Wickham and Knowle Parish Council

Wickham Water Meadows Committee

(Chair Cllr Craig Manuel **Members:** Cllr Sheila Chambers, Cllr Malc Burt, Cllr Leah Greenbank, Cllr Ben Sawyers, Mark Ashton)

Dear Committee Members

I hereby give you notice that a meeting of the **Wickham Water Meadows Committee** will be held **on Monday 20th January 2025 at 12:30pm**. The Committee will meet at the picnic area before walking around Water Meadows, then adjourning for the meeting to be held inside the **Tennis Clubhouse, Wickham Recreation Ground, Wickham, PO17 5BY.**

All members of the Committee are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out below.

The meeting will be open to the public unless the Council directs otherwise. Meeting Papers are available on request from the Clerk, except where classified confidential.

Agenda item	Title	Lead	Page
1.	To receive apologies for absence	Chair	-
2.	To receive declarations of interest on agenda items	Chair	-
3.	Public Session	Chair	-
4.	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th October 2024	Chair	2-3
5.	To approve the Wickham Water Meadows Millenium Green Trust Charity accounts for the financial year 2023-24 and delegate to the Clerk to submit the accounts to the Charity Commission	Chair	4-8
6.	To receive the tree survey	Clerk	9-51
7.	To consider quotes for the tree work and recommend appointing a contractor to Full Council	Clerk	To follow
8.	To consider installing handrails on the steps of the bridge	Chair	52
9.	To receive an update on the Water Vole channel work	Clerk	Verbal
10.	To agree a list of the work needed at the Water Meadows picnic area	Chair	53
11.	To discuss grounds maintenance arrangements for 1st April 2025 onwards	Chair	53

Sophie Thorogood
Clerk and RFO to Wickham and Knowle Parish Council
clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org
13th January 2025

Wickham and Knowle Parish Council

Wickham Water Meadows Committee

Minutes of the Wickham Water Meadows Committee held at Knowle Village Hall, Monday 14th October 2024, 7pm

Committee members present:

Cllr Craig Manuel (Chair), Cllr Sheila Chambers, Cllr Leah Greenbank, Cllr Ben Sawyers (Vice from)

In Attendance: Sophie Thorogood, Parish Clerk & RFO
2 Members of the Public

1. **Vice Chair –**

   RESOLVED: Cllr Sawyers was elected as Vice Chair of the Committee, as proposed by Cllr Greenbank, seconded by Cllr Chambers and carried.

2. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Burt
3. **Declarations of interest on Agenda:** None declared
4. **Public Session** – 2 members of public were in attendance and offered their help if needed with any queries as both used to be part of the Committee in the past.
5. **Minutes of the Meeting 14th October 2022:** The minutes were taken as correct; no Councillors present were in attendance at the time

   RESOLVED: Minutes of the Meeting were approved and signed as a true record, proposed Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr Greenbank and carried.

6. **Current work needed at the Water Meadows:**

   Clerk has arranged a morning session with a new Lengthsman company to the footpath that runs through the Water Meadows, as this footpath is a register Hampshire Rights of Way footpath. If the Council are happy with the work, this new Lengthsman company can be used again in the future.

   The handyman engaged to carry out work to Knowle Village Hall is able to carry out remedial work to the benches and tables that have been damaged by disposable barbecues. The handyman has carried out similar work for another Parish Council working alongside a Men's Shed; the Wickham Men's Shed are keen to work with the Parish Council for projects around the Parish.

   Stands for a disposable barbecue are needed for the picnic tables to protect them once refurbished.

   ACTION: Clerk to source a new metal bin inside the Water Meadows by the picnic area, and to source barbecue stands.

7. **Committee's terms of reference:**

   RESOLVED: To recommend to Full Council adoption of the Committee's terms of reference, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr Sawyers and carried.

8. **Tree Survey:**

   RESOLVED: To accept quote 1 from Arbor Eco Consultancy for £700, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr Greenbank and carried.

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9. **Water Vole channel work:**

   The Committee went out to tender in July 2022 for some new fencing to the side stream, having applied for a grant of £5,000 from Portsmouth Water for the work. 3 tenders were received, and the preferred contractor, Aquascience, was chosen for a contract price of £6,180 ex VAT.

   85% of the grant, £4,250, was paid upfront into the Parish Council's bank account on 9th February 2022 but was not put into an earmarked reserve at the time. The remaining 15% grant can only be paid upon completion of the project. Portsmouth Water operate on a 5-yr grant cycle which ends on 31st March 2025, and are chasing the Council for an update as part of the grant conditions.

   In the resignation of the old Clerk and the handover period from locum to new permanent Clerk, this project was not progressed. Aquascience have confirmed they will honour the initial price of £6,180, however they required a water vole survey to be carried out. The issue being the survey could only be carried out during the breeding season, whilst the fencing work could only be completed once the breeding season was over. There was a chance the Council would have to wait a whole year's cycle before the project could be completed.

   A member of public present, who has been trained by South Downs National Park to carry out a water vole survey, offered to help facilitate contact between the Clerk and the Authority to help resolve the survey query.

   RESOLVED: subject to approval from South Downs National Park regarding the water vole survey, it was proposed to recommend to Full Council to accept the quote of £6,180 from Aquascience for the water vole channel work, as proposed by Cllr Manuel, seconded by Cllr Sawyers and carried.

10. **Charity AGM:** The meeting must be held before 31st January as the Charity accounts for 2023/24 are due for submission to the Charity Commission by this date. Ideas for an AGM were to walk around the Water Meadows at lunchtime, then walk to the Tennis Clubhouse for a meeting. Date agreed of 13th January 2025, 12.30pm.

    2 members of public left the meeting 7:54pm

11. **Motion for confidential business**

12. **Bostons rent review:** Whilst assembled as a Committee, the Clerk ordered several Title Deeds and Plans from Land Registry for the area around Bostons barbers and the water meadows. It was discovered that HP599869 for the land on which The Old Forge, Fareham Road, Wickham, sits, is registered as belonging to the Parish Council and not the Water Meadows Charity as previously thought. Therefore the Policy & Finance Committee will manage the rent review for the barbers.

    The Clerk and Cllr Manuel to arrange to meet with the owners of Bostons before engaging a company to carry out a market appraisal of the building. The results of which will be reviewed at a future meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee.

Meeting Closed, 8:55pm

Signed……

Date……..

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INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
Wickham Water Meadows Millenium Green Trust 2023-24

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

Approved by the Trustees:
Registered charity No: 1069235

Wickham Water Meadows Millenium Green Trust 2023-24
RECEIPTS INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Inv No	Date	Description	Rent	Other Grants	Total		Received	Debtors
	02/05/23	Bostons Barbers	£1,658.00		£	1,658.00	02 May 2023	
	05/07/23	Bostons Barbers	£1,658.00		£	1,658.00	05 July 2023	
	16/10/23	Bostons Barbers	£1,658.00		£	1,658.00	16 October 2023	
					£	-		
		Total	£4,974.00	£0.00		£4,974.00		£ -

Wickham Water Meadows Millenium Green Trust 2023-24

EXPENDITURE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Date	Description	Rec	Grounds Maintenance	Insurance	Maintenance	VAT	Total
			£ (450.00)				£ (450.00)
01/06/23	PC Garden Contracts		£ 925.00				£ 925.00
28/07/23	PC Garden Contracts		£ 450.00				£ 450.00
01/09/23	PC Garden Contracts		£ 450.00				£ 450.00
13/09/23	Zurich Insurance			£ 656.17			£ 656.17
		£ -	£ 1,375.00	£ 656.17	£ -	£ -	£ 2,031.17

Wickham Water Meadows Millenium Green Trust 2023-24

BANK RECONCILATION

31st March 2024

Opening Book balance	**6,295.58**	
Plus income per these accounts	4,974.00	11,269.58
Less expenses per these accounts	2,031.17	9,238.41
	9,238.41	
Less uncleared income	0.00	
Plus uncleared expenses	0.00	
Balance c/f to 01/04/2024	9,238.41	

Bank Balance as at 31st March 2024

Lloyds	£9,238.41
Total	**9,238.41**

Bank Balance **9,238.41** difference 0.00

Uncleared items of income:

Description	Inv No	Amount	Paid
Debtors		0.00	
	Total	**0.00**	

Uncleared items of expenditure:

Description	**Chq No**	**Amount**
	Total	0.00

Wickham Water Meadows Millenium Green Trust 2023-24

Registered charity No: 1069235

Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2024

	YTD £
Income	
Rent	4,974.00
Other Grants	-
Total Income	**4,974.00**
Expenses	
Administration	
Grounds Maintenance	1,375.00
Insurance	656.17
Maintenance	-
Total expenditure	**2,031.17**

	Year to date
Total Income	**4,974.00**
Total Expenditure	**2,031.17**
	2,942.83
Balance B/F	**6,295.58**
Income	**4,974.00**
Expenditure	**2,031.17**
Balance c/f to 2024-25	**9,238.41**

Arbor-Eco Consultancy

VISUAL TREE ASSESSMENT REPORT
(VTA)

At:

WICKHAM MEADOWS,
FAREHAM ROAD,
WICKHAM,
HAMPSHIRE

For:

CLERK & RFO TO WICKHAM & KNOWLE PARISH COUNCIL

This report was compiled by
Marco Bartolini
Arboricultural Consultant TechArborA (TE02501), PTI, FdScWM, Dip Mgmt

Arboricultural ASSOCIATION Technician Member

This report is the responsibility of Arbor-Eco Consultancy
It should be noted that whilst every effort is made to meet the client's brief,
no site investigation can ensure complete assessment
or prediction of the natural environment.

Report Number: MB240706

December 2024

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Brief

Arbor-Eco Consultancy was commissioned by the Clerk & RFO to Wickham & Knowle Parish Council, to undertake a ground level Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) and assess the health and safety condition of trees growing on land, as directed by the client, at Wickham Meadows, Wickham within the administrative boundary of Winchester City Council in the county of Hampshire.

The purpose of the report was primarily to determine the condition and health and safety of the trees at this site to further inform management recommendations. The recommendations, once fulfilled, will discharge the responsibilities of the Occupiers Liabilities' Act.

The location of the trees surveyed are shown on Drawing Number MB240706-01 in Section 8.

1.2 Site Description

The site is located towards the eastern fringes of a residential setting of Knowle. The site is towards the centre of the town of Wickham. Wickham Meadows is centred at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference SU 57290 11288.

The site is dominated by a woodland, small sections of hard surfacing (utilised for visitors rest areas) the River Meon and a section of the disused railway now called the Meon Trail. The site is bound to the north by Bridge Street, minor road and properties off Bridge Street. The eastern boundary was delineated by a public footpath, beyond which was properties off Wykeham Fields, minor road. To the south the boundary abutted properties off Wykeham Fields and Fareham Road, minor road. The western boundary was demarcated by Fareham Road, minor road.

The topography of the site is such that the ground is undulating with steep sides of an embankment and waterlogged due to flooding from the Rive Meon.

1.3 Limitations and Constraints

The action of pedestrian traffic walking over the roots of trees and compacting the ground may have a longer-term impact as the roots require oxygen, nutrients and water to survive. The air pockets are squeezed out of the soil and this will encourage water run-off in favour of soaking the water.

The unpredictability of the trees reactions to these vectors is becoming increasingly apparent. Drought can cause reactions in a tree that include branch drop or early wilt or even sudden death.

Trees growing amongst dense understorey, adjacent to the river, growing on the steep embankment or with suckering epicormic growth made the survey very difficult or impossible. This led to a number of surveys of trees being carried out at a distance using binoculars where possible.

In addition, once beneath the understorey, visual inspection of the stems and the canopy became impaired due to branch and stem congestion. It must be remembered that due to the difficulty in visibly seeing all of the tree means that some defects may have been obscured.

2. ARBORICULTURAL SURVEY

2.1 Methodology

A tree survey conducted by a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant will ensure that there will be an accountable process, available for scrutiny that would satisfy the courts that reasonable and practicable measures have been taken to reduce the risk of injury to person or property.

To determine the status of the trees within the site a full ground level visual tree assessment survey has been undertaken, assessing the species and status of the trees as directed by the client. This survey has been carried out in accordance with the guidance from the National Tree Safety Group – Common Sense Risk Management of Trees (2024).

Each tree was visually assessed and a schedule prepared listing tree number, species, stem diameter at 1.5 m above ground level, tree height, crown spread (within a range), and age class. Any specific observations or recommendations with regard to management were also noted. All these observations and measurements are summarised in Table 4.1.

Each tree had previously been provided with a unique number on a corrosive resistant metal disc (Plate 1) and fixed to the stem and cross-referenced within the report. Some were missing and a replacement was deemed unnecessary and people took them, animals destroyed them of they would fall off.

A red spray mark was applied to trees requiring felling. A yellow spray mark was provided to trees requiring remedial work (Plate 2). The paint is biodegradable and will remain for approximately 1 year before being washed off.

This survey provided an inventory of trees in order that future inspections can be conducted using the Negative Tree Survey methodology.

Plate 1: Identity disc fixed to stem.

Plate 2: Paint markings.

The emphasis of the report is predominantly that of tree management and preliminary recommendations for tree works as a result of a health and safety inspection. It identifies naturally occurring defects within the tree due to inhibited growth or naturally related vectors that have caused what would otherwise be a tree of good form and vitality as guided by current best practice. The survey also considered managed artificial structures. The inspection was carried out with use of binoculars where necessary.

No climbing inspection was conducted. No analysis of soil samples was undertaken and the condition of trees' root system was only investigated by way of a surface visual inspection, light excavation around the buttress and assessment of the trees' overall vitality. Acoustic resonance impact testing utilising a Thor 710 nylon hammer was used, in conjunction with a metal probe, to determine the presence, depth and extent of decay found at the surface of the bark.

2.2 Weather Conditions

The survey was completed on the 17th December 2024 by Marco Bartolini, Arboricultural Consultant. The weather conditions at the time of the survey are shown in Table 2.1.

Conditions	Result
Temperature (C)	10
Cloud Cover (%)	100
Precipitation (%)	0
Wind Speed (Beaufort)	F3-4

Table 2.1: Weather Conditions at Time of Survey

2.3 Dimensions and Risk

The trees were inspected from ground level and no other equipment has been used to determine the health and safety of the tree other than knowledge, experience and training. Measurements are recorded in accordance with National Housing Federation DBH Banding.

2.3.1 The tree stem circumference was measured at 1.5 m above ground level. If the stem was obscured then the following range of diameter was used to estimate the size;

<150	less than 150 mm
150-300	between these two measurements
300-450	between these two measurements
450-600	between these two measurements
600-1000	between these two measurements
1000+	greater than 1000 mm

2.3.2 Crown spread was measured across the complete face of the crown at each of the four cardinal points and averaged.

2.3.3 Works required to be carried out are weighted in monthly timescales.

2.3.4 Trees are 'aged' through periods of their anticipated life subject to location, soil structure and other external influences compared to that of an open grown tree in ideal conditions for that species;

Y: Young = tree within first third of average life expectancy
EM: Early Mature = tree within second third of average life expectancy
M: Mature = tree within final third of average life expectancy
OM: Over mature = tree beyond average life expectancy
V: Veteran status (in decline and a historically or culturally valuable tree)
D: Dead

2.4 Risk Zones

The Location of a tree should be categorised as High (Red), Medium (Orange), Low (Green) and be dependent on the accessibility to the general public and on-site frequency of use. If client has not provided risk zones maps specific to each site, then categorisation is based solely on the Arboriculturist/Surveyor's discretion from observations gained during the site visit only. Guidelines for this subject come from Common Sense Risk Management of Trees - National Tree Safety Group (NTSG). Due consideration will be given to the principles set out below:

- Public impact - Numbers of public using site
- Site usage - Location of roads, footpaths, buildings
- Business Risk - Risk of damage to property

Risk Zone/Hazard Class	Work Priority	Time Limits (as detailed on survey schedule)	Details
HIGH Adjacent property including gardens, parks or schools, public roads and footpaths, car parks. Buildings, infrastructure or plant. Any internal access roads or footpaths leading to buildings or infrastructure used on a regular basis	High	Immediate/Urgent Within 1- 3 months Within 3-6 months	Covers trees likely to cause an immediate nuisance, imminent failure, hanging deadwood or major deadwood in a place of high frequency use or a public space. Additionally, infrastructure, public property or a public health is a consideration. Weighted in timescales appropriate for the risk and target.
MEDIUM Open Areas such as tree groups or grassland with limited usage	Medium	Within 6 months Within 12-18 months	Covers trees within target distance of High-Risk Zone likely to cause an inconvenience such as pruning to clear buildings or phone lines. Covers trees within target distance of Medium Risk Zone likely to cause injury or damage.
LOW Woodlands or areas where there is no access and would not require any work	Low	Within 2-7 Years	Covers trees within target distance of High or Med Risk Zones with regard to tree works that are necessary to be programmed to promote the future health and well-being of tree stock, such as re-reductions whereby higher categories aren't necessary.

Table 2.2: Risk Zone Table

Due to the location of the trees to property, footpath, footway, highway, public access and properties, the following has been considered based on frequency of use for trees requiring remedial work;

- Adjacent to public property, public access and access roads; HIGH-RISK zone.
- Internal linear group of trees, or footpaths; MEDIUM RISK to LOW-RISK zone.

3. STATUTORY LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

3.1 Protected Trees

Examination of Winchester City Council (2024) Tree Preservation Order interactive website (https://winch.maps.arcgis.com/apps/), accessed on 23rd December 2024, indicated that at the time of the survey, the trees surveyed are not the subject of a Tree Preservation Order.

Further examination of Winchester City Council (2024) Tree Preservation Order interactive website (https://winch.maps.arcgis.com/apps/), accessed on 23rd December 2024, indicated that at the time of the survey all of the trees are situated within Wickham Conservation Area.

If work is proposed to trees, then a Section 211 Notice should be submitted.

Apart from limited exceptions, permission must be sought from the local planning authority by submitting a standard application form. The form is available from the Local Authority Planning Portal. It is important that the information on the form makes clear what the proposed work is and provides adequate information to support the case.

3.2 Legislation

The tree health and safety audit has been carried out with consideration to the following guidelines and current legislation;

- *Occupiers' Liability Act 1957 & 1984*
- *Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and the associated ACoP (guidance is contained in HSG 65 Successful health and safety management and INDG 163 Five steps to risk assessment)*
- *HSE's "Reducing Risks Protecting People" 2001*
- *National Tree Safety Group - Common sense risk management of trees 2011*
- *The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) (decision –making framework, known as the Tolerability of Risk (ToR) framework)*
- *Section 41(1) of the Highways act 1980, a duty "to maintain the highways"*
- *Section 154 (2) of the Highways Act 1980*
- National Planning Policy Framework*, Trees and Forestry Commission, Crown or local authority land, churchyards, aerodromes and scheduled monuments*, Government Planning Practice Guidance.

3.3 Protected Species

Trees - Bats: A bat survey must be performed on the relevant roost potential prior to any tree work being carried out. If bats are found to be present, a Natural England licence will be required prior to work being carried out. Bats and the places they use for shelter or protection (i.e., roosts) receive European protection under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as amended. They receive further legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981, as amended. As bats re-use the same roosts (breeding site or resting place) after periods of vacancy, legal opinion is that roosts are protected whether or not bats are present. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 places a duty on public bodies to have regard for the conservation of biodiversity and maintains lists of species and habitats which are of principal importance for the purposes of conserving biodiversity in England and Wales. A number of bat species are listed on Section 41 (England) and Section 42 (Wales) of the NERC Act 2006.

Nesting Birds: The removal of relevant features must be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (this generally extends between March and August but is weather dependent). If this is not possible the area concerned should be checked immediately prior to removal by a suitably qualified ecologist. Nesting and nest building birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act WCA 1981 (as amended). Some species (listed in Schedule 1 of the WCA) are protected by special penalties.

3.3 Common Law

There are a number of trees overhanging the curtilage of the site and in particular trees growing within third party land. It is the landowner's responsibility to manage the overhanging vegetation unless a safety issue arises.

The following relates to common laws regarding trees only;

Under common law, a person may cut back any branch (or root) from a neighbour's tree that overhangs or encroaches onto their property. In cutting back any overhanging branches (or encroaching roots) the following must be observed:

- The person must not trespass onto the land on which the trees are growing.
- Branches or roots must not be cut back beyond the boundary in anticipation of them overhanging.
- Any branches, fruit or roots that are removed must be carefully returned to the tree owner unless they agree otherwise.
- All work must be carried out carefully. For example, avoid damaging property or carrying out work that would leave the tree unsafe or dangerous to avoid any complaint from the tree owner.
- The person must not alter the height of trees or hedges on neighbouring land. While not required under common law, it would be courteous to notify the tree owner of your intentions to help allay any misunderstanding.
- Common law rights are intended to allow the person to carry out the minimum amount of work.
- If extensive works are carried out and in so doing make the tree unsafe, the tree owner may have a case for criminal damage. The person should be especially careful if pruning roots. Obtain qualified arboricultural advice before carrying out any such work. If the tree owner agrees to works that are in addition to your common law rights, or if they give permission to enter their land to undertake the work, it would be prudent to obtain their written consent. If the trees in question are subject to a tree preservation order or are growing in a conservation area then an application (in the case of tree preservation orders) or 'Notice of Intent' (in the case of trees growing in a conservation area) may be required and the following points will apply.
    - The person intending to submit an application or notice must inform the owner of the land on which the trees are growing that an application or notice is to be made.
    - The granting of consent in the case of a tree preservation order or the raising of no objection in the case of trees in a conservation area means that the tree work applied for is acceptable in arboricultural and planning terms only. It does not give the person submitting the application or notice an automatic legal right to carry out the work. The question of ownership is a civil rather than a planning issue and the landowner's permission must be obtained in addition to any planning approval.

3.4 Occupiers' Liabilities Act 1957 and 1984

An occupier of premises owes the same duty, the "common duty of care", to all his visitors whether by invite or otherwise. The common duty of care is a duty to take such care as in all the circumstances of the case is reasonable to see that the 'visitor' will be reasonably safe in using the premises for the purposes for which he is invited or permitted by the occupier to be there or for purposes other than that which they have been invited (trespassers).

4. TREE STOCK ASSESSMENT

4.1 Tree Condition

All of the trees, have been inspected in accordance with National Tree Safety Group Guidelines (2024).

4.1.1 It must be noted that a good number of the trees are subject to compacted rooting areas as all of the trees were within the boundary of a public space and adjacent to a public highway. In addition, equipment, vehicles and pedestrian traffic would have passed across the rooting zone of a number of the trees to carry out planting, maintenance, manage the trees and maintain the land. Erosion from pedestrian traffic and weather has exposed many of the roots especially those growing adjacent to the river Meon and upon the disused railway embankments.

4.1.2 A number of trees were observed to be growing adjacent to the highway and footway. Trees and vegetation that overhang the highway should be crown-lifted to at least 5.2 m to allow safe passage of high sided vehicles as well as being cut back sufficiently from the edge of the carriageway to allow clearance for wing mirrors. Trees and vegetation that overhang footways and footpaths should be crown-lifted to at least 2.5 m and cut back to ensure the footpath/way is at least 1.2 m in width. This is to allow safe passage for all footpath/way users including wheelchairs, mobility scooters, etc.

These heights have been selected as an acceptable standard and any vegetation below this may be deemed to be an obstruction. Local Authorities may enforce Section 154 of the Highways Act (1980) which allows a local authority to serve notice upon the owner of the trees/vegetation informing them that they need to clear any obstructions safely.

Plate 3: Low hanging branches over Fareham Road.

4.1.3 Ivy

A number of the trees were recorded to have had ivy (*Hedera helix*) growing on the stem and in the crown. The wildlife benefits of ivy out-weigh its' removal however, where trees are growing in close proximity to a hazard (footpath or building for example) it is advisable to maintain a clear stem for survey and inspection access. Ivy does not directly harm a tree as it uses the tree stem to gain height in order to maximise photosynthetic opportunity. Once growing within a crown of a tree it can shade out the parent tree leaves causing dieback. In addition to this, the ivy creates and additional sail that catches the wind and the weight of this is not compensated for by the tree and it can cause branch failure. Ivy is a relatively simple plant to eradicate on tree. It can be done cutting a ring from the stem of the ivy plant leaving a gap between broken or cut parts of about 100 mm. These ivy rings will prevent water and nutrients from reaching the leaves and the leaves and stems will eventually fall from the tree from where they were attached. It is recommended that the mature trees are free from ivy to facilitate future inspections.

Plate 4: Tree shrouded due to ivy.

4.1.4 Extreme Weather Events

The confirmed heatwave and drought of 2018 combined with the hottest year on record for the month of July in 2019 and 2022, has meant that the ground has been baked, water has evaporated and the water table lowered. This has meant that many trees have been left with little or no water to survive through (at least) three growing years. Tropical nights in 2020 and 2022 added to an already water starved ground. A record number of frosts over the month of April, 2021, killed emerging buds and reduced the photosynthetic opportunity to many trees and plants. In addition, the early on-set of spring 2019 and 2021 meant that trees were already rooted in warm soils with little water. The hottest year on record was also announced for 2022.

A number of heatwaves for 2023 have been confirmed. In recent times, from Sep 2023 to Jan 2024, twelve (12) named storms have passed over the UK causing extensive damage to trees and infrastructure as well as mass flooding events. Four (4) named storms this season have already caused significant tree loss, building destruction and loss of life.

When rain has fallen, the ground is so hard that the water cannot percolate to lower depths, or even soak the upper soil levels, but has run-off towards rivers, land-drains and water courses that collect the rain-water. Shallow rooted trees such as Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*), Scots Pine (*Pinus Sylvestris*) and Ornamental Cherry (*Prunus* spp.) have suffered from wilt and consequently been unable to recover meaning that within two years the trees have been killed by lack of water. This is a common theme throughout the areas surveyed in the south of UK and according to Kew Gardens, the effects will be felt for the following 10 years.

4.1.5 Ash Dieback

There are number of trees that exhibit ash dieback across the site. It is always a difficult decision to make when clear-felling trees, but this is not required at this site currently. Some of the ash trees are showing some resilience in so much as they have good bud arrangements but there is a lot of deadwood unfortunately.

First confirmed in Britain in 2012, Chalara dieback of ash, also known as 'Chalara', ash dieback or Chalara ash dieback, is a disease of ash trees caused by a fungus called *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*. Chalara causes leaf loss, crown dieback and bark lesions in affected trees. Once a tree is infected the disease is usually fatal, either directly, or indirectly by weakening the tree to the point where it succumbs more readily to attacks by other pests or pathogens, especially *Armillaria* sp., or honey fungus.

However, some ash trees appear to be able to tolerate or resist infection, and scientists are studying the genetic factors which make this possible so that tolerant ash trees can be bred for the future.

There is strong evidence of Ash Dieback at this site. It is apparent that a number of young, semi-mature and mature Ash trees have been subjected to this pathogen are now dying.

The Ash trees within the site, if not felled, will require additional monitoring. Latest government guidelines promote the retention of Ash trees where practical to encourage resistance to the disease in young and older trees. It is therefore a decision ultimately by the land owner (due to financial constraints) to fell or retain certain trees, however, this report details those trees that pose a public health risk and require to be felled.

Government guidelines are to remove dead or dying Ash trees where public health is at risk from falling branches or failure of the tree. The arisings are then burnt to prevent further infection. All arborist tools should be cleaned under the bio-security guidelines published by Forestry Commission England and the Plant Health Authority.)

It is becoming apparent that Ash trees can die within two years of becoming infected, yet other hybrids are beginning to withstand the disease. Without knowing which trees are becoming more tolerant it is advised that all Ash trees, whether individual or within groups, should be monitored annually but permitting the survey to be conducted across all seasons so a 10-month or 14-month cycle is advised. It is recommended that land managers consider their management options now, even if they are dealing with low levels of infection. This includes preparing or amending management plans to account for current future impacts of ash dieback. Before changing management regimes, the objectives and individual setting of the tree or woodland should be considered. Felling diseased ash requires a felling licence from the Forestry Commission, unless the trees are dead or pose a real and immediate danger. Restrictions such as tree preservation orders must also be respected; the local authority will be able to provide guidance. Uninfected ash trees should not be felled, other than during normal management activities and if appropriate permissions are in place. Carrying out wildlife surveys and obtaining permissions before trees become dangerous is recommended in case urgent action is later required. Additional restrictions will apply if the site is designated a Site of Special

Scientific Interest, or located in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In all cases adhere to good practice on protecting European Protected Species (EPS) such as bats and dormice.

The following links provide extended information on the management of Ash trees.

https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/pest-and-disease-resources/ash-dieback-hymenoscyphus-fraxineus/

https://treecouncil.org.uk/science-and-research/ash-dieback/

4.1.6 Environmental Benefits of Trees

It is worthwhile noting that the trees can intercept many of the hostile elements humans and animals need shelter from. Trees provide shading and offer significant humidity regulation and a cooling effect felt at ground level. All trees will consume a considerable amount of ground water that will regulate the local hydrology and may assist with the removal of local flooding issues. A mature tree will consume tens of thousands of litres of water during a year. A group of trees can provide an element of acoustic dampening effect at ground level and growing next to a road many tree species have been linked with the sequestration of impurities from the atmosphere. Finally, the trees will provide some shelter from prevailing winds and inclement weather. Therefore, it can be seen that the trees will benefit, rather than hinder, the landscape in which they are growing.

4.1.7 It is widely accepted by arboriculturists and arborists that the deadwood within the crown of an Oak tree can remain intact for many years, slowly decaying and not causing a nuisance. Naturally, there are such species with the same trait such as many conifers and other hardwoods such as Beech trees. However, due to the location of the site being exposed to the elements, this deadwood will be more prone to being blown from the canopy rather than naturally decaying and rotting down. It is therefore recommended that where deadwood has *accumulated in large quantities* and overhangs a place of general public access, such as dedicated footpaths, an outdoor classroom or access roads, then it should be conservation pruned.

Conservation pruning is a method of pruning leaving a long and supported stub attached to the stem of the tree. Deadwood habitat is vitally important for detritivores, woodpeckers and other foraging animals. Bats will take up residence in the smallest of cracks in the bark plate of a tree. Retaining monolith trees in favour of felling is also advised.

4.1.8 Sudden Branch Drop

During the inspection it was observed that a number of trees had shed their branches. These ranged from small twigs to a significant branch. Cladoptosis 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. Sources of stress which may contribute to this shedding include drought, soil and root compaction, or presence of disease. In the case of certain tree species, however, none of these factors need be present in order for Cladoptosis to occur. For some tree species, including larch, pine, poplar, willow, maple, walnut, ash and oak trees the shedding of branches is normal, often occurring annually in the autumn, similar to the shedding of leaves from deciduous trees. Additionally, as trees get older, the number of branches which will be “self-pruned” often increases.

Research aimed at gaining an understanding of the advantage to the tree that this process would offer has yielded a wide range of results which suggest that it depends greatly upon the tree species. There is evidence that cladoptosis may occur due to a need to remove less vigorous foliage or foliage which is disadvantaged in its resource availability, and these issues are likely more prominent in mature, older trees and in trees under stress. In other cases, cladoptosis may have a reproductive benefit or promote a more advantageous growth habit.

4.1.9 Hard surfacing, underground services and artificial structures that impede root growth will prevent the tree from achieving its mature height if compared to a tree grown in an open field for example. Where there is hard surfacing then this produces a heat map that exceeds 'normal' air temperature and can affect growth and leaf production. Trees can adapt to the hostile environment that we place them within. Selection of suitable species tolerant of an urban environment should be considered when replacement becomes necessary around these hostile sections of the site.

Stressed trees were evident from the compaction of the ground to the artificial structures placed around them along with pedestrian traffic access.

4.1.10 It is common practice, and recommended, that trees are not reduced to ground level where the aesthetics of a site are not impaired but are retained as standing biomasses of decaying wood. The environmental benefits outweigh complete removal as they become habitats for detritivores, bats, small mammals and birds. The meadows are such an environment where high monoliths can be retained.

4.1.11 The waterlogged woodlands W1 and W2 have a good number of Goat Willow growing within them. This species of tree has a habit whereby the tree collapses as a propagation strategy. These trees can be high coppiced to promote regrowth and also to alleviate the sudden stem failure that may occur without good warning as did on the northern river bank near the substation.

Carrying out the work is optional, however, it is ignored with some risk.

(Courtesy Google images)

Plate 5: High coppice of willow trees.

4.2 Tree Survey Results

Tree species recorded during the survey are listed in Table 4.1 below.

Wickham & Knowle Parish Council
Knowle Village Hall
Knowle Avenue
Knowle
Hamsphire
PO17 5GR

Arbor-Eco Consultancy
Daisy Lane
Locks Heath
Hampshire
SO31 6RA
Mobile: 07542093882
arborecoconsultancy@gmail.com

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: W1 A Group
- -

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Trees adjacent to boundary with third party land have collapsed and are hung up on fencing. These should be made safe as a matter of urgency to avoid further damage. Trees internally to the woodland are dominated by Goat Willow trees. The habit of the tree for propagation is to collapse to the ground and regrow. A good number of trees have done this sprawling across the woodland floor. It is recommended, but not essential, that the trees are coppiced or low pollard, to allow regrow vertically providing sunlight to the ground flora. There's very limited public access due to congested stems and waterlogged ground but overtime, this area could be a wildlife haven. There are dangerous trees within the woodland that should be removed should public access become more available.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
10 m	5 m	1	400 mm	Over Mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Waterlogged	Fungus or decay	Apical die back	Normal
Competition from growth	Bark wounds	Damage / wounding	
Sucker growth	Cracked / included bark	Minor dead wood	
	Leaning	Major dead wood	
	Weak fork	Cavities	
	Jagged wound	Weak fork	
	Epicormic growths	Low hanging branches	
	Stubs	Epicormic growths	
	Ivy covered	Stubs	
	Multi stemmed		
	Minor cavities		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
See Comment	See Comment	6 Months	No
	See Comment	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: W2 A Group

- -

Tag: -

TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini

Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Trees adjacent to boundary with third party land have collapsed and are hung up on fencing. These should be made safe as a matter of urgency to avoid further damage. Trees internally to the woodland are dominated by Goat Willow trees. The habit of the tree for propagation is to collapse to the ground and regrow. A good number of trees have done this sprawling across the woodland floor. It is recommended, but not essential, that the trees are coppiced or low pollard, to allow regrow vertically providing sunlight to the ground flora. There's very limited public access due to congested stems and waterlogged ground but overtime, this area could be a wildlife haven. There are dangerous trees within the woodland that should be removed should public access become more available.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
10 m	5 m	1	400 mm	Over Mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Waterlogged	Fungus or decay	Apical die back	Normal
Competition from growth	Bark wounds	Damage / wounding	
Sucker growth	Cracked / included bark	Minor dead wood	
	Leaning	Major dead wood	
	Weak fork	Cavities	
	Jagged wound	Weak fork	
	Epicormic growths	Low hanging branches	
	Stubs	Epicormic growths	
	Ivy covered	Stubs	
	Multi stemmed		
	Minor cavities		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
See Comment	See Comment	6 Months	No
	See Comment	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 1 White Willow
Salix alba

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Regrowth from stump. Stem snapped and is leaning on river boundary fence obstructing footpath. Remove all suckers.

Details	Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
	2 m	2 m	1	50 mm	Young	No	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Poor	N/A

Observations	Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
	Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay Leaning Weak fork	Damage / wounding Weak fork Epicormic growths	Normal

Work	Category	Action	Priority	Done
	Fell	Fell to ground level	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 2 Common Ash
Fraxinus excelsior

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Ash dieback evident. Extended primary branch overhanging highway and footway. Due to unpredictability of the disease it is recommended that the branch is reduced back to the woodland belt. Remove major deadwood overhanging public space.

Details	Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
	18 m	10 m	1	600 mm	Mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-25	Fair	N/A

Observations	Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
	Waterlogged Competition from growth	Leaning Epicormic growths Stubs Ivy covered	Minor dead wood Major dead wood Epicormic growths Stubs Ivy in crown	Normal

Work	Category	Action	Priority	Done
	End weight reduction	30%	3 Months	No
	Remove	Major dead wood	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 3 Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Remove hanging branches adjacent to footpath.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
22 m	3 m	1	350 mm	Semi-mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil compaction	Old pruning wounds	Damage / wounding	Normal
Soil erosion	Jagged wound	Minor dead wood	
Waterlogged	Epicormic growths	Major dead wood	
Competition from growth	Stubs	Epicormic growths	
Sucker growth	Ivy covered	Stubs	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Suspended or broken branches	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 4 Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Fell to retain short monolith of 4m tall for biodiversity habitats.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
10 m		1	200 mm	Dead	No	Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Major dead wood	All dead / absent
Soil erosion			
Waterlogged			
Competition from growth			
Sucker growth			

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to safe height	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 5 Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Remove major deadwood overhanging footpath.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
25 m	3 m	1	450 mm	Mature	No	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil compaction	Old pruning wounds	Minor dead wood	Normal
Soil erosion	Epicormic growths	Major dead wood	
Waterlogged	Stubs	Old pruning wounds	
Damage to buttress roots		Stubs	
Competition from growth			

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Major dead wood	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 6 Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Fell to retain short monolith of 4m tall for biodiversity habitats.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
22 m	1 m	1	400 mm	Dead	No	Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Major dead wood	All dead / absent
Soil erosion			
Waterlogged			
Competition from growth			
Sucker growth			

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to safe height	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 7 Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*

Tag: 557 **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Remove major deadwood overhanging footpath.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
25 m	4 m	1	400 mm	Mature	No	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil compaction	Old pruning wounds	Minor dead wood	Normal
Soil erosion	Epicormic growths	Major dead wood	
Waterlogged	Stubs	Old pruning wounds	
Damage to buttress roots		Stubs	
Competition from growth			

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Major dead wood	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 9 Goat Willow *Salix caprea*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Collapsed stems adjacent to footpath and substation. Coppice all Goat Willow trees to 1m stumps. Stack timber on grassed area in secured bundles for biodiversity habitat.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
6 m	6 m	3	400 mm	Over Mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Varied	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Damage / wounding	Normal
Soil erosion	Bark wounds	Minor dead wood	
Waterlogged	Cracked / included bark	Major dead wood	
Damage to buttress roots	Leaning	Cavities	
Competition from growth	Cavities	Weak fork	
Sucker growth	Weak fork	Low hanging branches	
	Jagged wound	Epicormic growths	
	Epicormic growths	Stubs	
	Stubs		
	Multi stemmed		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Coppice	To 1.0m stumps	1 Month	No
Reduce crown(s)	Leaving - See Comment	3 Months	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 10 Goat Willow *Salix caprea*

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Storm Darragh damage to trees adjacent to footpath and overhanging bench. Make all trees, fallen stems and branches safe by felling to ground level. Stack timber in neat piles within woodland for biodiversity habitat. Remove all suspended branches from small group of trees. Pollard to between 6m and 8m this small group.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
10 m	3 m	1	300 mm	Semi-mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Varied	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil heave	Bark wounds	Apical die back	Normal
Damage to buttress roots	Cracked / included bark	Damage / wounding	
Competition from growth	Jagged wound	Minor dead wood	
Sucker growth	Epicormic growths	Major dead wood	
	Stubs	Cavities	
	Ivy covered	Weak fork	
		Epicormic growths	
		Stubs	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Pollard	Pollard to 5 m	3 Months	No
Remove	Suspended or broken branches	1 Month	No
See Comment	See Comment	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 11 White Willow *Salix alba*

Tag: 764 **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Tree has collapsed across the river and is hung up in adjacent Alder tree. Damage is evident in crown of adjacent tree. Fell Willow and carry out remedial work to Alder tree by removing any damaged branches.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
25 m	12 m	1	600 mm	Over Mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Leaning	Apical die back	Normal
Soil heave	Cavities	Damage / wounding	
Soil erosion	Weak fork	Minor dead wood	
Waterlogged	Epicormic growths	Major dead wood	
Damage to buttress roots	Stubs	Epicormic growths	
Competition from growth		Stubs	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to ground level	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 12 Common Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Tree has collapsed due to root heave. Hung up in adjacent tree leaning towards public space.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
17 m	2 m	1	300 mm	Semi-mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil heave	Fungus or decay	Apical die back	Normal
Competition from growth	Bark wounds	Minor dead wood	
	Leaning	Major dead wood	
	Ivy covered		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to ground level	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 13 Common Hazel *Corylus avellana*

Tag: -
TPO: No
Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Coppice small cluster of Hazel trees adjacent to footpath. Stems are tall and weighted over footpath and steps.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
8 m	3 m	5	600 mm	Over Mature	No	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil compaction	Bark wounds	Apical die back	Normal
Damage to buttress roots	Cracked / included bark	Damage / wounding	
Competition from growth	Leaning	Minor dead wood	
Sucker growth	Weak fork	Major dead wood	
	Stubs		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Coppice	To 0.5m stumps	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 14 Common Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*

Tag: -
TPO: No
Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Ash dieback evident. Dead stems and branches overhanging highway at road bridge.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
18 m	8 m	5	600 mm	Mature		Yes	N/A	17-Dec-25	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil erosion	Fungus or decay	Apical die back	Normal
Damage to buttress roots	Cracked / included bark	Damage / wounding	
Competition from growth	Jagged wound	Minor dead wood	
Sucker growth	Epicormic growths	Major dead wood	
	Stubs	Stubs	
	Multi stemmed		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Major dead wood	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 15 Common Oak *Quercus robur*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Fell to retain short monolith for biodiversity habitat.

Details	Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
	10 m		1	180 mm	Dead		Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations	Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
	Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Major dead wood	All dead / absent

Work	Category	Action	Priority	Done
	Fell	Fell to safe height	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 16 Common Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*

Tag: 681 **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Fell to retain short monolith for biodiversity habitat.

Details	Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
	5 m		1	180 mm	Dead		Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations	Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
	Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Major dead wood	All dead / absent

Work	Category	Action	Priority	Done
	Fell	Fell to safe height	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 17 Wild Cherry *Prunus avium*

Tag: 746 **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Remove stem with canker overhanging footpath. Remove major deadwood overhanging footpath. Reduce weight to extended primary branch overhanging footpath to remove end weight.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
21 m	6 m	2	550 mm	Mature		Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil erosion	Leaning	Damage / wounding	Normal
Damage to buttress roots	Weak fork	Minor dead wood	
Competition from growth	Stubs	Major dead wood	
Sucker growth	Ivy covered	Old pruning wounds	
		Weak fork	
		Stubs	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
End weight reduction	40%	3 Months	No
Remove	Major dead wood	1 Month	No
See Comment	See Comment	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 19 Common Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Fell to ground level.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
11 m	1 m	1	180 mm	Dead		Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Major dead wood	All dead / absent

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to safe height	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 20 Common Oak *Quercus robur*

Tag: 150
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Primary branch growing from base is dead and overhanging footpath.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
24 m	5 m	1	400 mm	Semi-mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil erosion Competition from growth	Epicormic growths Stubs Ivy covered	Apical die back Damage / wounding Minor dead wood Major dead wood Epicormic growths Stubs Ivy in crown	Normal

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Faulted branch/limbs	1 Month	No

Tree ID: 21 Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Dead standing tree hung up in adjacent tree. Stem has snapped at 1m above ground level. Make tree safe.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
15 m		2	300 mm	Dead		Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Dangerous	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay Leaning	Major dead wood	All dead / absent

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to ground level	1 Month	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 22 Sycamore
Acer pseudoplatanus

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Major hanging deadwood overhanging footpath.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
25 m	6 m	3	700 mm	Mature		Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Good	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil erosion	Jagged wound	Major dead wood	Normal
Competition from growth	Epicormic growths	Stubs	
	Stubs	Ivy in crown	
	Ivy covered		
	Trifurcated		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Suspended or broken branches	1 Month	No

Tree ID: W3 A Group
- -

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Congested woodland of mixed species of trees. Major deadwood in crown. Ivy on stem and in crown. Waterlogged in part. Boundary meets with Meon Valley disused railway footpath and highway. Remove major deadwood overhanging footpath and highway. Deemed medium to low risk and selecting trees to deadwood is critical.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
20 m	5 m	1	400 mm	Mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Good	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil erosion	Weak fork	Damage / wounding	Normal
Waterlogged	Epicormic growths	Minor dead wood	
Competition from growth	Stubs	Major dead wood	
Sucker growth	Ivy covered	Epicormic growths	
	Minor cavities	Stubs	
		Ivy in crown	
		Minor cavities	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Major dead wood	3 Months	No
See Comment	See Comment	6 Months	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: W4 A Group

- -

Tag: -

TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini

Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Woodland of mixed species of trees. Major deadwood in crown. Ivy on stem and in crown. Waterlogged in part. Boundary meets with Meon Valley disused railway footpath and properties. Remove major deadwood overhanging footpath. Deemed medium to low risk and selecting trees to deadwood is critical.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
20 m	5 m	1	400 mm	Mature	Yes	Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Good	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil erosion	Weak fork	Damage / wounding	Normal
Waterlogged	Epicormic growths	Minor dead wood	
Competition from growth	Stubs	Major dead wood	
Sucker growth	Ivy covered	Epicormic growths	
	Minor cavities	Stubs	
		Ivy in crown	
		Minor cavities	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Remove	Major dead wood	3 Months	No
See Comment	See Comment	6 Months	No

Tree ID: 8 Common Ash

Fraxinus excelsior

Tag: -

TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini

Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Bifurcated at ground level. Significant ash dieback evident along with people damage. Fell to retain short monolith of 1m for biodiversity habitat.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
8 m	2 m	2	600 mm	Semi-mature	No	Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Poor	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Apical die back	50% dead / absent
Soil compaction	Bark wounds	Damage / wounding	Small / sparse
Soil erosion	Cracked / included bark	Minor dead wood	
Waterlogged	Jagged wound	Major dead wood	
Damage to buttress roots	Epicormic growths	Old pruning wounds	
Competition from growth	Stubs	Stubs	
	Bifurcated		

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to ground level	3 Months	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: 23 Common Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*

Tag: - **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Tree leans towards property. Historical root heave evident. Ash dieback evident in crown and on stem. Fell to retain short monolith for biodiversity habitat.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
13 m	12 m	1	400 mm	Mature		Yes	N/A	17-Mar-26	Varied	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Fungus or decay	Fungus or decay	Apical die back	25% dead / absent
Soil heave	Leaning	Minor dead wood	
Soil erosion	Epicormic growths	Major dead wood	
Damage to buttress roots	Stubs	Epicormic growths	
Competition from growth	Ivy covered	Stubs	
Sucker growth		Ivy in crown	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Fell	Fell to safe height	3 Months	No

Tree ID: 18 Common Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*

Tag: 640 **TPO:** No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini **Date:** 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Ash dieback evident in crown and on stem. Major branch drop during storm. Major deadwood in crown overhanging footpath and public space. Crown reduce by one-third. Remove all deadwood and suspended branches from tree and adjacent trees.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
28 m	15 m	3	1000 mm	Mature		Yes	N/A	17-Dec-25	Fair	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil compaction	Bark wounds	Apical die back	25% dead / absent
Soil erosion	Leaning	Damage / wounding	
Damage to buttress roots	Weak fork	Minor dead wood	
Competition from growth	Jagged wound	Major dead wood	
	Epicormic growths	Weak fork	
	Stubs	Epicormic growths	
		Stubs	
		Tight union	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Reduce crown(s)	By 30%	6 Months	No
See Comment	See Comment	6 Months	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Tree ID: G1 Common Hazel
Corylus avellana

Tag: -
TPO: No

Assessor: Marco Bartolini
Date: 17-Dec-24

Tree Comment:

Survey Comment: Group of Hazel trees growing on steep embankment adjacent to properties. Recommend that these are coppiced in the autumn 2025 back to ground level retaining new growth only.

Details

Height	Spread	Stems	Ø	Maturity	Bat	Con Area	Prev Insp	Next Due	Condition	QTRA Score
6 m	3 m	9	600 mm	Mature		Yes	N/A	17-Dec-26	Good	N/A

Observations

Root	Stem	Branch	Leaf/Bud
Soil erosion	Leaning	Minor dead wood	Normal
Competition from growth	Old pruning wounds	Major dead wood	
Sucker growth	Stubs	Stubs	

Work

Category	Action	Priority	Done
Coppice	To 0.5m stumps	1 year	No

General Tree Assessment (Detailed)

Report selection criteria.

Projects.

Wickham Meadows 2024

---> 1 year
---> 1 Month
---> 3 Months
---> 6 Months

Date Range.

Any Date

Work types.

----> Coppice :: To 0.5m stumps
----> Coppice :: To 1.0m stumps
----> End weight reduction :: 30%
----> End weight reduction :: 40%
----> Fell :: Fell to ground level
----> Fell :: Fell to safe height
----> Pollard :: Pollard to 5 m
----> Reduce crown(s) :: By 30%
----> Reduce crown(s) :: Leaving - See Comment
----> Remove :: Faulted branch/limbs
----> Remove :: Major dead wood
----> Remove :: Suspended or broken branches
----> See Comment :: See Comment

Latest Survey.

All surveys for the selected trees.
---> Last survey for each selected tree.

Work Completed.

---> Work Completed
---> Work Not Completed

Number of trees In selected Project(s)	**28**
Number of trees in Report selection	**28**

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- It is understood that the majority of trees surveyed are growing within Wickham Conservation Area, therefore prior to any works being carried out a Section 211 Notice must be submitted to the Local Authority.
- For all deadwood cleaning work, it is sufficed to inform the Local Authority of the intent to remove deadwood and no Section 211 Notice is required. It is courteous to submit a 5-Day Notice of intent to the Local Authority for this work.
- Crown lifting or pruning work will require a Section 211 Notice.
- Remind neighbours with trees of their responsibilities as tree-owners.
- Carry out the recommended works within Section 4.
- Carry out all tree works as recommended within Table 4.1.
- All tree works should be carried out in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree works - Recommendations.
- This Arboricultural Survey is valid for a period of 12 months. If works are not commenced within this time period, then it is advised that the trees are re-inspected to ensure no significant defects have developed since the original survey.

6. INSPECTION PERIOD

National Tree Safety Group (NTSG) recommends that;

- Schools and park trees – inspected every 2 years
- Highway trees – inspected every 3 years
- Domestic dwelling trees- inspected every 4 years

The inspection period for these trees is dependent on the locations in which they are growing and also the species. Trees adjacent to the highway can be inspected every 3 years, those upon the embankment and adjacent to the footpaths every 2 years. However, Ash trees, purely because of ash dieback should be inspected annually.

In order to capture all trees, a reinspection cycle of between 12 months and 2 years would be deemed acceptable once all remedial work has been completed.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENTS

There is an opportunity to install bat boxes and bird boxes on the stems of trees within the site.

8. DISCLAIMER

Arbor-Eco Consultancy accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared. This report has not been compiled as part of an insurance claim and should not be used in conjunction with any such activity.

It should be noted that the effects of extreme weather events, which are increasingly unpredictable, prolonged, or occurring out of season, can significantly influence tree growth patterns and structural stability. Such conditions may prevent the tree from adequately responding through adaptive growth, such as laying down new wood to compensate for stress or damage.

While reasonable care has been taken to assess the tree's health and structural integrity, unforeseen environmental factors or rapid changes in condition could result in branch failure, sudden decline, or tree mortality.

9. DRAWINGS

MB240706-01 Tree Location Plan

Arbor-Eco Consultancy

arborecoconsultancy@gmail.com

Wickham Meadows

SCALE : 1 : 1000 @ A3	DATE : 22/12/2024	N
MAP FILENAME : MB240706-01 Tree Location Plan		

Map data shown may contain Ordnance Survey ® products supplied by Pear Technology Services Ltd; Email: info@peartechnology.co.uk
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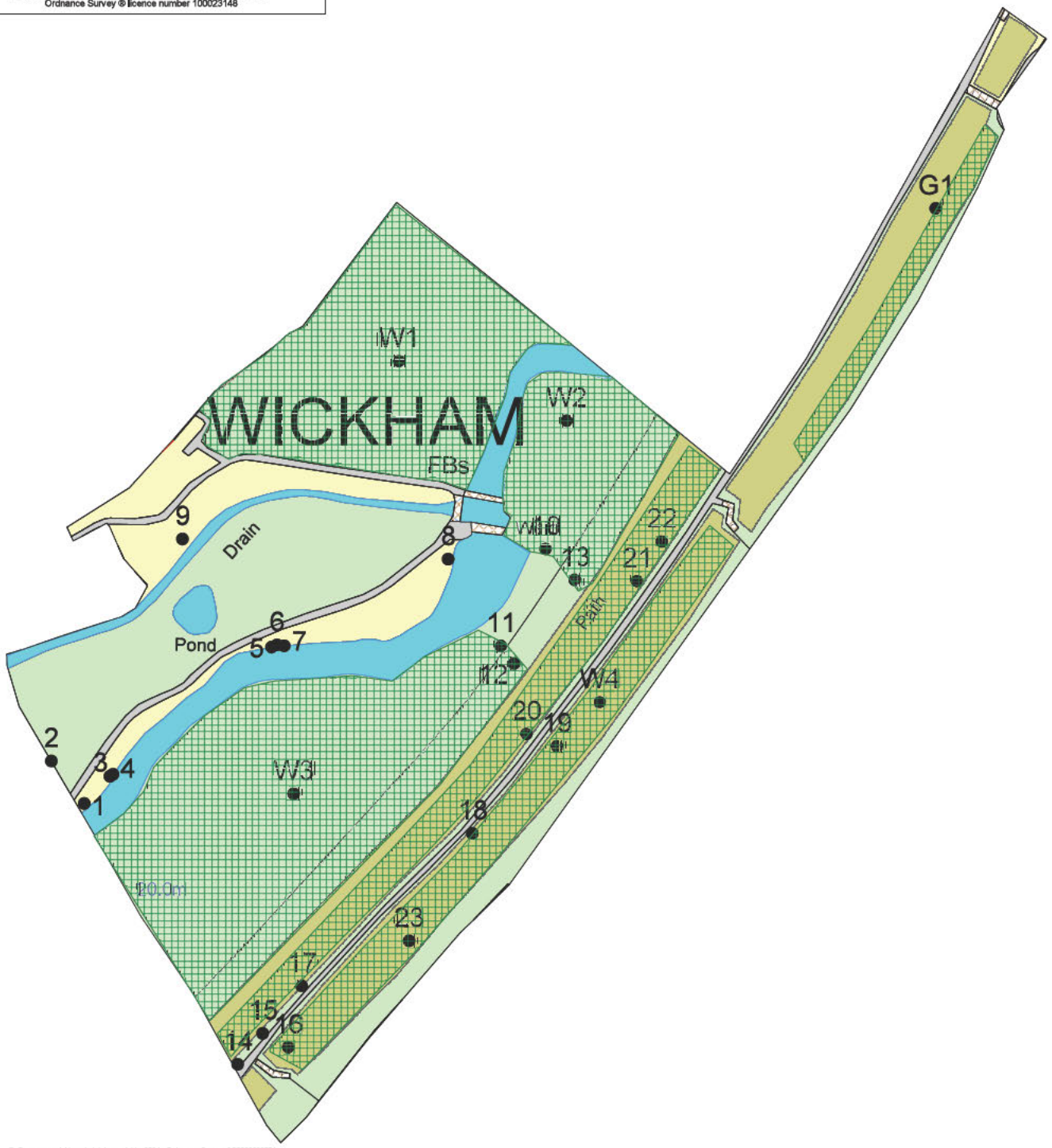

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Arbor-Eco Consultancy

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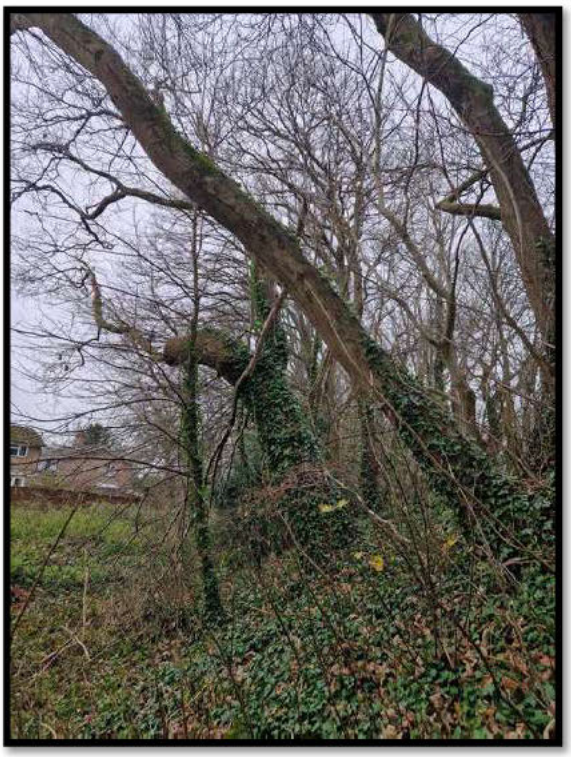
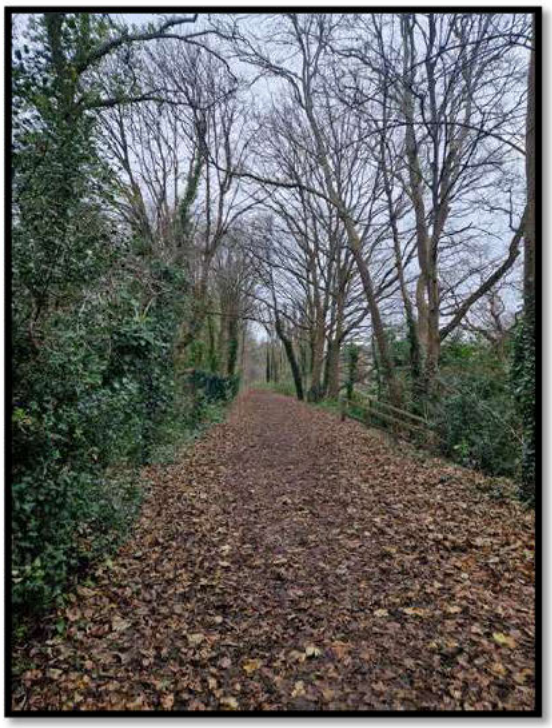
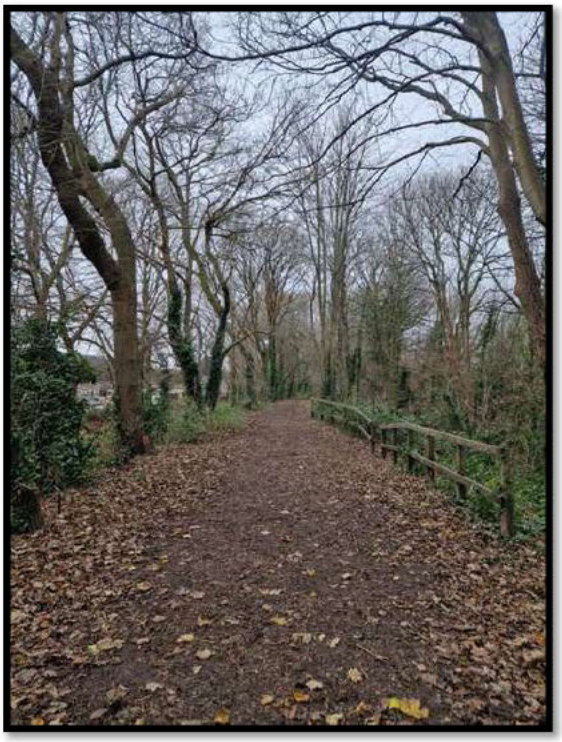
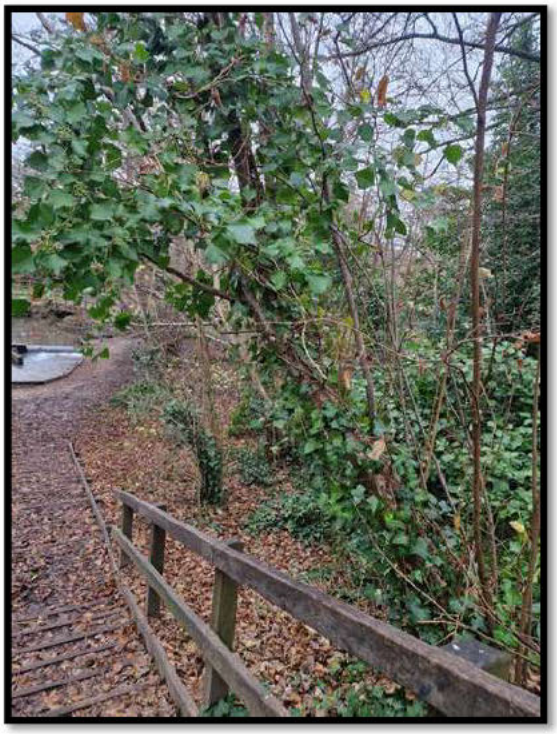
APPENDICES

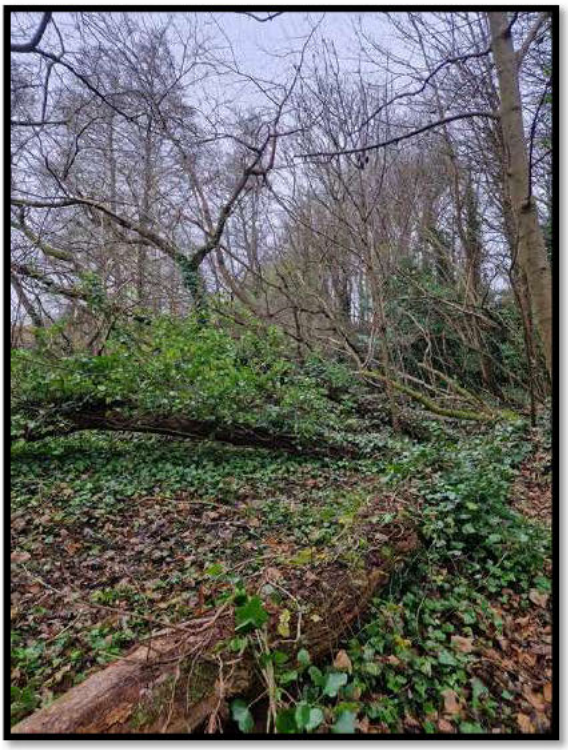
Appendix 1: Photographic montage

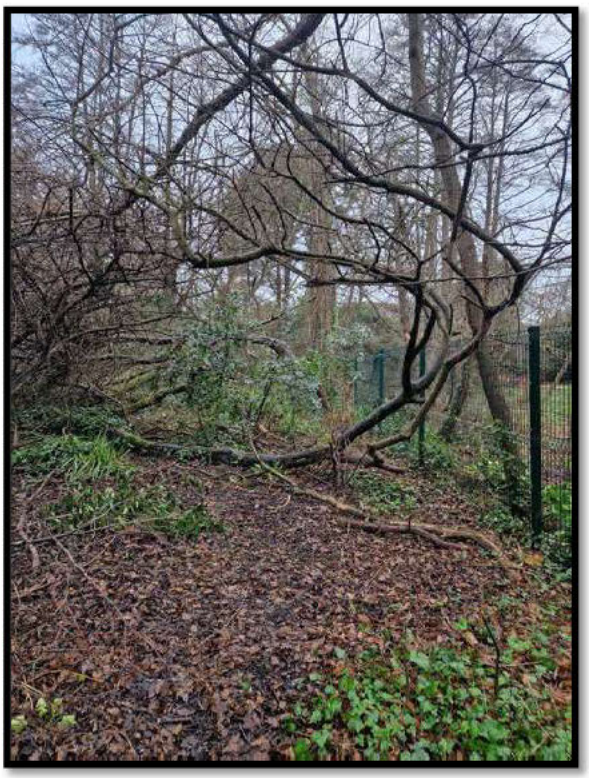


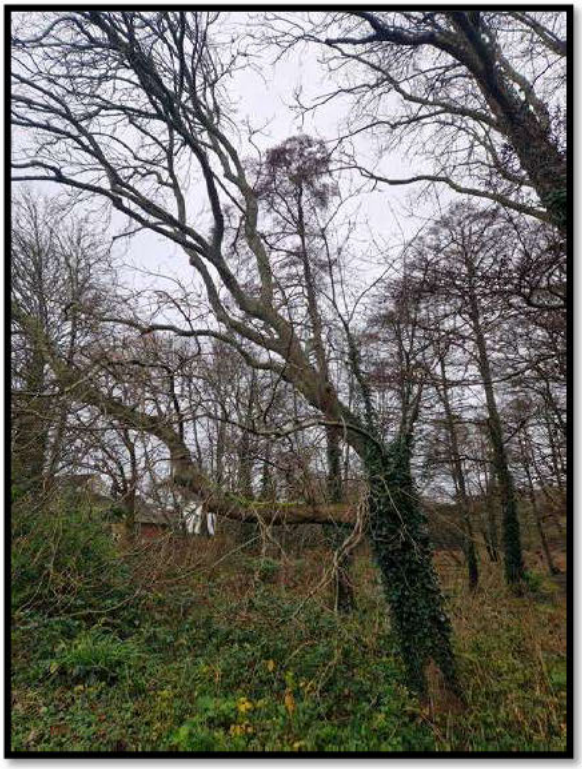












clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org

From: [redacted]
Sent: 19 April 2024 16:52
To: clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org
Subject: Hand Rail in the Water Meadow

Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a new resident of Wickham who regularly walks around the village and goes over the bridge across the Water Meadows. Whilst it is easy to gain access to the bridge from the village side it is not so easy to get off the bridge at the Meon Valley Trail side. There are four steep steps going down to the path but no handrail at the side to help support those of us with mobility issues. As the other steps in this area have very good handrails, this would appear to have been an oversight by the planners. I feel that for a lot of people, myself included, these steps are a hazard that could be easily remedied with a simple short handrail to one side. I can't see that it would cost an enormous amount of money so wonder if this a possibility the Parish Counsel would consider?

I await your reply with interest,

Yours faithfully,
[redacted]

Wickham Water Meadows Committee meeting – 20th January 2025

Agenda Item 10 -

To agree a list of the work needed at the Water Meadows picnic area

The list of work needed at the picnic area:

- Repair damaged wooden picnic tables
- Install a new metal bin by the picnic area
- Install 3 disposable barbecue stands
- Consider a barbecue disposal bin alongside the new bin

Agenda Item 11 -

To discuss grounds maintenance arrangements for 1st April 2025 onwards

PC Garden Contracts currently carry out the following grounds maintenance throughout the year. It is not included in the main Parish Council grounds contract and paid for separately from the Water Meadows bank account. The work currently costs £450 per month, paid evenly throughout the year, so £5,400 per year.

- The grass is cut roughly 3 times a month in the growing season
- The paths and leaves are cleared at the same time
- Once a year normally around Christmas, all the long growth around the central area are cut to 5/6 inches high.

PC Garden Contracts did not tender for the Parish Council's Grounds Contract on this oasion but have asked to carry on doing the work at the Water Meadows from 1st April 2025 onwards. The Recreation Committee decided that this request was best made to the Water Meadows Committee to consider.