional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey.	Low
T	2386	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occasional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey. Branches close to lamp. Ivy impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey. Clear lamp by 1.5m retaining overhanging branches. Sever ivy at base with hand tools only taking care to avoid damage to the bark beneath and maintain as ivy free to enable future surveys.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	2387	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey. Branches close to lamp.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey. Clear lamp by 1.5m retaining overhanging branches.	Low
T	2388	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey.	Low
T	2390	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Large (more than 100mm diameter) deadwood in the upper canopy. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey.	Low

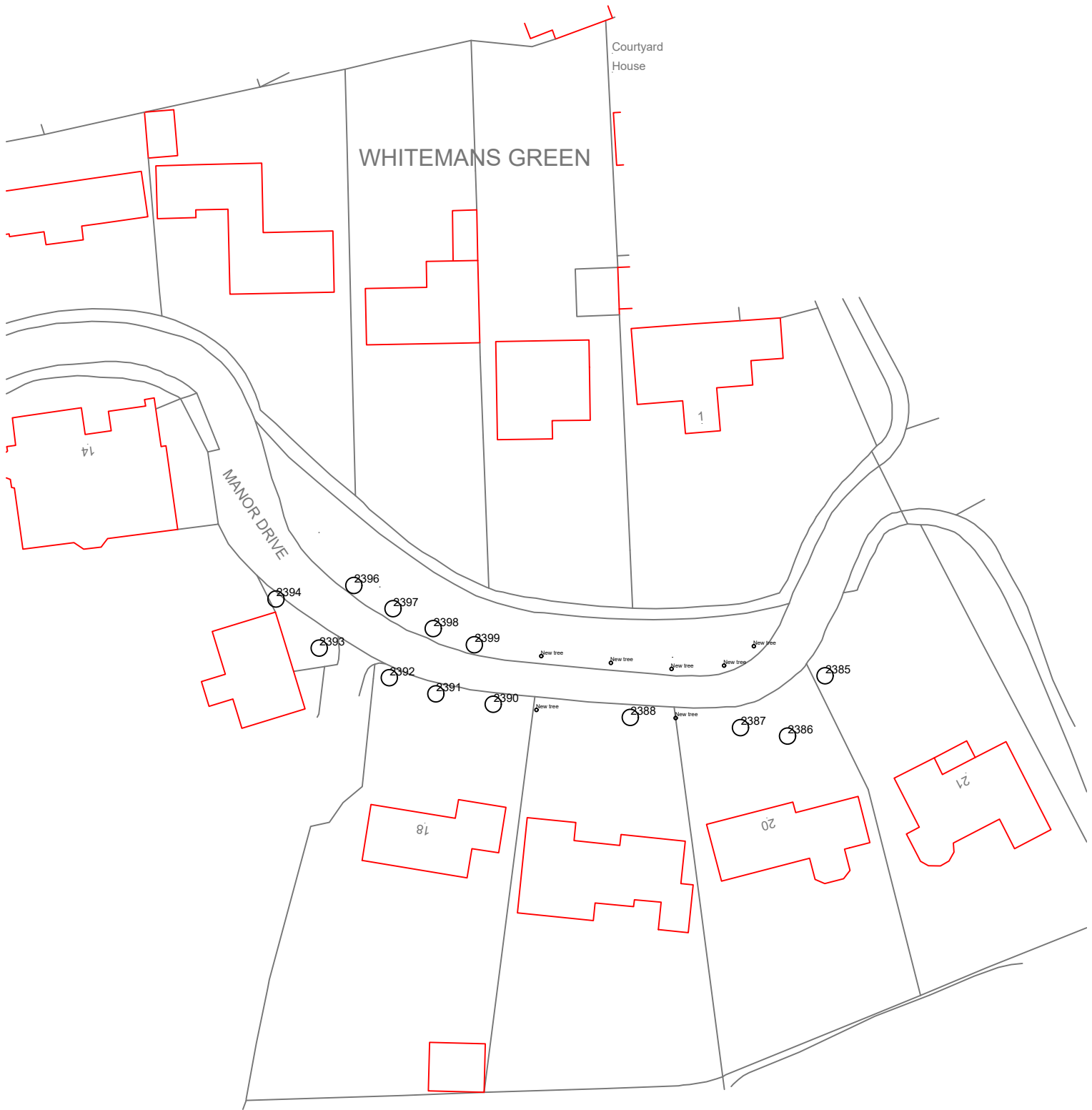
Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	2391	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occasional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey.	Low
T	2392	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occasional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Large (more than 100mm diameter) deadwood in the upper canopy. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey.	Low
T	2393	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occasional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey. Hollow sound to buttress adjacent to the access road when tested with nylon hammer.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	2394	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey. Branches close to lamp.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey. Clear lamp by 1.5m retaining overhanging branches.	Low
T	2396	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey.	Low
T	2397	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey. Ivy impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey. Sever ivy at base with hand tools only taking care to avoid damage to the bark beneath and maintain as ivy free to enable future surveys.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	2398	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey. Ivy impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey. Sever ivy at base with hand tools only taking care to avoid damage to the bark beneath and maintain as ivy free to enable future surveys.	Low
T	2399	Lime	21	Mature	Good	Fair	Previously crown reduced (Tree works application DM/20/3920) with good growth. Occassional moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Low branches, particularly over the access road. Epicormic growth at the base of the tree impedes survey. Ivy impedes survey.	Repeat crown reduction to a final height of 18m with a 3m horizontal radial canopy spread. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter. Remove mature upright regrowth from prior pruning points. Crown lift to 5m. Remove epicormic growth on the lower 5m of the stem to within 1cm of the parent material on an annual basis to allow survey. Sever ivy at base with hand tools only taking care to avoid damage to the bark beneath and maintain as ivy free to enable future surveys.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
G	1	Lime	5	Young	Good	Good	New trees (7 no.) establishing in the landscape. Supporting stakes have become redundant as support but remain effective against mechanical damage. Weed encroachment on the mulch.	Reduce stakes to 30cm height to act as impediment to mechanical damage and install additional stakes so that the trees are protected on three or more sides. Weed within 50cm of the base of the tree on an annual basis. Top up mulch to 75mm depth and ensure that mulch is not in contact with the base of the tree on an annual basis. Formative prune to create and maintain a central main leader on an annual basis. Reduce branches within 3m of ground on the access road side back to the main stem using natural target pruning points on an annual basis. Crown lift to 2m on an annual basis.	Low

Appendix 2: tree survey plan



General / Key:

Indicative tree position ○

Site: Manor Drive, Cuckfield

Data: Ordnance survey data provided under licence 100019980. Crown copyright. All rights reserved.

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Drawing title:

Tree survey plan

Drawing reference: J1301_05

Revision: -

Date: 27th November 2024

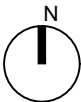
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Appendix 3: photographs



SAL2 Prior tree failure opposite no.19.



SAL3 Lime of mature lime trees with new trees establishing to maintain the long term visual amenity to the site and local area.



SAL4 Typical upright growth to be pruned out of the tree shown by position of red line (indicating anticipated pruning point).

Appendix 4: general notes

The tree survey can only be an assessment of the tree at the time of the survey and the tree(s) should be re-surveyed on a regular basis. An appropriate time period between surveys may be up to 5 years depending upon the condition of the trees, their maturity and the target(s). Recommendations for the period between surveys will be given.

As trees are dynamic structures their condition and health may change in a short period of time, particularly in relation to changes in their immediate environment and circumstances. Therefore, the survey is an assessment of the trees at the time of the survey only. If there is a significant change in the immediate environment and circumstances, then this should be brought to the attention of the arboriculturalist so that they may advise accordingly.

I have not specifically checked with the planning authority whether the site is within a Conservation Area or whether the trees are under Tree Preservation Order (TPO), but I have relied upon their published map information. Prior to any tree works confirmation of whether these legal restrictions apply to the site or trees ought to be sought from the planning authority. If the trees stand within a Conservation Area designated under the Town and Country Planning Act the LPA will normally require 6 weeks notice of intention to carry out any tree works as detailed in the survey. If the trees are under TPO then the planning authority will normally require an application for any tree works. Some tree works are exempt, for instance if the trees are dead or dangerous, and certain works can be carried out without application. It is necessary to give the planning authority at least five days notice prior to carrying out any of these tree works under these exemptions. This survey, with recommendations, can be used to support any such application or notice.

Wildlife issues are of significant concern to the general public. A balance has to be found between the protection of wildlife and the need for safety when managing trees. The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1980) and Countryside Rights of Way Act (2000) give statutory protection to wild birds, bats, mammals, some invertebrates and plants. It is important to ensure that this legislation is properly considered when carrying out any works to trees.

Bird nests were not identified whilst on site. However, any Arborist carrying out the tree works should ensure that there is no disturbance to nesting birds prior to the works being carried out. Further guidance upon the appropriate timing of the works can be sought from DEFRA, if necessary. Where nesting birds are found, further information should be sought from DEFRA 08459 33 55 77 or helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk. Prior to any works being implemented the tree contractor must identify whether there are any bats or birds using the tree as roost or nest. If such habitation is identified, then the tree contractor must obtain the necessary licence from Natural England (0845 601 4523 www.naturalengland.org.uk) to carry out the works.

A bat survey prior to tree works is not recommended, except where there is a high potential for habitat. During the tree works, the contractor should carry out the tree works with bats as an active consideration and follow the current industry best practice, e.g. Arboricultural Association Guidance Note 1 Bats in the context of tree work operations 2011, BS8596 Micro guide to surveying for bats in trees and woodland <https://shop.bsigroup.com/upload/273444/BSI-Bat-Microguide-UK-EN.pdf> which a competent tree contractor should be familiar with.

Biosecurity measures: To minimise the potential for contamination of the tree from other tree works it is appropriate to sterilise tools to be used before and after the works are implemented. Appropriate disinfectant includes Propellar or Cleankill Sanitizing spray. Loose debris is to be brushed off prior to treating with disinfectant to ensure appropriate application. See [http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/FCMS028-guidance.pdf/\\$file/FCMS028-guidance.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/FCMS028-guidance.pdf/$file/FCMS028-guidance.pdf) for further information on Biosecurity and <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-9fjd2d> for disinfectant information.

Appendix 5: key to tree survey data

Desig	Designation (T is Tree, G is Group, H is Hedge, W is woodland, S is Stump)	
No	Tree number.	
Species	Species of tree.	
Height	Height measured in metres.	
Canopy spread	Canopy spread in metres is taken at the four cardinal points to derive an accurate representation of the crown.	
Height of crown	Height in metres of crown clearance above adjacent ground level.	
Age Class	Young	A tree considered to be less than approximately 20 years old.
	Middle aged	A tree in approximately the first 1/5th of its normal life span with apical dominance (rapidly growing with a clear main leader) and not yet fully at its environmental potential full height.
	Mature	A tree in its 2/5ths to 5/5ths of its normal life span with apical dominance lost and at its environmental potential full height.
Condition (Physiological and Structural)	Good	A tree of typical physiological and structural condition that requires only general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape.
	Fair	A tree of impaired physiological and / or structural condition that may require remedial and general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape.
	Poor	A tree of significantly impaired physiological and / or structural condition that will require remedial and general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape if feasible.
Recommendations	As per BS3998: 2010 Recommendations for Tree Works.	
Priority	Immediate	Works should be carried out immediately as the probability of harm or damage occurring is likely.
	High	These works are important to carry out as soon as reasonably possible and any budget available for tree management should be spent upon these trees before the moderate and low categories. Works in this category usually will relate to abatement of risk for harm and or damage to occur. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 1 month.
	Moderate	These works are important to carry out as soon as reasonably possible and any budget available for tree management should be spent upon these trees before the low categories. Works in this category usually will relate to abatement of risk for harm and or damage to occur and for the good arboricultural management of the trees. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 3 months.
	Low	Works in this category usually will relate to the good arboricultural management of the trees. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 12 months.
Re-survey	This is the time period in which it is recommended that the tree is surveyed again. This is based upon the condition of the tree, its location, previous, current and future management. It is normally expressed at a time period from the date of the report / survey, whichever is the sooner. If no time period is noted then the default period is one year.	

Appendix 6: surveyor qualifications and experience

Ben Abbatt has been involved in the arboricultural industry since the mid 1990s and has worked in a variety of roles within the industry, starting as a forestry contractor, progressing to the surveying and management of forestry and arboricultural contracts for a national forestry company and running the arboricultural section of a horticultural business overseas. Additionally, Ben has worked in local Government at Borough and County levels, providing planning related advice and managing Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas, as well as managing highways trees and contracts.

Since 2006, Ben has been the Director and Principal Consultant of Sapling Arboriculture Ltd.

Ben is a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF), Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), Society for the Environment (SocEnv) and the Arboricultural Association (AA), having been an Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant since 2006. He is also a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Royal Forestry Society.

He holds many arboricultural and forestry qualifications including the Professional Diploma in Arboriculture awarded by the Royal Forestry Society, the Technicians' Certificate awarded by the Arboricultural Association and an HNC in Forestry.

Ben is also a freelance trainer for LANTRA, delivering courses in Basic Tree Survey and Inspection and Professional Tree Inspection.



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