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Melton PC: 2021 Divested sites: Tree Safety Report.

For:

Melton Parish Council

Date of Report: October 11th, 2022.

Contact details.

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Terms of reference & introduction

Melton Parish Council has commissioned AlisonK-Arboriculture to survey trees specified by them at twelve sites for which they responsible, at various locations in Melton and then prepare a record of findings, highlighting any tree works necessary on safety grounds. The weather conditions at the time of inspection were fine and dry. Deciduous trees surveyed were in leaf, although some species were in the first stages of autumn leaf fall.
This report contains a review of the tree safety assessment from March 2021 following transfer of the sies divested from East Suffolk council. This report should be read in conjunction with this previous **tree safety assessment, reports, and appendices.**

1.1 Background:

Twenty-one parcels of land in the Parish of Melton were divested from East Suffolk Council (ESC) and formally adopted by Melton Parish Council in April 2021. The total land area transferred, covers around 6.7 hectares and the sites range in size from the 3.3-hectare woodland known as Leeks and Bury Hill Wood down to the 0.009-hectare area on Bury Hill. All bar three of the twenty-one parcels of land contain at least one tree. See **Appendix A: Table of adopted site information.**

1.3 Risk evaluation method and land area zoning.

For this report, the five-step risk assessment has been adopted following Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidance for a simple tree management system. It is reliable, tried and tested and considered a robust method of assessing risk. It is also defendable in a Court of Law, being underpinned by a nationally recognised body.

Adopted land areas which contain trees have been assessed and allocate a 'Zone' based on the designated land type and level of use - 'Target' (measured by how frequently an area is visited by people). (1: High use, 2: Moderate use 3: Low use). Area Zones dictate the level of information collected during inspection and suggests a reasonable frequency for re-inspections (the risk associated with the trees are lees in a site which has less frequent visits).

1.4. Zoning of land areas and rationale:

1.4.1 Zone 1 trees:

All trees in areas designated as parks, play areas and areas adjacent to well used public rights of way and well used footpaths are placed in Zone 1. In these areas, where there are prominent individual specimen trees they are inspected and recorded individually. Less prominent/younger trees in Zone 1 are placed in groups. Basic information on tree species and approx. number of each, along with general group comments recorded.

In wooded areas such as along public rights of way and well used permissive footpaths, all trees within falling distance (approximately 20 metres of the Zone boundary) are briefly inspected.

1.4.2 Zone 2 trees:
Areas which see less frequent use such as minor footpaths, land where access is somewhat restricted and where trees could impact on gardens are considered a 'lower' target area with lower risk level associated and placed in Zone 2.

1.4.3 Zone 3 trees:
Areas which see few visits where with no easy access. present a very low risk (barring exceptional circumstances) to people and therefore placed in Zone 3.

1.4.4 Trees on Zones 2 and 3: In some restricted areas it is not practicable and often not necessary to inspect all trees in detail at the base, although it may be possible to assess some trees on sites more fully during the summer months. Where this is the case brief inspections are completed from as close to trees as conditions allow and comments made on the visible parts.

2.0 Scope of the work:

The report includes the twenty-one parcels of land formally adopted by Melton in 2021 recording any established trees on recreational areas and those in need of action in wooded and less accessible areas. N.B. Land for which Melton Parish Council is already responsible (Burkes Wood and The Melton Recreation Ground) covered under a separate report.

2.1 Tree survey method and rationale

All trees inspected will require regular monitoring for the following reason:

- Tracking the progress of diseases such as ash dieback disease (See Table 3 at 7.0); needed as tree condition can deteriorate quickly and in a short period of time create safety issues.

- Full tree condition is unclear or thought to be such that further investigation is needed to confirm full tree health and/or potential safety issues.

2.2 Eighteen sites containing trees were re surveyed by Mrs Alice Martin-Butler between the 14th and 22nd September 2022. The relevant qualitative data was collected to assess the condition of the existing trees and their potential risk in relation to their existing environment and the risk they pose to people and property. The weather conditions at the time of inspections varied from fine and dry. Deciduous trees assessed were in leaf or in the first stages of autumn leaf fall.

2.3 All Individual trees assessed in detail and recorded in Zone 1 were inspected from the ground, using a level '2' basic 360-degree assessment developed by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), taking into account all tree features and site considerations.

2.4 All trees identified as in need of work have been marked discreetly at the base of the tree or on ivy stems with an orange or yellow spray dot.

2.5 For ease of use and workability, sites directly adjacent to one another are considered to be and treated as one site (e.g., Bury Hill, and Love Lane and Friars Court). Where feasible sites located close to each other have been grouped on the same plan and appear in the same schedule. **See Figure 1 and Table 1 below.**

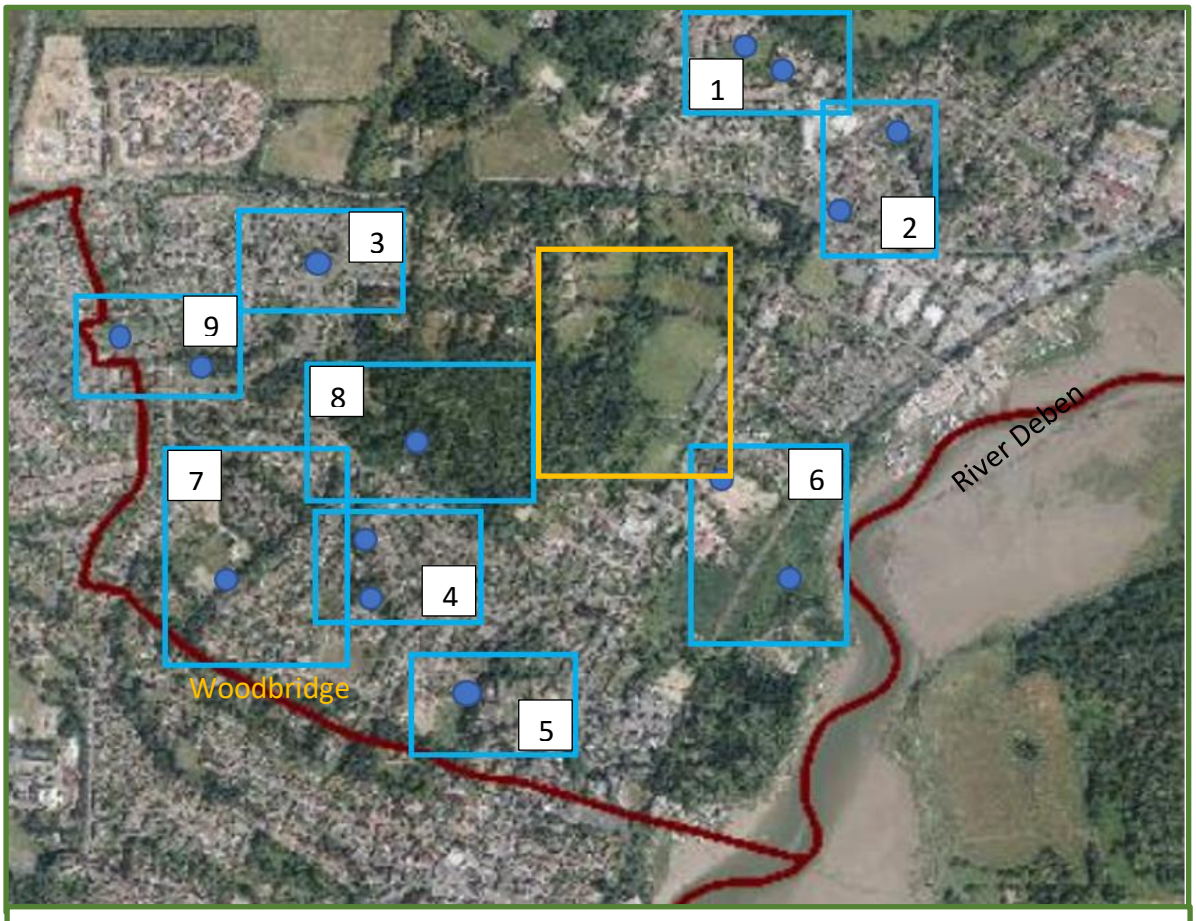

Figure 1: Site locations and associated plan numbers for newly divested sites outlined in blue with Melton Parish Council's existing sites (Melton Recreation Ground and Burkes Wood) outlined in orange (Defra, 2021).

Grouped sites are shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1	Grouped sites
Plan number	
1:	Hall Farm Sports Ground and Hall Farm Close
2:	Land adj. The Street Fand Friars Court
3:	Bury Hill
4:	Coppice Close & corner of Coppice Close and Saxon Way.
5:	Love Lane
6:	River View and land on the River Deben (Opposite Fayrefield Rd)
7:	Saxon Way footpath.
8:	Leeks and Bury Hill wood.
9:	Bredfield Road splay, Beresford Play area, area opposite the play area & corner of Bredfield Rd & Bury Hill.

2.6 Recommendations in this report are based on sound arboricultural management practices and to aid future decision-making and planning. Aesthetics and environmental issues are also considerations and where feasible, tree retention in some form is suggested for environmental and ecological benefits, both vital in sustaining a healthy tree population. Standing deadwood is a rare and very important resource for wildlife habitat. Where recommendations are given to fell a tree; when feasible, consideration should be given to retaining a standing high stem (4 to 6 metres).

2.7 The information contained in the tree schedule at **Appendix B** covers only those trees that were examined and reflects the condition of each specimen at the time of inspection. The trees were inspected from the ground only and were not climbed. No samples of wood, roots or soil were taken for analysis. No guarantee, either expressed or implied, of the **internal** condition of any of the trees can therefore be given.

2.8 Any comments with-in this report on non-arboricultural features (such as soils and buildings) should be taken as provisional and confirmation sort from an appropriately qualified professional for an in-depth opinion.

3.0 Review of tree safety issues from 2021 report

All works recommended in the report of March 2021 have been completed to a satisfactory standard.

3.1 Statutory designation.

Much of Melton is covered by statutory designation, protecting trees on some sites within locations covered in this report. Leeks and Bury Hill Wood and the trees along parts of the footpath at Saxon Way together with trees on Love Lane appear to be covered under woodland area designations W5 and W7 of the 1953 Tree Preservation Order (TPO) No 25. The woodland designation covers trees of all ages located within the designated area. When looking at the plan it is however difficult to tell exactly which areas and/or trees are covered by this TPO due to the age of the order (being 68 years old) and the extent of building development since that time.

3.1.1 Bearing in mind the lack of clarity regarding which trees are protected, it would be wise to contact the arboricultural officer at East Suffolk Council to seek clarification as to whether an application is required when any works to trees are planned. Should a protected tree be removed, there is likely to be a requirement to plant a replacement tree.

4.0 Tree safety assessment: By site for the September 2022 tree survey.

Tree inspection data and plans are shown for each site in **Appendix B. REVIEW1: Schedule of Trees and Recommendations** and **Appendix C. REVIEW1: Tree Location Plan.** Works identified in **Recommendations** (highlighted in the boxes) in the following sections 4.1 to 4.9 and in are collated in **Table 2 at 6.1** of this report.

4.1. Hall Farm Sports Ground and Hall Farm Close. Appendix B1. REVIEW1: Schedule of Trees and Recommendations and Appendix C1. REVIEW1: Tree Location Plan.

4.1.1: **Hall Farm Sports Ground**

Tree related comments: All four individual trees on the open space mown to grass and three groups of trees remain in reasonable health. The three small areas placed in groups also remain in reasonable health.

4.1.2 Hall Farm Sports Ground
Findings and significance: No significant safety issues were identified in the four individual trees assessed. The three ash trees remain in good health with no evidence of ash dieback disease (See Table 3 in section 7.0 of the report).
Recommendations:
No recommendations have been made for tree work on safety grounds.

4.1.3: Hall Farm Close
Tree related comments: Group 3 (Gp3) the small copse of native trees in fenced area, enclosed by rabbit netting and backing on to 6ft board fences of residents gardens is now very dense and fairly impenetrable, making it a valuable wildlife haven. Intervention in this area mentioned at the first inspection appears to have ceased with the coppiced .6 m high tree stump reported in last inspection resprouting.

4.1.4 Hall Farm Close
Findings and significance: No significant safety issues were identified.
Recommendations: No recommendations have been made for tree work on safety grounds.

4.2: Land adj. The Street and Friars Court. Appendix B2. REVIEW1: Schedule of trees and recommendations and Appendix C2. REVIEW1: Tree location plan.

4.2.1: Land adj. The Street
Tree related comments: Only one tree of the six originally assessment now remains in a 'Good' condition. Two trees (9 and 10) formally given an overall condition of 'Fair' at the last assessment are located in an area where persistent car parking and compacting the ground and tree rooting area was highlighted in the last inspection. At the time of the latest inspection, formal hard standing parking bays were being constructed around their bases.

4.2.2 Land adj. The Street
Findings and significance: Although no specific safety issues were identified tree 9 or 10, a Swedish whitebeam it lost a considerable amount of its feeding roots during the process of parking bay construction. Although not a safety issue, its health is very likely to suffer over the coming years because of the feeding root loss. Tree 9, a young purple maple has been left so close to the edge of a new parking bay, its retention may not be tenable for long. (**See Appendix E:** Supporting photographs).
Recommendations: No recommendations have been made for tree work on safety grounds. However, this may be a good site to consider further tree planting, as all the trees have a relatively short life expectancy.

4.2.2: Friars Court

Tree related comments: The six individual, mostly mature and maturing trees located on the open space in areas of short mown grass remain in reasonable health however, the condition of one tree 3, a rowan, has deteriorated since the last inspection but not to the point where action is needed on safety grounds.

4.2.3 Friars Court

Findings and Significance: No significant tree safety issues were identified in the six trees inspected.

Recommendations: No recommendations have been made for tree work on safety grounds.

4.3: Bury Hill Appendix B3. REVIEW1: Schedule of Trees & Recommendations and Appendix C3. REVIEW1: Tree Location Plan.

Tree related comments: Eight of the nine individual trees on site remain in reasonable health. One tree, (a mature birch) has died since the last inspection. No obvious reason for death is evident.

4.3.1 Bury Hill

Findings and significance: The mature birch tree (2) has died. It is unlikely to fail in the short term however it is located next to a residential property and road and action is therefore needed as a precaution.

Recommendations: Fell dead birch tree to ground level and remove timber from site. Chip brash & spread over shrub bed.

4.4: Coppice Close and corner of Coppice Close and Saxon Way. Appendix B4. REVIEW1: Schedule of trees and work recommendations and Appendix C4.REVIEW1: Tree Location Plan.

4.4.1 Coppice Close

Tree related comments: No change in the condition of the trees in this small copse (Gp1). There is still evidence of some recent garden rubbish accumulation.

4.4.2 Coppice Close

Findings and significance: No significant safety issues were identified.

Recommendations:

No recommendations have been made for work on safety grounds. The lower areas of younger planting would however benefit from active woodland management to retain future tree health.

4.4.3 **Corner of Coppice Close and Saxon Way**

Tree related comments: No change in condition since last inspection. Sycamores still being trimmed back over the boundaries where they adjoin gardens. Evidence of garden rubbish/debris still being dumped. The five mature, larger trees in the group remain in reasonable health.

4.4.4 Corner of Coppice Close and Saxon Way.

Findings and significance: No significant safety issues were identified.

Recommendations:

No recommendations have been made for work on grounds of safety.

4.5: Love Lane Appendix B5. REVIEW1: Schedule of trees and recommendations and Appendix C5. REVIEW1: Tree location plan.

Tree related comments: The twelve large mainly mature, and fully mature trees located in a line and backing on to properties on Wilkinson Way remain in reasonable health. The base of tree 11, a mature beech as base was only partially visible from the path through the dense undergrowth. Visible parts were sound however, tree was showing a slight lack of vitality with smaller leaf size in the upper crown.

4.5.1 Love Lane
Findings and significance: No significant safety issues were identified in the 12 trees. However, the dense undergrowth prevented a full inspection of tree 11, a mature beech and a closer assessment at the next inspection would be prudent.
Recommendations: Clear holly/undergrowth from round base of tree to allow for full assessment at next inspection.

4.6: River View and Land side of River Deben - Opposite Fayrefield Rd. Appendix B6. REVIEW1: Tree work recommendations and Appendix C6. REVIEW1: Tree location plan.

4.6.1 River View
Tree related comments: Two young trees located in the narrow grass verge were assessed. They have both grown and the lower crown of the oak is low over the footpath.

4.6.2 River View.
Findings and significance: Both trees remain in good health however**,** the oak tree (2) has low branches which need removing to raise the crown.
Recommendations:
Lift low minor branches from oak (2) to give 2.4m clearance over footpath.

4.6.3 Land side of River Deben - Opposite Fayrefield Rd
Tree related comments: This area of developing and mature woodland remains in good condition.

4.6.4 Land side of River Deben - Opposite Fayrefield Rd
Findings and significance: Two tree safety issue was identified in the survey. Two willow trees (4 & 5) located close to the footpath were found to be in a potentially hazardous condition. No tree safety issues were identified within the remaining trees on site.
Recommendations:
Fell one, single and one multi stemmed maturing willows (4 & 5) marked with orange spray dot at base and growing within Gp2, (a group of approx. 10 closely growing young/maturing willows).

4.7: Saxon Way footpath. Appendix B7. REVIEW1: Schedule of trees and recommendations and Appendix C7.1 and C7.2. REVIEW1: Tree location plans.

Tree related comments: Fifty-two individual maturing and mature trees and a further No5 groups of trees located either side of the footpath have been inspected**.** Trees in the area closest to Pytches Road are thought likely to be covered by the woodland designation W7 of the TPO25.

4.7.1: Saxon Way footpath (101265)
Findings and significance: Very few tree issues with safety were identified, considering the age and numbers of large trees involved. Two young trees sycamore trees are in very poor condition with others also starting to decline. One tree needs ivy management to allow for a more detailed assessment at the next inspection date.
Recommendations: Fell trees (9 and 10) and carry out Ivy management on 1 tree (39). N.B. Trees for work have been marked with an orange spray dot.

4.8: Leeks and Bury Hill wood. Appendix B8. REVIEW1: Tree work recommendations and Appendix C8. REVIEW1: Tree location plan.
Tree related comments: Twelve individual trees and one group (Gp1, three sycamores and one goat willow were re- inspected). The trees generally remain in a healthy condition however: The goat willow in Gp1 has died since the last inspection and has now been added in its own right (12) for work. The large horse chestnut (1) has lost one of 4 large diameter stems at 2.5m since last inspection. The tree was reduced by about 6m in response to this limb failure and now stands at around 13m high and the same wide. One oak (4) has been added to the schedule for precautionary reduction of a one low branch and another (12) for monitoring purposes. N.B. The trees in Leeks and Bury Hill wood are protected by TPO 25.

4.8.1 Leeks and Bury Hill wood:
Findings and significance: Tree 1 is still quite tall following reduction work, with the risk of further branch failure increasing over the next few years because of where the damage is located in relation to the other main branch unions. Further reduction to leave 6m high framework may well allow tree to remain longer.
Recommendations:
Fell dead goat willow (12) and leave arising stacked on site. Reduce end weight of low branch on oak (4) and further reduce (9) and reduce remaining branch structure on horse chestnut (1) to 6/7m high framework. N.B. Trees in need of felling have been marked with an orange spray dot.

4.9: Bredfield Road splay, Beresford Play area, area opposite the play area & corner of Bredfield Rd & Bury Hill. Appendix B9. REVIEW1: Schedule of trees and recommendations and Appendix C9. REVIEW1: Tree location plan.

4.9.1 Beresford Play area
Tree related comments: All three trees remain in reasonable health. Several new trees have been planted on this area since the last inspection.

4.9.2 Beresford Play area
Findings and significance: No significant safety issues have been identified.
Recommendations: No recommendations have been made on safety grounds.

Tree related comments: The three young trees on this area remain in reasonable health. There is scope for additional tree planting.

4.9.4. Beresford Drive open space (opposite the play area) (100498)
Findings and significance: No significant safety issues have been identified.
Recommendations: No recommendations have been made on safety grounds.

4.9.5 Corner of Bredfield Rd & Bury Hill
Tree related comments: All twelve individual tree including the five veteran oak trees remain remaining from the last inspection are in reasonable health. The trees in the small woodland group (Gp1) also remain in reasonable health although one young sycamore tree in this group has died and been added to the schedule individually for work.

4.9.6. Corner of Bredfield Rd & Bury Hill (101264)
Findings and significance: The dead sycamore tree in GP1 (25) requires felling as it could impact on the footpath should it fail.
Recommendations:
Fell one young dead sycamore and stake arisings on site.

5.0 Conclusions:

5.1 Of the many individual trees, woodland tree and groups inspected, very few tree safety issues were identified. A total of twelve trees have been recorded, having been identified as in need of action on safety grounds or for management due to the presence of dense ivy or undergrowth obscuring a full inspection. No 'High' priority category works were identified in the survey. All works identified have been placed in either the 'Medium' and 'Low' priority categories of 6 and 12 months.

6.0 Recommended work schedule and priority timescales:

6.1 Works shown overleaf in **Table 2**: **Recommended work schedule by priority and site,** are recommended to mitigate any identified tree safety issues, or for management of ivy to allow for more detailed assessment at the next inspection date. All works identified in the Table 2 schedule, should be completed within the timescale stated from the date of this report and any tree surgery recommended, carried out by a competent arborist to the BS Standard for tree surgery BS 3998, (2010). Trees in need of felling have been marked discretely at the base of the tree is an orange spray dot.

6.1 Table 2	Recommended Work Schedule by site and work priority: September 2022			
Tree number	Site	Species	Works recommended for safety reasons	Timescale
MEDIUM PRIORITY - Trees in higher use area with less urgent or minor tree works.				
SITE: Land opp. Fayrefield Rd between the railway & the River Deben. **Appendices B6: REVIEW1 & C6: REVIEW1.**				
4 & 5	On land next to the River Deben Footpath.	2 x Willow (Salix alba)	Fell 1 x multi-stemmed and 1 x single stemmed tree to ground level and stack arisings on site away from sink.	Within 6 months
Site: Riverview. **Appendices B6: REVIEW1 & C6: REVIEW1**				
2	Beside footpath next to Walnut Cottage	1 x oak (Quercus robur)	Lift low minor branches to give 2.4m clearance over footpath.	Within 6 months
SITE: Saxon Way. **Appendix B7. REVIEW1 and C7.1 &7.2. REVIEW1**				
9	Saxon Way footpath	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Young sycamore in poor condition side of footpath. Fell to ground level.	Within 6 months
10	Saxon Way	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Young sycamore in poor condition side of footpath. Fell to ground level.	Within 6 months
SITE: Leeks and Bury Hill Wood. **Appendices B8. REVIEW1 & C8. REVIEW1**				
1	Leeks and Bury Hill wood close to Saxon Way.	Horse Chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum)	Reduce remaining branch structure from 13 metres to 6/7m high framework.	Within 6 months
4	Tree on slope, side of informal footpath in woodland close to end od Bury Hill House Garden.	Common oak (Quercus robur)	Reduce branch structure end weight by up to 5m. Lowest branch only.	Within 6 months
12	Lower part of Leeks & Bury Hill wood, close to Saxon Way.	Goat willow (Salix caprea)	Fell dead goat willow and leave arising stacked on site.	Within 6 months
SITE: Land on corner of Bredfield Rd & Bury Hill. **Appendix B9. REVIEW1 & C9. REVIEW1.**				
25	In wooded area on corner of Bredfield Rd and Bury Hill	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Young sycamore is standing dead. Fell to ground level and stack arising on site.	Within 6 months

LOW PRIORITY – Trees with a less urgent priority for works or trees in need of maintenance work to allow for more detailed inspection.				
SITE: Bury Hill. **Appendix B3. REVIEW1 & C3. REVIEW1**				
2	On corner of Bury Hill	Silver Birch (Betula pendula)	Fell dead birch tree to ground level and remove timber from site. Chip and remove brash or spread over shrub bed.	Within 12 months
SITE: Love lane. **Appendix B5. REVIEW1**				
11	Side of Love Lane footpath	Common Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	Clear holly/undergrowth from around base of tree to allow for full inspection	Within 12 months
SITE: Saxon Way. **Appendix B7: REVIEW1 and C7.1 & 7.2: REVIEW1**				
39	Saxon Way footpath	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Carry out ivy management.	Within 12 months

6.2. Statutory tree protection:
The tree surgery recommended in this report are solely to undertake works on safety grounds and therefore considered exempt from application. It may however be useful to contact the arboricultural officer at East Suffolk to establish (if possible) which trees within areas where there appears to be ambiguity (such as Saxon Way and Love Lane) are covered by the TPO 25. Replacement tree planting may also be required under the preservation order should protected trees need to be removed.

6.3 Timescale for re-inspection

The trees in this report have been given a re-inspection date of **18 months** from the date of the report, with the next inspection to take place towards the end of the late Spring of 2024.

6.3.1 Trees are dynamic, ever-changing organisms, which react to changes in their environment. In the event of high winds and storms a survey of the trees is recommended as soon as possible after the event.

7.0 Table 3: Evaluation of threats to the tree population:

Table 3 below gives a brief explanation of the most significant biotic threats identified in the tree inspection.

Table 3: Evaluation of biotic threats to tree population
Ash dieback disease (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*)
This disease can cause death of branches leaving significant sized deadwood, capable of causing harm to people and damage to structures. Rate of decline can vary significantly within trees of different ages in some cases deteriorating within a year to the point where action is required. **Regular assessment (preferably during the summer months) is needed to monitor and manage the disease spread.**
Acute oak decline (AOD)
Acute oak decline (AOD) is a new disease mostly affecting oak trees in Great Britain. It is thought to have first established a presence in Britain during the last quarter of the 20th century. It is most prevalent on our native 'English' or pedunculate oak (Quercus robur) and sessile oak (Q. petraea). It is characterised by bleeding or oozing of dark fluid (see Bleeding cankers below) from small lesions or splits in the bark of tree stems often around 1 to 2 metres above ground level. Symptoms can become extensive and eventually lead to dieback and death.
Beefsteak fungus (*Fistulina hepatica*)
Beefsteak fungus is common in the UK. It is usually found in broadleaved woodland, low on the trunks of oak trees and sometimes sweet chestnut. It is a slow brown rot decay fungus of the heartwood which rarely causes weakness in trees in the initial stages.
Bleeding cankers
The threat from both the fungal pathogen (Phytophthora spp) and other bacterial causal agents of bleeding canker (Pseudomonas spp) are a growing threat to the health of many tree species including oak, horse chestnut and maples. The distinctive symptoms of brown and black staining 'bleeding cankers' is now a common site across the country. This disease can cause death of trees and monitor and manage the disease spread.
Dutch elm disease (DED) is still common across the UK, especially in unmanaged hedgerows. New elm growth generally reaches a certain height and is then infected by the beetle (Scolytus spp) carrying the fungus (Stout and Winter, 1994).
Most standing are not more than 'pole' stage, small diameter stems and often die within three to four years of infection. Trees of this diameter can stand dead for several years before becoming unstable and a potential safety issue.
Ivy (*Hedera helix*)
The presence of Ivy on healthy trees is not normally a problem and provides excellent wildlife habitat and vital as a winter food source However, where a tree is already in decline and ivy has become extensive, it can be a problem by increasing wind sail effect increasing the risk of failure and suppressing growth Ivy may also be masking major defects. Where this is felt to be the case, ivy management has been specified. **Ivy management technique:** Sever and remove a section (minimum of a 50mm) of all 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.
Sooty Bark Disease (Cryptostroma corticale)
Sooty bark disease of sycamore can affect trees of all ages. It is thought to be a secondary infection and becomes evident after episodes of prolonged hot weather, causing partial or total wilting of the crown and death of trees.

8.0 Conditions and limitations:

This tree risk management report is 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 conducted 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 **18 months** for the trees inspected from the date of the report.

Should alterations to the site or soil levels are carried out, other than those specified within the report, or additional tree work undertaken, then commissioning of a new tree inspection is strongly recommended.

Opinions expressed concerning built structures and soil data are provisional. Confirmation should be sort from an appropriately qualified professional sought for an in-depth opinion.

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:

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

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

11th October 2022.

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Mrs A. Martin-Butler BSc (Hons) Arboriculture
Arboricultural Consultant.

9.0 References:

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10.0 Appendices:

Appendix A: Table of sites adopted in April 2021.

Appendix B. REVIEW1: Tree schedule and recommendations (attached separately)

Appendix B1. REVIEW1: Hall Farm Sports Ground and Hall Farm Close
Appendix B2. REVIEW1: Land adj. The Street and Friars Court.
Appendix B3. REVIEW1: Bury Hill
Appendix B4. REVIEW1: Coppice Close and Corner of Coppice Close and Saxon Way.
Appendix B5. REVIEW1: Love Lane
Appendix B6. REVIEW1: River View and Land side of River Deben - Opposite Fayrefield Rd.
Appendix B7. REVIEW1: Saxon Way footpath.
Appendix B8. REVIEW1: Leeks and Bury Hill wood.
Appendix B9. REVIEW1: Bredfield Road splay, Beresford Play area, area opposite the play area & Corner of Bredfield Rd & Bury Hill.

Appendix C. REVIEW1: Tree location plans (attached separately)

Appendix C1. REVIEW1: Hall Farm Sports Ground and Hall Farm Close.
Appendix C2. REVIEW1: Land adj. The Street and Friars Court.
Appendix C3. REVIEW1: Bury Hill.
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Appendix D: Explanatory notes to accompany tree schedule.

Appendix E: Supporting photographs

Appendix A:	**Melton Parish Council: Table of sites divested from East Suffolk Council in 2021**				
Adopted site name & corresponding Appendix number.	**Original land asset number**	**Area (Ha's)**	**Land use/Property type. Land area Zones**	**Approx. Tree total.** individuals & Groups	**Site description and situation.**
1.0 Hall Farm Road	100261	0.3	Park (Green space) Zone 1.	5 x individual trees & 3 x Groups recorded	Sports ground on land between Hall Farm Close & Hall Farm Road. Predominantly level site of mown grass with sunken damp area of land on the South of the site containing wet woodland species. A fenced open water course 'sink' runs from this area, East alongside the entrance path the Hall Farm Close.
1.1 Hall Farm Close	100440	0.003	Park (Green Space)	1 x Group recorded	Small area of young trees on level ground contained within a fenced enclosure by turning area and backing onto the garden fences of 44 & 46 Hall Farm Close.
2.0 Land adj. The Street	100460	0.1	SEEAC (whatever that is) (Green space).	6 x Individual trees recorded	Areas of tarmac car parking and mown grass with individual specimen trees to the front of Winifred Fison House and adjacent to and accessed from The Street.
2.1 Friars Court 1	101071	0.016	Park (Green space)	6 x Individual trees recorded	Mown grass with individual specimen trees on amenity land between Friars Court and the A1152.
2.2 Friars Court 2	101072	0.003	Park (Green space)		
3.0 Bury Hill	100751	0.04	Park (Green space)	8 x Individual trees recorded	Maturing trees in shrubbery on land adjacent to 31 Bury Hill
3.1. Bury Hill 1	100751-01	0.009	Park (Green space)	NO TREES on site	Triangle of short mown grass adjacent 19 Bury Hill
3.2. Bury Hill 2	100751-02	0.014	Park (Green space)	NO TREES on site	Square of short mown grass situated between 19-21 and 31-33 Bury Hill
3.3. Bury Hill 3	100751-03	0.03	Park (Green space)	1 x Individual tree recorded	Rectangle of short mown grass between 25-29 and 37-43 Bury Hill
4.0 Coppice Close	100694	0.1	SEEAC (Green space)	1 x Group recorded	Copse of predominantly young trees and shrubs with few larger maturing trees located on land sloping away from the access road to Coppice Close and enclosed on three sides by the residential dwellings on Coppice Close.
4.1 Corner of Coppice Close & Saxon Way	101266	0.1	SEEAC (Green space)	5 x Individual trees & 1 x group recorded	Mix of trees from young to mature in woodland belt on the corner of Coppice Close and Saxon Way, backed by fences of resident's gardens on Hope Crescent.
5.0 Love Lane	100752	0.016	Verge (Green space)	12 x Individual trees recorded.	Dense undergrowth with line of mature trees on narrow strip of land between the pedestrian Love Lane and properties on Wilkinson Way.
5.1 Love Lane 1	100753	0.016	Verge (Green space)		

6.0 Riverview.	100762	0.0179	Verge (Green space)	2 x Individual trees recorded	Mown grass with individual specimen trees on verge at Riverview.
6.1. Land opp. Fayrefield Road between railway track and River Deben	100770	1.7	SEEAC (Green space)	1 x Individual tree & 3 x Groups recorded	Largely level low-lying area containing open running water sinks. Located on land between the railway line and the raised ridge of a footpath which runs along the River Deben. Contains vegetation gradually developing into woodland from mainly marshy wet grassland on the Southern boundary through to maturing wet and dry woodland towards the Northern end of the site.
7.0 Saxon Way footpath.	101265	0.3	SEEAC (Green space)	54 individual trees & 5 x Groups recorded	Narrow linear land feature bounded mostly by fences of resident's gardens on land rear of 28-66 Saxon Way. Contained well used meandering footpath connecting Saxon Way and Pytches Road.
8.0. Leeks Hill Woodland	100263	3.3	SEEAC (Public Open Space)	11 x Individual trees & 1 x Group recorded	Mature woodland (protected by TPO) with both dryer and wet woodland areas off Saxon Way. On noticeably South West facing slope down to Saxon Way. North-eastern edge joins the privately owned section of Leeks Hill wood & also adjoins along some of the boundary of Burkes wood.
9.0 Beresford Drive Play area and splay on Bredfield Rd	100499	0.26	Park (Green space)	7 x Individuals recorded	Level land to the north of Beresford Drive consisting of mown grass with a children's play area enclosed by railings including the site splay verge to the North of Beresford Drive onto Bredfield Rd.
9.1 Corner of Bredford Rd, north of Bury Rd	101264	0.3	SEEAC (Green space)	13 x Individual trees & 1 x Group recorded	Land North of Bury Hill consisting of mown grass and sloping down to the roadside with mature trees. Small mature woodland belt backing onto the bridleway and then resident gardens.
9.2. Opp. Play area on Beresford Drive	100498	.06	Park (Green space)	3 x Individual trees recorded	Level area of mown grass on land to the South of Beresford Drive
9.3. Corner Splay of Bredfield & Beresford Drive.	100498-01	0.04	Verge (Green space)	NO TREES on site	Level area of mown grass to the South of Beresford Drive
Total: 21 sites		**Tot: 6.725 ha**			

Appendix D: Explanatory notes

Below is an explanation of the categories used in the tree survey **Appendix B**: Tree schedule and recommendations and **Appendix C**: Tree location plans.

Tree No:
Individual trees numbers are given in sequential order, commencing at "1" In some cases trees will be specified as groups (E.g. Gp1).

Tree Species:
Common names are given to aid understanding for a wider audience.

Spread:
For individual trees, an estimated spread is given, for poplar trees a nominal spread provided aid location within the group.

Age class:

Young = An established tree (less than 1/3 life expectancy).
Maturing = A tree still to reach its full potential height and or spread (around 1/3 to 2/3 life expectancy)
Mature = A mature tree (over 1/3 but less than 2/3 life expectancy) with slowing growth rate and limited potential for significant increase in height or spread.
Fully mature = A mature past 2/3 life expectancy for species.
Veteran = A fully mature specimen with high-value due to factors such as its age (having lived past that which is normal for the species) and/or ecological significance.

Tree Problem/Comments:
The following categories and descriptions are based on evaluation of tree health, structural integrity, and safety. Where appropriate comments have been made relating to:
• Tree Health and condition, tree structure and form and specific problems such as deadwood, pests and diseases broken limbs etc
• The effect of other trees present, of ground works and previous surgery.

Overall Tree Condition:
Good: = No significant physiological or structural defects, and an upright and reasonably symmetrical structure.
Fair: = No significant pathological defects but slightly impaired physiological structure however, not to an extent that the tree is immediate or early risk of collapse
Indifferent: = Significant physiological or pathological defects; but these are either remedial or do not put the tree at imminent or early risk of collapse

Poor: = Significant and irreparable physiological or pathological defects such that there may be a risk of early or premature failure.
Hazardous: = Significant and irreparable physiological or pathological defects, such that there is an elevated risk of failure.

Vitality: Comments on vitality are given in relation to such as growth rates, leave size and density, twig and branch extension growth and density.

Deadwood:
This relates to dead branches within the crown of the tree. In most cases this is due to natural aging of the tree or its location close to other trees. However, it could relate to fungal, bacterial of viral infection. For this reason, regular monitoring needs to be carried out on trees showing signs of excessive deadwood. Standing deadwood timber is a very important wildlife habitat and in short supply, especially in the urban environment. Standing stems should be retained where feasible when trees need to be made safe.

Minor Deadwood = 60mm diameter or less and not extensive enough to warrant removal
Moderate Deadwood = 60mm diameter up to 150mm
Major Deadwood = 150mm and above

Work Priority Rating:
This relates to the urgency of the work in in relation to existing safety problems identified within the tree survey.

Very Urgent: Need for recommended works to be carried out within 48 hours of notification.
Urgent: Recommended works to be carried out within **4 weeks** of notification.
High: Recommended works to be carried out within **3 months** of notification
Medium: Works required within **6 months.**
Low: Works required within **12 months**
Non-urgent works: Suggested timescale given to aid future planning timescales or tree health.

Appendix E: Supporting photographs for monitoring purposes, following work to formalize the parking area for Land adj. The Street, Melton.

Figure 3: Location of tree 9, an Acer platanoides 'Purpurea' a purple acer in relation to the position of the new parking bay (Authors own image, Sept 2022).

Figure 2: Location of trees' 9 and 10, Land adj. The Street (Authors own mage, September 2022)

Figure 4: Excavations for bays approx. 300 to 400mm depth with feeding root damage to tree 10, a Sorbus x intermedia to within 60mm metres of the trunk (Authors own image, September 2022).