

ARBORICULTURAL INSPECTION AND REPORT

Site: Water Orton Parish Council Land

Ref No: Forestry Project 8868

Prepared for: Rachel L Scully

Prepared by: Mark Cattell

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1. Introduction

1.1. Instruction and Brief

Mark Cattell from Warwickshire County Council (WCC) has been instructed by Rachel Scully, Parish Clerk to arrange for the inspection of trees growing on Water Orton Parish Council's sites at Watton Lane, The Green and Playing Field Water Orton.

The instruction was also to provide a report of the findings, including an inventory of the tree stock, with details of any works that are necessary for safety reasons and/or any works necessary to address any legal nuisance issues recorded. This can then be used to action any works identified as being necessary.

Tree positions and inventory data are to be recorded on Arbortrack, WCC's fully auditable tree management software and a copy of the tree plan enclosed is from the Arbortrack system.

1.2. Site description

The Tree Location Plans are enclosed at Appendix A.

1.3. Report limitations

Trees are living dynamic organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly; the health and safety of trees should be checked on a regular basis, and after any extreme weather.

It is not possible to guarantee the absolute safety of a tree. Even trees with no defects can fail. It is a natural occurrence for trees to shed small branches and twigs during their life span and it is therefore not practicable to predict when this may occur.

The conclusions and recommendations in this report relate to conditions found at the time of inspection and are valid for a period of 12 months only. The period of validity may be reduced in the case of any changes in the condition of the tree, or in the proximity of the tree.

This report is for the sole use of the client and must be kept together in its entirety. Any alteration or deletion from this report will invalidate it as a whole.

2. Survey

2.1. Survey Methodology

The field work, inspections, and data collection were carried out by Mark Cattell, (WCC Arboricultural Area Manager) who holds the LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection certificate.

The survey was carried out on 29 April 2026.

Tree data was digitally captured/recorded on ArboTrack tree management software.

Where trees are individually recorded, each was inspected from ground level.

Where trees are recorded as groups, the group was inspected but not necessarily every single stem individually.

The Visual Tree Assessment method (VTA) (Mattheck and Breloer 1994) was used to assess the condition of the trees. Should a further, more detailed inspection be required, this will be highlighted in the recommendations.

Binoculars were used to aid inspection where it was deemed necessary.

2.2. Survey key

Tree No: Tree number relating to the numbering on Tree Location Plan at Appendix A.

Species: The botanical name of each tree is recorded.

Age Class: This relates to the age class that each tree best fits within. As below:

New Plant (NP): a recently planted standard tree.

Young (Y): tree within first third of the estimated life expectancy.

Early Mature (EM): tree within second third of the estimated life expectancy.

Mature (M): tree within final third of the estimated life expectancy

Over-mature (OM): tree showing obvious signs of senescence.

Veteran (V): A tree living beyond usual life expectancy whose age, size or condition gives it exceptional value culturally, in the landscape or for wildlife.

Stem Diameter: Given in centimetres at 1.5m above adjacent ground level (taken on the up-slope side of the tree base where on sloping ground).

Spread: Overall diameter of crown measured in metres (m) at widest point.

Height: Overall height estimated to 2 metre bandings, recorded in meters (m).

Comments: Observations made including overall condition as descriptions below:

Good: A tree of good vitality & vigour and/or with no significant structural defects identified.

Fair: A tree of fair vitality & vigour and/or with minor or remediable structural defects identified.

Poor: A tree of poor vitality & vigour and/or with significant structural defects identified.

Dead: A tree that has died.

Work Priority Code: A priority coding to inform of the urgency of any recommended work and/or actions and suggested timescales for this based on the descriptions below:

1. *Immediate action (suggested timescale - within 48hrs).*
2. *Urgent action (suggested timescale – within 14 days).*
3. *Priority works (suggested timescale - within 3 months).*
4. *Routine (within 1 year).*
5. *Beneficial/aspirational works that could be considered (as and when budget is available).*

Recommended Works: Specifics of any recommended works or action points.

2.3 Survey Results

Forty-seven trees and one group of shrubs have been inspected.

Tree species recorded during the survey are listed in the below table.

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse Chestnut
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch
<i>Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'</i>	Purple Beech
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Cherry Plum
<i>Prunus sp.</i>	Cherry species
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pendunculate Oak
<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	Broad leafed Lime
<i>Tilia sp.</i>	Lime species

Tree Survey Results Table.

Watton Lane

Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
0408	Prunus cerasifera	Early mature	15 - 25	10 - 12	06 - 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor condition. Multi-stemmed. Tree is 70% dead and remaining stems are in decline. 	4 4	Section fell at ground level, remove all arisings. Grind stump for replacement planting.
0409	Aesculus hippocastanum	Early mature	55 - 65	10 - 12	12 - 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. Tree canopy is touching roof of residential property. 	4 4	Crown lift to 3m over footpath. Prune/tip back by 2m from property.
040A	Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'	Mature	75 - 85	14 - 16	16 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. Remove basal suckered growth to allow inspection of base of tree and buttress roots. 	5	Remove basal/sucker growth.
040B	Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'	Mature	75 - 85	16 - 18	16 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. Tips of tree canopy touching roof of house during windy conditions. 	4	Prune/tip back by 2m from property.
040D	Tilia sp.	Early mature	35 - 45	06 - 08	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 	4	Remove epicormic growth to 5m.
040E	Acer pseudoplatanus	Early mature	25 - 35	06 - 08	06 - 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 	5	Remove basal/sucker growth

Arboricultural Survey April 2026: Water Orton Parish Council

Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
0485	Ilex aquifolium	Young	15 - 25	02 - 04	04 - 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Tree is encroaching footpath with lateral spread and canopy is low over footpath. Trim back to pin kerb and crown lift to give minimum 3m clearance over footpath. 	4	Prune lateral spread to clear footpath encroachment and crown lift to achieve a 3m clearance over footpath.

The Green

Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
04FB	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	14 - 16	16 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 	5	Crown lift to 5.5m over carriageway.
04FC	Betula pendula	Early mature	25 - 35	08 - 10	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FD	Beula pendula	Early mature	15 - 25	08 - 10	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Twin stemmed. 		No works required
04FE	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	12 - 14	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 	4	Crown lift to 5.5m over carriageway.
04FF	Tilia sp.	Mature	75 - 85	16 - 18	20 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. 	4	Crown lift to 5.5m over carriageway.

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Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
04FG	Prunus sp.	Early mature	15 - 25	04 - 06	04 - 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Previously heavily reduced. Multiple open cavities with exposed hardwood main stem and secondary branches from previous pruning. 		No works required
04FH	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	14 - 16	16 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. 	4	Crown lift to 5.5m over carriageway.
04FK	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	0 - 7.5	02 - 04	04 - 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. 		No works required
04FL	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	14 - 16	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FM	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	14 - 16	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FN	Tilia sp.	Mature	75 - 85	14 - 16	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FP	Tilia sp.	Mature	75 - 85	14 - 16	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FQ	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	14 - 16	12 - 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FR	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	14 - 16	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FS	Tilia sp.	Mature	65 - 75	14 - 16	14 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 		No works required
04FT	Tilia sp.	Mature	55 - 65	14 - 16	16 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 	4	Crown lift to 5.5m over carriageway.
04FU	Tilia sp.	Mature	55 - 65	14 - 16	16 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 	4	Crown lift to 5.5m over carriageway.

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Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
04FV	Tilia sp.	Mature	55 - 65	14 - 16	16 - 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good condition. 	4	Crown lift to 5.5m over carriageway.
04FW	Betula pendula	Mature	55 - 65	08 - 10	12 - 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good condition. 		No works required
1F9Q	Quercus robur	Young	15 - 25	08 - 10	06 - 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good condition. • Low snapped branch stubs would benefit from pruning. 	5	Tidy stubs.
1F9R	Mixed shrub sp.	Mature			04 - 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good condition. • No visible defects. 		No works required

Playing Field

Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
04FX	Quercus robur	Early mature	75 - 85	14 - 16	10 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good condition. • Ivy covered stem and hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 	5	Sever Ivy, clear stem to 2m.
04FY	Quercus robur	Early mature	55 - 65	10 - 12	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fair condition. • Ivy on mainstem establishing in crown of tree. • Canopy suppressed by adjacent tree. 	5	Sever Ivy, clear stem to 2m.

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Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
04FZ	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	45 - 55	06 - 08	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 		No works required
04G0	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	25 - 35	06 - 08	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection. 		No works required
04G1	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	25 - 35	06 - 08	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection. 		No works required
04G2	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	35 - 45	06 - 08	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection. 		No works required
04G3	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	35 - 45	06 - 08	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection. 		No works required
04G4	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	25 - 35	06 - 08	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection. 		No works required
04G6	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	35 - 45	06 - 08	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Cavity in stem at 1.5m good wound inclusion forming. 		No works required
04G7	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	35 - 45	08 - 10	08 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection. 		No works required
04G8	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	35 - 45	08 - 10	06 - 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Ivy throughout canopy. Moderate dieback. Hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 	5	Sever Ivy, clear stem to 1.5m

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Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
04G9	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	25 - 35	08 - 10	10 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Ivy throughout canopy. Hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 	5	Sever Ivy, clear stem to 1.5m
04GA	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	35 - 45	08 - 10	04 - 06	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor condition. Ivy throughout canopy. Hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 	4	Remove 1x damaged limb, dead main stem reduce to hedge height.
04GB	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	25 - 35	08 - 10	06 - 08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 	5	Severy Ivy, clear stem to 1.5m
04GC	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	35 - 45	08 - 10	10 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Damage to limb at 4m roadside, possibly by high vehicle. Ivy throughout canopy, hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 	5	Severy Ivy, clear stem to 1.5m
04GD	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	45 - 55	08 - 10	10 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Hedge prevents full inspection of base of stem. 	5	Sever Ivy, clear stem to 1.5m
04GE	Ilex aquifolium	Mature	45 - 55	08 - 10	10 - 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead. 	4	Section fell at hedge height, remove all arisings.

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Tree No	Species	Age Class	Stem Diameter (cm)	Spread (m)	Height (m)	Comments	Work Priority Code	Recommended works
04GL	Tilia sp.	Mature	100 - 110	14 - 16	20 - 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Cavity at base, probed to max depth 250mm 	4	Deadwood removal 25mm dia. & above south side.
							4	Further investigation needed, PICUS resistograph to establish extent of internal decay due to proximity to play area.
04GM	Tilia sp.	Mature	100 - 110	14 - 16	18 - 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition. Major deadwood throughout canopy of tree. 	4	Deadwood removal 25mm dia. & above.
							5	Remove epicormic growth to 4m.
2RSG	Tilia platyphyllos	Young	7.5 - 15	00 - 02	00 - 04	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good condition. 	4	Remove tree stakes and ties x2.

3. Recommendations and Considerations

3.1. The survey identified the following work requirements:

19 x Priority 4 work items

12 x Priority 5 work items

N.B. These are the numbers of work items identified. These figures should not be taken as the number of trees requiring work; some trees may have more than one work requirement.

3.2. All works should be undertaken in accordance with best arboricultural practice and in line with the British Standard for tree work BS3998:2010.

4. General Tree Legislation

- 4.1. The following legislation is not by any means exhaustive but does cover some of the main legislation that relates to tree work. www.legislation.gov.uk
- 4.2. The [Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#) provides protection to trees in the form of Tree Preservation Orders and also provides protection to trees within a designated Conservation Area. In both cases your Local Planning Authority will be able to advise you on whether you need consent to carry out any works.
- 4.3. The [Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981](#) makes it an offence to deliberately disturb, injure or kill wild birds and bats, or wilfully damage, destroy or obstruct access to bird nests and/or bat roosts. Please check all trees for nesting birds and bat roosts before carrying out any work.
- 4.4. [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017](#) provides protection to certain wild animals listed under Schedule 2 making a person guilty of an offence who: deliberately captures, injures or kills any wild animal of a European protected species, deliberately disturbs wild animals of any such species, deliberately takes or destroys the eggs of such an animal or damages or destroys a breeding site or resting place of such an animal.

5. Glossary

Basal area – area at ground level and around the lower part of the trunk.

Buttress roots – large, wide structures that grow above ground at the base of trees.

Canopy – of a single tree, its crown, emphasizing its spreading and enclosing character. Of a forest, the crowns of the larger trees considered collectively.

Cavity – hole in a woody part of a tree caused by decay or damage.

Crown – the part of a tree that is composed of limbs, branches and foliage.

Crown lift – the pruning or removal of lower branches to provide a specified clearance above ground level or other feature for example, a roof or street light.

Deadwood Removal – removal from the tree of dead, dying or diseased branch wood, broken branches or stubs left from previous tree pruning operations.

Epicormic branch/bud/shoot – a branch/bud or shoot derived from a dormant or adventitious bud on a mature woody stem or branch.

Section fell – the controlled cutting down of a tree or shrub to a point as close to ground level as is reasonably practicable (unless otherwise specified for example section fell to 1m). Works must minimise damage from falling branches or large pieces of wood by removing sections in a controlled manner.

Severing of Climbing Plants – Ivy and other climbing plants shall be severed as close to the ground as possible all the way around the trunk without causing damage to the trunk and removed to a height of one metre unless otherwise stated.

Stub - a short section of a branch that may have been left after previous pruning (which may not have been performed in accordance with the principles of target pruning) or storm damage.

Tip back – to remove the end of a branch by a specified distance or to provide a specified clearance back from something.

Wound – damage to the external part of the tree by impact from mechanical, human or environmental factors.

6. Qualifications and Experience of Author

Career History

2008 – 2013	Operations Manager, AEMG Group Limited
2013 – 2014	Contracts Manager, Beechwood Trees and Landscapes Limited
2014 – 2015	Regional Director, AC Landscapes and Treeworks Limited
2015 – 2020	Company Director, Dovetail Tree Services Limited
2020 – 2021	Environmental Manager, Effiage
2021 – 2026	Operations Director, Arboriculture and Forestry, Heartwood
2026 – present	Arboricultural Area Manager, Warwickshire County Council

Education and Qualifications

BSc Environmental Science – University of Wolverhampton
RFS Certificate in Arboriculture
Technicians Certificate in Arboriculture (ABC Awards)
Lantra Professional Tree Inspector (2024)
IOSH Managing Safely
ROLO Health & Safety Manager
CSCS Professionally Qualified Person

Memberships

Professional member of Arboricultural Association

7. References

British Standard (2010) 3998 *Tree Work* (Recommendations). British Standards Institute.

Mattheck, C, & Breloer, H, (1995). *The Body Language of Trees: A Handbook for Failure Analysis* (Research for Amenity Trees 4). London: HMSO

The Town and Country Planning Act 1980. London: HMSO.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. London: HMSO.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. London: HMSO.

