ARTEMIS TREE SERVICES

Site
London School of Theology,
Green Lane, Northwood,
HA6 2UW

Prepared for
London School of Theology

Prepared by
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Dip Arb Level 5

29th November 2022

Arboricultural Report AR-26450

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1. Brief

1.1 Artemis Tree Services ltd has been instructed by Peter Robertson of the London School of Theology to undertake a Preliminary Tree Condition Survey of an Ash tree on site.

1.2 The tree condition survey is primarily concerned with the structural and physiological condition and safety of the tree surveyed.

1.3 Recommended management actions are provided for any issues identified by the tree survey.

2. Report limitations

2.1 Climbing inspections have not been carried out as part of the preliminary survey. If the preliminary inspection identifies a need for further investigation of specific trees, this will be detailed within our recommendations.

2.2 Conclusions and recommendations relate to the condition of the site and tree at the time of the inspection only. Comments valid for a period of 1-year from the date of this report. Within this period, trees should be inspected for damage following storms or other severe weather events.

2.3 By their very nature, trees can never be entirely free of risk. The laws and forces of nature dictate a failure rate, even among intact trees with no apparent defects. The recommendations in this report cannot guarantee the elimination of all risk.

2.4 The survey and report does not include risk assessment of trees in relation to subsidence.

3. Methodology of Survey

3.1 I carried out the tree condition survey from ground level using the Visual Tree Assessment method (Mattheck,c and Breloer,H, 1994), using basic inspection tools (mallet, probe, and binoculars).

3.2 For the purposes of this report, tree height and stem diameter measurements are estimated using a Haglofs digital clinometer and a laser distance measurement device.

4. Documents provided

4.1 A tree location plan has been included in Appendix 2 of this report.

5. Introduction

5.1 Qualifications

5.1.1 I hold an FdSc in Arboriculture from Northampton University and Level 5 Diploma in Arboriculture and Land Management from Moulton College

5.2 Site visit

5.2.1 I visited the site on the 29th of November 2022 to undertake the Preliminary Tree Condition Survey.

6. Findings and Recommendations

6.1 Appendix 1 contains the findings and recommendations for the trees surveyed. A key for the table information can be found at the end of the survey schedule.

6.2 Summary of recommended work

Priority			Tree/s
	U	Within 2 weeks	-
	A	Within 3 months	T1
	B	Within 1 year	-
	C	Within 2 years	-

7. Re-inspection frequency

7.1 It is recommended that the tree is inspected on an annual basis to better determine any rate of possible decline and to be able to provide pro-active advice for future management.

7.2 In the period between programmed surveys, trees should be inspected for damage following storms or other severe weather events.

8. Trees Subject to Statutory Controls

8.1 Hillingdon council's online mapping service confirms that the tree is protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO number 481). The site is not covered by a conservation area status at the time of this report.

9. Arboricultural Standards

9.1 All tree works recommended in this report should be carried out in accordance with: *British Standard BS 3998:2010. Tree Work – Recommendations* and undertaken by a suitably qualified contracting company (preferably approved by the Arboricultural Association).

10. Summary and Conclusions

10.1 The tree has a noticeably sparse crown from around 8-9m upwards with major deadwood (over approximately 40mm diameter) visible throughout and major deadwood noted on the ground around the tree. It is possible that the tree is in decline though this is difficult to confirm from a single visit.

10.2 The twin stems of the tree do not appear to have fused together and have formed an included area of bark from the base upto around 3m. This is a potential area of structural weakness and could become an issue if the tree continues to add annual incremental growth. If the tree is not determined to be in terminal decline in future visits and can be retained for the reasonably foreseeable future, it would be prudent to install a flexible bracing system within the crown to help distribute additional stress between the stems during adverse weather conditions.

10.3 It is highly recommended that the major deadwood is removed as soon as reasonably practicable to prevent branches falling into the adjacent parking bays . This work is likely to leave the upper crown sparse and unbalanced overall and it is therefore recommended that the lower crown is reduced to shape and rebalance.

10.4 The dead Ivy is not likely to cause any serious issue, though does partially obscure closer inspection of the stems making any possible bleeding areas, cracking or fungal fruiting bodies hard to identify (should they occur). This Ivy should be removed to aid future inspections of the tree.

Appendix 1

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Tree no. (Tag no.)	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (cm)	Crown Spread (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Observations	Recommended management actions	Priority	Re-inspect (months)
T1	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	17	60 & 66	14	M	F	F	Twin stemmed from base with included union upto approx 3m. Crown historically reduced with around 2.5-3m growth. Western-most stem (nearest parking bays) has slight lean to West, corrected in upper crown and slight crown bias to East due to competition from adjacent stem. Major deadwood visible, particularly in the upper crown which appears sparse. Wounds from historic crown lift over carpark have occluded. Dead Ivy on stems limits visibility of tree. Lower crown (upto around 8m) shows some minor deadwood, typical of species. Branches to East found on the floor in the undergrowth have recently failed/fallen.	Remove major deadwood over 40mm diameter and/or over 1m length. Reduce height by around 4m and spread by upto 2.5m, pruning to suitable growth points, to shape and rebalance remaining crown. Remove as much of the dead Ivy from the stems as reasonably possible to aid future inspection. Reinspect the tree in 6-12 months to better ascertain any possible rate of decline and be able to provide proactive future management recommendations.	A	12

Appendix 1

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Key for column information

Height – Tree height measured in metres
Stem Diameter - Stem diameter in centimetres measured at 1.5m above ground level
Age Class – Relative to species

NP-Newly Planted (trees within 3-years of being planted)
Y-Young (first third of life, height and growth)
EM-Early Mature (second third of life, height and growth)
M-Mature (last third of life, ultimate height yet still increasing in girth)
OM-Over Mature/ancient (older than last third of life and tree starting to decline/retrench in height and girth starting to reduce. An old example of that species)
V-Veteran (trees of interest biologically, aesthetically, or culturally in their ancient stage of life relative to others of same species)

Physiological condition
Good - Tree in a healthy condition with no significant problems
Fair - Tree generally in good health with some problems that can be remediated
Poor - Tree in poor health with significant problems that can't be remediated
Dead - Tree without sufficient live material to sustain life

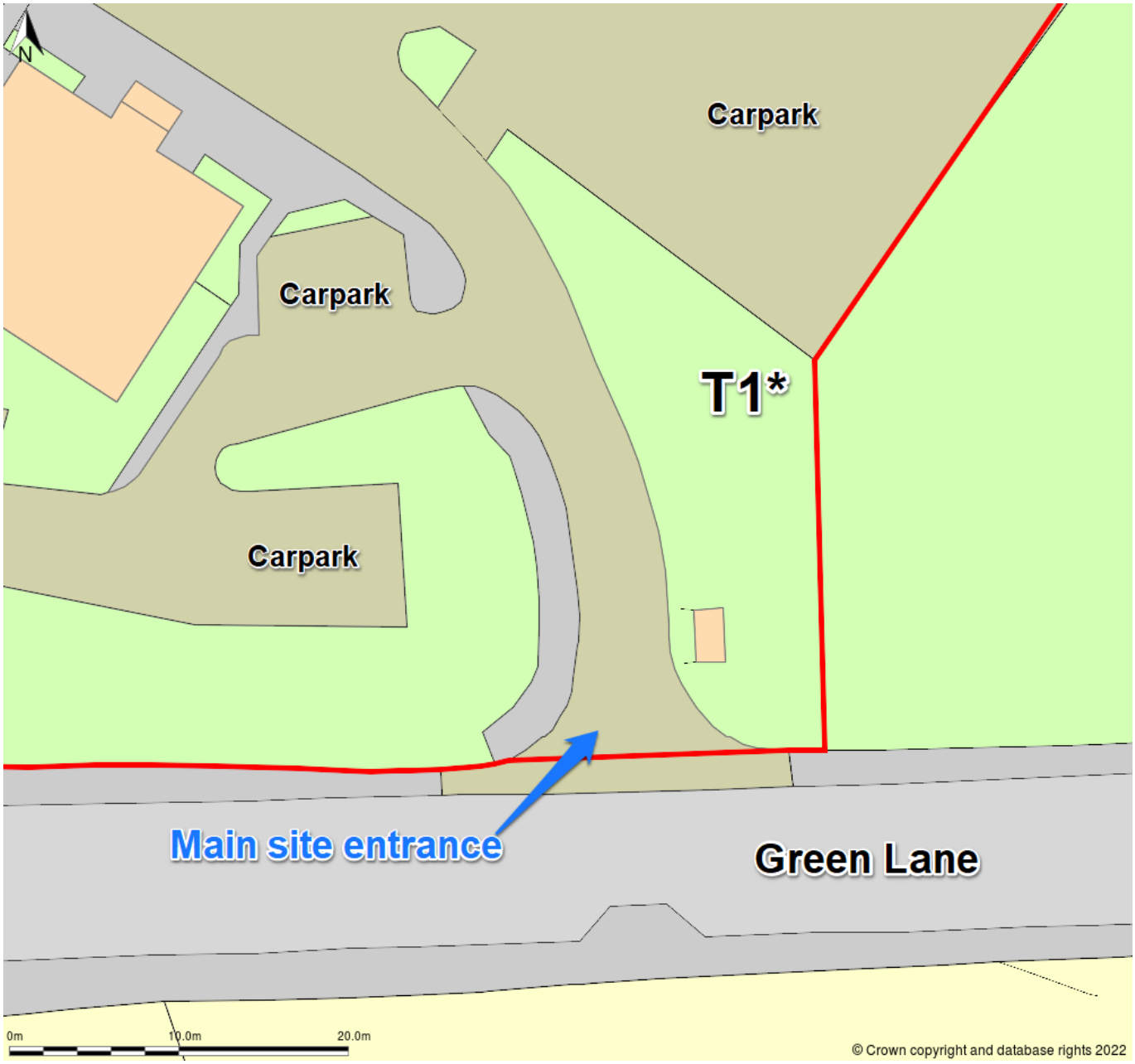
Structural condition
Good - Tree in a safe condition with no significant defects
Fair - Tree in a safe condition at present but with defects or with significant defects that can be remediated
Poor - Tree with significant defects that can't be remediated

Priority – Advised time frame for management recommendations to be undertaken from publication date of this report (for tree work only)

Priority		
	U	Within 2 weeks (urgent) Where possible, the hazard should be fenced off until work can be carried out.
	A	Within 3 months
	B	Within 1 year
	C	Within 2 years

Re-inspect – Advised re-inspection frequency
Deadwood classification
Minor deadwood – Below 40mm in diameter or less than 1m in length
Major deadwood – Over 40mm in diameter and 1m in length

Appendix 2


N
Carpark
Carpark
T1*
Carpark
Main site entrance
Green Lane
0m
10.0m
20.0m
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Appendix 2

T1 – As seen from carpark, facing South

T1 as seen from access road, facing North

Appendix 2

T1 – Stems with visible included union

Appendix 3

Document Record

Document	Editor	Publication date
AR-26450	Oliver Coleman	30/11/2022