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Arboricultural Report

For

**Whiteheath Junior School, Whiteheath Avenue
Ruislip, HA4 7PR**

Prepared for Heritage Tree Services

Prepared by Trevor Heaps BSc, MICFor, M. Arbor.A.

Date: 24th April 2019

Ref: TH 1965

Summary

This report demonstrates that the trees within the site boundaries of Whiteheath Junior School have been visually checked by a suitably qualified tree expert.

Tree defects were noted, and remedial works have been specified. These should be implemented as soon as is practically possible or at least within the recommended timescales.

Unless otherwise stated, recommendations are made on the basis that the trees will be re-inspected within 3 years from the date of the last inspection. However, all trees should be inspected after extreme and severe weather events, and in the event of any nearby disturbance that could adversely affect tree stability, such as mechanical excavations or loss of sheltering trees.

Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Instruction.....	1
3.0	Statutory tree protection	2
4.0	Ecological constraints	2
5.0	The tree survey.....	2
6.0	The trees	3
7.0	Recommendations	3
8.0	Signature.....	4
Appendix 1 - Professional résumé		5
Appendix 2 - Tree data schedule		6
Appendix 3 - Tree data schedule explanatory notes		8
Appendix 4 – Site plan		End of Report

1.0 Introduction

1.1 I am Trevor Heaps, Director of Trevor Heaps Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd. I have experience and qualifications in the field of Arboriculture. Further information is provided in Appendix 1.

1.2 The basic principle in Law is that a tree owner has a duty to take reasonable care to protect those reasonably likely to be affected by their trees.

1.3 Subsequently, a tree owner, or those responsible for the tree(s), must take steps to ensure they are aware of foreseeable risks that may cause harm; and they should take appropriate remedial action to protect those who are reasonably likely to be affected.

1.4 Guidance issued by the Government, the Forestry Commission and the Arboricultural Association advises that a regular tree survey is undertaken by a suitably qualified tree expert. Failure to do so may leave those responsible liable to prosecution.

1.5 Contact details:

Who	Name	Organisation	Details
Arboricultural Consultant	Trevor Heaps	THAC Ltd. 6 Molefields, Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire, SO41 0UB	Tel: 07957 763 533 E-mail: trevor@trevorheaps.co.uk
Client	Nathan Bunce	Heritage Tree Services	Tel: 07958 654269
London Borough of Hillingdon - LPA	Tree Officer	The London Borough of Hillingdon, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW	E-mail: trees@hillingdon.gov.uk Tel: 01895 556000

2.0 Instruction

2.1 We are instructed to carry out a tree survey to assess the condition of all trees within and adjacent to the site boundaries of Whiteheath Junior School.

2.2 Based on the data collected during the tree survey, we are to provide a report to make recommendations to manage all identifiable, foreseeable and significant risks.

2.3 The purpose of this report is to demonstrate that the trees have been visually checked by a suitably qualified tree expert and to ensure that all reasonable measures are taken to ensure that persons and property are not at risk of harm from them.

3.0 Statutory tree protection

3.1 This school site is not covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), nor situated within a Conservation Area.

4.0 Ecological constraints

4.1 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) provides statutory protection to birds, bats and other species that inhabit trees.

4.2 These animals could impose significant constraints on the timing of any recommended tree works. You are therefore advised to seek advice from a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the start of any tree works.

5.0 The tree survey

5.1 The site was surveyed by Trevor Heaps on 21/04/2019. The weather was fair, and visibility was good.

5.2 The trees were inspected from ground level.

5.3 The trees were inspected using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) methodology, developed by Mattheck & Breloer (The Body Language of Trees, 1994).

5.4 Neither root nor soil samples were taken for analysis.

6.0 The trees

6.1 The locations of all the trees surveyed are shown on the site plan in Appendix 4. Further information about the trees can be found in appendices 2 & 3.

6.2 To help visualise the general condition of the trees on the site plan, they are colour coded as follows:

- **Tree coloured green – Acceptable** - These are in a normal condition with no significant defects.
- **Tree coloured amber – Be aware** - These are either located in an unsustainable position (a large species of tree close to property for example) or defects have been noted that could lead to future problems. Recommendations are made to remove the tree or the defects or reduce the defects to an acceptable level.
- **Tree coloured red – Take action** - These are hazardous to life and property and cannot be made safe by remedial works alone. These will need to be removed.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 All recommendations are described in the tree data schedule in Appendix 3.

7.2 Any urgent works are highlighted red. These must be organised as a matter of urgency and carried out as soon as possible.

7.3 If lower priority works have been recommended, they are highlighted green, and should be carried out within the given timescales.

8.0 Signature

8.1 This report represents a true and factual account of all potential arboricultural issues, and makes recommendations for appropriate remedial action, at the subject property.

Signed



.....

Trevor Heaps

Chartered Arboriculturist

BSc (Hons), MArborA, MICFor.

Dated

24th April 2019

Appendix 1 - Professional résumé

I am Trevor Heaps, director of Trevor Heaps Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd. I am a Chartered Arboriculturist, a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association (AA) and hold a First-Class Honours Degree in Arboriculture.

Professional training

- Arboriculture and Bats: Scoping Surveys for Arborists (BCT & AA) – October 2017
- Tree Science (AA) – June 2016
- OPM (Oak Processionary Moth) Training (FC) – May 2016
- Visual Tree Assessment (Arboricultural Association) - October 2015
- Trees and the Law (Dr Charles Mynors) - June 2015
- Mortgage (Home Buyers) Report Writing (LANTRA / CAS) - February 2015
- Tree Preservation Orders - effective application (LANTRA / CAS) - November 2014
- Professional Tree Inspection 3-day course (LANTRA / AA) - July 2014
- Arboricultural Consultancy Course (AA) - May 2014
- Further down the subsidence trail 1-day course (AA) - April 2013
- Getting to grips with subsidence 1-day course (AA) - November 2012

AA – Arboricultural Association

BCT – Bat Conservation Trust

CAS – Consulting Arborist Society

FC – Forestry Commission

Appendix 2 - Tree data schedule

Ref	Species	VTA	Comments	Recommendations	Priority	When to reinspect
T1	Quercus rubra (Red Oak)	1		No works required at present.		18 months
T2	Prunus x subhirtella 'Autumnalis' (Winter flowering Cherry)	2	Die-back in crown. Low bud/leaf density. Dead branch overhanging public footpath	Remove dead branch	Within 12 months	3 years
T3	Populus x canadensis (Hybrid Black Poplar)	1	Epicormics.	No works required at present.		18 months
T4	Tilia cordata (Small-leaved Lime)	1	Suppressed.	No works required at present.		3 years
T5	Quercus ilex (Holm Oak)	1	Ivy (light covering). Epicormics. Triple stemmed at 1.5m	No works required at present.		3 years
T6	Tilia cordata (Small-leaved Lime)	1	Mass of girdled roots around base	No works required at present.		3 years
T7	Acer (Snake Barked Maple)	1	Helical twists noted on stem	No works required at present.		3 years
T8	Ulmus procera (English Elm)	2	Dead tree on boundary	Notify Council of dead tree	Within 1 month	N/A (third-party tree)
T9	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	1	Mass of girdled roots around base	No works required at present.		3 years
T10	Platanus X hispanica (London Plane)	1		No works required at present.		3 years
T11	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	1		No works required at present.		3 years
T12	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	1		No works required at present.		3 years
T13	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	2	Very High target rating; bench around stem; several tear-out wounds and pruning cuts noted. Crown asymmetrical as a result; Most cuts sealed. Crown has been pruned before. Risk of 'summer branch drop' occurring.	Reduce crown by 3-4m all round and maintain smaller crown size with regular pruning (about every 3-5 years)	Within 12 months	12 months
T14	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1	Triple-stemmed at base. Suppressed. Asymmetrical crown.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T15	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1	Suppressed. Asymmetrical crown.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T16	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T17	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	3	Dead tree	Remove.	Within 1 month	N/A (to be removed)
T18	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1	Suppressed. Asymmetrical crown.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T19	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T20	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1	Suppressed. Asymmetrical crown.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T21	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1	Suppressed. Asymmetrical crown.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T22	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	1	Multi-stemmed at base.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T23	Corylus avellana (Hazel)	1	Lapsed coppice.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T24	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)	3	Dead tree	Remove.	Within 1 month	N/A (to be removed)
T25	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1	Suppressed. Asymmetrical crown.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T26	Taxus baccata (Yew)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T27	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1	High target rating. Lapsed pollard. Some fused stems noted. Crown has been pruned before. No works required at present but consider regular pruning in the future.	No works required at present.	NA	18 months
T28	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	2	Ganoderma noted at base.	Remove.	Within 12 months	N/A (to be removed)
T29	Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair Tree)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years

Ref	Species	VTA	Comments	Recommendations	Priority	When to reinspect
T30	Acer saccharinum (Silver Maple)	2	Tight fork with included bark noted at 2.5m. To avoid leaving a large wound close to stem, the suppressed upper limb should be pruned to slow its development (rather than be removed).	Reduce smaller of the two limbs growing Towards covered entrance by 5-6m	Within 12 months	12 months
T31	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	2	Pretty badly affected by bleeding canker disease. Unlikely to recover and flourish. Limited life expectancy.	Remove (due to poor condition).	Within 3 years	N/A (to be removed)
T32	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
G33	Cupressus macrocarpa 'Goldcrest' (Dwarf Conifer 'Goldcrest')	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T34	Sambucus nigra (Elder)	1	Triple-stemmed at base.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T35	Prunus avium (Wild Cherry)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T36	Sambucus nigra (Elder)	2	Twin-stemmed at base. Sparse. Die-back in crown. Low bud/leaf density.	Remove.	Within 3 years	N/A (to be removed)
H37	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana 'Ellwoodii' (Lawson's cypress 'Ellwoodii')	2	Small hedge, end tree dead	Remove dead tree	Within 3 years	N/A (to be removed)
T38	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana 'Lutea' (Golden Lawson Cypress)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
H39	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson Cypress)	1	Sparse. Managed by topping.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
H40	Carpinus betulus (Hornbeam)	1	Ivy (heavy covering). Outgrown hedge consisting of about 12 trees	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T41	Pinus sylvestris (Scots Pine)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T42	Betula pendula (Silver Birch)	1	Ivy (light covering). Triple-stemmed at base.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T43	Betula pendula (Silver Birch)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T44	Pinus sylvestris (Scots Pine)	1	Suppressed.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T45	Betula pendula (Silver Birch)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T46	Pinus sylvestris (Scots Pine)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T47	Pinus sylvestris (Scots Pine)	1	Sparse.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T48	Pinus sylvestris (Scots Pine)	1		No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T49	Pinus sylvestris (Scots Pine)	1	Ivy (light covering).	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
H50	X Cupressocyparis leylandii Castlewellan (Leyland Cypress 'Castlewellan')	1	Large line of mature Cypress. One or two have tight forks, one has collapsed due to this. All remaining trees appear acceptable, but hard to inspect due to low foliage	No works required at present.	NA	18 months
T51	Acer saccharinum (Silver Maple)	1	Very hard to inspect due to Leyland Cypress hedge	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T52	Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn)	1	Suppressed.	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T53	X Cupressocyparis leylandii Castlewellan (Leyland Cypress 'Castlewellan')	3	Opp. no. 61 Ladygate Lane, single defective tree in line of mature Cypress, has collapsed in past	Remove top, leaving the stem and cavity for habitat use.	Within 12 months	18 months
T54	Acer campestre (Field Maple)	1	Very hard to inspect due to Leyland Cypress hedge	No works required at present.	NA	3 years
T55	Populus alba (White Poplar)	1	Crown lifted in past. Some old pruning wounds noted, sealing well	No works required at present.	NA	12 months

Appendix 3 - Tree data schedule explanatory notes

This section explains the terms used in the **Tree data schedule** (Appendix 2).

Ref: Each item of vegetation has its own unique number prefixed by a letter such that:

T₁=Tree S₂=Shrub or stump G₃=Group H₄=Hedge W₅=Woodland

Species: Common names are given (with Latin names given in brackets)

VTA – Visual Tree Assessment

1 (tree coloured green) – No issues noted (at present) - These trees are considered to be in good condition / acceptable location with no significant defects noted

2 (tree coloured amber) – Be aware - These trees are either located in an unsustainable position (a large species of tree close to property for example) or defects have been noted that could lead to future problems. Recommendations may be made to remove the tree or the defects or reduce the defects to an acceptable level

3 (tree coloured red) – Take action - These trees are considered to be hazardous to life and property and cannot be made safe by remedial works alone. These trees will need to be removed

Comments: Tree form and pruning history are recorded along with an account of any significant defects

Recommendations: These are based on any defects observed and intended to ensure that the tree is maintained in an acceptable condition.

Priority: Depending upon the threat posed by the tree, and the likelihood of failure, any recommendations made should be carried out within the prescribed timescales.

When to reinspect: An interval of 6 months, 1 year, 1.5 years, 3 years or 5 years is allocated before the next inspection is due.

Appendix 4: Tree Location Plan



Legend

- High priority works.
Carry out recommendations
without delay
- Lower priority works.
Carry out recommendations
within given timescales
- No works required at present.
Re-inspect within given
timescales

Scale: 1:700 @ A3

Site Address: Whiteheath Junior Sc
Whiteheath Avenue, HA4 7PR

Client:
Heritage Tree Services

Job Ref: TH/1965	Date: 24th April 2019
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