

Tree Condition Survey

The Spinney and Parkland

Report prepared for Tattenhall Parish Council

1.0 Instruction

- 1.1 Amenity Tree Care visited the site on 31st May 2018 to carry out a tree condition survey of all trees within the boundaries of the Spinney and adjoining parkland.

2.0 Report Limitations

- 2.1 The inspection has been carried out from ground level only, using visual observation methods as this is a preliminary report as requested by the client, should a more detailed inspection be required then this will be highlighted in the recommendations.
- 2.2 Trees are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly, the health, condition and safety of trees should be checked on a regular basis, preferably at least once a year. The conclusions and recommendations in this report are only valid for a period of six months from the date of this report. This period of validity may be reduced in the case of any change in conditions to or in proximity to the tree.
- 2.3 I have contacted Chester West and Chester planning department who have confirmed that the site is located within the Tattenhall Conservation Area and that several trees are protected by individual and group Tree Preservation Orders. It will be necessary to obtain consent (or in the case of a Conservation Area give six weeks' notice of intent) before undertaking any such work.
- 2.4 No analysis of soil samples was undertaken.
- 2.5 Any legal descriptions or information given to the consultant are understood to be accurate.
- 2.6 No responsibility is assumed by Amenity Tree Care Ltd for legal matters that may arise from this report and the consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made.
- 2.7 Any alteration or deletion from this report will invalidate it as a whole and the conclusions of this report will remain valid for six months from the date of the inspection.
- 2.8 The responsibility for any work undertaken on the surveyed trees rests with the land managers.

3.0 The Purpose of the report

3.1 To prepare a clear set of report recommendations following the single tree inspection and to facilitate proper consideration of tree condition and report on the following:

- Safe condition and health of the trees
- Make recommendations regarding any future management needs

4.0 Technical Data

4.1 No technical data has been provided for the survey.

5.0 Methodology and data collection

5.1 The site was visited as indicated above and the tree was assessed visually utilising the Visual Tree Assessment methodology.

5.2 Trees have been assessed with general regard to condition, health and structural suitability and commented upon in the report.

5.3 Recommendations for remedial works (Management Recommendations) have been provided on the basis of current condition.

5.4 Only trees identified as requiring works in order to mitigate any risk identified (e.g. partial or whole tree failure) by the surveyor have been included within this survey.

6.0 Findings

6.1 Please refer to the tree survey schedule and report plans detailing tree location and work recommendations.

7.0 Recommendations (Re-inspection)

7.1 I recommend that a formal inspection is undertaken every 2yrs by a qualified arboriculturist.

8.0 Disclaimer

8.1 This report is for the sole use of the above-named client and refers to only those trees identified within; use by any other person(s) in attempting to apply its contents for any other purpose renders the report invalid for that purpose.

Tree/Group No.	Common Name	Age	Stem Diameter(mm)	Stem No.	Height(m)	Avg. Crown Spread (m)	Comments	Recommendations	Priority timeframe for the completion of tree work recommendations
T1	Ash	M	900	1	18	14	<p>The tree is leaning towards the public footpath (Millennium Mile) and the wild flower meadow.</p> <p>The tree was surveyed in 2013 and 2015 and Ganoderma brackets were identified on the west side of the tree stem approximately 15cm above ground level. The number of brackets has gradually increased over the years with a significant increase in 2018. The brackets now extend up the tree stem to a height of 2m above ground level.</p> <p>The area surrounding the brackets was enshrouded in ivy precluding a full visual tree inspection. The area around the brackets was inspected using a steel probe and the wood in this area was found to be very soft.</p> <p>There are several open cavities in the upper crown on primary branches. The crown displayed a good even leaf density. Branch dieback was visible in the crown periphery.</p> <p>The 2013 tree survey recommended that the entire crown structure be reduced to the point where the second group of branches exit the stem at approximately 9m from ground level.</p>	The entire crown structure is to be reduced to the point where the second group of branches exit the stem at approximately 9-10m above ground level.	4 Wks
T2	Common Alder	M	0		18	8	<p>Veteran alder tree growing on the edge of the small stream that runs through the park. The tree is showing signs of decline with several large dead branches visible in the upper tree crown. The dead branches are up to 6m in length and 200mm in diameter.</p> <p>The area below the tree is rough ground that precludes access to the area below the tree.</p>	Reinspect tree within 3yrs from the date of survey.	3yrs
T3	Common Alder	M	0		12	6	<p>The tree is situated close to the small wooden bridge that crosses the stream. The tree is a veteran alder with a large open cavity on the northeast side of the stem. The cavity is approximately 2m high with a 20cm opening at the top that widens to 50cm at the base of the tree. The cavity was probed to a depth of 1m at the base of the tree.</p> <p>The tree has a very small crown when compared to the large stem ratio.</p>	Reinspect tree within 3yrs from the date of survey.	3yrs
T4	Ash	M	600	1	16	12	<p>Stem divides at 6m above ground level into two large structural branches that support the main crown branch framework. The stem over the public footpath has snapped at a height of 10m above ground level. The second stem extends over the adjacent large residential garden.</p> <p>Ivy has established on the tree stem. Ivy did not preclude the visual tree inspection (VTA)</p>	Sever the ivy around the tree stem at a height of 1m above ground level.	2yrs

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T5	Ash	M	700	1	19	12	Ivy has established around the stem of the tree. It was still possible to visually inspect the stem and basal area. There were no visual signs of decline in the crown at the time of survey. A single branch has snapped in the upper crown of the tree and was lying by the base of the tree.	The ivy should be severed around the circumference of the stem at a height of 1m above ground level. The branch at the base of the tree should be removed.	2yrs
T6	Ash	M	800	1	19	12	Ivy has established around the stem of the tree. It was still possible to visually inspect the stem and basal area. There were no visual signs of decline in the crown at the time of survey.	The ivy should be severed around the circumference of the stem at a height of 1m above ground level.	2yrs
T7	Common Oak	M	450	1	6	1	The tree is located on the public footpath (Millennium Mile) that connects Covert Rise with the Spinney. The tree was heavily reduced in height in 2014 as it was identified as being in a state of physiological decline. The tree is now dead and requires removal. The tree straddles the boundary between the public footpath and a residential property.	The tree stem should be reduced to the height of the boundary fence.	2 yrs
G1	Ash, Hazel, Horse Chestnut, Hawthorn, Crack Willow, Damson	EM	400	1	19	6	The woodland edge trees are hanging very low over the public footpath and forcing pedestrians onto the grassed POS. A woodland edge willow tree has snapped and is propped over the public footpath.	Fell the willow tree to ground level. Crown lift all low branches over the public footpath to a height of 2.5m above ground level.	2Wks
G2	Goat Willow	SM	175	1	4	4	Low branches over the public footpath are starting to restrict the movement of pedestrians.	Crown lift all low branches over the public footpath to a height of 2.5m above ground level.	13Wks
G3	Oak, Ash, Sycamore	M	700	1	18	14	There are several large mature woodland edge trees that overhang the residential properties on Spinney End. The surveyor was unable to inspect the trees due to mature ivy that preclude the VTA.	Ivy should be severed on all trees within 2m of the boundary fence and with a stem diameter more than 300mm at a height of 1.5m above ground level. Ivy should be severed around the circumference of the stem at a height of 3m above ground level. All ivy below 3m should be removed. The trees will need to be reinspected by the arboriculturist once the ivy has been removed.	4Wks



Client:
Tattenhall Parish Council

Project:
Tree Condition Survey

Detail:
Tree Plan 2018

Drawn By:	Date:	Scale:
SS	01.06.2018	NTS

Drg No:	Revision:
TR-01	V1