Tree Condition Survey and Management Work Recommendations

Site – Kingsley Playing Fields

Client – Kingsley Parish Council

Survey date	**21/04/26**
Publication date	**05/05/26**
Surveyors initials	**CB**

Contents

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to give a tree condition assessment of the trees located at Kingsley Playing Fields near Highbank Road, Frodsham. The survey area has been defined within Appendix 3. For the purpose of this survey all trees were inspected, only those requiring remedial works were marked on site and detailed within this report.

1.2 The findings of this report provide management work recommendations with the order of work priority given to primarily address any hazardous trees and provide proactive management recommendations to prolong the life and value of the trees.

1.3 The following management work recommendations have been identified as found in Appendix 2 Tree Data.

1.4 All tree work should be carried out in accordance with the British Standard BS3998: 2010 Tree Work – Recommendations.

2.0 The Tree Condition Survey

2.1 The tree condition survey was conducted Chris Broad, Arboricultural Consultant at Frodsham Tree Solutions LTD.

2.2 All tree inspections were carried out in accordance with current best practise (Visual Tree Assessment) to give a systematic, consistent and transparent evaluation method to tree inspecting.

2.3 Limitations of the Tree Condition Survey/Scope of works: Whilst every effort is made to ensure an accurate assessment of the trees condition is made during survey no responsibility can be taken for resultant damage or injury occurred by a failing tree. The survey only gives a snap shot of what is visible, not obscured or accessible on the day of survey. Please note that the findings of this report are only valid for 12 months from the date of the tree inspection. This report does not constitute to a full tree safety policy for the study area nor does it take into account any underground geological activity that may affected the structural condition of the trees.

3.0 The Tree Inspection

3.1 The main scope of this tree inspection is to identify hazardous trees in a poor physiological or structural condition and the required work management recommendations to reduce the risk of these hazardous trees to an acceptable level as detailed by the Health and Safety Executive in Management of the risk from falling trees or branches - http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sims/ag_food/010705.htm.

3.2 The areas around main roads, occupied houses, well used formal foot paths, public used features, car parks etc. were identified as a priority areas for the tree survey. For the purpose of this survey all trees were inspected with those in poor condition and/or requiring maintenance being recorded, the area or location of the tree may influence the recommendations provided.

3.3 Where required trees may be grouped as a whole and tree works recommended for that group.

3.4 The level of detail of the tree inspection may vary depending on the target occupation and the size of the tree or tree groups. For example large trees in high target occupation areas may be inspected in much greater detail than small trees in low target occupation areas.

3.5 Areas identified to be surveyed in the study area are shown on the Tree Location Plan as found in Appendix 3.

4.0 The Tree

4.1 **Tree Data** - All data regarding the trees inspected for this report can be found in Appendix 2 Tree Data.

4.2 **Tree Management Options -** Within Appendix 2 the Tree Management Work Recommendations are colour coded for work priority. See appendix 1 – tree survey key for detail on timescales. Other works can be identified from this list to achieve desired management objectives and timescale given for the completion of this work. Please note that all work must be carried out to the British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Works Recommendation.

4.3 **Tree Location Plan** - A Tree Location Plan can be found in Appendix 3. Note only trees requiring remedial work were noted down in this survey and other trees within the site are present but not included in the tree location plan.

4.4 Legal Constraints

- **TPO (Tree Preservation Orders)/Conservation Areas** – The Tree Preservation Officer from the Local Planning Authority should be consulted before any work is carried out on site.

- **Protected Wildlife** – Before any tree work is carried out on site the trees should be inspected and written records taken of the activity of any protected species on site. This is to prevent the damage to any wildlife. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to destroy or disturb nesting birds, if nesting birds are discovered or suspected no works can proceed and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and Local Wildlife Trust must be notified for advice as to how to proceed. Further to this wildlife such as Bats are protected under European legislation (Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and The Habitat Regulation 2009) it is an offence to recklessly, or internally, kill, injure or capture bats, to disturb them, or destroy, obstruct or damage any bat roosts found. If any bat activity is found then the bat conservation trust should be contacted as soon as possible (http://www.bats.org.uk/ or 0845 1300 228). Further guidance relating to the protection of wildlife within development design is given in Welsh Assembly Government Technical Advice Note 5: Nature Conservation and Planning (2009).

- **Tree Felling Licence** – Depend on the designation of the land where the trees are located a Tree Felling Licence may be required if more than 5 cubic metres of timber are being extracted per one quarter a felling license must be obtained from Forestry England.

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 The detailed Tree Management Options as found in Appendix 2 should be conducted as the priority states. See Appendix 1 for a suggested timescale for work to be carried out. These recommendations are to be taken from the date fieldwork was carried out.

6.0 Further Information and Qualifications

Chris Broad has been involved in Arboriculture for over 10 years. Working across the northwest in practical management of trees, woodlands and other habitats.

Qualifications

- BTI - BasicTree Inspection (Lantra Awards)

7.0 Web Information & Bibliography

Web Information

Health and Safety
Executive - http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sims/ag_food/010705.htm

Arboricultural Association – http://www.trees.org.uk/index.php

Bibliography

- British Standards 3998 (2010) Tree Work - Recommendations UK; British Standards Intuition
- British Standards 5837 (2012) Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations; British Standards Intuition
- Lonsdale, D (1999) Principle of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management Edinburgh; Forestry Commission
- Mattheck, C (2007) Field Guide for Visual Tree Assessment Germany; Karlsruhe Research Centre
- Shigo, A.L (1991) Modern Arboriculture USA; Shigo and Trees, Association
- Sterry, P (2007) Collins Complete British Trees London; Collins • Strouts, R.G (2000) Diagnosis of illhealth in trees Edinburgh; Forestry Commission
- Weber,K & Mattheck, C (2003) Manual of wood decay UK; Arboricultural Association
- Quantified Tree Risk Assessment practice notes Practice Notes – QTRA

8.0 Appendices

Appendix 1 Tree Survey Key

- **Tree Name/ species** - Scientific tree name and common tree name in brackets.
- **W3W** – What 3 Words location of tree within a 3x3m accuracy level. what3words /// The simplest way to talk about location
- **Age class** -
- **Y** - **Young** – Less than 1/3 of expected species height in setting
- **SM** - **Semi Mature** - Less than 2/3 of expected species height in setting
- **M** - **Mature** – 3/3 of expected species height in setting

•**N,E,S, W –** compass directions.

•**M/m –** measurement in meters using a Nikon Forestry Pro 2 Laser Rangefinder.

•**Targets – T – individual tree. C – cluster of trees grouped together due to area, size or species.**

•A suggested timescale for the work to be carried out is provided below:

- **Urgent** - work priority is suggested to be as soon as possible. Remedial work to take place within 14 days unless specified as immediate/same day which could include signage or temporary fencing. Remedial work to take place within 3 months.
- **High** – remedial work to take place within 6 months.
- **Medium** – remedial work within 6-18 months

- **Low** – proactive work to be carried out when time or budget allows or re-inspection at a time specified within the management options.

Appendix 2 – Tree assessment data, arranged in order of priority

Tree ID	W3W	Species	Age class	Height (m)	Description	Recommendations	Priority
T8	/// totally. strictly. elections	Norway Maple (Acer Platanoides)	M	16	Large sign of included bark at 4 meters on main union. Growing towards pathway due to surrounding trees.	Fell to ground level.	High
C1	/// button. civil. surpassed	Himalayan Birch (*Betula utilis)*	SM	14	Cluster of two Birch, adjacent Birch failed due to rot in root system. More exposed to sail effect due to loss of neighbouring tree.	Fell to ground level.	High
C4	/// townhouse. sampled. ants.	Willow *(Salix sp.)*	SM	12	Leggy growth form overhanging children's play area, vulnerable to branch failure.	Pollard at main union.	Medium
C3	/// correctly. mothering. demanding	Willow (*Salix sp.)*	SM	12	Leggy growth form near to pathway, signs of past branch failure.	Fell to ground level.	Medium
T9	/// diet. ranking. stoppage	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Y	8	Dead Ash towards car park area.	Fell to ground level.	Medium
T7	/// firmer. duck. nooks	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Y	8	Stage 2 Ash dieback, significant deadwood in upper canopy.	Proactively fell	Medium

T4	/// Fabric. vineyard. seasons	Oak *(Quercus sp.)*	SM	10	Oak at perimeter of property, large sections have been removed possibly introducing cavities. Significant ivy cover preventing inspection of unions and old wounds	Sever ivy and reinspect.	Medium
T1	/// concluded. drive. coupler	Wild Cherry (*Prunus avium)*	M	16	Leaning growth form towards neighbouring property, loss of adjacent maple increasing wind loading.	3m reduction to reduce wind and mass loading.	Medium

T2	/// nibbled. quiz. startles	Alder (Alnus sp.)	SM	10	Dead alder on boundary near neighbouring property.	Fell to ground level.	Medium
T6	///totals. innocence. jumped	Norway Maple (Acer Platanoides)	SM	13	Dieback in the canopy, included bark on main union and moderate ivy cover	Monitor annually and remove ivy.	Low
T3	/// disproved. curry. lines	Norway Maple (Acer Platanoides)	SM	12	Wound at North side at base with signs of healing, rot introduced into the cavity. Reduction to reduce sail effect recommended.	2m reduction.	Low

C2	///mural. Silly. Pixies	Norway Maple (Acer Platanoides)	SM	12	Cluster of Maples on edge of boundary, moderate ivy cover.	Sever ivy up to 2m	Low
T5	///heightens. Spots. stands	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	SM	12	Multi stemmed Ash with poor union near base, close to neighbours' property at boundary.	Monitor annually, proactively fell.	Low

Appendix 3 – Tree Location Plan

Map.1. Location of trees identified during tree condition survey. Target and Cluster trees relate to table in appendix 2.

Appendix 5 – Further field notes and recommendations

- It is recommended that a tree condition survey is carried out at intervals of 2 years due to the age of trees located on site and presence of target structures. Any sudden or noticeable changes such as limb loss, damage from storm events or dieback in the canopy of leaves and branches on trees then further arboriculture advice should be sought.

END OF REPORT