



An Arboricultural Report on Trees at

Burbage Primary School
Blackman's Lane
Burbage
Marlborough
SN8 3TP

11th July 2025

Prepared for ErgoPlus Facilities

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Brief:** I am instructed by Lyn Holmes, from ErgoPlus Facilities, to inspect the significant trees at Burbage Primary School, Blackman's Lane, Burbage, Marlborough SN8 3TP and to provide a repeat arboricultural report.
- 1.2 Qualifications and Experience:** I have based this report on my site observations and the provided information, and I have come to conclusions in the light of my qualifications and my 26 years experience in the arboricultural industry. I have the following qualifications in arboriculture, City and Guild's Tree Surgery, Technicians Certificate in Arboriculture (Arboricultural Association) and Professional Diploma in Arboriculture (Royal Forestry Society).
- 1.3 Documents and Information Provided:** I was not provided with any documents. I had previously assessed the trees in June 2021, May 2022, July 2023 and November 2024.
- 1.4 Scope of this Report:** This report is only concerned with a hazard assessment. It takes no account of the potential for vegetation related soil shrinkage. It includes a preliminary assessment based on a site visit. Trees and shrubs are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly, conclusions and recommendations are only valid for a period of one year. These periods of validity may be reduced in the case of any change in conditions in proximity to the trees or built structures.
- 1.5 Limitations of Use and Copyright:** All rights in this report are reserved. No part of it may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, or stored in any retrieval system of any nature, without the written permission of Sharples Tree Services. Its content and format are for the exclusive use of the addressee in dealing with this site. It may not be sold, lent, hired out or divulged to any third party not directly involved in this site without our written consent.

2 SITE VISIT, OBSERVATIONS & COLLECTION OF DATA

- 2.1 Site Visit:** My assistant, Katie Sharples, and I carried out an unaccompanied site visit on 11th July 2025. All my observations are from ground level without detailed investigations, I visually inspected the significant trees using binoculars to examine the aerial parts, a nylon faced sounding hammer and a thin metal probe to test external tissue resistance. I did not have access to trees outside the boundaries and have confined observations of them to what was visible from within the property. The weather at the time of the inspection was sunny with good visibility.

- 2.2 Brief Site Description:** Blackman's Lane is a quiet residential street in Burbage, with the school located at the end. There is a parking and turning area off Blackman's Lane. The asphalt playgrounds are located to the south of the site and the grass playing fields are to the north. School buildings are located between the two and consist of a single storey modern building with a couple of mobile classrooms. The general nature of the locality is medium density residential and there are public footpaths bordering the majority of the school boundaries. The school grounds and adjacent properties contain a variety of maturing and mature trees and shrubs.
- 2.3 Tree Identification and Observations:** I visually inspected the significant trees and recorded the information on the Tree Schedule included as Appendix 1.
- 2.4 Location of the Trees:** I have illustrated the approximate locations of the significant trees on the Site Sketch Plan included as Figure 1. The plan is for illustrative purposes only and it should not be used for directly scaling measurements. All the relevant information is contained within this report and the provided documents.

3 APPRAISAL

- 3.1 New Planting:** Whilst on site I observed the new tree planting and inspected these trees, some had some bark damage at the base, likely to have been caused by grass trimmers. Should this continue to happen it can be fatal to young trees and I would advise that either trimmer guards are fitted or an area of mulch installed at the base of the young trees.

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Present Requirements:** The works required are detailed in the Tree Schedule.
- 4.1.1 Grade 1 Works:** Potential failures in tree pose a high risk to public. These works are required to be carried out within 3 months to establish high levels of safety to site users and members of the public.
- 4.1.2 Grade 2 Works:** Potential failures in tree pose a lower risk to public, or works are required to prevent future damage to structures or property. These works are required to be carried out within 12 months to establish high levels of safety to site users and members of the public.
- 4.1.3 Grade 3 Works:** Works are not required at present but on-going maintenance will be required in the future or a potential future problem has been observed which requires on-going monitoring.

- 4.2 Implementation of Works:** I advise that the work is carried out by a suitably qualified and insured contractor from the local authority list. The contractor should carry out all tree works to BS 3998 *Recommendations for tree work* (2010).
- 4.3 Future Considerations:** The remaining trees should be inspected on a regular basis by a qualified Arboriculturalist. The next survey to be carried out in the winter months in order to fully observe the structure of the crown.

5 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 Trees Subject to Statutory Controls:** If these trees are covered by a tree preservation order or located in a conservation area it will be necessary to consult the local authority before any pruning works other than certain exemptions can be carried out. The works specified in the Tree Schedule are necessary for reasonable management and should be acceptable to the local authority. However, tree owners should appreciate that they may take an alternative point of view and have the option to refuse consent.

**Mark Sharples BSc, Tech Cert (Arbor.A.), Dip Arb (RFS), MArborA
For Sharples Tree Services**

APPENDIX 1

Tree Schedule

Tree No	Species	Height	Dia @ 1.5m	Crown Spread	Maturity	Vitality	Observations	Recommendations	Grade
0662	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	10	280	3	Early Mature	Good	No Tag. Soil compaction.		
0663	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	14	370	4	Mature	Good	Minor deadwood		
0664	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	10	160	4	Early Mature	Good	No Tag. Previous soil compaction.		
0665	Alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	15	340	3	Mature	Good	Minor deadwood		
0666	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	8	280	3	Early Mature	Good			
0667	Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>	7	10 x 50	3	Mature	Good	Multi stemmed from base. Crossing stems.		
0668	Alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	10	260	3	Early Mature	Average	Patch of bark damage at base south east side. Minor deadwood.		
0669	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	11	300	4	Early Mature	Average	Minor deadwood. Canopy slightly sparse. No Tag.		
G0670	5 x Lawson Cypress <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	6	Approx. 100	1	Early Mature	Good	All multi stemmed from base. Crown raised to 2m.		
0671	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	10	350	4	Early Mature	Good	Divides at 1m - measured below. Minor deadwood.		
0672	Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	6	170	3	Early Mature	Good	Small patches of bark damage		
0673	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	9	300	4	Early Mature	Good	Divides at 1m - measured below. Minor deadwood. No Tag.		
0674	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	11	300	4	Early Mature	Good			
0675	Alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	12	4 x 200	4	Early Mature	Good	Multi stemmed from 0.25m. Northern stem removed. Bark stripped from western stem 0.5-1m - occluding well.	Monitor	3
0676	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	10	450	4	Mature	Good	Divides at 1.5m - measured below		

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Tree No	Species	Height	Dia @ 1.5m	Crown Spread	Maturity	Vitality	Observations	Recommendations	Grade
0677	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	9	350	4	Mature	Good	Deadwood. Tag obscured.	Remove deadwood	1
0678	Common Lime <i>Tilia x europaea</i>	9	200	3	Early Mature	Good			
0679	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	14	350	5	Mature	Good	Minor deadwood		
0680	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	8	260	3	Early Mature	Good	Deadwood. Possible squirrel damage.	Remove deadwood	1
0681	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	8	270	3	Early Mature	Good			
0682	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	9	250	3	Early Mature	Good	Minor deadwood. Possible Ash Dieback.	Monitor for Ash Dieback	3
0683	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	10	400	4	Early Mature	Good	Divides at 1m - measured below. Minor deadwood		
0684	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	11	300	3	Early Mature	Good	No Tag. Divides at 1.5m - measured below.		
0685	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	8	400	5	Mature	Good	Deadwood	Remove deadwood	1
0687	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	16	380	4	Mature	Good	Minor deadwood		
0688	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	15	370	5	Mature	Good			
G0691	3 x Sycamore 1 x Hazel	8	ave 150	2	Early Mature	Good	Previously suppressed. Small patches of bark damage.		
0258	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	18	10 x 300	6	Mature	Good	No Tag. Previously outside boundary fence. Divides at ground level. 30cm x 40cm cavity at base north side. Minor deadwood. Ivy. Scrub around base.		

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Tree No	Species	Height	Dia @ 1.5m	Crown Spread	Maturity	Vitality	Observations	Recommendations	Grade
0692	Horse Chestnut <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	4	270	3	Early Mature	Average	No Tag. Divides at 1m - measured below. Previous Bleeding Canker infection. Cavity at 1.2m south side. Missing bark 0-1m east side. Previously suppressed.		
0693	Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	10	330	5	Early Mature	Good	No Tag. Suppressed by neighbouring trees. Patches of bark damage. Evidence of squirrel damage.	Monitor	3
0694	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	12	350	4	Early Mature	Good	Weighted to south and east		
0695	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	8	200	2	Early Mature	Good	No Tag		
0696	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	8	180	2	Early Mature	Good	Alder growing next to trunk. No Tag.		
0697	Hybrid Service Tree <i>Sorbus x thuringiaca</i>	7	300	3	Early Mature	Good	Divides at 1.2m - measured below. Dense Ivy.		
0698	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	10	310	4	Early Mature	Good	No Tag. Telephone line through canopy.		
G0699	2 x Plum & 1 x Flowering Crab Apple	5	100	3	Early Mature	1 Poor 2 Good	North tree - low vitality		
0700	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	10	330	5	Mature	Good	No Tag. Minor deadwood. Telephone line through canopy.		
0701	English Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	10	340	5	Early Mature	Good	No Tag. Some buttress damage and swelling at base.		
0702	Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	9	4 x 150	3	Mature	Average	Multi stemmed from 1m. Minor deadwood. No Tag.		
0704	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	12	360	5	Early Mature	Good	Minor deadwood. Small patches of bark damage.		
0705	Horse Chestnut <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	6	2 x 100	2	Young	Good	Divides at 0.3m. Possible Bleeding Canker infection.		

APPENDIX 1

Tree Schedule

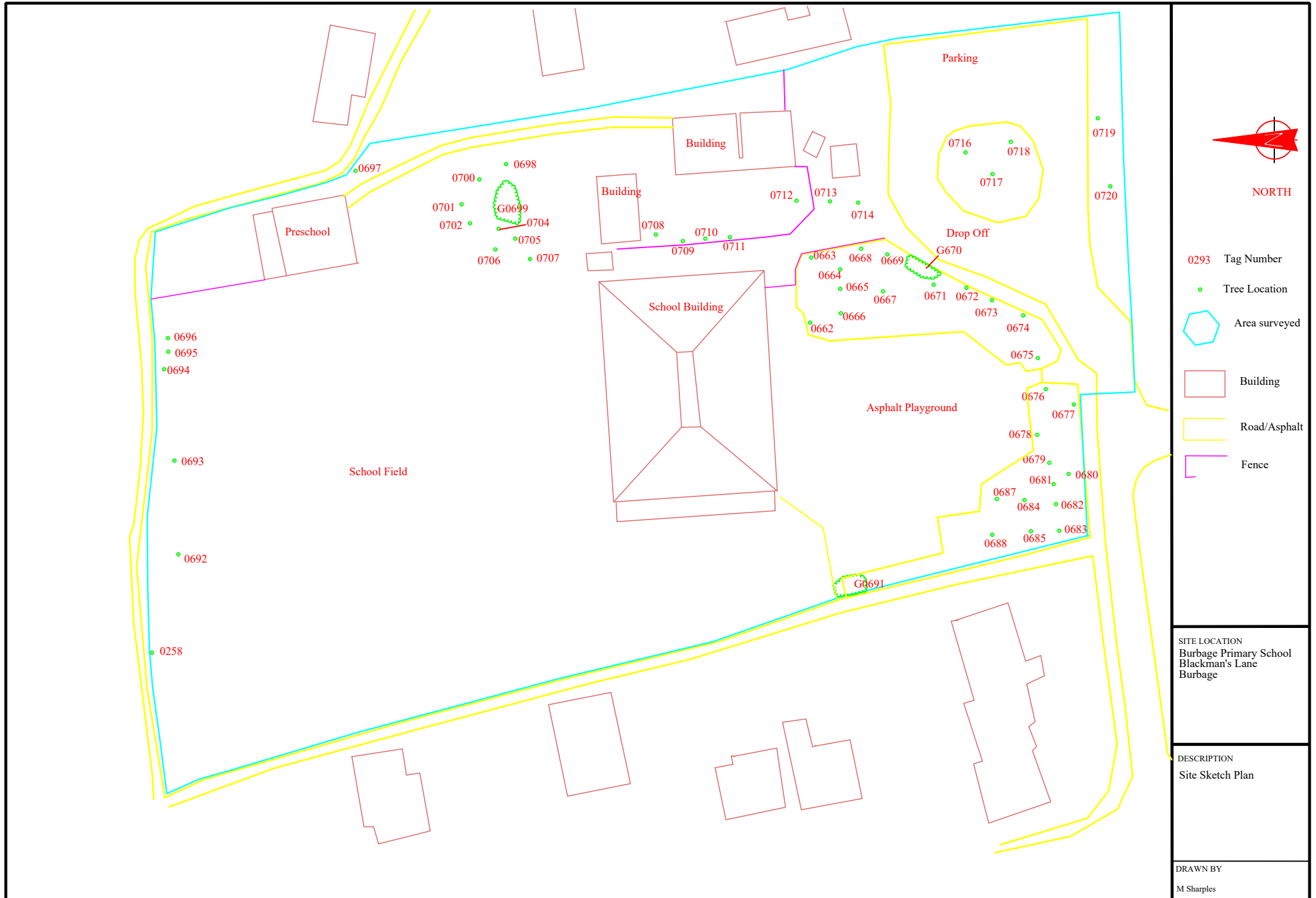
Tree No	Species	Height	Dia @ 1.5m	Crown Spread	Maturity	Vitality	Observations	Recommendations	Grade
0706	Snakebark Maple <i>Acer davidii</i>	9	2 x 150	4	Early Mature	Average	Divides at 1m. Minor deadwood. Suppressed by surrounding trees. Most of growth to west. Patches of bark damage at base.		
0707	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	12	320	4	Mature	Good	Bark wound at 1m west side. Minor deadwood.		
0708	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	15	380	4	Mature	Good	Damage to buttress southwest side		
0709	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	8	270	4	Early Mature	Good	Divides at 1.4m - measured below. Minor deadwood. No tag.		
0710	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	8	240	3	Early Mature	Good	No Tag		
0711	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	7	230	4	Early Mature	Good	Soil compaction in rooting area. Minor deadwood. No Tag		
0712	Common Lime <i>Tilia x europaea</i>	10	280	3	Early Mature	Good			
0713	Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	5	100	1	Early Mature	Average	Suppressed by Tree 0714. Minor deadwood.		
0714	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	10	400	6	Early Mature	Good	Divides at 1.4m - measured below		
0716	Flowering Cherry <i>Prunus</i> sp	5	100	2	Early Mature	Good	No Tag		
0717	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	10	250	2	Early Mature	Good			
0718	Flowering Cherry <i>Prunus</i> sp	4	120	2	Early Mature	Good	Lower growth removed		
0719	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	10	500	6	Mature	Good	Divides at 1.5m - measured below		
0720	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	15	480	5	Mature	Good	Branch removed at 1m north - decay evident. Minor deadwood.	Monitor	3

APPENDIX 1

Tree Schedule Explanatory Notes

- **Measurements/estimates:** All dimensions are measured unless otherwise indicated. Measurements are taken with a tape or digital clinometer.
- **Tree Number:** All surveyed trees are tagged with numbered metal tags and their locations are mapped on the Site Sketch Plan included as Figure 1. Where there are several trees of similar size and species growing together I have inspected all of them and as the information pertaining to them is very similar I have recorded them as a group. They have a single tag on the first available accessible stem.
- **Species:** The species identification is based on visual observations and the common English name of what the tree appeared to be is listed first, with the botanical name in italics.
- **Height:** Height is measured with a digital clinometer and rounded to the nearest metre.
- **Dia @ 1.5m:** Diameter at 1.5m above ground level and is recorded in millimetres.
- **Crown Spread:** Crown spread is measured in metres and is a maximum radial measurement in a single direction.
- **Maturity:**
 - Young = Newly planted
 - Semi-mature = less than one third life expectancy
 - Early-mature = one third to two thirds life expectancy
 - Mature = last one third of life expectancy
 - Over-mature = older than the average life expectancy for the species
- **Vitality:**
 - Poor = low vigour and declining growth
 - Average = average vigour and growth
 - Good = good vigour and growth
- **Grade:**
 - 1 = High Risk, works to be carried out within 3 months.
 - 2 = Low risk, works to be carried out within 12 months.
 - 3 = Monitoring/Potential future works required.

Figure 1 Site Sketch Plan



SITE LOCATION
Burbage Primary School
Blackman's Lane
Burbage

DESCRIPTION
Site Sketch Plan

DRAWN BY
M Sharples