



Gale Tree Consultancy

Tree Condition Report

Plaistow Recreation Ground

July 2023

Ref: TCR/451/23

Gale Tree Consultancy

Tel: 01798 875731 | Email: office@galetreeconsultancy.co.uk | Web: galetreeconsultancy.co.uk

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Director: Andrew Gale - Dip Arb L6 (ABC) M.Arbor.A
Registered Office: 34 Carpenters Meadow Pulborough West Sussex RH20 2HQ
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Registered in England & Wales Company Number: 4915639 VAT No. 831 3224 66



Summary

- The tree is showing a slight decline in its physiological condition since last surveyed, but seems mostly unchanged
- Implement the recommended work to remove a section of deadwood, taking the suggested photos to accompany a description of the intended work to satisfy Chichester District Council's tree officer
- Maintain the schedule of reassessments in line with the tree as per previous reports



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Client and Address

- Catherine Nutting, Clerk to Plaistow & Ifold Parish Council, The Winterton Hall, Loxwood Road, PLAISTOW, RH14 0PX

1.2 Site Address if Different from the Above

- Plaistow Recreation Ground

1.3 Date of Inspection

- 11th July 2023

1.4 Name of Inspector

- Andrew Gale *Dip Arb L6 (ABC) M.Arbor.A*

1.5 Our Reference

- TCR/451/23

1.6 Instructions Received

- I have been instructed by the client to undertake a ground level visual inspection of a veteran tree located alongside the recreation ground and Common House Road as per the findings of TCR/297/22
- I am to provide my findings in the form of a report detailing any remedial work that may be necessary

2.0 Scope of the Report

- This tree condition report relates to the ground level assessment of the tree, it does not consider any below ground issues unless stated otherwise
- The report addresses issues apparent on the tree at the time of the inspection, therefore the likelihood of failure is considered for twelve months from the reports date based on the information gained on the day of the report and on the assumption that any recommended work will be undertaken in the time frame specified
- The site has not been checked for any statutory constraints
- The trees were not assessed for wildlife which would include birds or bats



3.0 Results of Inspection

3.1 Tree Species and Dimensions

No.	Species	Scientific Name	Stem Dia.	Height (m)	Crown Spread (m)				Age	Phys. Cond.
					N	E	S	W		
T530	Sessile oak	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	1.86	20.0	15.0	18.5	17.5	15.0	VET	FAIR

3.2 General Description

- The tree is located on top of a bank along the southern boundary line of Plaistow Recreation Ground and runs down to Common House Road to its south
- Attachment points on the stem and desiccated fruiting bodies of the decay fungus *Pseudoinonotus dryadeus* were noted on the southwest side of the stem; this immediate area exhibited a dull tone when assessed with the plastic headed mallet - see Appendix 1 Method of Inspection
- A further dull tone was heard on the west, southwest side of the stem up to c.1.9m
- An area of moribund bark, accompanied by a dull tone, was noted on the north west side of the stem from c.1m up to c.2.3m
- A c.9m long section of deadwood, emanating from a secondary stem section, was noted heading across Common House Road
- The tree was recorded as having a FAIR physiological condition. This has changed from the previous survey as an area of decreased leaf material was noted in the upper northern crown with further patches of decreased leaf in the upper western crown - see Appendix 4 Site Photos
- Aspects of the inner crown recorded in TCR/297/22 remain consistent with the findings in 2022

4.0 Recommendations

- Remove the c.9m long section of deadwood from over Common House Road, to be undertaken as soon as practicable
- It is worth noting that although the tree is subject to a tree preservation order (T7 of 70/00769/TPO) the removal of deadwood is exempt from the need to make a formal application. However, I would strongly recommend that prior to the work being undertaken, a photo of the dead section is emailed to the tree officer at Chichester District Council referencing the proposed works
- Maintain the current schedule for the follow up decay evaluation for May 2025 as recommended in TCR/297/22
- This time frame should be shortened in the event:
 - The tree's local environment changes significantly
 - Fruiting bodies emerge from anywhere on the tree
 - After extreme weather events such as:
 - Wind gusts in excess of Force 8 on the Beaufort Scale - see Appendix 3
 - After named extreme weather events such as Storm Eunice of February 2022



This concludes my report.

Signed:

Andrew Gale.

Andrew Gale *Dip Arb L6 (ABC) M.Arbor.A*

Date: 17th July 2023





5.0 Appendix 1

Method of Inspection

- A nylon headed mallet is used to sound the stem as an initial indication of the presence of decay
- A thin steel rod is used, where necessary, to assess the depth of any decay in cavities and concavities between buttress roots
- Binoculars are used to assess the upper areas of the crown for signs of foliar damage, cracks and defects within branches etc.



Appendix 2

Survey Key

Tree No.	Relating the tree being assessed	
Species	Common name in English	
Scientific name	The current scientific name will be used	
Stem diameter	Measured at c. 1.5m above ground level at its highest point and shown in metres (m)	
Height	Measured using a TruPulse digital clinometer and shown in metres (m)	
Crown Spread	Measured using a TruPulse digital clinometer and shown in metres (m)	
Age Class	Young [Y]	recently planted or established within the last 5 years
	Semi Mature [SM]	a well-established youngish tree but far from full maturity
	Early Mature [EM]	long established nearing its full size but not fully mature
	Mature [M]	fully mature tree that has met its full size
	Late Mature [LM]	a fully mature tree that has passed its peak; may exhibit areas of decline
	Veteran [V]	a tree with the physical characteristics of an Ancient tree but is not ancient in years compared to other trees of the same species
	Ancient [A]	a tree that has past full maturity and is old or aged in comparison to other trees of the same species
Physiological Condition	GOOD	No significant physiological problems
	FAIR	Some physiological problems
	POOR	Significant physiological problems
	MORIBUND	In a serious and irreversible decline
	DEAD	Not alive
Tree Structure	Main Stem	The stem, from ground level up to the point at which it bifurcates
	Primary Stem Section (PSS)	The larger stem sections that emanate from the main stem after bifurcation; form the main crown structure
	Secondary Stem Section (SSS)	The stem sections that emanate from the primary stem sections that contribute to the inner crown structure
	Tertiary Stem Section (TSS)	The stem sections that emanate from the secondary stem sections that contribute to the inner and outer crown structure
	Subordinate Branch Structure (SBS)	The smaller diameter branches that help form the inner and outer branch structure; leaf bearing twigs emanate from these to form the crown



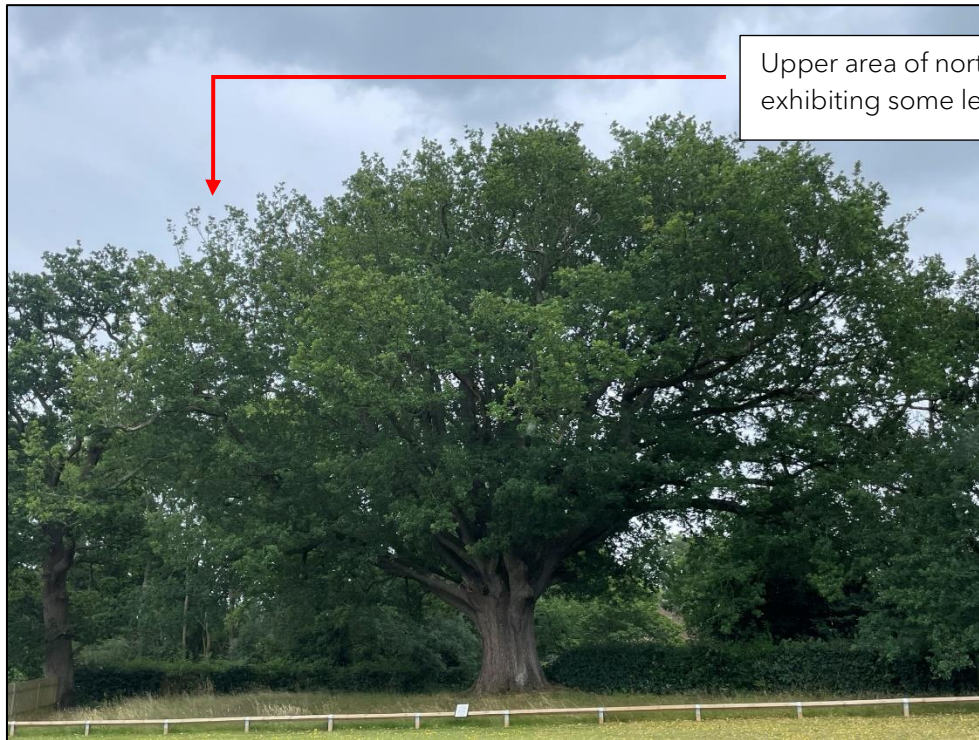
Appendix 3

Beaufort Number	Name	Knots	MPH	Effects Observed on Land
0	Calm	Under 1	Under 1	Calm, smoke rises vertically
1	Light Air	1-3	1-3	Direction of wind is shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes
2	Light Breeze	4-6	4-7	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, ordinary wind vane moved by wind
3	Gentle Breeze	7-10	8-12	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion, wind extends light flag
4	Moderate Breeze	11-16	13-18	Raises dust and loose paper, small branches are moved
5	Fresh Breeze	17-21	19-24	Small trees in leaf begin to sway, crested wavelets in inland waters
6	Strong Breeze	22-27	25-31	Large branches in motion, whistling heard in telegraph wires, umbrellas used with difficulty
7	Near Gale	28-33	32-38	Whole trees in motion, inconvenience felt in walking against the wind
8	Gale	34-40	39-46	Breaks twigs off trees, generally impedes progress
9	Strong Gale	41-47	47-54	Slight structural damage occurs - chimney pots, slates removed
10	Storm	48-55	55-63	Seldom experienced inland, trees uprooted, considerable structural damage occurs
11	Violent Storm	56-63	64-72	Very rarely experienced, accompanied by widespread damage
12	Hurricane	64 and over	73 and over	



Appendix 4

Site Photos



Upper area of northern crown exhibiting some leaf disorder



Point of attachment of the c.9m long section of deadwood over Common House Road