



Tree Condition Survey and Management Work Recommendations

Date: 27th October 2025

Sites:

Orchard Green RG7 0LN - w3w: plod.agents.mattress

Popham Close RG7 0WG - w3w: proposes.fans.scrolled

Field View RG17 0TF - w3w: factually.strut.seabirds

(Full Report V1)

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CFPC_Survey_2025



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Summary

A tree health and condition survey was completed on multiple trees that are with the boundary of the following sites

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The tree assessment was completed using the VTA (Appendix 1) method only. No internal diagnostic testing or soil sampling was completed.

Section 1: Introduction

1.1: Scope and Purpose of This Report

The report's purpose is to undertake a basic tree survey to assess the overall health and condition of the trees from a safety and management perspective and advise management recommendation.

Tree owners and managers have a duty of care to take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions that cause a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to persons or property.

1.2: Instruction

This report was commissioned by Mrs Anne Mcmath on the 29th September 2025.

1.3: Site Information

The sites are locate through the parish of Chilton Foliat.

All trees are located within the Chilton Foliat Conservation Area, all works will need appropriate permits via Wiltshire CC.

The site visit was undertaken on Friday 10th October 2025. Weather conditions at the time of the survey were clear and dry.

Section 2: The Tree Survey

2.1: Method

Assessments of the trees were made using elements of the 'Visual Tree Assessment' (VTA See Appendix 1) procedure. All tree inspections were conducted from ground level with the use of an acoustic sounding hammer and probe.

- No internal diagnostic testing has been completed.
- No sub surface root testing or soil testing has been completed.
- All observations were made from the ground.

All tree inspections were carried out in accordance with current best practise (Visual Tree Assessment) to give a systematic, consistent and transparent evaluation method to tree inspecting.

2.2: The Survey Tree Results

Details of the trees as found at the time of the survey are in the tree survey sheets at **Appendix 2**.

2.3 Legal & Planning Constraints

Tree Protection Orders and Conservation Area

The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 allows for trees either as groups, or individuals, or as woodlands, to be protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPO). These have the effect of preventing the cutting down, topping, lopping, uprooting, wilful damage or wilful destruction of trees except in certain circumstances, other than with the consent of the local planning authority.

A Conservation Area is an area designated by the Local Planning Authority as one of “special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance”. Special controls exist with regard to demolition and alteration of buildings; Listed Building Consent must also be obtained for any demolition, even if the building is not itself listed. Similarly, trees are given some protection with the requirement for the local authority to be given six weeks written notice before carrying out any work on trees; this gives the authority time to decide if a TPO is necessary.

Wildlife

Protected Wildlife – Before any tree work is carried out on site the trees should be inspected and written records taken of the activity of any protected species on site. This is to prevent the damage to any wildlife. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to destroy or disturb nesting birds, if nesting birds are discovered or suspected no works can proceed and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and Local Wildlife Trust must be notified for advice as to how to proceed. Further to this wildlife such as Bats are protected under European legislation (Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and The Habitat Regulation 2009) it is an offence to recklessly, or intentionally, kill, injure or capture bats, to disturb them, or destroy, obstruct or damage any bat roosts found. If any bat activity is found then the bat conservation trust should be contacted as soon as possible (<http://www.bats.org.uk/> or 0845 1300 228).

Section 3: Conclusion

3.1 Discussion

The tree population within the three sites are of good to fair condition.

T1 - Walnut tree is exhibiting advanced stages of *Armillaria* (Honey Fungus), a destructive root disease caused by several species of the *Armillaria* fungus. This pathogen spreads through the soil via black, root-like structures known as rhizomorphs, which invade and colonize the roots of susceptible hosts. Infection results in progressive root decay, leading to canopy dieback and eventual tree death.

Unfortunately, the walnut shows advanced symptoms of infection, severely compromising both the physiological and structural health of the tree.

G5 - Leylandii the group consists of tall, multi-stemmed Leylandii forming a dense screen. The multi-stemmed form increases the likelihood of stem failure as the trees continue to gain height and mass. The structure is considered less stable at the current height due to increased wind loading and the potential for included bark or poor stem unions.

Undertaking a height reduction of approximately 8–20 metres to reduce leverage forces and significantly lower the potential for stem or structural failure. Ongoing monitoring following reduction is advised to assess regrowth and stability.

T10 – Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) Evidence of extensive historic basal failure associated with wood decay fungi (*Dryad's Saddle* – *Cerioporus squamosus*). Remaining stems show significant structural compromise; one stem is leaning over the highway and the other over a shipping container, both in proximity to a primary school.

Due to the extent of decay and structural instability, dismantle to ground level for safety reasons.

3.2 Recommendations

See Appendix 2 Tree Survey Table for work recommendations.

Carrying out the recommendations made in this report and implementing a suitable programme will ensure the tree populations viability.

Credentials of the author

The tree condition survey and report was conducted by Trevor Osborne BSc (Hons) Dip Arb L4 (ABC). I have 24 years' experience in the arboricultural industry.

Caveat

Any and all information supplied to Naturally Trees Ltd by/on behalf of the client is assumed to be accurate unless otherwise informed. This advice is limited to the observations made on the date of inspection as detailed herein and any deletion, editing or alteration will result in the advice being null and void in its entirety. This advice in its entirety may be deemed null and void if remedial

works are undertaken on any area of the site, on or after the date of the survey. No liability is assumed by the author or by Naturally Trees Ltd for any misuse, misinterpretation or misrepresentation of this advice. This advice is not valid in adverse or unpredictable weather conditions or for any failure due to 'force majeure' or unpredictable events. No responsibility is assumed either by the author of this advice or by Naturally Trees Ltd for any legal matters that may arise as a consequence. Neither the author nor Naturally Trees Ltd will be required to attend court or give testimony as part of this agreement. The responsibility for any works undertaken on the basis of the recommendations of this advice does not form part of this agreement.



Signed

Date..... 27/10/2025

Trevor Osborne BSc (Hons) Dip Arb L4 (ABC)

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Appendix 1:

Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)

The VTA system is based on the theory of tree biology and physiology, as well as tree architecture and structure. This method is used by arborists to identify visible signs on trees that indicate good health, or potential problems. Symptoms of decay, growth patterns and defects are identified and assessed as to their potential to cause whole-tree, part-tree and/or branch failure. For the purpose of this report, elements of the VTA system will be used, along with industry standard literature, and other relevant studies that provide an insight into potential hazards in trees. This assessment is a snapshot of what could be reasonably seen or determined from a basic visual inspection.

Whilst every effort is made to ensure an accurate assessment of the trees condition is made during survey no responsibility can be taken for resultant damage or injury occurred by a failing tree. The survey only gives a snap shot of what is visible, not obscured or accessible on the day of survey. Please note that the findings of this report are only valid for 12 months from the date of the tree inspection. This report does not constitute to a full tree safety policy for the study area nor does it take into account any underground geological activity that may affected the structural condition of the trees.

Health and Vigour Assessment

The health and vigour of a tree is assessed by looking at the tree canopy and how it is performing. Certain indicators provide information on which to base the assessment. Abnormally small leaves, chlorosis (yellowing), sparse crown, wilting, and die-back can be signs of ill-health or decline but may also be related to a temporary imbalance due to drought or pest infestations. Epicormic growth can be a sign of stress and low energy reserves but can also be related to increased light levels through the removal or pruning of adjacent trees. Extension growth can be a good indicator of vigour but this can vary greatly between species and under differing climatic conditions. For these reasons, each individual symptom or observation needs to be assessed with objectivity and consideration of all available information.

Structural Assessment

The structural assessment of trees is carried out using the basic framework of Visual Tree Assessment. Signs and symptoms of defects are assessed to gauge the likelihood of failure, because not every defect constitutes a hazard e.g. "...co-dominant stems are a structural defect. The severity of the defect is increased by included bark, large crowns and strong wind." (Matheny, N. & Clark, J. 1994.) If trees were removed purely on the basis that there were defects present without assessing the likelihood of failure or whether practical mitigation measures are available, the urban forest would cease to exist. A basic visual tree assessment is undertaken from ground level, if defects are suspected further investigation may be required and recommended. "When using the visual Tree Assessment (VTA) procedure for assessing trees, as the suspicion increases that defects are present, the examination becomes more thorough and searching." (Mattheck, C. & Broeler, H. 1994)

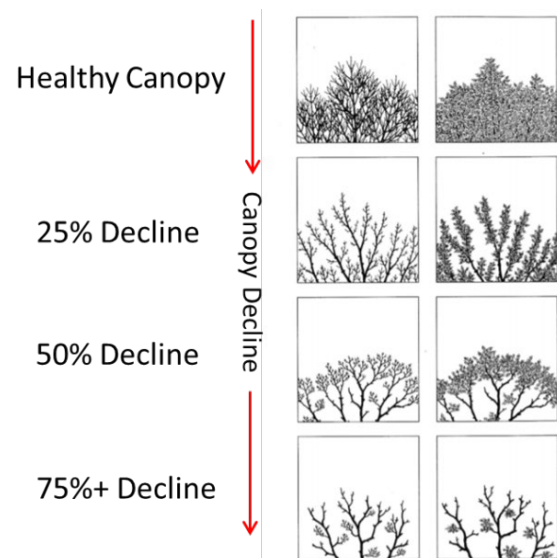
"Some defects, especially some forms of decay, do not give rise to external signs and therefore tend to escape detection in a purely visual survey. If there is no reason for suspecting a hidden defect to occur within a particular part of the tree, there is no reasonable basis for carrying out a detailed internal assessment. Although in theory an unsuspected defect might be detectable by the use of specialized diagnostic devices, this would be impracticable in the absence of some external sign to

indicate the place which should be probed. Also, internal examination without good reason is undesirable, as it usually causes injury to the tree and is unreasonably time consuming and costly.”
(Lonsdale. 1999)

Ash Dieback

Based on research and evidence from Denmark and Poland, the UK should expect the rapid decline and eventual death of at least 80% of the Ash tree population.

Not all Ash trees surveyed are affected to the same degree: some may appear in better physiological condition than others, but it is assumed that all are infected. Symptomatic crown dieback severely compromises the structural integrity of the tree and increases its susceptibility to secondary infections and wind damage, resulting in limb drop and ultimately whole tree failure.



The reduction in crown vigour and density allows the advantageous development of Ivy; as well as hindering visual inspection of the tree; this increases the weight and wind-loading on weakened trees further increasing the likelihood of failure.

A policy of increased frequency informal or basic-level surveys is recommended to monitor the decline of Ash trees. Felling of infected trees is recommended, prioritising the removal of affected trees before they become severely destabilised. This is particularly relating to roadside trees.

Trees showing resistance to infection should be retained where possible. Ivy should be severed at the base of all Ash trees to reduce weight and wind load effect.

Appendix 2 Tree Survey Results

Orchard Green RG7 0LN - w3w: plod.agents.mattress

TREE ID	TREE SPEICES	AGE	HEIGHT Metres	PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	COMMENTS	MANAGEMENT/WORK RECOMMENDATIONS	TARGET OCCUPATION	WORK TYPE	WORK PRIORITY	LOCATION W3W
T1	Walnut (<i>Juglans regia</i>)	Mature	15	Poor	Poor	Evidence of honey fungus around base and rooting area. Tree vitality poor	Fell, evidence of significant Honey Fungus, tree in decline (<i>Armillaria</i> spp) See Photo 1	High	Hazard	B	///slick.stags.campus
T2	Purple Plum (<i>Prunus cerasifera Nigra</i>)	Mature	6	Good	Fair	Evidence of significant failure on Eastern aspect. Minor deadwood throughout canopy	Remove deadwood and sympathetically reduce canopy by 1 meter	High	Hazard	B	///hazelnuts.arrived.venturing
T3	Plum (<i>Prunus spp</i>)	Mature	6	Good	Fair	Pockets of decay throughout main stem, typical of this species. Minor deadwood throughout	Remove deadwood and sympathetically reduce canopy by 1 meter	High	Hazard	C	///remodel.microfilm.slot
T4	Walnut (<i>Juglans regia</i>)	Mature	12	Good	Fair	Poor union at main crown break. Evidence of bark inclusion	Monitor and reassess in 24 months, Consider bracing	High	Hazard	B	///trespass.rare.bared
G5	Leylandii (x <i>Cuprocyparis leylandii</i>)	Mature	20	Good	Poor	4 x Leylandii multi stemmed from base mixed with the ever increasing height increases risk of failure	Reduce height by 8 meters to a finished height of approximately 10-12 meters, to reduce the potential of stem failure at base.	High	Hazard	B	///shopping.profitied.twists

Popham Close RG7 0WG - w3w: proposes.fans.scrolled

TREE ID	TREE SPEICES	AGE	HEIGHT Metres	PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	COMMENTS	MANAGEMENT/WORK RECOMMENDATIONS	TARGET OCCUPATION	WORK TYPE	WORK PRIORITY	LOCATION W3W
T6	Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Semi Mature	14	Good	Good	2 x Ash trees currently not exhibiting signs of Ash dieback	Monitor reassess in 24 Months	Medium		N/A	///elevator.crunching.losing
T7	Scots Pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>)	Semi Mature	18	Good	Good	Deadwood present in canopy and over footpath	Remove deadwood	Medium	Hazard	B	///stylist.failed.alongside

Field View RG17 OTF - w3w: factually.strut.seabirds

TREE ID	TREE SPEICES	AGE	HEIGHT Metres	PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	COMMENTS	MANAGEMENT/WORK RECOMMENDATIONS	TARGET OCCUPATION	WORK TYPE	WORK PRIORITY	LOCATION W3W
G8	Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Mature	18	Good	Good	Multiple Oaks bordering highway. Nice straight stems and balanced canopies. Heavily clad in Ivy	Sever Ivy at base	Moderate	Arb	B	///truckload.painters.galaxy
G9	Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Young	10	Poor	Poor	2 x young self seeded Ash next to highway exhibiting advanced stage Ash dieback	Fell to due declining specimens next to highway	High	Hazard	B	///passwords.pints.wanted
T10	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Mature	18	Fair	Very Poor	Multi stemmed specimen from base. Historic failure present. Decay present at base on 2 x leaning stems. 1 over highway, the other over shipping container and carpark. (Decay fungus Dryad Saddle <i>Cerioporos squamosus</i>)	Fell due to structural defect and evidence and significant decay. See Photo 2	High	Hazard	B	///conductor.executive.worker

Appendix 3 Tree Survey Map

Orchard Green RG7 0LN - w3w: plod.agents.mattress



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Site: Orchard Green RG7 0LN - w3w:
plod.agents.mattress

Date of Inspection: 10th October 2025

Key	Action
	Critical: Immediate action required
	A: React within 1 month
	B: React within 6 months
	C: React within 12 months unless otherwise stated
	No action required

Popham Close RG7 0WG - w3w: proposes.fans.scrolled



NATURALLY TREES
PROFESSIONAL TREE CARE

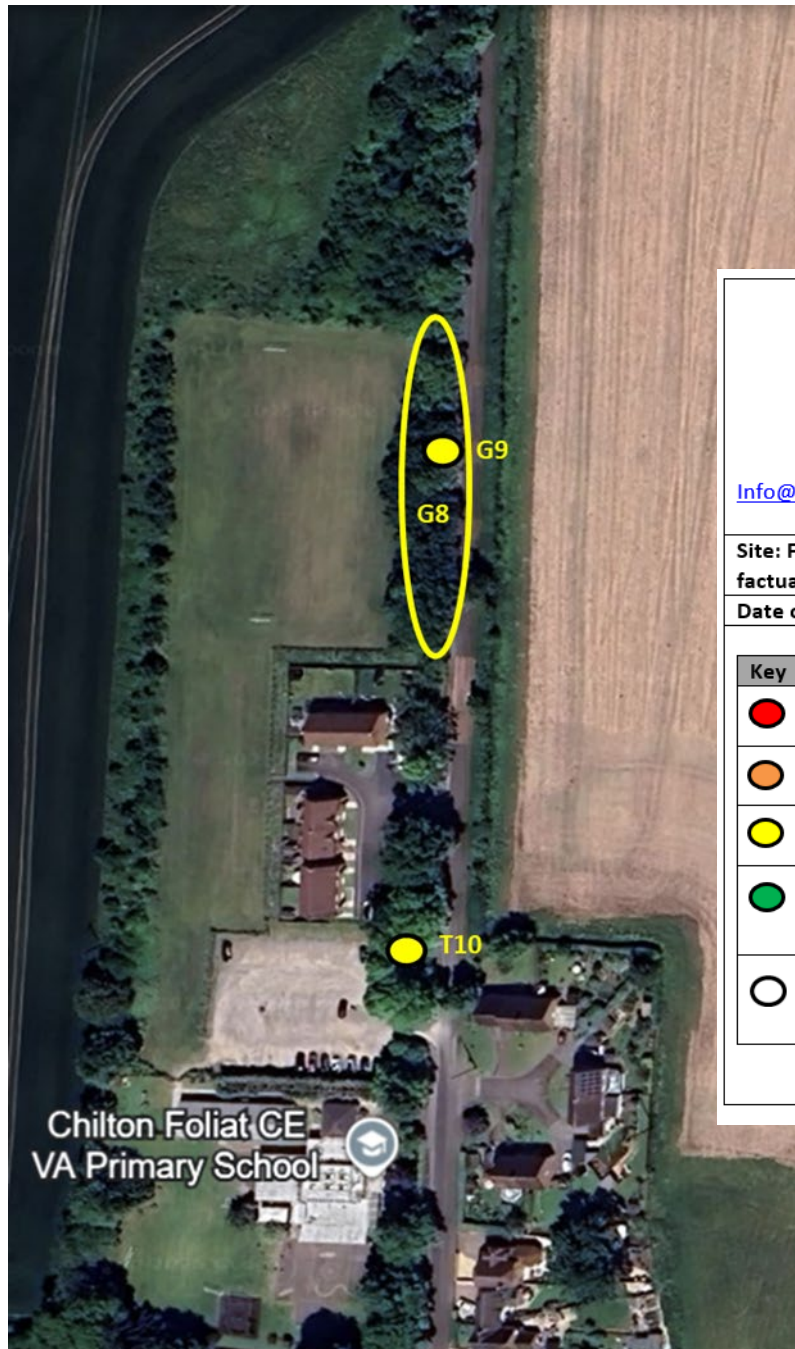
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Field View RG17 OTF - w3w: factually.strut.seabirds

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Site: Field View RG17 OTF - w3w: factually.strut.seabirds	
Date of Inspection: 10th October 2025	
Key	Action
	Critical: Immediate action required
	A: React within 1 month
	B: React within 6 months
	C: React within 12 months unless otherwise stated
	No action required

Appendix 4 Tree Survey Key

Section	Key
ID	Identifies the tree, group, row, hedgerow or woodland with a unique identification number. U/T - Untagged
Tree Name	Scientific tree name and common tree name in brackets
Age	- Y - Young – First 10 years of growth - SM - Semi Mature - Less than 1/5 of life completed - EM – Early Mature – Less than 2/5 of life completed - M - Mature – 2/5 – 5/5 of life completed - OM - Over Mature - more than 5/5 of life completed and declining - V - Veteran – Veteran trees have no precise definition but are trees considered to be of biological aesthetic or ecological value because of their age
Height	Approximate size to the closest 1 metres
Physiological Condition	- G - Good: Healthy with no symptoms or significant disease - F - Fair: Disease present or vigour impaired - P - Poor: Significant disease present or vigour is extremely low - D - Dead:
Structural Condition	- G - Good: Very few defects - F - Fair: Some defects, potentially giving the tree a shortened life expectancy - P - Poor: Significant defect found the requires remedial works and/or monitoring - VP – Very poor: Major defects, which requires significant remedial works or removal.
Comments	Observations and comments
Management Work Recommendations	Required tree surgery operations including further investigation of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment
Target Occupation	An approximate site specific guide from High to Low as assessed on the day of the tree inspection of the risk relating to the potential for damage to a person, property or item, within an area around the tree if failure of the tree or part of the tree were to occur. It is recommended that the re-inspection of tree or groups of trees should be carried out as follows: - High – Re-inspect in 12 months or less if stated - H/Medium – Re-inspect in 24 months or as stated - Medium – Re-inspect in 30 months or as stated - M/Low – Re-inspect in 3 years or as stated - Low - Re-inspect in 5 years or as stated
Work Type	Type of management work recommendation - Hazard – Hazard Management - A risk to person or property from a tree with a defect or in poor condition - Arb – Arboricultural Management - Landscape – Landscape design/Management - Conservation – Wildlife/Habitat/Historic Management.

	• Woodland – Woodland Management
Work Priority	A priority rating for management work recommendations. This is determined from an assessment on the day taking into account the target occupation around the tree, the size/part of the tree affected by the defect, the probability and foreseeable nature of the defect failing, the quality and value of the tree and other arboricultural factors. A suggested timescale for the work to be carried out is provided below: • Urgent - Work to be carried out as soon as practically possible. I.e. less than 7 days • High – Work to be carried out within 1 months • Medium – Work to be carried out in 3-6 months • Low - 12 + months. After consideration of management objectives.

Photos



Photo 1: T1 Walnut *Armillaria* fungus.



Photo 2: T10 Sycamore decay at base