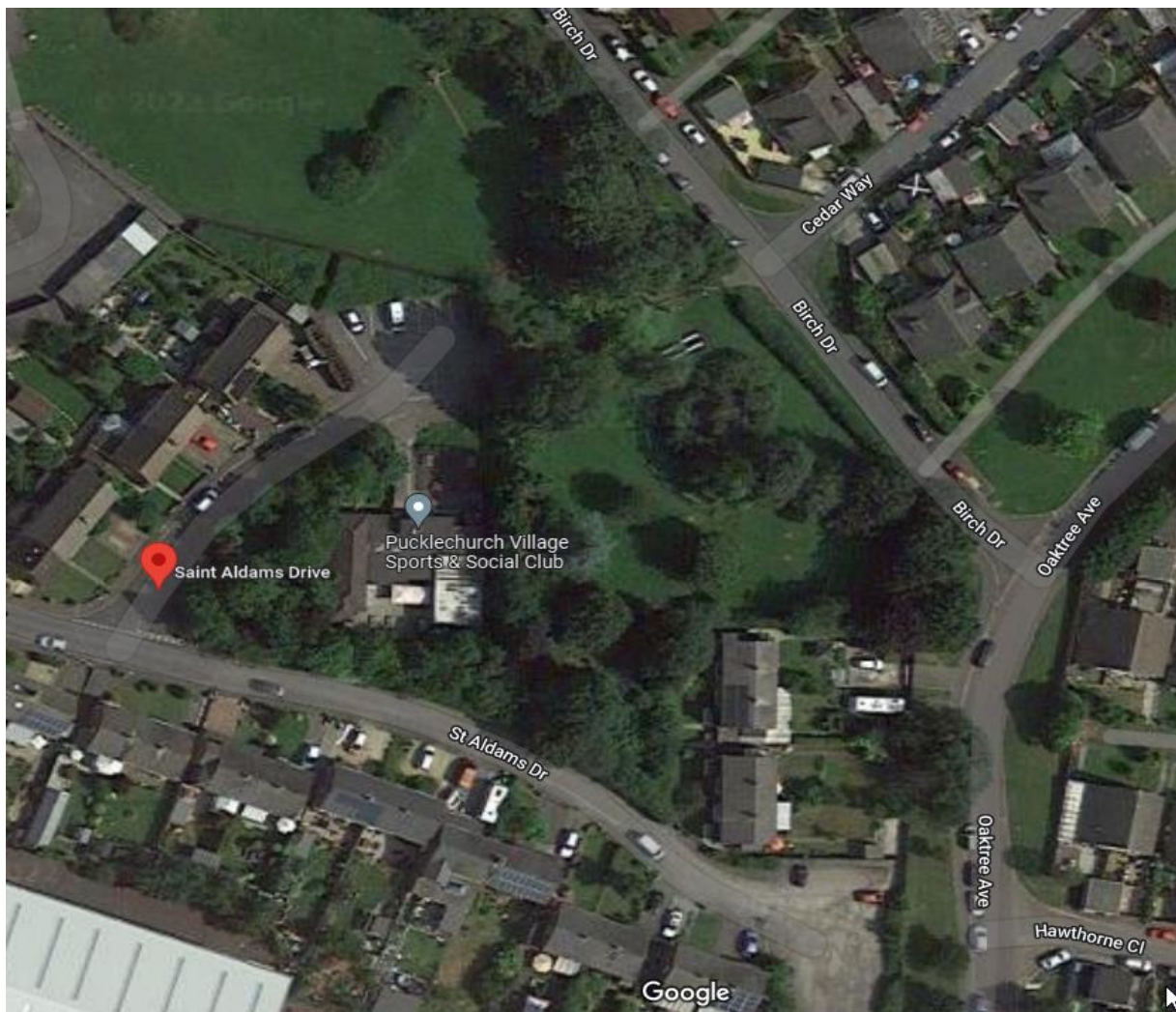


Social Club, St. Aldams Drive, Pucklechurch Arboricultural Report containing:-

- **Arboricultural survey**
- **Survey findings**
- **Work recommendations**



On behalf of:
Pucklechurch Parish Council

Prepared by:
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Arboricultural Consultant
September 2022

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1.0 Instructions/Scope

- 1.1 We have been instructed to conduct a health and safety inspection of all trees within the grounds of the social club, St. Aldam's Drive, Pucklechurch. We were instructed to assess the current condition of the trees and recommend remedial tree work necessary to address any health and safety issues identified during our inspection.
- 1.2 Any trees found which are considered to pose a health and safety risk to buildings or people are detailed within the survey sheets and remedial works recommended to address the issues identified.
- 1.3 This report is based on a ground level assessment of the tree. Except where stated, all dimensions are estimated. We were not presented with any information on the soil type and no soil samples have been taken. An arboricultural consultant visited the site on Thursday 1st September 2022. The weather was bright with good visibility.

2.0 Survey Methodology

- 2.1 The survey includes tree and shrubs with a stem diameter over 75mm at 1.5m height, located within the area shown on the plan included in this report.
- 2.2 All inspections were made from ground level with the use of binoculars, sounding hammer and metal probe where necessary, using the Visual Tree Assessment method (Mattheck & Breloer 1994). The presence and condition of bark and stem wounds, cavities, decay, fungal fruiting bodies and any structural defects that could affect the structural integrity of the trees have been noted. Should a more detailed inspection, by climbing or by elevated platform, be required then this will be highlighted within survey recommendations.
- 2.3 Tree numbers have been noted on the plan. The following details were recorded for each tree and are included in the tree schedule sheets accompanying this report:
Number: an identity number for each tree, prefixed with a 'T' which cross references locations shown on the plan with the tree survey sheets. Where a number of trees, normally of the same species, are located close together and are similar in character and requirements, they have been treated as a Group under a single Number, prefixed with a 'G'



Species: common name and botanical name in *italics*.

Tree Height: approximate height in metres.

Crown spread: approximate spread in metres taken at the four main compass points N, E, S, W

Age class: Young, Semi-Mature, Early Mature, Mature, Over-Mature, Veteran

Crown clearance: approximate height from ground to lowest part of canopy

Structural condition: Good, Fair, Poor

Physiological condition: Good, Fair, Poor, Dead

Observations: observations noted during tree inspections

Recommendations: recommended action to ensure the health and safety of the tree.

Priority: 1-urgent, 2-essential, 3-recommended, 4-desirable.

- 2.4 Surveyed trees were sequentially numbered which correspond with the numbers on survey schedule sheets (appendices 1) and the approximate tree locations plotted on site plan (appendices 2).

3.0 Survey Limitations

- 3.1 Trees are living, dynamic organisms that can be affected by external conditions. It is therefore not possible to state with any certainty that a tree is safe.
- 3.2 No internal decay devices, or other invasive tools to assess tree condition, were used. No soil excavation or root inspection was undertaken.
- 3.3 This survey has not considered the effect that trees or vegetation may have on the structural integrity of adjacent buildings or structures.
- 3.4 The recommendations contained within this report are based on the condition of the tree at the time they were inspected. The content of the report could be invalidated by future changes in the condition of the tree or the surrounding area.



4.0 Legal duty

- 4.1 It is the responsibility of the tree owner to ensure that their tree(s) are in a safe and stable condition, including the effects of root activity, through duty of care in the Occupiers Liability Act (1957 & 1984).
- 4.2 The Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 makes it an offence to disturb a nesting bird or recklessly endanger a bat or its roost. Professional advice should be sought, where relevant, before undertaking any recommended works.
- 4.3 We were not made aware of any Tree Preservation Orders or other statutory constraints covering the trees on the site.

5.0 Findings (to be read in conjunction with the survey sheets)

When assessing any potential hazards the trees may pose, the tree positions in relation to the position of internal roads, areas of public access and adjacent public highways and footpaths, was considered.

- 5.1 It was found that the majority of the trees were mature or early mature specimens growing within the grounds mainly in small groups or within small, wooded areas. There were a number of mature trees which have been planted as individual specimens within the lawned areas.
- 5.2 On inspection evidence was found that all the surveyed Ash trees are infected by Ash dieback disease (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*). This was evident in the few remaining leaves in the canopies of the trees and the leaf litter around the base of the trees. Ash dieback disease destroys the tree's phloem and xylem, which results in the tree being unable to move water and nutrients around its structure. This lack of water and nutrient movement will cause the branches of the tree to fail and the tree to 'die back'. The ongoing loss of nutrition and water plus the depletion of energy reserves due to the lack of foliage, causes the tree to become brittle, lose branches and make it susceptible to other pathogens such as Honey Fungus (*Armillaria*).



- 5.3 It is currently estimated that Ash dieback has a mortality rate of 90% with few trees showing any signs of resistance. (ref: Tree Council Ash Dieback Action Plan Toolkit Summer 2019). The precise speed of decline of any individual tree is currently impossible to predict and will be influenced by other factors including soil type, soil moisture levels and topography.
- 5.4 The latest evidence nationwide and from local tree surgery teams, is that infected trees can decline rapidly becoming structurally unsound in a matter of months. It is therefore considered that the Ash trees have a very short useful life expectancy.
- 5.5 To help manage the effects of Ash dieback disease, a ‘traffic light’ system has been adopted to prioritise the worst affected cases and make management more practical. Where approximately up to 75% or more of the canopy has been affected due to the disease, the tree is given a ‘red’ status. This status requires more immediate remedial works to the tree. Where up to 50% of the canopy is affected, the tree is given ‘amber’ status. When up to 25% of the canopy is affected, the tree is given ‘green’ status. The severity of the disease to the Ash tree on site can be seen in the survey sheets (appendix 1).
- 5.6 Forty-two trees, two groups of trees, and three hedges were surveyed. Four trees are considered to require essential works (2). Two trees have recommended works (3). The remaining trees, groups, and hedgerows had no visible defects considered to require remedial works at the time of inspection.
- 5.7 T10, T12, T21, and T32 are Ash trees showing early signs of Ash dieback disease. It is essential that the trees are reinspected annually to monitor their decline.
- 5.8 T03 Leyland Cypress contains a snapped, hung-up branch on the north side of the canopy. It is recommended to remove the hanging branch.
- 5.9 T26 Red Horse Chestnut is growing next to a public footpath and appears to be in terminal decline. There is no foliage left on the tree. It is recommended to monolith the tree to 4m and retain a safe amount of deadwood for ecological reasons.



6.0 Recommendations (to be read in conjunction with survey schedule sheet)

All recommended works for each tree are contained within the survey sheets.

- 6.1 *Urgent* work (1) recommendations are intended to address issues where the trees pose an immediate danger and should be undertaken as soon as possible. Prior notification of such works will usually be given either verbally or by email on the day of discovery. Such works would include recently up- rooted trees, trees or branches in danger of imminent failure hazardous trees/branches over public highways.
- 6.2 The trees deemed to require *essential* works (2) could be dead, structurally unsound or containing major deadwood which is overhanging areas which could potentially be used by the public. Essential works also include the crown lifting or cutting back of trees which encroach over footpaths or the public highway.
- 6.3 Works prioritised as *recommended* (3) are considered to be beneficial for the future growth and structure of the tree. These works could include follow-on inspections to monitor a potential defect highlighted in a previous survey, removal of minor deadwood, formative pruning. Desirable works (4) include any potential works observed during the inspection which do not address safety issues with the tree but if implemented would enhance the tree and potentially reduce future management.
- 6.4 Deadwood within the canopy of trees, whilst offering ecological advantages, can poses a health and safety risk in areas of public access. The size, species of tree, target area and monetary cost of deadwood removal should be considered when assessing any potential works. Where dead branches or major deadwood was found in the tree canopies and there is public access around the tree, removal of the deadwood has been recommended.
- 6.5 Minor deadwood with a stem diameter of less than 50mm is commonly found within the canopy of mature trees. This is caused by the outer canopy shading the inner resulting in twigs, small branches dying back. This deadwood is usually blown from the tree in high winds and poses little risk to the public or property near the tree. To remove all the minor deadwood from mature trees would be a labour intensive, expensive operation which is



considered unnecessary when assessed against the risk it poses. Subsequently the recommendations within this report only state the removal of minor deadwood as part of another arboricultural operation. The presence of any minor deadwood in the trees is however noted in the schedule sheets.

- 6.6 Low branches restrict access for people under the canopies or around the base of the trees. Crown lifting will allow clear access under and around the tree, whilst not affecting the overall visual amenity.

Work Recommendations

	Essential works (2)	Recommended works (3)
Reinspect tree	T10, T12, T21, T34	
Remove snapped, hanging branches		T03
Remove tree or monolith to 4m for ecological reasons		T26

7.0 Appendices

- Survey schedule sheets
- Site plans

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September 2022



Arboricultural Survey Social Club, St Aldam's Drive, Pucklechurch



Tree Number	Common name	Botanical name	Height (m)	Number of stems	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Structural Condition	Physiological Condition	Observations	Work Recommendations	Useful Life Expectancy	Work Priority
					N	E	S	W								
H01	Mixed species	Mixed species	8	1	2	4	3	2	0	Mature	Fair	Good	Mixed species hedgerow including Leyland Cypress, Field Maple, Elder Topped at 8m Suppressed by neighbouring trees No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
H02	Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii X</i>	5	1	1	2	1	2	0	Mature	Fair	Fair	Previously topped at 4m Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown Minor deadwood in canopy	No action required at the time of inspection.	20+ Years	0
H03	Mixed species	Mixed species	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	Mature	Good	Good	Mixed species hedgerow including Hawthorn, Elder, Field Maple and Sycamore	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T01	Black Hybrid Poplar	<i>Populus x canadensis</i>	18	1	5	8	6	5	2	Mature	Fair	Good	Previously pollarded at 5m No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T02	Blue Cedar	<i>Cedrus atlantica glauca</i>	12	1	4	4	4	4	2	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Minor deadwood in canopy	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T03	Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii X</i>	14	1	4	4	4	4	2	Mature	Fair	Good	Multi- stemmed from 0.5m Included bark at stem union Minor deadwood in canopy Hung up snapped branch in middle canopy north side	Remove hangers and snapped branches	20-40 Years	3
T04	Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii X</i>	14	1	4	4	4	4	2	Mature	Fair	Good	Multi- stemmed from 1m Included bark at stem union No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0

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Tree Number	Common name	Botanical name	Height (m)	Number of stems	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Structural Condition	Physiological Condition	Observations	Work Recommendations	Usefull Life Expectancy	Work Priority
					N	E	S	W								
T05	Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	8	1	3	4	3	4	2	Mature	Fair	Good	Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T06	Paperbark Maple	<i>Acer griseum</i>											Tree removed			0
T07	Swedish Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	7	1	3	2	2	3	2	Early Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Suppressed by neighbouring trees	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T08	Wild Cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>											Tree removed			0
T09	Wild Cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>	8	1	2	2	1	2	1	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Previously crown reduced No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T10	Manna Ash	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i>	10	1	4	3	5	4	2	Mature	Fair	Fair	Evidence of probable Ash dieback disease in canopy 25%	Reinspect annually for Ash Dieback Disease	10+ Years	2
T11	Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus aria</i>	6	1	3	3	3	3	1	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Old wound near base east side, well calloused.	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T12	Common Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	7	1	4	5	5	4	1	Mature	Good	Fair	Evidence of Ash dieback disease in canopy 25%	Reinspect annually to monitor decline	10+ Years	2
T13	Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	11	1	4	4	4	4	2	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Suppressed by neighbouring trees Crimson king variety	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0

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Tree Number	Common name	Botanical name	Height (m)	Number of stems	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Structural Condition	Physiological Condition	Observations	Work Recommendations	Useful Life Expectancy	Work Priority
					N	E	S	W								
T14	Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	11	1	5	5	4	5	1.5	Mature	Good	Fair	Wound on main stem at 3m south side, well calloused. Minor deadwood in canopy. Dieback in the canopy chlorotic, sparse foliage	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
G15	Leyland Cypress	<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii X</i>	12	1	2	3	1	2	0	Mature	Fair	Good	Group of 14 Leyland Cypress forming linear row boundary hedge No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20+ Years	0
G16	Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	2	1	2	1	0	1	0	Semi Mature	Fair	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown	No action required at the time of inspection.	20+ Years	0
T17	Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	11	1	5	5	3	4	1	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Epicormic growth at base	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T18	Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	11	2	5	7	6	5	1	Mature	Fair	Good	Twin stemmed from base Included bark at stem union Ivy growing up main stem Epicormic growth at base	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T19	Common Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	6	1	1	1	1	1		Mature	Fair	Fair	Twin stemmed from base Prolific ivy throughout canopy	No action required at the time of inspection.	20+ Years	0
T20	Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus aria</i>	8	1	4	3	4	3	1	Mature	Fair	Good	Twin stemmed from base Included bark at stem union Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown Ivy growing up main stem	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0

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Tree Number	Common name	Botanical name	Height (m)	Number of stems	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Structural Condition	Physiological Condition	Observations	Work Recommendations	Useful Life Expectancy	Work Priority
					N	E	S	W								
T21	Common Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	12	1	5	5	5	4	1.5	Mature	Fair	Diseased	Previously crown reduced Evidence of Ash dieback disease in canopy 25% Minor deadwood in canopy	Reinspect annually to monitor decline	<10 years	2
T22	Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	11	1	4	4	6	4	1.5	Mature	Fair	Good	Minor deadwood in canopy Twin stemmed from 2m Included bark at stem union Wound at base of main stem on southwest side, well calloused. Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T23	Swedish Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	6	1	2	2	2	2	1	Semi Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T24	Common Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	6	1	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	Mature	Poor	Fair	Multi- stemmed from base Major split from main stem due to branch splay Previously crown reduced into bush	No action required at the time of inspection.	20+ Years	0
T25	Black Hybrid Poplar	<i>Populus x canadensis</i>											Tree removed			0
T26	Red Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	8	1	5	5	5	5	1	Mature	Good	Poor	Tree appears to be in terminal decline Major deadwood throughout canopy Dieback throughout the canopy chlorotic, sparse foliage Growing next to footpath	Monolith to 4m	<10 years	3
T27	Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	9	1	3	3	3	4	1	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0

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Tree Number	Common name	Botanical name	Height (m)	Number of stems	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Structural Condition	Physiological Condition	Observations	Work Recommendations	Useful Life Expectancy	Work Priority
					N	E	S	W								
T28	Common Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	5	1	2	2	4	2	0	Early Mature	Fair	Fair	Multi- stemmed from base Lean to south Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown Minor deadwood in canopy	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T29	Common Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	6	1	3	4	4	4	0	Mature	Fair	Fair	Multi- stemmed from base Dieback in the canopy chlorotic, sparse foliage Minor deadwood in canopy	No action required at the time of inspection.	20+ Years	0
T30	Common Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	5	1	3	2	2	2	2	Semi Mature	Fair	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T31	Red Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	6	1	4	4	2	4	1	Early Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T32	Crab Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	5	1	2	2	2	0.5	1	Mature	Fair	Good	Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T33	Horse Chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>											Tree removed			0
T34	Common Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	14	1	5	5	3	4	0	Mature	Fair	Diseased	Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown Evidence of Ash dieback disease in canopy 25%	Reinspect annually to monitor decline	<10 years	2
T35	Common Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	9	1	3	3	3	3	2	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T36	Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	6	1	6	6	5	5	1	Mature	Fair	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Previously crown lifted	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0

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Tree Number	Common name	Botanical name	Height (m)	Number of stems	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clearance (m)	Life Stage	Structural Condition	Physiological Condition	Observations	Work Recommendations	Useful Life Expectancy	Work Priority
					N	E	S	W								
T37	Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	7	1	3	4	4	5	1	Mature	Fair	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Previously crown lifted Minor deadwood in canopy	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T38	Pedunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	6	1	3	3	0	0	2	Semi Mature	Fair	Fair	Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown Major deadwood in canopy	No action required at the time of inspection.	20+ Years	0
T39	Wild Cherry	<i>Prunus avium</i>											Tree removed			0
T40	Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	8	1	4	5	3	4	2	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection Previously crown lifted	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T41	Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	12	1	6	6	5	5	1	Mature	Good	Good	Major deadwood in canopy Growing in overgrown shrubby area, unable to access stem to fully assess	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T42	Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	12	1	6	4	6	5	2	Mature	Fair	Good	Minor deadwood in canopy Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown Slight lean to east over bank Potential stress split on east side of main stem, well calloused. Previously crown lifted	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T43	Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	12	1	4	6	5	3	1	Mature	Fair	Fair	Suppressed by neighbouring trees Asymmetric crown Previously crown lifted No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0
T44	Swedish Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	10	1	3	3	4	3	1.5	Mature	Good	Good	No significant defects visible at time of inspection	No action required at the time of inspection.	20-40 Years	0

St. Aldams Drive, Pucklechurch,

