

THE DELL, NORTH COMMON, SHERFIELD ENGLISH, ROMSEY, SO51 6JT
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Mr and Mrs A Burley
14 Bosville
Boyatt Wood
Eastleigh
SO50 4PD

28th October 2022

Dear Mr and Mrs Burley,

Following our recent visit, I have pleasure in submitting our report on the Birch tree in your front garden.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



ANDY PENN
CONTRACTS MANAGER

andy@hillier-landscapes.co.uk

Enc

Report of a site visit to;

14 Bosville

Boyatt Wood

Eastleigh

SO50 4PD

Date of Site visit	Friday 28 th October 2022
Weather	Showery rain
Tree	Mature Betula utilis Spp. (probably 'Jacquemontii')

The tree in question is a large ornamental Birch of 18.0 metres in height and approximately 40 years old. It has a distinctive crook in the trunk, with trunk bifurcation 1.80 metres and again at 3.00 metres from the base and it is situated in the front garden of the property, together with two other mature Birch trees (both Betula pendula Tristis)

Inspection

On initial wider inspection of the tree, the branches are in contact with the roof tiles, guttering and walls of the house. It would also appear to be causing substantial light loss to both upstairs and downstairs windows.

On closer inspection, it has a significant cavity in the trunk at about 1.0 metre up from the base) and another smaller cavity at 1.50 metres (photos attached) and there is evidence of substantial decay inside the trunk. There were also fungal growths present at the base and on the roots of the tree (photos attached). On examination, these were identified as Honey fungus (Armillaria mellea).

The roots of the tree are also causing the paving blocks and kerb of the driveway to lift, potentially leading to a trip hazard (photo attached).

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Conclusion and recommendations

I would rate the tree as BS category R.

It is over mature with a safe and useful life of less than 10 years. The presence of Honey Fungus will most likely expedite it's demise, as well as posing a dangerous threat to the other two Birch trees, which are in very close proximity.

I would recommend that the tree is removed and the stump/roots be chipped out as much as possible and disposed of.

Replacement planting

Should a tree be needed to replace the Birch, then I would strongly recommend that a species that is not so readily susceptible to Honey fungus be chosen.



ANDY PENN



Trunk cavities





Honey Fungus



Drive blocks and kerbs lifting from roots