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Tree Risk Assessment 2022

St Paul's Catholic College

**Jane Murray Way
Burgess Hill
RH15 8GA**

Prepared for: Graham Cobb of John O'Connor

Tree risk assessment undertaken by: Andrew Hill *Dip. Arb L4 (ABC)*

Plan prepared by: Andrew Hill *Dip. Arb L4 (ABC)*

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Tree risk assessment undertaken: 5th November 2024

Report prepared: 11th November 2024



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Appendix 1: Tree Reference Plan

Appendix 2: Action Plan

Reference numbers

G	Groups of trees
T1	Individual trees

1. Introduction

Foxhills Tree Services Ltd was commissioned to carry out a tree risk assessment at St. Paul's Catholic College. The tree risk assessment was undertaken by Andrew Hill of Foxhills Tree Services Ltd in relation to tree health and management recommendations, safety to the school users, buildings and public, outlining any proposed remedial works.

The site visit was carried out on 5th November 2024. All inspections of trees were carried out from the ground level only.

Please note that the information within the risk assessment is a general overview of the tree stock's health and safety, and is not a full detailed tree survey. In addition to this, only the trees which have had remedial works recommended have been plotted on the digital map.

2. The Site

2.1 Description of site

The college is situated on the outskirts of Burgess Hill in West Sussex. It covers an area of just under 8 hectares. The site features a range of broad-leaved species. The majority of the trees are young trees, planted during the development of the site. There are however a group of mature Oak trees, situated at the rear of the site adjacent to the pond. There is also a stand of mature trees, situated within a hedgerow at the rear of the site.

2.2 Weather conditions

The weather was sunny and warm on the day of the survey. A gentle breeze was present.

3. The Trees

3.1 Unless expressed otherwise 1) information contained in this report covers only those items that were examined and reflects the condition of those items at the times of inspection; and 2) the inspection is limited to visual examination of accessible items. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the plant or property in question may not arise in the future.

3.2 Trees are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly, the health, condition, and safety of trees should be checked on a regular basis, preferably at least once a year. The conclusions and recommendations in this report are only valid for a period of one year from the date of this report. This period of validity may be reduced in the case of any change in conditions to or in proximity to the tree.

3.3 The trees have been assessed from ground level. All information was collected by carrying out a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA). The trees were not tagged during the tree risk assessment.

3.4 Trees Risk Assessed

During the tree risk assessment a total of 39 items were recorded.

3.5 Tree related diseases

There were no obvious signs of any significant tree diseases at St. Paul's Catholic College

3.6 Maintenance Work Recommendations

It is recommended to sever and remove the ivy up to 1.5m ground level and remove the undergrowth to allow access to base of trees to assist a full inspection in future.

All maintenance and recommendations can be found in the action plan separately provided.

All tree work should be carried out in accordance with BS3998 2010, industry best practice.

The statutory protection will be adhered to (Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981) (Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000). If further advice is required, particularly if bats are discovered during tree work, it will be obtained from Natural England or other competent person and recommendation adhered to.

3.7 Monitoring

It is recommended that the trees be reassessed every 18 months. As a tree grows and environmental conditions change, checking the trees in different times of the year will also help with assessing of the vitality of the tree stock.

4. Supporting Information

4.1 Insurance Details

Foxhills Tree Services Ltd is insured by Aviva Insurance for professional indemnity including legal liability for professional services to a value of £250,000 for any one claim.

4.2 Qualification, experience and professional membership: Andrew Hill

Andrew has a Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture with Tree Life AC Ltd and has successfully completed the Lantra Professional Tree Inspection course. He has worked in the Arboricultural Industry for over 20 years.

5. Glossary of terms

Minor dead wood - diameter of branches not exceeding 75mm and or length no longer than 1000mm

Major dead wood - diameter of branches exceeding 75mm and or longer than 1000mm

Coppice - procedure where vegetation is set back to main trunk and create multiple branch regrowth

Sever only (ivy) – ivy to be severed as close to ground level as possible and the bottom 1-2m section will be removed. The remaining ivy will die off.

Apical growth - growth region in plants found within the root tips and the tips of the new shoots and leaves.

Raise low canopy - removal of the lowest branches which effectively increases the height of the main crown above ground level. All the remaining branches will normally be above the height specified in meters.

Fell to ground level - tree is either felled or dismantled in sections and disposed of as directed. The main stump of the tree is left in the ground and cut off as close to soil level as possible without further digging.

6. Reference materials

- A companion to British Arboriculture 2016 <http://www.treeterms.co.uk/>
- Strouts, R. G. and Winter, T. G. 2013. Diagnosis of Ill Health in Trees. Arboricultural Association.
- Forestry Commission 2018 <https://www.forestry.gov.uk/>
- Mattheck, C. (2007). Field Guide for Visual Tree Assessment. Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH.

- Watson, G. (2013). Tree Pest and Diseases, an Arborist's Field Guide. Arboricultural Association.
- Watson, G. & Green, T. (2011). Fungi on Trees, an Arborist's Field Guide. Arboricultural Association.

7. Disclaimers

- 7.1 This tree risk assessment has been undertaken by visual inspection from ground level at St. Paul's Catholic College to individually assess all trees on the given perimeters of the site. These are purely visual assessments of these trees.
- 7.2 No technical tree risk assessment equipment was utilised, to carry out the assessments except a mallet and probe. The same methodology was applied to all the trees (i.e. an assessment was made starting at the base of each tree and moving up the stem into the crown, along with an assessment of the canopy being made via viewing the tree at distance and from underneath the canopy).
- 7.3 All assessments were carried out from ground level. Decay detection tests have not been undertaken as this fell outside the scope of this report.
- 7.4 This report, based on the tree risk assessment, contains a suggested timescale for remedial works to be undertaken from the date of the tree risk assessment at St. Paul's Catholic College. In the expert opinion of the author these times scales should be adhered to.
- 7.5 Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified insofar as possible; however, the surveyor can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.
- 7.6 This report is for the sole use of the above-named client and refers to only those trees identified within; alteration or use by any other(s) in attempting to apply its contents for any other purpose renders the report null and void.
- 7.7 Any legal description provided to the consultant is assumed to be correct. Any titles and ownership to any property are assumed to be good and marketable. No responsibility is assumed in character.
- 7.8 Possession of this report or a copy thereof does not imply right of publication or use for any purpose by any other person to whom it is addressed, without prior expressed written or verbal consent of the consultant.
- 7.9 The local planning authority (LPA) have not been contacted to determine whether any Tree Preservation Order (TPO) covers the tree, nor to determine if the site is a Conservation Area. Before undertaking any work to the tree, it would be advisable to check whether either of these planning controls are in operation; if they are, it would be necessary to obtain consent (or in case of a Conservation Area give six weeks' notice of intent) before undertaking any such work.

7.10 Duty of care

We would respectfully remind you that you have a duty of care (legal responsibility as the controller of premises) towards anyone entering the premises. Providing you with a tree report for the site is only one of the steps to ensure that a plan is in place to maintain a good standard of health and safety throughout the whole site. We would strongly recommend you follow the recommendations on the risk assessment here provided.

Declaration

We hereby confirm that this tree risk assessment was undertaken by Andrew Hill and report prepared by Andrew Hill.

Employed by: Foxhills Tree Services Ltd.

Andrew Hill *Dip.Arb L4 (ABC)*

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Hill', is written over a faint, light blue rectangular background.

Date: 11/11/2024

8. Photographs

Photograph	Description
	Item 1. Group of 6 Field maples in car park (image from 2022 survey)

Photograph	Description
	Tree 2. Oak tree (image from 2022 survey)

Photograph	Description
 The top photograph shows a paved path made of grey bricks. On the left side of the path, there is a dense group of Goat willows with green and yellow variegated leaves. The roots of the trees are visible, growing over the paving stones and causing damage. A black bag and some other debris are scattered on the path. In the background, there are parked cars and a wooden fence. The bottom photograph shows a similar scene from a different angle. A large, gnarled tree trunk is visible on the left side of the path. The Goat willows are growing along the path, and their roots are causing damage to the paving stones. A red car is visible in the background.	Item 5. Group of Goat willows, causing damage to paving

Photograph	Description
	Tree 6. Goat willow requiring re-pollarding (image from 2022 survey) (2024)

Photograph	Description
	Tree 28. Oak with Ganoderma fungal bracket

Photograph	Description
 The first photograph shows a cluster of green, leafy trees (goat willows) growing in a yard. In the foreground, there are stacks of bricks, a black barrel, and other debris. In the background, there are green and white storage containers. The second photograph is a close-up of a tree trunk and branches, showing the rough bark and some bare branches, with a green storage container visible in the background.	Item 22. 2 x goat willows in close proximity to storage containers (images from 2022)

Appendix 1: Tree Reference Plan



St Pauls Catholic College

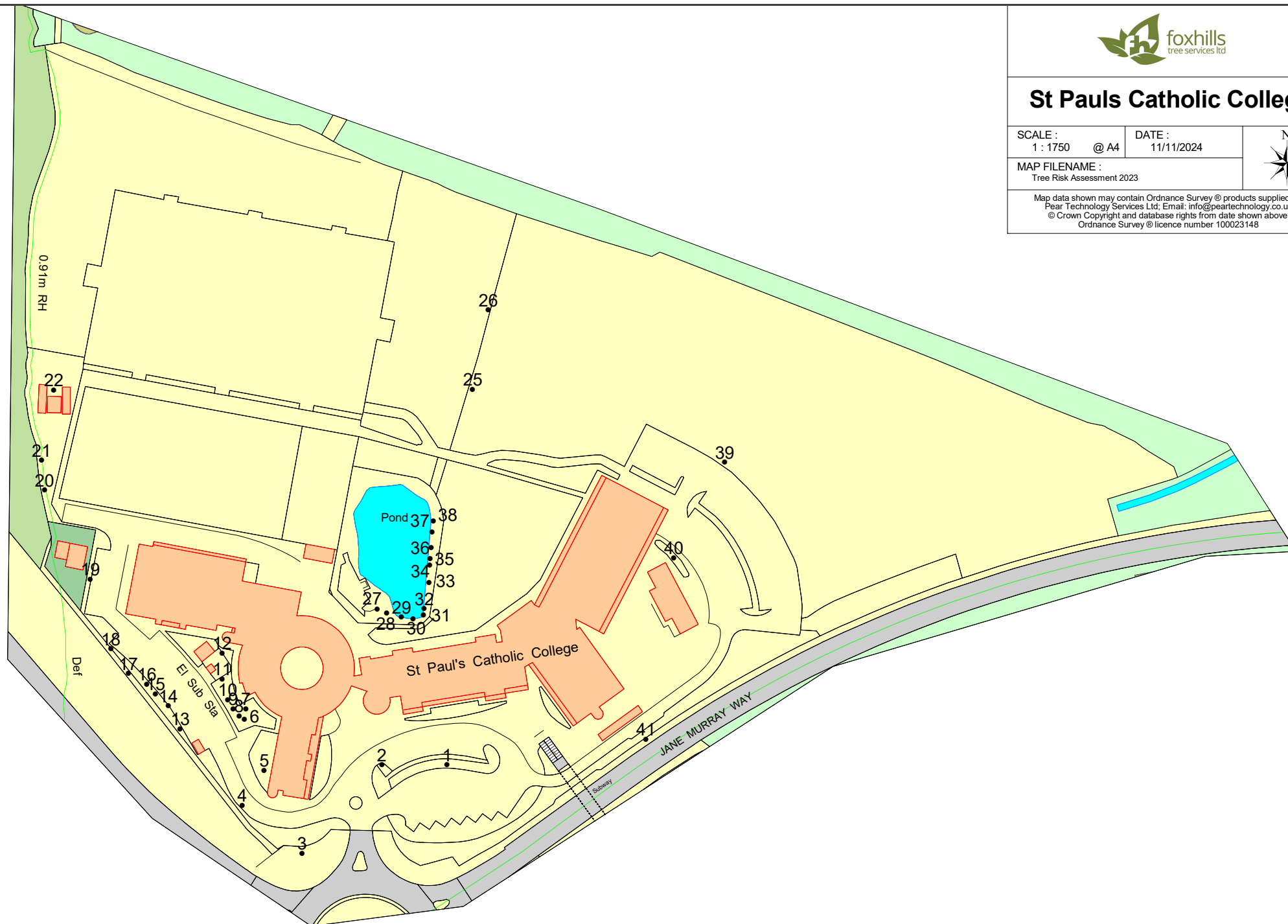
SCALE :
1 : 1750 @ A4

DATE :
11/11/2024



MAP FILENAME :
Tree Risk Assessment 2023

Map data shown may contain Ordnance Survey © products supplied by
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Appendix 2: Action Plan

St Paul's Catholic College
Jane Murray Way
Burgess Hill
RH15 8GA



Foxhills Tree Services Ltd

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General Tree Assessment (Summary)

Tree Ref	Species	H (m)	Spr (m)	Maturity	Condition	Action Recommendations	Priority	Done	Inspected
1	Field Maple	5	2	SM	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: 6 x trees. Remove secondary branches only									
2	Common Oak	4.5	2	Y	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Remove 4 x primary branches on stem									
3	Common Hawthorn	6	2	SM	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.5m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: 3rd party tree. Raise over grass only and prune back from light column									
4	A Group	0	0	SM	Good	Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 1.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Side prune and raise canopies of 6 x broadleaved trees (oak & maple) to 2m over the grass & 5m over the road. Prune from light columns									
5	Goat Willow	7	3	SM	Good	Fell :: Fell and treat stump(s)	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Trees are causing damage to paving.									
6	Goat Willow	11	5	SM	Good	Pollard :: Re-pollard	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
7	Whitebeam	4	2	Y	Good	Remove :: Stubs	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
Age Classification: NP Newly planted EM Early Mature Y Young M Mature SM Semi-mature OM Over Mature									
Condition: Overall unless specified as - C Crown S Stem B Basal area									

Tree Ref	Species	H (m)	Spr (m)	Maturity	Condition	Action Recommendations	Priority	Done	Inspected
8 Comment:	Common Lime	5	2	Y	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
9 Comment:	Common Ash	5	2	Y	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
10 Comment:	Silver Birch	6	2	Y	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
11 Comment:	Common Ash	4	2	Y	Fair	Raise low canopy :: To 2.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
12 Comment: Tree damaging fence and sap is attracting wasps	Goat Willow	4	2	Y	Good	Fell :: Fell and treat stump(s)	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
13 Comment: From light column	Common Oak	8	3	Y	Good	Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 1.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
14 Comment:	Common Lime	6	2	Y	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.5m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
15 Comment: From light column	Common Lime	5	2	Y	Good	Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 0.5m Raise low canopy :: To 2.5m	6 Months 6 Months	No No	05-Nov-24
16 Comment:	Common Lime	6	2	Y	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.5m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
17 Comment: From light column	Common Hawthorn	4	2	SM	Good	Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 1.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Age Classification: NP Newly planted EM Early Mature Y Young M Mature SM Semi-mature OM Over Mature Condition: Overall unless specified as - C Crown S Stem B Basal area									

Tree Ref	Species	H (m)	Spr (m)	Maturity	Condition	Action Recommendations	Priority	Done	Inspected
18	Common Hawthorn	4	2	SM	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 2.5m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: 2 x trees overhanging fence from public footpath									
19	A Group	0	0	SM	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m	3 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Prune line of trees back behind kerb line up to height of 3m									
20	Common Oak	10	5	M	Good	Ivy :: Sever only	Next Insp.	No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
21	A Hedgerow	0	0		Good	Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 0.5m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Prune back behind kerb line									
22	Goat Willow	6	3	SM	Good	Fell :: Fell and treat stump(s)	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: 2 x Trees growing against container and shed									
25	Field Maple	9	4	M	Fair	Remove :: Major dead wood	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Dead section. Base of stem marked with pink dot									
26	A Woodland	0	0	M	Good	See Comment :: Unspecified		No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Recommended flailing back woodland to reduce the encroachment onto grass									
27	Common Oak	6	5	M	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Raise over deck and school side only									
28	Common Oak	4	0	Dead	Poor	See Comment :: Unspecified	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Retain for habitat benefit									
Age Classification: NP Newly planted EM Early Mature Y Young M Mature SM Semi-mature OM Over Mature Condition: Overall unless specified as - C Crown S Stem B Basal area									

Tree Ref	Species	H (m)	Spr (m)	Maturity	Condition	Action Recommendations	Priority	Done	Inspected
29	Common Oak	14	5	M	Fair	Ivy :: Sever only Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m Remove :: Major dead wood	6 Months 6 Months 6 Months	No No No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Raise on school side only. Remove dead wood with potential to fall on school side.									
30	Common Oak	14	5	M	Fair	Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m Reduce :: By 2m Remove :: Major dead wood	6 Months 6 Months 6 Months	No No No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Raise on school side only. Remove dead wood with potential to fall on school side. Large ganorderma bracket at base.									
31	Common Ash	4	0	Dead		Fell :: Fell to safe height	3 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
32	Common Oak	14	5	M	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m Remove :: Major dead wood	6 Months 6 Months	No No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Raise over school side only. Group of 4 trees									
33	Common Oak	11	4	M	Fair	Remove :: Major dead wood	3 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
34	Common Oak	11	4	M	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m Remove :: Major dead wood	3 Months 3 Months	No No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
35	Common Oak	8	5	M	Fair	Remove :: Major dead wood	3 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
36	Common Oak	13	5	M	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m Remove :: Major dead wood	3 Months 3 Months	No No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
Age Classification: NP Newly planted EM Early Mature Y Young M Mature SM Semi-mature OM Over Mature Condition: Overall unless specified as - C Crown S Stem B Basal area									

Tree Ref	Species	H (m)	Spr (m)	Maturity	Condition	Action Recommendations	Priority	Done	Inspected
37	Common Oak	11	5	M	Good	Ivy :: Sever only Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m Remove :: Major dead wood	3 Months 3 Months 3 Months	No No No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Raise low canopy and remove dead wood over school side only. Retain over pond for habitat									
38	Common Oak	14	5	M	Good	Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m Remove :: Major dead wood	3 Months 3 Months	No No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Raise low canopy and remove dead wood over school side only									
39	Unknown	3	0	Dead	Poor	Fell :: Fell and replant space	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment:									
40	Goat Willow	5	2	Y	Good	Reduce crown(s) :: By 50%	1 year	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Reduce group to previous heights to maintain shape and distance from light columns									
41	A Hedgerow	7	2	SM	Good	Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 1.0m	6 Months	No	05-Nov-24
Comment: Consider pruning back hedgerow to 1m back from kerb line up to a night of 5m and prune around light columns									
Age Classification: NP Newly planted EM Early Mature Y Young M Mature SM Semi-mature OM Over Mature Condition: Overall unless specified as - C Crown S Stem B Basal area									

Report selection criteria.

Projects.

Tree Risk Assessment Survey 2024

--->
---> By Next Insp.
---> 1 year
---> 3 Months
---> 6 Months

Date Range.

Any Date

Work types.

-----> Fell :: Fell and replant space
-----> Fell :: Fell and treat stump(s)
-----> Fell :: Fell to safe height
-----> Ivy :: Sever only
-----> Pollard :: Re-pollard
-----> Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 0.5m
-----> Prune :: From buildings/structure/tree by 1.0m
-----> Raise low canopy :: To 2.0m
-----> Raise low canopy :: To 2.5m
-----> Raise low canopy :: To 3.0m
-----> Raise low canopy :: To 5.0m
-----> Reduce :: By 2m
-----> Reduce crown(s) :: By 50%
-----> Remove :: Major dead wood
-----> Remove :: Stubs
-----> See Comment :: Unspecified

Latest Survey.

All surveys for the selected trees.
---> Last survey for each selected tree.

Work Completed.

---> Work Completed
---> Work Not Completed

Number of trees in selected Project(s) 39

Number of trees in Report selection 39