



Hazard Tree Survey of Hay Community Woodland Footpath.



Remit:-

To carry out a Hazard Tree Survey of potential hazards along the footpath for Hay Community Woodland Group.

**This survey was commissioned by
Jeff Morgan of Hay Community Woodland Group.**

**The survey was done on 20th January 2020 with the aid of a probe and hammer and was a ground based visual inspection conducted by
James Stewart-Brown of Wye Valley Tree Services
LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection Certification
ISA Certified Arborist (UI 1101A)
Member of ISA (International Society of Arboriculture)
Member of ArborA (Arboricultural Association)**

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Explanation of Terminology.

Tree No.

The number allocated to the tree will be prefixed by a letter.

- T** Tree
- G** Group of trees
- H** Hedge

Species

Species are named by common name and/or scientific name.

Height and Spread

Recorded as an approximation in meters.

Age Class

- NP** New Planting – 0 to 5 years after planting.
- YM** Young Mature – First third of expected life span.
- MA** Middle Aged – Second third of expected life span.
- M** Mature – Final third of expected life span.
- OM** Over Mature – Having attained full expected life span and now in decline.
- VET** Veteran – Unusually old having survived longer in relation to others of the same species.

Condition

Physiological condition – The condition of biological processes of the tree as a functioning system.

Good Tree of good vitality, showing little signs or symptoms of ill health.

Fair Tree showing signs or symptoms of ill health which are treatable.

Poor Tree in terminable decline.

Structural condition – The condition of the structural/mechanical framework of the tree.

Good Without significant defects.

Fair With significant defects that are remediable

Poor Significant defects that require the felling of the tree or substantial works to make safe.

Dead

Further to the physiological and structural ratings, a series of defects of significance will be listed as a list of bullet points. Technical terms used in these points are set out below in **Technical Terms.**

NB If an aerial or further investigation is recommended then the physiological and structural ratings are provisional.



Recommendations

Recommended works to remediate significant defects or further inspections required to facilitate a more detailed survey. Each recommendation will be given a **Work Priority** rating.

Work Priority

- 1 Urgent** - Works required within 7 days to make the tree safe.
- 2 Very High** - Works required within 30 days to make the tree safe.
- 3 High** - Works required within 90 days to make the tree safe.
- 4 Moderately high** - Works required within 180 days to make the tree safe.
- 5 Moderate** - Works required as part of scheduled maintenance.
- 6 Low** - Works required of the lowest priority and may be done if the budget allows.
- 7 None** - No works required or no targets exist or is excluded.

Inspection Frequency

- 1 Urgent** - Carry out a detailed inspection of the aerial parts and/or with the use of decay detection equipment, as can be arranged.
- 2 Very High** - 6 months to next inspection.
- 3 High** - 12 months to next inspection.
- 4 Moderate** - 18 months to next inspection.
- 5 Low** - 3 years to next inspection.
- 6 Very Low** - 5 years to next inspection.
- 7 None** - No targets exist or is excluded.

Interim inspections are recommended after periods of severe weather (i.e. storms, gales, etc.)



Technical Terms used in 'Condition' or 'Recommendations'

Formative Pruning

The tree is pruned with the aim of producing a tree which in maturity will be free from major physical weaknesses (e.g. Removal of unwanted secondary leading shoots to prevent potentially weak forks from forming).

Crown Reduction and/or Reshaping

The tree is reduced in height and/or spread while preserving a natural tree shape. Branches should be cut back to a side bud or branch to retain a flowing branch line without leaving stumps. All cuts should be made outside of the line of the branch bark ridge and branch collar of the retained branch.

Crown Lifting

Removal of lower branches, or parts thereof, up to a given height.

Crown Thinning

Removal of a proportion of secondary and small live branch growth from throughout the crown to produce an even density of foliage around a well spaced and balanced branch structure.

Percentages

Where percentage figures are quoted they refer to leaf area to be removed and are only used in **crown thinning** (usually not exceeding 30%).

Stump Grinding

The removal of the tree stump by pulverising it into wood chip to a depth of approximately 300-500mm.

If works are recommended then the Contractor will be required to carry out any works in accordance with the standards set out in BS3998.



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NB The trees are identified with one of two numbering systems:

- Live trees which present a hazard or warrant noting for continued monitoring have been identified with an aluminium tree tag fixed with a nail to the tree at 0.5m to 1.5m from ground level numbered from 603 to 621.
- Some trees had already been identified as dead or in terminal decline and had been marked with an orange spot for felling – these trees have not been tagged with an aluminium tree tagged and are numbered from 1 to 14 on the plan only.

Tree No.	Species	Ht (m)	Crown Spread (m)	Age Class	Physiological and Structural condition. Observations – positive & negative.	Recommendations	Work Priority	Inspection Frequency
T603	Ash	13	9	YM	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm damaged limb and leader at 8m on western leader • Dead wood <100mm diameter 	1. Remove storm damaged limb and leader at 8m on western leader 2. Remove dead wood over the path	3	2
T1	Elm	12	10	MA	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x stems 	Fell	2	NA
T2	Elm	11	6	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor	Fell	2	NA
G3	Elm	12	8	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x elm trees 3m apart 	Fell	2	NA
T4	Elm	12	5	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor	Fell	2	NA



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Tree No.	Species	Ht (m)	Crown Spread (m)	Age Class	Physiological and Structural condition. Observations – positive & negative.	Recommendations	Work Priority	Inspection Frequency
T5	Elm	12	10		Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x stems 	Fell	2	NA
T604	Sycamore	13	10	MA	Physiological = Fair Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x stems, one with an opening to reveal a hollow cavity with less than 25% of residual wall left • The second stem was tested with a hammer and also appears to be hollow but with no opening • Ivy infested 	Fell	3	NA
T605	Ash	19	11	MA	Physiological = Fair Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This tree has heaved to the east and is being propped by the neighbouring sycamore by a limb at 10m resting against the side to the sycamore's trunk 	Fell	3	NA
T606	Sycamore	19	11	MA	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The neighbouring ash (T605) has heaved into this sycamore and has contact at 10m with a branch propped against the sycamore's trunk creating a rubbing point 	The contractor felling ash T605 must carry out an aerial inspection of the rubbing point and assess the residual strength to ascertain whether it is sufficiently strong enough to be left or has been so weakened and compromised as to warrant a reduction.	3	1



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Tree No.	Species	Ht (m)	Crown Spread (m)	Age Class	Physiological and Structural condition. Observations – positive & negative.	Recommendations	Work Priority	Inspection Frequency
T607	Sycamore	20	11	MA	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaged limb over the path at 6m to south • Ivy infested 	1. Removed damaged limb 2. Sever and clear 0.5m section of ivy from the bottom of trunk	3	5
T6	Sycamore	12	4	YM	Physiological = Poor Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terminal decline 	Fell	4	NA
T608	Oak	18	12	MA	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm damaged hanging limb at 14m to south • Dead wood <175mm diameter 	1. Remove storm damaged limb and leader at 14m 2. Remove dead wood over the path	3	5
T609	Oak	18	12	MA	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead wood <250mm diameter • Ivy infested 	1. Remove dead wood over the path 2. Sever and clear 0.5m section of ivy from the bottom of trunk	3	5
T610	Field Maple	14	8	MA	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple stems with 2 stems crossing and partially fused together at 1.5m southern one of which has grown with a pronounced lean over the path • Dead wood <150mm diameter 	1. Reduce the leaning stem over the path to a height of 3.5m 2. Remove dead wood over the path	3	5



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Tree No.	Species	Ht (m)	Crown Spread (m)	Age Class	Physiological and Structural condition. Observations – positive & negative.	Recommendations	Work Priority	Inspection Frequency
T611	Sycamore	17	13	MA	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead wood <100mm diameter • Ivy infested 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove dead wood over the path 2. Sever and clear 0.5m section of ivy from the bottom of trunk 	4	5
T612	Ash	19	13	M	Physiological = Poor Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead wood <200mm diameter • Ivy infested • Part of the tree has died back – possibly due to infection of ‘ash dieback’ (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove dead wood over the path 2. Sever and clear 0.5m section of ivy from the bottom of trunk 3. Re-inspect in August to check for ‘ash dieback’ 	3	2
T613	Sycamore	18	8	MA	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead wood <150mm diameter 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove dead wood over the path 	3	5
T614	Ash	18	9	MA	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead wood <100mm diameter 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove dead wood over the path 	3	2
T615	Ash	14	6	YM	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead wood <100mm diameter • Ivy infested 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove dead wood over the path 2. Sever and clear 0.5m section of ivy from the bottom of trunk 	3	2
T7	Elm	12	5	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor	Fell	2	NA
T8	Elm	5	1	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor	Fell	2	NA



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Tree No.	Species	Ht (m)	Crown Spread (m)	Age Class	Physiological and Structural condition. Observations – positive & negative.	Recommendations	Work Priority	Inspection Frequency
T616	Ash	15	7	YM	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead branch with 180mm diameter at 5m to south 	1. Remove dead branch and dead wood over the path	3	2
T617	Ash	19	14	MA	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead branch with 125mm diameter at 6m to south 	1. Remove dead branch and dead wood over the path	3	2
T618	Sycamore	18	10	MA	Physiological = Good Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead branch with 125mm diameter at 5m to south 	1. Remove dead branch and dead wood over the path	3	5
T619	Ash	18	7	MA	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead wood <150mm diameter Possibly showing signs of infection of 'ash dieback' (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) 	1. Remove dead wood over the path 2. Re-inspect in August to check for 'ash dieback'	3	2
T8	Alder	17	2	MA	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ivy infested 	Fell	3	NA
T620	Ash	19	15	MA	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead wood <180mm diameter Possibly showing signs of infection of 'ash dieback' (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) 	1. Remove dead wood over the path 2. Re-inspect in August to check for 'ash dieback'	3	2



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Tree No.	Species	Ht (m)	Crown Spread (m)	Age Class	Physiological and Structural condition. Observations – positive & negative.	Recommendations	Work Priority	Inspection Frequency
G9	Ash	13	3	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor • 2 x ash trees	Fell	3	NA
G10	Elm	13	4	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor • 2 x elm trees	Fell	3	NA
G11	Hawthorn & Cherry	5	4	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor • 2 x hawthorn trees & 1 x cherry tree	Fell	3	NA
T12	Birch	10	1	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor	Fell	3	NA
T13	Elm	13	7	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor	Fell	3	NA
T14	Sycamore	13	1	YM	Physiological = Dead Structural = Poor	Fell	3	NA
T621	Sycamore	18	10	YM	Physiological = Fair Structural = Fair • 4 x stems • Some squirrel damage in crown • Minor dead wood but none over the path	None		5



Note on Ash Dieback - Hay Community Woodland Footpath

The present industry advice for best practice when assessing which ash trees to fell when infected with ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*):-

- Trees showing up to 25% of canopy decline and/or the presence of epicormic growth or stem/basal lesions in high risk zones should be considered for felling.
- Trees showing 25–50%+ of canopy decline and/or the presence of extensive areas of epicormic growth or large stem/basal lesions in high and medium risk zones should be felled
- In zones where trees meeting the criteria above are being felled, consideration should be given to selectively felling associated trees which with the removal of the disease ash trees are likely to become unstable/exposed and pose a risk in their own right. _

This survey was conducted in January so the detection of ash dieback was hampered by the absence of leaf cover and the tell-tale signs displayed by the leaves, it is therefore highly recommended that another inspection is carried out in August or September to ascertain the extent on ash dieback within the woodland along the paths.



Map of Hay Community Woodland Footpath

