

Arboricultural Assessment

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Report Reference: RECTOR001

Longacre Professional Arboricultural Consultancy



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DISCLAIMER – Page 9

1. Introductions

This report has been produced by Paul Zepler, a qualified professional within the arboricultural industry in relation to all forms of human activity including built development. I am a member of the Arboriculture Association and currently hold the qualifications of NC/ARB, LANTRA PTI/ARB and am an FdSc undergraduate in arboriculture with Myercough College. I have also worked as an Arboriculture Officer for eleven years with an additional four years working in the industry.

2. Report Brief

At the instruction of Helen and Mick Cryer, Longacre Professional Tree Consultancy has been asked to investigate the structural integrity of an English Oak (T1), opposite Northfields (house), Rectory Lane, Shenley, WD7 9BX. This request was based upon the potential for structural related issues within this tree.



T1

3. Report Limitations

Trees and shrubs are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly. The health, condition and safety of trees should be checked on no less than once every three years. All conclusions and recommendations are only valid for a period six months, and if not followed render the inspection regime within this report invalid. These periods of validity may be reduced in the case of any severe weather or lightning strike within the vicinity of the inspected trees

Longacre have been advised this this is potentially a conservation area and that T1 is possibly subject to a Tree Preservation Order.

As a representative of Longacre I did not examine the soil or remove samples for analysis as this report is of a preliminary nature. If samples are required then this will be highlighted in the recommendations, though on initial inspection this specimen appears to be in severe decline.

The tree(s) have been inspected from ground level only using industry based methods including a sounding hammer and root probe, should a more detailed climbing inspection be required this will be highlighted in the recommendations.

4. Professional Standard References

I have referred to British Standard 5837 'Trees in relation to construction' as a way to categorise the amenity value of T1 and British Standard 3998 'Tree Works Recommendations' as a guideline for the implementation of works recommendations.

5. General Site Descriptions

The site is an access entrance to an open space opposite 'Northfields' house, adjacent to a country lane. The specimen is situated to the right of the entrance to an open green space. The locale is leafy with farm and rural land present with a mixed tree standard.

6. Discussion and Factors

- The individual tree details are outlined in Table 1: 'Tree details pro-forma'.
- T1 has been identified within a potential to fail and/or loose limb onto a public space
- Longacre have been advised that T1 is potentially within a conservation area or subject to TPO status
- No tree management information or post inspection data has been provided to Longacre.
- No Local Authority (LA) highway concerns have been presented to Longacre, any arboricultural structural concerns relating to T1 have come as a result of client based diligence.

- This report informs of all information required for an intermediate tree condition/evaluation
- T1 is not the only tree that has raised concerns during this site inspection. The Ash tree directly adjacent to the entrance of the open green space has a low limb over the carriageway, This requires removal to allow safe passage of highway traffic.

Tree reference number	Tree category (BS5837 - 4.5)	Proposal	Life stage	DBH (Taken at 1.5m)	RPA Radius (M) (BS5837 - 4.6)	Tree height (M)	Spread N/E/S/W(M)	Distance from property (M)	Comments
T1	U	Remove	Mature	1100mm	13.2	17	11/9/7/5	14	This specimen will not tolerate remedial reduction works.

Table 1 / Tree details pro-forma

T1 Quercus Robur / English Oak



Base (REASONABLE): Probe and sounding mallet revealed no structural related issues. No visible fungal presence except of a minor basal cavity on property side of stem. Prolific Ivy presence. Structurally sound / systemically poor



Stem (REASONABLE): No visible fungal or bacterial infection or audible hollow points. Structurally sound / systemically poor



Crown (POOR): Consistent die-back throughout crown (lions-tail growth). No visible bacterial or fungal issues. Structurally poor / systemically poor

Root Area: No identifiable issues except potential for proliferation of systemic and structural issues identified through this report. There is a high potential that die back throughout this specimen is related to the vascular system which is associated to a substance leached into the rhizome.

Overall structure (POOR): Stem and root structure physiologically stable. Crown die back has potential for abscission with public space, carriageway within drop zone.

Overall physiology = (POOR): Systemic failure, final growth habit indicative of vascular failure. 0-5 year's life expectancy

Works Recommendations: **Crown reduction works would removal all active growth, there are no points that this specimen can be brought back to reinvigorate and assist dormant bud activation - Fell to ground level.**

Future mitigation: N/A if recommendations are carried out.



Unless otherwise stated this arboricultural report is valid for a period of no longer than one year. Should there be any period of extreme weather, construction or excavation works within the RPA vicinity of any trees stated within this document a structural analysis will be required to validate this period of time. Should this report be submitted as part of a planning application it is valid to be submitted for a period of six months only after compilation. Should this report be coordinated with a mortgage application then only the information provided by the client and a site survey will be incorporated. Should this report contain recommendations as a result of potential property structural related issues then it is highly recommended that a structural engineers report be obtained to validate removal or reduction options. The rest is based on experience and standards compiled by governing bodies and professional recommendations.