

Blockley co-op shop

TREE REPORT



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Brief

I am instructed by Ms Pam Merritt of Blockley to inspect the trees at Bell Lane, Blockley and to provide an arboricultural report on the health and condition of the trees, and any recommendations for work.

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 experience and qualifications.

1.3 Documents and information provided

I was provided with copies of topographical plans.

1.4 Scope of this report

This report is only concerned with the significant trees shown on the enclosed plan.

1.5 Limitations of use and copyright

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2 SITE VISIT AND OBSERVATIONS / COLLECTION OF DATA

2.1 Site visit

I carried out numerous un-accompanied site visits in November 2010. My observations were from ground level.

2.2 Site description

The site is a small plot of land in the centre of the village adjacent to the public toilet block opposite the existing shop. There are two significant trees within the area and two large stumps, one from what looks like a Black Poplar tree which from local records failed and fell onto adjacent buildings. There are a number of shrubs within the plot which have not been included in this report. There are 3 significant trees just outside the boundary wall which are situated in the church yard, these trees have been identified as being of significant value and have therefore been included in this report.

The site is bordered by a Cotswold drystone wall. To the West is situated the old mill pond again surrounded by many small trees and shrubs.

2.3 Identification and location of the trees

The trees have been identified and are listed within the Tree Survey Schedule.

I have plotted the locations of the trees on the plan included. All the relevant information on it is contained within this report and the provided documents. Only the significant trees are included in this report.

2.4 Tree observation

I visually inspected the trees and recorded the information below.

2.4.1

Tree Survey. Proposed Coop site, Bell Lane Blockley

INSERT TREE SURVEY DATA SHEET

2.5 Appraisal

T1 Common Larch *Larix decidua* **Cat R**

T1 is an unusual specimen which has suffered significant damage in terms of losing most of its branches on the southern side. Local knowledge indicates an adjacent Black Poplar fell down onto the Dovecote and as a result had the effect of knocking off the branches, leaving an uneven canopy and resulting in quite an ugly specimen.

Evidence shows that the root system is uplifting the surfaced area and maybe starting to impact on the adjacent wall also.

T2 Apple *Malus* **Cat C2**

T2 is heavily ivy clad which could be an indication the tree is in decline and could be hiding structural defects not easily seen from the ground e.g. rot. However areas of rot on the main trunk can be seen and although not causing a health and safety risk at this time will become worse and will have to be monitored.

T3 Yew *Taxus baccata* **Cat A1,2,3**

T3 has suffered major pruning in the past probably to elevate damage to the toilet block. Small amounts of rot are present between the multi stems. Further pruning may be needed to protect adjacent structures. Stem rot fungus has been identified on other Yews within the Church yard, but does not seem to be an issue to this tree at this time.

T4 Portugal Laurel *Prunus lusitanica* **Cat A2**

T4 is in good health and vigour and although usually considered to be of lower arboricultural, landscape and conservation value, has been upgraded due to its position within the Church yard and its historical and landscape position.

T5 Yew *Taxus baccata* **Cat A1,2,3**

T5 is in good health and vigour

Two old tree stumps are evident, one of which is the remnant of a Black Poplar which failed and fell on the adjacent Dovecote.

3 Conclusions

T1 Common Larch *Larix decidua* Cat R

The landscape character and amenity value of this tree has been compromised and evidence shows structural damage to surrounding structures caused by tree roots. Consideration should be given to the removal of this tree and a relevant replacement planted to replace.

T2 Apple *Malus* Cat C2

This tree is of fair quality and is in decline, it should be monitored for increasing structural defects or could be considered for removal if it were to pose a risk to the adjacent structures.

T3 Yew *Taxus baccata* Cat A1,2,3

This tree has suffered severe pruning in the past and as a result has left it with a compromised shape and could have opened up the opportunity for disease to enter. However, it appears at this time to be in good health and should be monitored. Consideration should be given to future sympathetic pruning to accommodate nearby structures.

T4 Portugal Laurel *Prunus lusitanica* Cat A2

This tree is of good health and vigour; no further recommendations are needed other than to respect the RPA.

T5 Yew *Taxus baccata* Cat A1,2,3

This tree is of good health and vigour; no further recommendations are needed other than to respect the RPA.

The old Poplar stump is beginning to re-sprout and should be re-cut and chemically treated or preferably ground out.

The trees species within this report are a diverse mix of native and exotic. Most of the trees are in good condition with only a small number showing structural issues. Attention should be made to retaining as many trees as possible taking into consideration landscape character, arboricultural interest and conservation value.

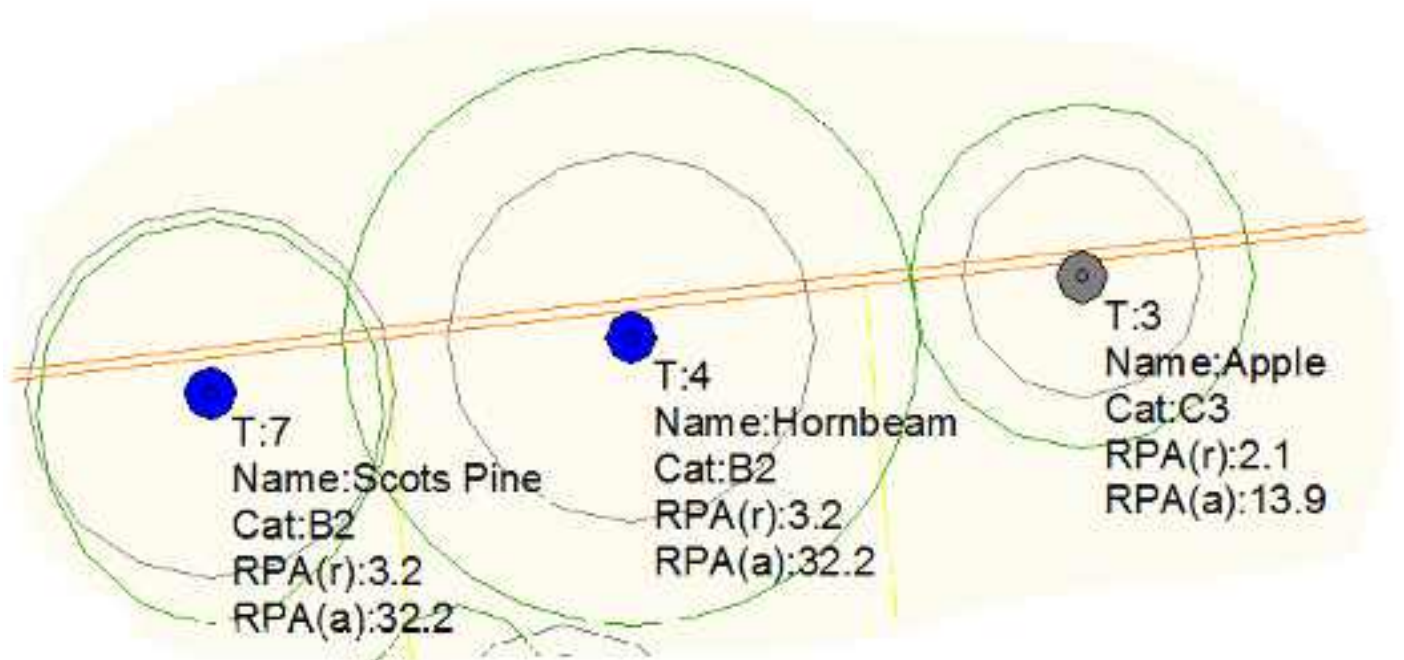
4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Any retained trees should be subject to the preliminary management recommendations as shown in the tree survey schedule. Sympathetic pruning may be considered to protect the canopies.

4.2 Any remaining trees with structural problems should be monitored on an annual basis to determine any future works. Replacement planting of removed trees should be considered where possible.

4.3 This report has been written in accordance with section 4.5 of BS 5837. If planning permission is granted, further works would be required to detail mitigation and protection measures in accordance with section 7.

4.4 Below is an example of the tree represented on the plan. The canopy depicted in green and the category represented by the appropriate colour in the centre, grey, blue, red. The Root Protection Area (Grey) can be measured as a circle around the tree measuring a radius as shown in RPA (r)



Tree position and information 1

5 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Trees subject to statutory controls

If any of the 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 works other than certain exemptions can be carried out.

5.2 Any practical work should be carried out by a competent contractor with the relevant insurance and experience. The contractor should carry out all tree works to BS 3998 *Recommendations for Tree Work* (1991) as modified by research that is more recent.

5.3 Reference should be made to the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981), protection of bird and bat species.

6 Photographs



T1 Larch



Site looking SW



T2 & T3 Toilet block



T2 Apple



Various small shrubs



T3 Yew severe pruning



Decay fungus on nearby tree (not within this report) but worthy of mention

Site Location: Blockley

