Trevor Heaps

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Tree Risk Assessment Report

For

Frithwood Primary School, Carew Road, Northwood

HA6 3NJ

Prepared for Heritage Tree Services

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

Date: 21st December 2022

Ref: TH 3757

AA Registered CONSULTANT trees.org.uk

Institute of Chartered Foresters

Registered Consultant

Summary

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

Some tree defects were noted, and remedial works have been specified (and/or specific re-inspection timescales are specified). The remedial works 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

1.1 I am Trevor Heaps, Director of Trevor Heaps Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd. I hold a First-Class Honours Degree in Arboriculture; I am a Chartered Arboriculturist and a professional member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters; and I am also a Registered Consultant with the Arboricultural Association. Further information about my qualifications and experience 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. 12 Plover Drive, Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire, SO41 0XF	Tel: 07957 763 533 E-mail: trevor@trevorheaps.co.uk
Client		Heritage Tree Services	
London Borough of Hillingdon - LPA	Tree Officer	The London Borough of Hillingdon, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1UW	Tel: 01895 556000 E-mail: trees@hillingdon.gov.uk

2.0 Instruction

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

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 According to the Council's website some trees within and adjacent to this site are covered by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO 150); which means that if any tree works are required (to the protected trees), an application must be made to the Council.

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 trees were inspected by Colin Chambers on the 20th February 2022.

5.2 The weather was dry and visibility was good.

5.3 The trees were inspected from ground level.

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

5.5 Neither root nor soil samples were taken for analysis.

6.0 The trees

6.1 The locations of all 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.
- **Tree coloured purple – N/A** – These have been removed since the last survey.

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.

7.4 If re-inspection timescales (other than every 3 years) are specified, these are highlighted yellow.

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.

Signed

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Trevor Heaps
Chartered Arboriculturist
BSc (Hons), MArborA, MICFor.

Dated

21st December 2022

Appendix 1 - Professional résumé

I am Trevor Heaps, Director of Trevor Heaps Arboricultural Consultancy Ltd. I hold a First-Class Honours Degree in Arboriculture; I am a Chartered Arboriculturist and a professional member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters; and I am also a Registered Consultant with the Arboricultural Association.

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 Asscociation

BCT – Bat Conservation Trust

CAS – Consulting Arborist Society

FC – Forestry Commission

Appendix 2 - Tree data schedule

Ref	Species	Comments	Likelihood of failure	Recommendations	Priority	When to re-inspect
T1	Prunus laurocerasus (Cherry Laurel)	Die-back in crown but showing signs of recovery.	Possible	Remove deadwood.	As soon as practicable	Within 3 years
T2	Cotoneaster frigidus (Cotoneaster)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T3	Picea abies (Norway Spruce)	Exudates. Minor resin runs on trunk	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T4	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)	Sparse.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 18 months
T5	Prunus laurocerasus (Cherry Laurel)	Multi-stemmed. Bark wounding on stem but sealing. Minor bark wound/decay on one stem	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T6	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T7	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)	Multi-stemmed. Tight forks noted (fair union).	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T8	Catalpa bignonioides (Indian Bean Tree)	No leaves visible on ground but some persistent leaf / bean stalks visible in crown	Unlikely or N/A			Within 18 months
T9	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)	Multi-stemmed.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T10	Prunus laurocerasus (Cherry Laurel)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T11	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)	Leans	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T12	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T12.5	Prunus laurocerasus (Cherry Laurel)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T13	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T14	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	Leans	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
G16	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)	Sparse. As a result of competing ivy, now cut.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T17	Corylus avellana (Hazel)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T18	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T19	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T20	Quercus robur (Common Oak)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T21	Picea abies (Norway Spruce)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T22	Taxus baccata (Yew)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
G23	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
S24	Sambucus nigra (Elder)	Being slowly overtaken by ivy	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T25	Taxus baccata (Yew)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T26	Thuja plicata (Western Red Cedar)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T27	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson Cypress)	Sparse. Small dysfunctional area at base	Possible			Within 18 months
T28	Picea abies (Norway Spruce)	Failed early 2022	Gone			
T29	Taxus baccata Fastigiata (Irish Yew)	Multi-stemmed.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years

Ref	Species	Comments	Likelihood of failure	Recommendations	Priority	When to re-inspect
T30	Taxus baccata Fastigiata (Irish Yew)	Twin-stemmed.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T31	Taxus baccata (Yew)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T32	Sequoiadendron giganteum (Wellingtonia)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T33	Taxus baccata (Yew)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T34	Prunus sps. (Flowering Cherry)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T34.1	Taxus baccata (Yew)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T35	Quercus robur (Common Oak)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T36	Prunus sps. (Flowering Cherry)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T37	Cornus sanguinea (Dogwood)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T38	Pyrus chanticleer (Ornamental Pear)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T39	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	Deadwood noted.	Possible	Remove broken/damaged branches. Remove deadwood.	As soon as practicable	Within 3 years
T40	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	Group edge tree	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T41	Thuja plicata (Western Red Cedar)	Die-back in crown.	Possible	Remove deadwood.	As soon as practicable	Within 3 years
T42	Quercus robur (Common Oak)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T43	Malus (Apple)	Old pruning wounds noted (sealing).	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T44	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	Lapsed pollard. Decay noted at base.	Possible	Crown reduce by 3/4 metres. Remove boards around base to allow better inspection	As soon as practicable	Within 18 months
T45	Juglans regia (Walnut)	Unable to properly inspect.	Unlikely or N/A	Clear round base to allow for inspection	As soon as practicable	Within 1 year
T46	Malus (Apple)	Old pruning wounds noted (sealing).	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T47	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)	Multi-stemmed. Leaning heavily. Tight forks noted (fair union).	Possible	Crown reduce by 2/3 metres to reduce weight/windage	As soon as practicable	Within 3 years
T48	Malus (Apple)		Gone			
T49	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T50	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)	Bark wounding on stem but sealing.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T51	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)		Gone			
T52	Tilia X europaea (Common Lime)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T53	Tilia X europaea (Common Lime)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years

Ref	Species	Comments	Likelihood of failure	Recommendations	Priority	When to re-inspect
T54	Tilia X europaea (Common Lime)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T55	Tilia X europaea (Common Lime)	Decay noted at base.	Possible	Re-pollard.	As soon as practicable	Within 3 years
T56	Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)	Triple-stemmed.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T57	Quercus robur (Common Oak)	Crown reduced in past. Lapsed pollard. Bonfire damage. Large open area up to 1 m. Old damage.	Unlikely or N/A	Decay detection test needed to establish baseline and ongoing management options. Mushy remains of annual fungus at base.	Within 1 year	Within 3 years
T58	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T59	Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)	Crown reduced in past.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T60	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)	Bonfire damage. Bark wounding on stem but sealing. Old wound nearly closed	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T61	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T62	Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T63	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T64	Malus (Apple)		Possible	Prune so as to reduce chance of facial injury due to low branches	As soon as practicable	Within 3 years
T65	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
G66	X Cupressocyparis leylandii (Leyland Cypress)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
G67	Malus (Apple), Prunus sps. (Flowering Cherry)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
G68	Betula utilis 'Jacquemontii' (Himalayan Birch)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T69	Olea europaea (Olive)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T69.5	Crataegus crus-galli (Cockspur Thorn)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T70	Betula pendula (Silver Birch)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T71	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T72	Taxus baccata (Yew)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T73	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson Cypress)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T74	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson Cypress)	Sparse. May be drought stress from 2022	Unlikely or N/A			Within 18 months
T75	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years

Ref	Species	Comments	Likelihood of failure	Recommendations	Priority	When to re-inspect
	Cypress)					
T76	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson Cypress)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T77	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson Cypress)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T78	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana (Lawson Cypress)	Sparse.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T79	Ilex aquifolium (Holly)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T80	Betula pendula (Silver Birch)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T81	Thuja plicata (Western Red Cedar)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T82	Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T83	Taxus baccata (Yew)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T84	Acer platanoides (Norway Maple)	Crown reduced in past.	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T85	Prunus laurocerasus (Cherry Laurel)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T86	Acer saccharinum (Silver Maple)	Crown reduced in past. Tight forks noted (fair union).	Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T87	Cedrus deodora (Deodar Cedar)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T89	Sorbus aucuparia (Rowan)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years
T90	Sorbus aucuparia (Rowan)		Unlikely or N/A			Within 3 years

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) – **Acceptable** - These are in a normal condition with no significant defects.

2 (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.

3 (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.

4 (tree coloured purple) – **N/A** – These have been removed since the last survey.

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

Likelihood of failure: The tree surveyor's opinion on how likely it is the tree / parts of it will fail within 3 years.

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 re-inspect: The suggested interval before the next inspection should be carried out.

Appendix 4–References

[1]OPSTD/Agriculture and Waste Recycling Sector/ Agriculture Safety Section (2015), *Management of the risk from falling trees or branches*. Available at https://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sims/ag_food/010705.htm#(Accessed: 14 January 2020).

[2]Forestry Commission (2011), *Common sense risk management of trees, Managing trees for safety.*

[3]Arboricultural Association (2016), *Tree Surveys: A guide to good practice, Guidance Note 7.*

[4]Mattheck & Breloer (1994), *The Body Language of Trees, 1994.*

[5]Watson and Green (2011), *Fungi on Trees – an Arborists' Field Guide.*

Appendix 5 - Site Plan

Aerial photo showing the approximate locations of the tree/s (Google Earth background). See Appendices 3 & 4 for an explanation of the colours used.

Tree Survey Legend

No issues noted - These trees are currently considered to be in an acceptable location and condition with no significant defects noted

Be aware - These trees are either within (current or potential) influencing distance of property or defects have been noted that could lead to future problems.

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

N/A - Removed since last survey

Note: Trees are shown as a coloured-coded stems. Hedges and groups are depicted as colour-coded polygons