

Client: Parish Clerk: Ms T Dixon  
Brede Parish Council  
Site Address:  
Brede Hill,  
Rye,  
East Sussex,  
TN31 6EJ

Ref: SC/BPC/1/10/2025

Prepared by:

**Curley Consultants**

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## TREE ASSESSMENT

- I have based this report on my site observations and have drawn conclusions based on my experience. I have experience and qualifications in arboriculture; the details are listed in 1.1.7.
- The statements made in this report do not consider the effects of extremes of climate, vandalism, or accident, whether physical, chemical or fire. Curley Consultants cannot, therefore, accept any liability for these factors, nor where prescribed work is not carried out correctly and professionally in accordance with current good practice BS3998:2010.
- The general assessment of the tree is based upon a ground-based visual appraisal of the site only and should be regarded as a preliminary overview. Unlike built structures, trees are dynamic and present several specific management issues that need consideration. Reasonable risk management generally aims to manage the risk posed by trees that can be regarded as stable in a normal/foreseeable storm event.
- Trees are living organisms whose health and condition can **change rapidly**. This assessment is valid for a period of one year from the date specified above or in the recommendations. The health, condition, and safety of trees should be checked on a regular basis, at least every two to three years, by a suitably qualified arborist. Preferably, trees should be assessed on an eighteen-month cycle, alternating in and out of leaf. These validity periods may be shortened if there is a change in conditions near the trees or buildings, especially in high-risk areas such as public spaces or busy roads. Ideally, trees should be assessed following extreme weather events (Gale Force 9 or above).
- The authority of this report ceases at any stated time limit within it, or if none stated, one year after the date of the survey, or when any site conditions change, or pruning or other unspecified works in the report are carried out to, or affecting, the subject tree(s), whichever is sooner.
- If these trees are covered by a tree preservation order or located in a conservation area, work may be restricted. The works specified above are necessary for reasonable management and should be acceptable to the local authority.
- Where trees are on neighbouring land, you have no right to undertake the recommended works without the consent of the tree's owner, other than trimming the canopy to the boundary, providing that the tree has no other form of legislative protection. The effect of non-compliance requires legal interpretation, which is beyond the scope of this report.
- You must ensure that any contractor employed for any recommended work is suitably qualified, experienced, and familiar with the current best practices and covered by current public products and employee liability insurance to an adequate level. Contractors must also abide by all relevant legislation for health and safety, including highway requirements.
- Tree planting: To provide continuity of tree cover, any tree planting should ideally try to limit or avoid problems seen where trees are located close to above-ground services or structures by selecting species that will remain smaller or have compact conical canopies, thus requiring less maintenance. Further advice can be provided upon request.
- There is an obligation of reasonable safety owed by a site's owner or manager to both visitors and those adjacent to the site under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1957 and as revised in 1984. The owner/manager of the land may be held liable for any physical harm to persons or property arising from an accident that was both reasonably foreseeable and reasonably preventable in that situation. In order for an owner/manager to foresee and prevent harm arising from tree failure, it is necessary to subject the trees to 'regular inspection' by someone competent to identify defects and interpret the significance to public safety. This should be a formal 'Tree Hazard Risk Assessment.'

## DUTY OF CARE

- The law assumes that the owner/manager of a tree is the owner/manager of the land surrounding the base of its trunk.
- The person responsible for any tree has a duty, known in law as the duty of care, to take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions that they could foresee, which would be likely to cause harm.
- In practice, it is never possible to completely eliminate all danger. The law, therefore, requires that the owner /manager take reasonable care to identify possible sources of foreseeable danger. Once hazards have been identified, they should be removed as far as possible.
- Negligence is a breach of legal duty resulting in damage. For example, when a tree owner/manager fails to take necessary action, it can result in harm to people, animals, or property.
- The law does not require or expect the impossible. The duty of owners/managers is not to take every possible step to achieve perfect safety, as this would mean almost every tree being felled to remove all risk. The duty of the owner is to take all reasonable care to ensure that people are safe. What is "reasonable" must ultimately be a matter of judgment for the tree owner/manager and their professional advisers (tree consultants).
- To provide an adequate duty of care, a tree risk assessment is necessary, in which two separate factors of Hazard and Risk are addressed.

## 1.0. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. TREE ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<b>1.1.1. Instructed by:</b>	Ms T Dixon, Parish Clerk
<b>1.1.2. Instructed to:</b>	To carry out a VTA (Visual Tree Assessment), which is an industry-recognised tree survey method, at the address noted at 1.1.5.
<b>1.1.3. Assessment Method:</b>	A visual assessment from a specified perspective of an individual tree or a population of trees near specific targets (parks, buildings, roads, etc.) is conducted to identify obvious defects or disorders. This limited visual assessment typically focuses on identifying trees with an imminent and/or probable likelihood of failure.
<b>1.1.4. Date of Assessment:</b>	6/10/2025
<b>1.1.5. Trees Location:</b>	Inspect one oak tree on the land outside of St George's Church.
<b>1.1.6. Legislative Protection:</b>	No checks were made with the Local Authority.
<b>1.1.7. Assessor:</b>	Steve Curley Professional Diploma in Arboriculture (PD Arb) Dip Arb (Level 4) Certificate in Arboriculture (RFS) Lantra Professional Tree Inspection (PTI) I am a trained user of the IML PD Resi-drill, Acoustic ArborSonic Tomography, Microsecond timer, DynaTree/DynaRoot dynamic testing and pull testing equipment, all to Level 3 standards. I am up to date with my CPD. A complete CPD and training record can be provided upon request.
<b>1.1.8. Relative Experience:</b>	A variety of tree care objectives, including dealing with trees in many different environments and with differing management aims, such as tree planting schemes, Woodland Design and Management, Health and Safety Appraisals, Tree inventories and population surveys, and management, as well as tree advice concerning structures. Additional work areas include contract specification, management, and planning applications, as well as specialist knowledge of biodiversity and the conservation of veteran and ancient trees.

## 2.0. Scope:

- 2.0.1. To reduce the risk to an acceptable level as detailed by the Health and Safety Executive in the Management of the risk from falling trees or branches - [http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sims/ag\\_food/010705.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sims/ag_food/010705.htm)
- 2.0.2. A “Level 2” inspection, or hazard assessment, of the specified trees has been undertaken within the scope of this report.
- 2.0.3. The findings in this report are based on the evidence observed during the inspection. It should be understood that some indications of tree hazard, such as leaf appearance and density, fungal fruiting bodies, and specific pests and diseases, are only visible at certain times of the year or may not provide external symptoms until an advanced state is achieved. Should significant additional information become apparent following the submission of this report, I would reserve the right to modify the recommendation accordingly.
- 2.0.4. The report contains a tree schedule, a location plan, photographs, and recommendations for remedial action.
- 2.0.5. Any tree works should be undertaken in accordance with BS 3998:2010 ‘Tree work - Recommendations’.
- 2.0.6. This report was prepared from a visual assessment taken from ground level, not a detailed investigation. Observations are based on the body language of the trees and any visual indicators present at the time of inspection. This survey should be regarded as a preliminary overview; ongoing inspections will be required as specified individually. In most situations, the health, condition, and safety of trees should be checked on a cyclical basis, alternating between early and late seasons to ensure a comprehensive picture of tree health is established. Inspections should only be carried out by a suitably qualified arborist.
- 2.0.7. The trees have been assessed regarding their structural condition, current health and safety implications, recommendations for remedial works, and priority for works.
- 2.0.8. My assessment of the tree(s) depends on having clear access to the stem and a clear sightline of the tree’s crown (no vegetation, ivy, other climbing plants, debris, dense crown canopy, etc.).

## 2.1. Assessment Method:

- 2.1.1. The Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method was used to conduct the tree inspection; this is an industry-standard, best-practice method for assessing the health, stability, and, to some degree, the amenity of urban trees. A tree may be physiologically healthy and vigorous in growth, but also exhibits mechanical defects and, therefore, be structurally weak, consequently presenting a risk. The VTA involves an assessment of each tree’s physiological and structural condition. It is carried out from ground level, with the aid of binoculars, as necessary.
- 2.1.2. I visually assessed the trees using the David Lonsdale Methodology, which is detailed in Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management.
- 2.1.3. No aerial inspection was made of the tree(s).
- 2.1.4. No excavation of the roots was conducted on the tree(s).
- 2.1.5. No soil samples were taken, and no tissue samples were collected.
- 2.1.6. A negative reporting system has been used. This means that if no defects were recorded, the probability of failure, as seen on the inspection day, was minimal.

### 3.0. Report Limitations:

- 3.0.1 Trees are living, dynamic organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly; trees' health and safety should be checked regularly, especially after any extreme weather, i.e., a storm with a Gale Force of 9 or above. As such, no tree can be declared absolutely safe.
- 3.0.2 It is not possible to guarantee a tree's absolute safety. Even trees with no defects can fail. It is natural for trees to shed small branches and twigs during their lives; therefore, predicting when this may occur is not practical.
- 3.0.3 The recommendations in this report relate to conditions found at the time of inspection and are valid for the time noted within this report. The validity period may be reduced in case of changes in the tree's condition, adverse weather (Gale Force 9 and above), or its surroundings.
- 3.0.4 This report is for the client's sole use and must be kept together in its entirety. Any alteration or deletion from this report will invalidate it as a whole. If the client wishes to share the report, they must seek my permission. If permission is granted, all terms will also apply to those given access to the report.
- 3.0.5 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 by anyone other than the addressee without my written permission. Its content and format are for the exclusive use of the addressee when 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 the written consent of Steve Curley @ Curley Consultants.
- 3.0.6 If consent is granted, the author must be included in all correspondence.
- 3.0.7 No liability is accepted for defects that are hidden from view due to changes in soil grade, ivy or other climbers, vegetation, dense crown cover, fencing, or other obstacles to access.
- 3.0.8 Tree height was estimated, but occasionally it may be measured using a "Haglof Electronic clinometer" to determine the tree's size.
- 3.0.9 Any other relevant features relating to physiological or structural conditions, including low branches, which may be seen as important, are recorded. If there are no notes, then the presumption should be that no relevant safety and law features were observed.
- 3.0.10 When a tree is covered in vegetation such as ivy, basal suckers, epicormic growth, low branches, and other climbers, it will be noted in the report as "unable to inspect".
- 3.0.11 As an arborist, I am a tree specialist who uses my knowledge, education, training, and experience to examine trees. I recommend measures to enhance their beauty and health and attempt to reduce the risk of failure. As a client, you may choose to accept or disregard these recommendations or seek additional advice.
- 3.0.12 As an arborist, I cannot detect every condition that could possibly lead to a tree or limb failure. Trees are living organisms that can fail in various ways, some of which are not fully understood.
- 3.0.13 Conditions are often hidden within the tree and below the ground. As arborists, we cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances or for a specified period of time. Sometimes, trees may appear "healthy" but may be structurally unsound. Likewise, remedial treatment, like any medicine, cannot be guaranteed.
- 3.0.14 Any recommendations and/or performed treatments (including, but not limited to, pruning or removal) of trees may involve considerations beyond the Arboricultural perspective, such as property boundaries and ownership disputes between neighbours, planning issues, sight lines, landlord-tenant matters, etc. Arborists cannot consider such issues unless complete and accurate information is given to them. Likewise, as an arborist, I cannot accept any responsibility for authorising or non-authorising any recommended treatment or remedial measure.
- 3.0.15 Furthermore, certain trees are borderline cases regarding whether they should be retained or removed. If conditions change, a tree may need further monitoring in the future to determine its health and structure. Trees can be managed, but they cannot be controlled, and to live near a tree is to accept some degree of risk.
- 3.0.16 The author has no personal interest or bias regarding the subject matter of this report or the parties involved. He/she has inspected the subject tree(s), and to the best of their knowledge and belief, all statements and information presented in the report are true and correct.
- 3.0.17 Unless otherwise stated, the tree(s) were examined using the risk assessment criteria detailed by the International Society of Arboriculture's publications *Best Management Practices - Tree Risk Assessment and the Assessment Manual* and also the *David Lonsdale Methodology*.
- 3.0.18 Aerial inspections – when such an inspection is recommended, it should be carried out by a suitably qualified arborist holding a Level 4 qualification or equivalent, or higher. The arborist should submit a written report, including the findings, photographs and recommendations, to the inspector. This will aid in making future management decisions.
- 3.0.19 Aerial inspection continued. If work is carried out concurrently with the aerial inspection, a written report should still be submitted to the inspector, detailing the findings and works conducted, so that the inspector can update their record.

## 4.0. References:

The following publications have been used to inform this survey, and recommendations which follow from it:

- British Standard 3998:2010 'Tree work - Recommendation.'
- 'Diagnosis of ill Health in Trees' by R.G. Strouts and T.G. Winter. DoE booklet Research for amenity Trees No. 2, 1994
- Lonsdale D, (1999) Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management (Research for Amenity Trees 7) (7th Impression 2017). Forestry Commission, London: HMSO.
- 'Fungi on Trees' by Guy Watson & Ted Green
- Branch Junctions – Guidance Note 14. Arboricultural Association.
- Manual of Wood Decay in Trees by K. Weber & C. Mattheck
- 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.
- Assessment of Tree Condition (Field Book 12) by J L Innes
- 'The Body Language of Trees - A handbook for failure analysis' By C. Matthew and H. Breloer.
- Modern Arboriculture - Care of Trees by Alex L. Shigo
- Bartlett Tree Experts - Research Laboratory Technical Report
- 'Fungi on Trees' – David Humphries and Christopher Wright
- 'Fungal Strategies of Wood Decay in Trees' – F. W. M. R. Schwarze, J. Engels, C. Mattech.
- 'TMA Fung' – Tim Moya Associates.
- Applied Tree Biology – Andrew D. Hiron & Peter A. Thomas

## 4.1. Legislation Relating to Tree Work: More details can be found at [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk):

- 4.1.1 Occupiers' Liability Act 1957 & 1984.
- 4.1.2 The Town and Country Planning Act 1990\* Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 protect trees in the form of Tree Preservation Orders and protect 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 work.
- 4.1.3 The Highways Act 1980.
- 4.1.4 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, provides statutory protection to birds, bats and other species that inhabit trees. All trees must be checked for nesting birds and bat roosts before any tree work is undertaken. The 'Bird Nesting Season' lasts from 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> August.
- 4.1.5 Badger Act 1992: Badgers and their setts (burrows) are protected.
- 4.1.6 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 protects 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, intentionally 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.
- 4.1.7 These provisions cover all tree work operations, and advice from an ecologist must be obtained before undertaking any works that might constitute an offence.
- 4.1.8 Tree Felling Licence – Depending on the designation of the land where the trees are located, a Tree Felling Licence may be required if more than five cubic metres of timber are extracted per quarter. A Felling Licence must be obtained from GOV.UK. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-felling-licence-when-you-need-to-apply#how-to-apply-for-a-tree-felling-licence>.
- 4.1.9 Support - [fellinglicenceonline@forestrycommission.gov.uk](mailto:fellinglicenceonline@forestrycommission.gov.uk).

## 5.0. Survey Key

<b>Species:</b>	Tree species are detailed by their common & Latin name.
<b>Structure:</b>	A tree, a group of trees, a hedge, a multi-stemmed tree, a pollarded tree, a shrub, or a woodland.
<b>T = Tree</b> <b>G = Group</b> <b>H = Hedge</b> <b>MS = Multi-stemmed</b> <b>P = Pollard</b> <b>S = Shrub</b> <b>W = Woodland</b>	<p>A tree is a tall plant with a single stem or trunk that supports branches and leaves. It has a long lifespan.</p> <p>More than one tree.</p> <p>A line of shrubs, bushes, or trees that serves as a boundary for a field or garden.</p> <p>A multi-stemmed tree can have two or more stems growing from one root.</p> <p>Pollarding is a pruning technique that involves removing the upper branches of a tree. This removes the upper branches and encourages the growth of a dense head of foliage and branches.</p> <p>A shrub is a small woody plant with multiple stems arising from near the ground.</p> <p>Land covered with trees.</p>

## 5.1. Condition / Risk Category / Inspected / Inspection Period / What3words

<b>Condition</b>	On the day, an overall assessment of the tree is made, considering its vitality and structural condition.
<b>Good</b>	A tree that has responded to a minor or several minor visible defects and has good vitality with 0-25% leaf or needle loss.
<b>Fair</b>	A tree with visible defects, lower vitality, and 26-60% leaf or needle loss.
<b>Poor</b>	A tree with poor structural integrity and 61-99% leaf or needle loss.
<b>Moribund</b>	A tree in the later stage of its life.
<b>Dead</b>	A dead tree which needs urgent attention
<b>Risk Category</b>	Urgency of work category using a traffic light system and a work completion date.
<b>Urgent</b>	Works should be completed as soon as possible.
<b>High</b>	Works should be completed within three months if no date has been noted.
<b>Moderate</b>	Works should be completed within three to six months, unless a specific date has been noted.
<b>Low</b>	Works should be completed within six months to one year, unless a specific completion date has been noted.
<b>Inspected</b>	Date of inspection
<b>Inspection Period</b>	Re-inspection timescale. Note: All trees should be re-inspected after a gale-force storm of nine or above.
<b>what3words</b>	What3words is a geocoding system that can identify any location on Earth with a 3-meter resolution. The tree's location is within 3m of the what3words reference point.

## 6.0. Standard of Works and Timing of Works:

- 6.0.1 All tree works should be undertaken in accordance with the current best arboricultural practice and **BS 3998:2010** Recommendations for Tree Work, as modified by more recent research.
- 6.0.2 BS 3998:2010 also provides recommendations on the timing of works in relation to tree species and seasonal factors.
- 6.0.3 Should any work be required, the contractor should have and adhere to a Biosecurity policy (to stop cross-infection): Biosecurity in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry Position Statement.
- 6.0.3.1 They must comply with The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HASAWA) and have adequate public liability insurance.
- 6.0.4 When conducting any tree or shrub works, you must ensure that no nesting birds are disturbed in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, and the European Habitats Directive 1992/Nesting Birds Directive. The 'Bird Nesting Season' runs from March to August inclusive. If work is scheduled during these months, bird nesting checks must be carried out before starting. If active nests are found, the tree or shrubs must not be worked on, and the findings must be recorded.

## 7.0. Arboricultural Terms and Definitions - Additional terms and Definitions can be found in 12.0.

When fulfilling their recommendations, the following interpretation of the terms used in the attached tree survey report sheets should be adopted.

- **Acropetal mortality:** Inner branches which are dying or have died.
- **Apical die-back:** Extensive die-back and loss of apical dominance.
- **Crown clean:** the removal of broken, diseased, dying, or dead branches or snags that are either over 50mm in diameter or are more than 2m in length.
- **Felling** is the complete, safe removal of a tree, leaving a smooth-surfaced stump cut as close to ground level as possible.
- **Pollard or Re-pollard:** the complete or partial removal of the crown of a young tree to encourage the development of numerous branches either for amenity or historically as fodder; repeated management is required to maintain the feature.
- **Sever ivy:** cutting ivy stems at their point of entry into the soil, taking care not to damage the tree stem.
- **Crown lift:** to cut all low-hanging branches to a specified height, always cutting back to live growth or the main stem.
- **Crown:** the upper canopy of a tree, including the upper trunk, scaffold branches, secondary branches, stems, and leaves.
- **Epicormic growth:** fast-growing, weakly attached shoots, usually in response to stress factors upon the tree or branch removal or species dependent.
- **Monolith / Habitat pole:** a large singular trunk of wood left upright to encourage habitat for birds and insects.
- **Hazard beam:** an upwardly curved branch in which strong internal stresses may occur without the compensatory formation of extra wood, resulting in longitudinal splitting.
- **Included bark:** bark that becomes embedded in a crotch between a branch and the stem or between co-dominant stems. It is usually found in narrow or tight crotches and causes a weak structure.
- **Occluding tissue:** the general term for wood cambium and bark that develops around the site of a wound on a woody plant.
- **Reaction wood:** wood with distinctive anatomical characteristics formed in parts of leaning or crooked stems and in branches to provide additional strength and support.

## 8.0. Ash Dieback: Level 1 - 4

With Ash Dieback becoming more prevalent in recent years, we have established a management structure to determine the correct classification and required work actions. Curley Consultants will use four health classes.

- Ash Health Level 1 – 100%-76% remaining canopy.
- Ash Health Level 2 – 75%- 51% remaining canopy.
- Ash Health Level 3 – 50%- 26% remaining canopy.
- Ash Health Level 4 – 25%- 0% remaining canopy.
- Any subsequent surveys should then be used to monitor changes between health classes over time. This will allow a greater understanding of the spread and impact of Ash Dieback.
- Monitoring over time is also essential, as reports show that trees may recover canopy conditions in some years, especially during hot, dry summers when the weather is not ideal for fungal sporulation. However, the trees' health will still be declining due to infection in the wood, so monitoring survey work should continue even if recovery is noted.
- Risk management of infected trees will depend on tree condition (Ash Health Class), targets, and heavy—or light-use areas. These will all be assessed when making future management decisions.
- Trees reaching **Levels 3 and 4** are categorised as dangerous and have been identified and marked for removal.

### Pictures illustrating the class level and remaining foliage (courtesy of “The Tree Council”)



**Level 1:** 100% - 76% remaining canopy



**Level 2:** 75% - 51% remaining canopy

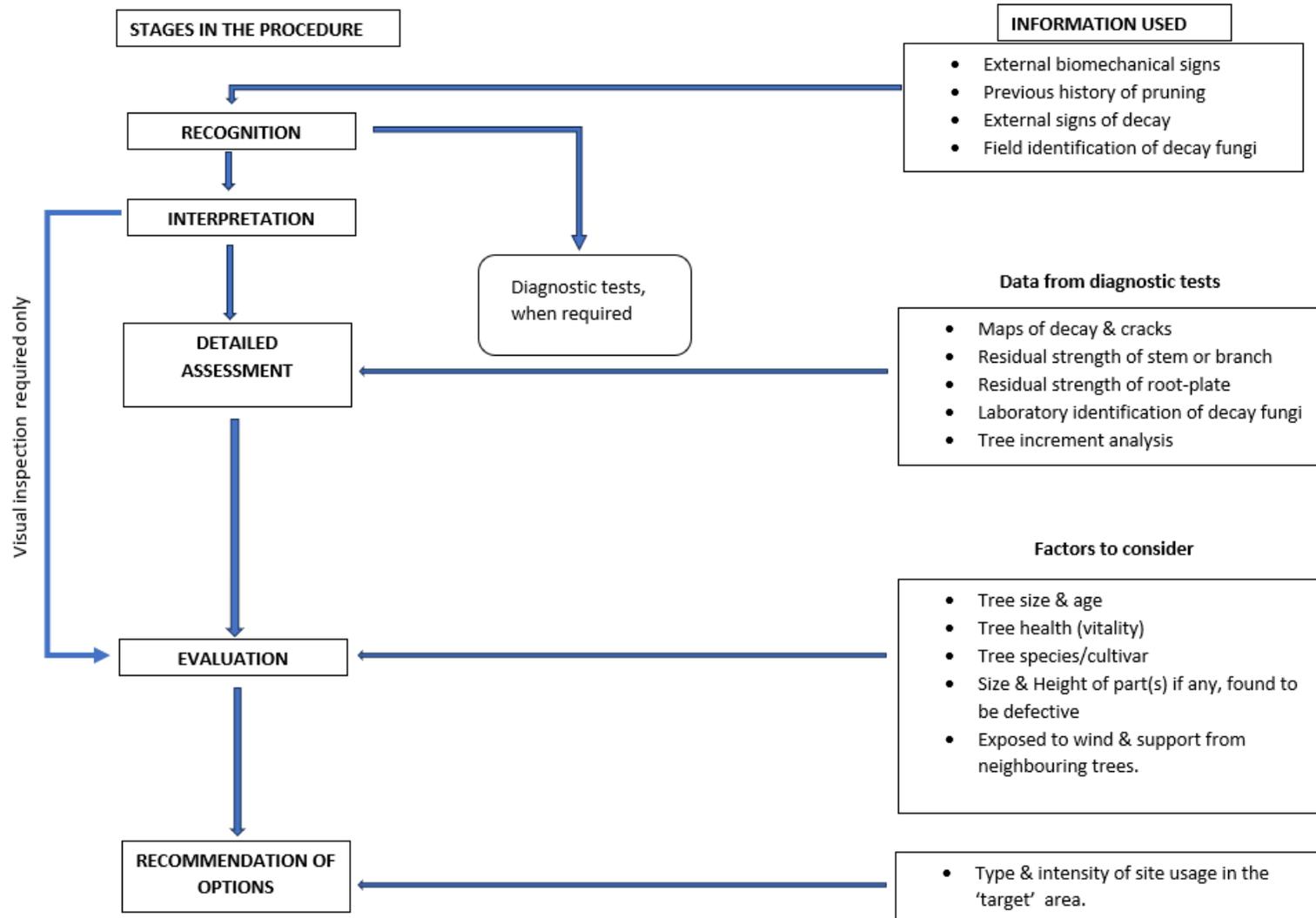


**Level 3:** 50% - 26% remaining canopy



**Level 4:** 25% - 0% remaining canopy

## 9.0. Methodology



**10.0. Tree Risk Assessment:** The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) employs a qualitative approach to risk assessment rather than a quantitative one. It utilises matrices to evaluate the likelihood of a tree or tree part failing, the chance it will impact a target, and the potential consequences of such a failure. **Unless specified otherwise, this risk assessment is based on the risk projected over the next year.**

*It is impossible to guarantee a tree's absolute safety. Even trees that appear to be defect-free can fail. Therefore, it is not realistic to offer a "no risk" assurance, even when the tree is carefully monitored or managed, as there is always a possibility that someone may violate the control measures in place.*

In my tree risk assessment, I evaluate the likelihood of failure of a tree or its parts, the probability of it impacting a target, and the potential consequences of such a failure.

**Failure:** Identify defects in relation to species/clone history, established failure criteria & time of year are considered.

**Target:** The impact radius of the identified defect on potential targets—such as objects or individuals who may be affected by the tree or its defect—along with the visibility available to drivers (classified as Poor Forward Visibility or Good Forward Visibility) and the likelihood of vehicles being stationary (for example, at junctions, bus stops, etc.) are all factors considered. Additionally, if other potential targets include unsupervised children, the elderly, or infirm individuals, this is also considered.

**Impact:** The height of the fall, momentum, and whether lower branches, objects, buildings, etc., would impede the descent are considered.

Matrix 1: Likelihood of Failure				
Likelihood of failure	Likelihood of Impacting the Target			
	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
Imminent	Unlikely	Somewhat Likely	Likely	Very likely
Probable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat Likely	Likely
Possible	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat likely
Improbable	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely	Unlikely



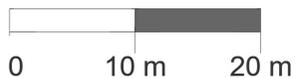
Matrix 2: Risk Rating Matrix				
Likelihood of Failure & Impact	Consequences of Failure			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
Very Likely	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High
Somewhat Likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low



Brede Parish Council  
Broad Oak - Land  
Outside St George's  
Church  
Brede Hill, Rye, East  
Sussex, TN31 6EJ

Page size: A4

1 : 600



### Risk Category

- Urgent:
- High:
- Moderate:
- Low:



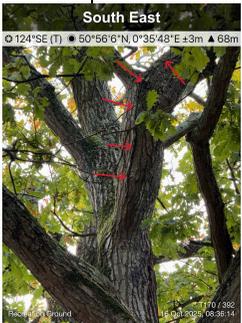
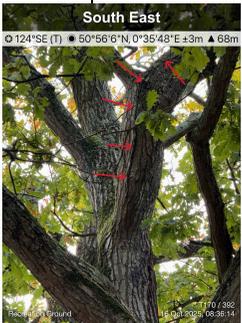
# 12.0 Arboricultural Tree Survey Report: Recommendations



**Client:** Brede Parish Council  
**Site:** Braod Oak - Land Outside St George's Church

This document outlines the recommended remedial actions based on our inspector's professional opinion after visiting your site and inspecting your trees.

The following remedial items have been allocated an urgency traffic light colour reference to allow you to prioritise works correctly: **Urgent:** Works recommended to be completed as soon as possible. **High:** Works should be completed within three months. **Moderate:** Works should be completed within three to six months; **Low:** Works should ideally be completed within one year. Trees that require monitoring will be categorised and coloured as "Moderate." The timeframe for monitoring may vary, usually for one year, depending on the defect(s) and species.

Ref.	Species	Target Information	Measurements	Structure	Survey Notes	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Condition	Risk Category	Inspected	Inspect Period	Recommendations	what3words	Photo	Photo
T170	Pedunculate oak ( <i>Quercus robur</i> )	Owned by local council. Roadside tree. Target # - dwelling. Target # - footpath. Target # - road. Target # - parked vehicles. Target # - church entrance. Target # - overhead wires.	Height (m): 19 Crown Radius (m): 9.5 DBH (cm): 87 Life Stage: Mature	Tree	The tree is exhibiting signs of stress, including apical dieback and minor-sized deadwood throughout the crown, and it appears that some tree work was performed approximately 3 to 5 years ago (minor reduction). In the central crown on a westerly-facing branch, just above a union and at approximately 9 m high, there is a historical hazard beam. Additionally, the tree trifurcates at roughly 3 m above ground level, displaying weak unions with bark inclusion, as well as other weak unions and poor branch attachments throughout its structure. Surrounding the tree is a wooden seat, which restricts access to the lower stem and the adjacent rooting area. During the 2024 inspection, it was observed that the tree had come into contact with the seat in several places, and it also collects falling debris, which contributes to the softening of the bark, potentially causing damage and serving as an entry point for pathogens. Since 2024, it has increased in girth by an additional 1 cm. The stem maintains a 12° lean to the north, which has remained consistent since the inspection in 2024. Groundworks involving two trenches on the side road, located south of the tree and within its rooting environment, were also observed in 2024. Additionally, during that inspection, two types of fungal fruiting bodies were identified on the lower stem and in the surrounding soil, and the fungus <i>Stereum hirsutum</i> was noted on a branch within the crown on the north side. No fructifications were found at this time, likely due to a change in climatic conditions. The tree has also suffered a fracture with the loss of a small limb on the south side at approximately 12 m high.  Fungus: <i>Hypholomafasciculare</i> (Sulphurturf) <i>Russula mutabilis</i> (Brittlegills - mycorrhizal fungus) <i>Stereum hirsutum</i> (Hairy Curtain Crust)	Fair	Fair	Fair	Moderate:	06-Oct-2025	1 Year	<p><b>Recommendations 1:</b> Risk management: A suitably qualified arborist (Level 4 Diploma and above) should perform an aerial inspection of the hazard beam if one has not been carried out within the last three years. Report back to the inspector with the findings in a written report, including photos and recommendations. Justification: This will facilitate future management decisions. Timescale: 06-Oct-2026 (1 Year)</p> <p><b>Recommendations 2:</b> Risk management: Consider removing the seat from around the stem. Justification: This will facilitate future inspections, preventing damage and possible pathogen entry. Timescale: 06-Oct-2026 (1 Year)</p> <p><b>Long-term Recommendations:</b> Risk management: Monitor the lean angle for signs of movement and uprooting, and inspect the unions and branch attachments for signs of separation, especially after storm-force winds. Additionally, observe for signs of decay and fungal fruiting bodies. Justification: Tree management. Timescale: 06-Oct-2026 (1 Year)</p>	///recount.dummy.luring	   	   

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### Terms and Definitions which may be found in this Report:

•	Acropetal mortality – Inner branches which are dying or have died.
•	Adaptive growth - The process whereby the rate of new wood formation, as well as wood quality, responds to gravity and other forces as a measure towards maintaining a uniform distribution of mechanical stress
•	Adventitious bud/shoot - Bud/shoot that forms other than through primary development. For example, shoots which develop other than from terminal or axillary buds. See also Epicormic.
•	Arisings - Woody material and foliage derived from a tree.
•	Basal - The base of the tree's primary stem(s)
•	Bottle-butt - A broadening of a tree's stem base and buttresses, in excess of normal and sometimes denoting a growth response to weakening in that region, mainly due to decay involving selective delignification.
•	Branch bark ridge - A rigid area located at the union of a branch to a trunk or stem.
•	Burr - is a tree growth in which the grain has grown in a deformed manner. It is commonly found as a rounded outgrowth on a tree trunk or branch filled with small knots from dormant buds.
•	Canker - Area of dead or malformed bark caused by a pathogen attack.
•	Canopy - Of a single tree, its crown, emphasising its spreading and enclosing character. In a woodland or forest, the crowns of the larger trees are considered collectively.
•	Cavity - Hole in a woody part of a tree caused by decay or damage.
•	Cladotopsis is a process in which trees shed their branches or “self-prune” as part of their normal physiology or in response to stress through the formation of an abscission layer at the branch base.
•	Co-dominant stem/branch - Upward growing stem/branch of a similar size and growth habit as another nearby stem/branch. NOTE. Where such stems/branches arise from the same union, their stability or the integrity of the attachment of the stems/branches could be compromised. Also, see Included bark.
•	Coelensence of decay - Where pockets of decay join together.
•	Copse - A copse is a thicket of bushes or a small stand of trees
•	Coppicing - Cutting trees close to ground level to encourage the regrowth of multiple shoots.
•	Coronet cut. A natural fracture pruning technique by which a branch is removed from a tree by unconventional cuts to leave a stub and ragged finish
•	Crown - The main foliage-bearing part of a tree.
•	The removal of broken, diseased, dying, or dead branches or snags that are either over 50mm in diameter or are more than 2m in length
•	Crown lift - The pruning or removal of lower branches to achieve a specified clearance above ground level or another surface, for example, a roof or streetlight.
•	Crown reduction - Pruning to reduce the overall height and/or spread of the crown of a tree by shortening twigs and/or branches to suitable secondary growth points whilst retaining the main framework of the crown, leaving a flowing outline as far as practicable. NOTE. Not all species or individual trees are appropriate candidates for reduction.
•	Crown shyness - This phenomenon is observed in some tree species, in which the crowns of fully stocked trees do not touch each other, forming a canopy with channel-like gaps. The phenomenon is most prevalent among trees of the same species but also occurs between trees of different species.
•	Deadwood - Any non-living woody parts of a tree. Deadwood provides valuable habitat, and good management should aim to leave as much as possible present, removing it only where necessary for safety reasons.

## Terms and Definitions which may be found in this Report (continue):

•	Dieback - Tips of branches that have died back due to external influences and/or old age.
•	'Durable' & 'non-durable heartwood - Heartwood formation of many species involves a general deposition of anti-microbial and plugging materials, usually dark in colour. These substances are extractives. Suberin is the most important substance in some species; others include resin and gums, which play an important part in heartwood formation, especially conifers. Some species have 'non-durable' heartwood, which can be readily decayed if exposed to partial drying and fungal infection.
•	DynaRoot - Dynamic stability test of a tree's root system
•	Dysfunction - In woody tissues, the loss of physiological function, especially water conduction, in sapwood
•	Ears: Terminology to describe reaction wood at the base of a weak union. The sizeable pointy nose ribs tend to indicate a progressive crack which has not yet stabilised.
•	Elastometer - An instrument for measuring elasticity (hence Young's modulus), used in pulling tests to infer whether a tree is defective
•	Extensometer - An extensometer is a device used to measure changes in the length of an object.
•	Epicormic growth – Bud/shoot initiated on a mature woody stem or branch. Shoots can form in this way from dormant buds or adventitious.
•	Exudation - An emission of fluid from an organism through the bark of a tree through a wound or lesion
•	Fissures - A fissure is a flat depression on the trunk of a tree. It can indicate an area of the tree that has stopped or slowed its growth in a localised area.
•	Fruiting body – Reproductive, spore-bearing structure of a fungus.
•	Girdling (root) - In woody plants, a root grows across the buttress or other roots, eventually causing constriction of the radial growth.
•	G = Group
•	H = Hedge
•	Harp trees: Reiterations from fallen/leaning trees.
•	Included bark - Bark tissue lodged in the union between a branch and the parent stem, in the crotch of two branches, or between the bases of co-dominant stems, indicating potential weak attachment.
•	Increment strips - The increment strips may denote good or bad news. They may indicate vigorous growth but also the start of a crack.
•	Knuckle - Swelling that forms at a pollard point, especially after repeated cutting.
•	Lesion - The localised area of diseased or disordered tissue.
•	LPA = Local Planning Authority
•	Natural brace - A 'natural brace' is a structure formed above a junction in the crown of a tree, which restricts the junction's movement.
•	Necrotic - Dead plant tissue, usually characterised by a change in colour to dark brown or black.
•	Mathematical abbreviations: > = Greater than, < = Less than.
•	Monolith: where a decaying tree has been safely stabilised, perhaps with short stubby limbs. This practice is used to completely mitigate any risk of failure whilst creating a valuable habitat resource.
•	Occlusion - The growth of new wood, including wound wood and callus growth, closing around a wound or area of damaged tissue.
•	PH = Reference to a photograph taken on the day of the inspection, illustrating the findings of Curley Consultants
•	Phototropic - obtaining energy from sunlight to synthesise organic compounds for nutrition.

## Terms and Definitions which may be found in this Report (continue):

•	Phototropism - Is the growth of an organism which responds to a light stimulus.
•	Pollarding is cutting a tree to encourage the formation of numerous branches arising from the same height on a main stem or principal branches. This process is initially carried out on trees that have not yet reached maturity. The tree's form can then be maintained by cycles of cutting. NOTE: This is not the same as topping.
•	Proliferation - A significant increase in the number or amount
•	Reaction wood - is a special type of wood that differs from ordinary wood in its mechanical properties. Reaction wood is usually laid down in wider annual increments than elsewhere around the stem or branch circumference. The cross-section is often asymmetrical or elliptical (also see adaptive growth).
•	Retrenchment pruning - A form of reduction intended to encourage the development of lower shoots and emulate the natural process of tree ageing.
•	Ribs - are raised ridges and often indicate a crack that has been occluded within new wood. If the edge of the ridge is cleft, it indicates the crack has not been grafted closed. If the nose of the ridge has a sharp edge, the crack is close to the surface. The more blunted the ridge, the more enclosed the crack has become.
•	Ribs on the stem - a rib usually indicates that something with the tree has deviated from what might be considered "normal". The building of a rib is often the tree's response to something new in its mechanical world – for example, a crack, internal decay, or exposure to new wind conditions due to the removal of surrounding trees or buildings.
•	Root collar - Flared area of the stem base where the roots and the stem adjoin.
•	Saprophytic - An organism that lives on dead organic matter rather than on live tissues
•	Shear cracks - This type of crack will appear on the outer edges of the tree trunk or branch and has a split straight through it.
•	Site: A site is the location of the tree/trees or groups of trees surveyed and whose details have been recorded.
•	Sp = Species
•	Stand - A woodland or forest stand is a contiguous community of trees sufficiently uniform in composition, structure, age and size class distribution, spatial arrangement, site quality, condition, or location.
•	Stem - The main component of a tree that supports its limbs and branches.
•	Stub - Broken or shortened remaining section of a limb or branch.
•	Subsiding branch - Heavy branches or leaning stems which are progressively bending downwards under their increasing weight
•	Subsidence cracks - caused by subsiding branches or leaning stems.
•	T = Tree
•	Target - Person or object, whether mobile or fixed, within the potential zone of impact of a tree or its branches, which might be harmed as a result of the partial or total failure of the tree.
•	Thigmomorphogenesis - How trees adapt to their environment and to change
•	Tight union / Tight crotch - Also, narrow crotch. A crotch with a narrow angle between branches, often having included bark.
•	Topping - Removal of most or all of the crown of a mature tree by indiscriminately cutting through the main stem(s). NOTE. This is not the same as pollarding.
•	Vitality - Overall measure of physiological and biochemical processes, in which high vitality equates with near-optimal function.
•	Wound wood - new tissues surrounding a wound or canker. (Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management by David Lonsdale).