

Tree Condition Report

**Somerhill Care Home
Little Somerford
Nr Malmesbury SN15 5BH**

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1.0 Surveyor

1.1 Tim Pursey

2.0 Date of survey

2.1 The survey was carried out in October 2025.

3.0 Instructions

3.1 I am instructed to carry out a survey of trees growing at Somerhill Care Home. The survey is primarily in the interests of safety and additionally to inform future management of the trees.

3.2 The following reports upon that survey and highlights recommendations arising from it.

4.0 Report Limitations

4.1 Inspection of the trees was undertaken from ground level only using binoculars where necessary. Recommendations to undertake a more detailed climbing inspection are given where necessary.

4.2 In certain cases precise identification of tree species may not be possible due to access difficulties and additionally the dormant state of the trees. Where further access is required to facilitate closer inspection, this will be highlighted within the report's recommendations.

4.3 Trees are living, dynamic organisms. Their health and overall condition changes as the trees grow and can be affected by external conditions. For this reason the condition survey and any recommendations given are valid for a period not exceeding one calendar year from the date of issue of this report.

4.4 There has been no instruction to assess the risk of indirect damage to property caused by trees. The absence of such comments in other sections of the document should not be interpreted as indicating the absence of risk.

5.0 Tree Survey Results

5.1 Trees inspected were not tagged or marked in any way. The positions of the trees concerned is indicated in the appended drawing TP 3237/2510. The site plan is drawn to scale and illustrates the positions of trees on site with sufficient accuracy for identification purposes only.

5.2 Key to Tree Survey

- Height; estimated in metres from ground level
- Vigour; Low (L), Normal (N) or Dead (D)
- Crown diameter; estimated in metres
- Age Class; Young (Y), Semi-mature (Mid), Mature (Mat), Over-mature (O/Mat), Veteran tree (Vet)

6.0 General Comments

6.1 A number of large mature trees grow on the property including several Oaks. Trees are generally under good management although more recently, a number of branches have fallen from Ash trees growing on the western boundary.

6.2 Three mature Ash trees grow very close to the boundary and other Ash trees grow on adjacent land immediately next to the boundary fence. At least one of the branches which fell recently appears to have come from the trees growing on adjacent land.

6.2 The trees are noted to be infected with Ash Dieback. This condition was identified during a previous tree assessment three years previously and the condition of the trees has worsened since then.

6.3 Ash Dieback is a fungal condition affecting millions of Ash trees across the entire country. The fungus effectively kills Ash trees from the top downwards and results in brittle twigs and branches; these then fall from the canopy, usually during windy weather.

6.4 Nothing can be done to slow or halt progress of the condition and where target areas exist beneath, often removal of the trees affected is the only option.

6.5 Oak trees T10 and T11 (both veteran trees) were noted to have some deadwood growing within their canopies. Given the proximity of parked cars, it would be prudent to remove this deadwood in order to minimise risk to the cars and users of the car park.

6.6 A Tree Preservation Order was made in 2001 protecting a number of trees on the property. Prior permission will be required before removing any trees.

7.0 Conclusion

- 7.1 The trees are generally under good management.
- 7.2 Remove all five Ash trees from the property and branches of Ash trees growing immediately adjacent the western boundary which overhang the property.
- 7.3 Remove deadwood with care from Oak trees T10 and T11.
- 7.4 The trees should be re-inspected in 3 years unless otherwise specified. Trees should be re-inspected following episodes of wind at gale force or above.

7th November 2025
Tim Pursey
Chartered Arboriculturist

Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Vigour	Crown Diameter (m)	Age Class	Structural and Physiological Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations and Timescale
T1	Oak	16	N	16	Mat	Some minor canopy thinning and some deadwood. Probably due to construction works some years ago	None
T2	Oak	16	N	15	Mat	Normal. Some minor deadwood.	None
T3	Oak	17	N	16	Mat	Tree growing on adjacent land. Normal. Some canopy thinning	None
T4	Oak	9	N	8	Mat	Normal	None
T5	Dawn Redwood	12	N	9	Mat	Normal	None
T6	Dawn Redwood	12	N	9	Mat	Normal	None
T7	Oak	7	N	8	Mat	Normal	None
T8	Oak	9	N	8	Mat	Normal	None
T9	Tulip Tree	7.5	L	6	Mid	Tree reaching for light. Generally poor.	Consider removal
T10	Oak	18	N	16	Vet	Veteran tree. Excellent condition. Normal amounts of deadwood	All tree works to be undertaken with great care given age of tree. Remove deadwood with due care.
T11	Oak	17	N	16	Vet	Veteran tree. Excellent condition. Normal amounts of deadwood	All tree works to be undertaken with great care given age of tree. Remove deadwood with due care.
T12	Horse Chestnut	8	N	7	Mid	Reaching for light away from adjacent larger tree, now removed	None
G13	Ash x2	10	L	6	Mid	Tall spindly trees. Both affected by Ash Dieback	Remove trees
T14	Oak	10	N	6	Mid	Tall spindly tree	None at present
T15	False Acacia	10	L	6	Mid	Tall spindly tree. Notable deadwood in canopy	Consider removal
T16	Yew	6	N	6	Mid	Normal	None
T17	Yew	7	N	6	Mid	Normal	None

T18	False Acacia	16	N	8	Mat	Tall spindly tree. Unexceptional	None at present
G19	Ash x3	18	L	12	Mat	Three mature trees affected by Ash Dieback. Recent branch losses.	Remove all three trees and branches overhanging site from adjacent Ash trees
T20	Oak	8	N	6	Mid	Normal	None
T21	Horse Chestnut	17	N	9	Mat	Normal	none

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