

AlisonK–Arboriculture



33 Timperleys, Hintlesham,  
Ipswich, Suffolk, IP8 3PS  
Phone: 01473 652 55  
Mobile:07425 389 786  
E-Mail: [ali@alisonk.co.uk](mailto:ali@alisonk.co.uk)  
Web: [AlisonK.co.uk](http://AlisonK.co.uk)

## **Tree Safety Assessment - Review 2**

**At:** Melton Playing Field and Burkes Wood.

**For:** Melton Parish Council

**July 2019**

## Contact Details

<b>Client- Melton Parish Council</b>		
<p>Address: Clerk to Melton Parish Council. 17 Riduna Park, Station Road, Melton, Woodbridge, IP12 1QT</p>	<p>Contact: Mr William Grosvenor</p>	<p>Email: <a href="mailto:clerk@melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk">clerk@melton-suffolk-pc.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>Local Authority – East Suffolk District Council,</b>		
<p>Address: East Suffolk District Council, East Suffolk House, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1RT</p>	<p>Contact: Mr N. Newton. Arboriculture and Landscape Manager</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk">www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a> Telephone: 0333 016 2000 Email: <a href="mailto:customerservices@eastsuffolk.gov.uk">customerservices@eastsuffolk.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>Arboricultural Consultant – AlisonK - Arboriculture</b>		
<p>Address: 33 Timperleys Hintlesham Ipswich IP8 3PS</p>	<p>Owner: Mrs Ali Martin</p>	<p>Telephone: 01473 652552 Mobile: 07425 389 786 Email: <a href="mailto:ali@alisonk.co.uk">ali@alisonk.co.uk</a></p>

# **Tree Safety Assessment - Review 2: July 2019**

## **Index**

1.0 Terms of Reference

2.0 Scope of survey

3.0 Review of November 2018 Tree Safety Assessment

4.0 Tree related comments - Current position

**5.0 Conclusions**

**6.0 Recommendations**

**Table 1: Recommended Work Schedule and Priority.**

7.0 Tree problems and significance

8.0 Limitation and Qualifications

**9.0 Appendices**

**Appendix AA: Tree location Plan - Review 2**

**Appendix BB: Tree schedule and recommendations - Review 2**

## **1.0 Terms of Reference**

1.1. Melton Parish Council has commissioned AlisonK-Arbiculture to re-survey specified trees and then prepare a record of findings highlighting any tree works necessary on safety grounds. The weather conditions at the time of inspection were dull and blustery. The trees surveyed were in full leaf.

1.2 This is a review of the tree safety assessment from February 2018 and should be read in conjunction with any previous tree safety assessments and the most recent report and appendices, dated **February 2018**.

1.3 Mrs Ali Martin carried out the latest site survey on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019. The relevant qualitative tree data was collected in order to assess the condition of the trees and their potential risk in relation to their existing environment and the risk they pose to people using the public areas.

## **2.0 Scope of the Work**

2.1. For the purpose of this report, a total of 115 individual trees have been inspected from the previous assessment and following a walk round inspection of Burkes Wood a further 12 trees added. These new trees have been recorded either because there are safety issues and are in need of surgery, for ease of future identification or to aid future management. **See Appendix AA: Tree location plan - Review 2 and Appendix BB: Tree schedule and recommendations - Review 2**

## **3.0 Review of tree safety issues from the 2018 report.**

3.1 All works recommended in the report of February 2018 have been completed to a good standard and potential safety risks reduced to an acceptable level.

## **4.0 Tree related comments - Current position and significance.**

4.1 Very few significant changes in the condition of the trees from the previous assessment have been identified. **See Appendix BB: Tree schedule and recommendations - Review 2**

4.2 Only one tree from the last assessment (T38) a white willow on the roadside has been identified as in need of work to reduce a safety risk.

4.3 One new tree, a sycamore tree (T121) in Burkes Wood has been added due to its poor health. Felling has been recommended on safety grounds.

4.4 Two sycamores (T119 and T120) have been added to the survey to aid identification. Both trees are in reasonable health with no visible safety issues however; their removal is suggested to reduce competition for light around the more vulnerable and important large veteran oak (T2).

4.5 The condition of both ash trees contained within this report (T34 and T65) has deteriorated. Both are showing signs of what appears to be ash dieback, with increasing quantities of small twiggy deadwood evident. The size of deadwood is not large enough yet to warrant removal.

4.6 Nine further trees have been added for fullness of records and aid identification and longer-term management.

4.7 The veteran oak (T10) has suffered a recent incident where someone has tried to start a fire in the triangular cavity between two buttress roots. This attempt does not appear to have caused damage, other than to blacken the bark and turn the surface of the exposed central stem wood to charcoal. This attack is however the second and a slightly more determined attempt than that noted during the first assessment in November 2016. It appears to be a trend and further attempts should be anticipated.

## **5.0 Conclusions.**

5.1 The trees on site remain in reasonable condition and few short-term tree health or safety issues have been identified within the 127 trees surveyed.

5.2 Recommended tree works identified within **Appendix BB** are shown in the table at 6.1. The work contained in the table should be carried out within the timescale stated in order to mitigate any tree safety issues highlighted.

## 6.0. Recommendations.

### 6.1: Table 1: Tree Work Schedule and Priority.

6.1	Tree Work Schedule and Priority		March2018
Tree No	Species	Works recommended for safety reasons	Time scale
T38	Salix alba (white willow)	Regrowth now around 7 metres long with increasing risk of branch failure. Re pollard back to original pollard points.	Within 6 Months
T121	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)	Fell to ground level and stack all arisings neatly in away from footpaths	Within 6 months
Tree No	Species	Works recommended for long-term good tree management.	Time scale
T119	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)	Fell to ground level and stack all arisings neatly in away from footpaths	Desirable but non urgent
T120	Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore)	Fell to ground level and stack all arisings neatly in away from footpaths	Desirable but non urgent
T10	Quercus robur (English oak)	Treat effected area of fire damage with fire retardant spray to help reduce possible damage from future arson attacks.	As soon as possible.

6.2 Before tree surgery is carried out East Suffolk District Council should be contacted to ascertain whether or not they require a formal application for any of the recommended work.

6.3 Due to the very high use of the area, all trees listed within **Appendix BB** should be subject to a detailed annual tree safety inspection.

6.4 Given the changeable nature of trees and their environment, the details of this survey could alter at any time. In the event of high winds and storms the trees should be inspected as soon after the event as possible.

6.4 Tree works specified within this report should be carried out to BS 3998 2010 - The Recommended Standard for Tree Works. All arising should be either: Removed from site, chipped and spread on footpaths or stacked in neat piles away from footpaths.

## **7.0. Tree problems and significance**

7.1 This section gives a brief description of problems identified in the attached tree schedule, together with their significance.

### 7.2 Ivy (*Hedera helix*):

The presence of Ivy on healthy trees is not normally a problem, providing an excellent wildlife habitat and a vital winter food source. Where a tree is already declining and ivy has become extensive it can be a problem through increased wind sale effect and by suppressing tree growth. It may also be masking major defects. Where this is felt to be the case, Ivy management will be specified. The technique recommended for this is to sever and remove a section (minimum of a 5cm) of all the ivy stems around the tree base. NB. Care needs to be taken when carrying out this work not to cut right through ivy stems into the bark of the tree as this can cause long-term damage.

### 7.3 Deadwood:

This relates to dead branches within the crown of the tree. In the majority of cases this is due to natural aging or its location close to other trees. However, it could relate to fungal, bacterial or viral infection. For this reason a close eye needs to be kept on trees showing signs of excessive deadwood.

### 7.4 Epicormic growth:

Epicormic growth relates to the numerous small stems 'suckers' that grow around the base of some tree species. It can be present in all sorts of trees as a reaction to the bark being damaged, but in species such as European lime (*Tilia x vulgaris*) it is usually a normal function of the tree. Epicormic growth can also occur higher up in the tree around the main stem and often referred to as a 'witches broom'.

### 7.5 Bleeding Cankers - (*Phytophthora* and *Pseudomonas sp.*)

Up until 5 to 6 years ago these distinctive symptoms were relatively rare and caused by a fungal pathogen known as *Phytophthora*. Since then, the number of reports on various and increasing species type with brown and black staining 'bleeding cankers' has increased markedly. The water mould *Phytophthora* is no longer the primary causal agent. Instead a completely different pathogen, a bacterial pathogen known as *Pseudomonas syringae pv aesculi*, is responsible for the increase in these symptoms appearing on horse chestnut. This latest bacterial pathogen is more aggressive and can kill some trees in just a few years. Trees with *Phytophthora* can live with the disease for many years.

### 7.6 Dutch Elm Disease - (*Ceratocystis ulmi*)

Dutch elm disease is still common across Britain especially in unmanaged hedgerows. The new elm growth reaches a certain height and is once again infected by the beetle *Scolytus*

spp carrying the fungus. Standing stems often die within three to four years. Once dead there is an increasing risk of stem failure at ground level over following years.

#### 7.7 Ash Dieback Disease - (*Chalara fraxinaea*)

Since it's discovery in Suffolk in 2012 the distinctive wilted foliage tips of shoot and diamond shaped areas of dead bark that are the symptoms of *Chalara* have been reported in increasing numbers. This disease becoming as widespread as Dutch Elm Disease and likely to be a major consideration in terms of tree safety with trees of all ages and sizes increasingly needing to be removed as the disease develops and spreads.



## **8.0 Limitation and Qualifications**

Tree inspection reports are subject to the following limitations and qualifications.

### **General Exclusions**

Unless specifically mentioned, the report will only be concerned with the above ground inspections. No below ground inspections will be carried out without prior agreement from the client that such works should be undertaken.

The validity, accuracy and findings of this report will be directly related to the accuracy of the information made available during the inspection process. No checking of independent data will be undertaken. AlisonK - Arboriculture will not be responsible for recommendations within this report where essential data is not made available, or is inaccurate.

This report will remain valid for **twelve months** from the date of inspection but will become invalid if any building works are carried out, soil levels are altered in any way close to trees, or tree work undertaken not recommended in this report.

If alterations to the site or soil levels are carried out, or tree work undertaken, the commissioning of a new tree inspection is strongly recommended.

It will be appreciated and deemed to be accepted by the client and their insurers, that the formulation of the recommendations will be guided by the following:

1. The need to avoid reasonable foreseeable damage.
2. The arboricultural considerations - Tree safety, good arboricultural practice, aesthetics and environmental considerations.

The client and their insurers are deemed to have accepted the limitation placed on the recommendations by the sources quoted in the attached report. Where time constraints or the client limits sources, this may lead to an incomplete quantification of risk.

Mrs Ali Martin Tech Cert (Arbor A)  
Arboricultural Consultant  
AlisonK - Arboriculture.



July 2019 .....

**9.0 Appendices** (See separate attachment)

Appendix AA: Tree Location Plan – Review 2

Appendix BB: Tree survey and recommendations – Review 2