

Arboricultural Assessment of 1 Oakwood Road, Chandler's Ford, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1LW

Carried out by Matthew Rowden on behalf of Romsey Tree
Surgeons Ltd

2 Furzedown house, Furzedown road, Kings Somborne, SO20 6QL
email: rowdentreeconsultants@gmail.com
07483135349



Contents

1. Title page
2. Contents
3. Instruction
4. Limitations
5. Site details
6. Legal restrictions
7. Proposals
8. Drawings and documents
9. Summary
10. Findings
11. Conclusion
12. Recommendations
13. References
14. Appendices 1 (tree survey schedule - separate document), 2 (tree location plan)

3. Instruction

This report is to survey all trees on the site for the potential to cause damage and/or harm for insurance and liability. I refer to the current guidance set out within NTSG Common sense risk management of trees 2011 to enable the homeowner to have discharged their duty of care.

The risks that I have assessed are: Likelihood of damage to property (indirect or contact), tree failure through structures, and personal harm or injury. I have been instructed by Ross Woodley from Romsey Tree Surgeons.

4. Limitations

This survey is valid for 3 years (adhering to the guidance set out in NTSG 2011). I must be kept in direct supervision of the site at all times in regards to all arboricultural matters in order for the findings in this report to remain valid.

The site was inspected using the VTA method as outlined in Mattheck and Breloer 1994. No detailed decay detection has been carried out.

No soil analysis has been carried out: assumptions have been made based on data from the BGS, and the species that grow in that area.

5. Site details

The site is a 0.3Ha plot residential property in Chandlers Ford. It has recently had a new access installed off Oakwood road, with hard surfacing placed in and around trees 1-4.

The BGS lists the soil conditions as “Whitecliff Sand Member - Sand and gravel. Sedimentary bed-rock formed between 66 and 23.03 million years ago during the Palaeogene period.”

I will therefore assume the soil conditions to be inelastic, with a low shear rating.

6. Legal restrictions

The entire site is covered by a blanket TPO, ref: 265E.

7. Proposals

This report aims to establish whether the trees require work within the next 5 years, 1 year, critically (as soon as reasonably practicable), or no work whatsoever. It aims to discharge the duty of care that the landowner has to ensure that their trees are as safe as reasonably practicable, and to instil a cyclic formal re-inspection schedule every 3-5 years in line with NTSG common sense risk management of trees 2011. Based on the target area of the site, the records of this report must be kept with the residents, and the next date for a formal inspection is May 2028, with annual drive-by inspections for the roadside trees. Informal observations may be taken annually by visiting arboriculturists.

8. Drawings and documents

The client has not provided drawings and documents for the purposes of this assessment. I have obtained one from the Ordnance survey and have annotated the tree on the map.

Appendix 1: Schedule

Appendix 2: Tree location plan

9. Summary

The trees on the site are majority high value trees that add to the sylvan character of the area, although two birch trees are recommended for removal as they're simply not particularly good specimens and are currently suppressing better trees. Some pruning and deadwood removal is recommended to mitigate any risk posed to the users of Hiltingbury road, and pruning to the trees on the South aspect of the property (some of which are offsite) has been recommended to alleviate shading in an otherwise dark and claustrophobic garden. One municipally owned tree has also been highlighted (T5) as it is posing a significant threat to road users and my client's property.

10. Findings (please see appendix 1 for specific details)

Trees scheduled for removal

- i. Trees 8 and 9 are recommended for removal.

- ii. These are both silver birch trees that are coming to the end of their useful contributions and are both entering over-mature age class.
- iii. There are better trees close by them that are being suppressed (a beech and a yew), both of which would benefit from the increased room and sunlight if these trees were felled.
- iv. The amenity of the site as whole would be improved by the removal of these two trees. Neither are particularly high value.

Trees scheduled for pruning

- v. Trees 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13 are all recommended for some pruning work.
- vi. Trees 1 and 2 require crown lifting to aid access of high sided vehicles to the property. This growth is all epicormic growth that will include well, and will have minimal impacts.
- vii. Tree 3 is exhibiting significant decline from the tips (possibly as result of sustaining root damage from the shed base installation), and so I've recommended a reduction in weight and spread to mimic the canopy retrenchment and minimise the risk of falling detritus into Hiltingbury road.
- viii. Tree 4 exhibits similar, but less severe symptoms of root damage, and as these trees have been grown together, for continuity of cover I've recommended a reduction to the South aspect of the canopy, but with nothing off the height, just so there is adequate clearance of the property, and the overall aesthetic of the two trees is not too compromised.
- ix. Tree 5 is an offsite tree that is municipally owned. I've noted it on the report as it does pose a threat to my client's property, and a significant risk to road users. In no way is my client obliged to fulfil a duty of care for this tree, but the duty holder must be identified and some action with this tree must be taken within the next year. I've suggested a 3m reduction to mimic the canopy retrenchment.
- x. Trees 12, and 13 are causing excessive shading in the garden of 1 Oakwood road. Although offsite or boundary trees, my client is entitled to cut back limbs overhanging their boundary.
- xi. This level of pruning would be too severe, but a reduction of the north aspect of these trees (with nothing off the height) would be reasonable, and unlikely to compromise the health of either of these mature trees, nor stunt their form. I've suggested a 3m tip reduction of both these trees.

Trees requiring deadwood removal

- xii. Trees 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 11 are recommended for deadwood removal.

12. Conclusion:

The tree cover on the site adds a significant amount of value to the overall area. Many of the trees are in the mature class, verging on over mature, and will steadily decline over the coming years. This is in part due to the installation of the hard surfacing around these trees with scant regard for the rooting areas, and is something that must be managed over that time to maximise the useful contribution of all these trees. I recommend that the trees overhanging Hiltingbury road are surveyed annually as a “drive-by” inspection, with a formal inspection triennially. The remainder may be inspected in May 2028.

The loss to the site of trees 8 and 9 is not a significant one, and the remainder of the recommended works is unlikely to shorten the lifespans or harm the amenity of the retained trees in any way.

13. Recommendations

1. Follow the recommendations paragraph within appendix 1.
2. Re-inspection date (formal) of May 2028.



Matthew Rowden *ABC ProfDipArb L6, BTEC NatDipArb L3*

14. References

- a. BS3998:2010
- b. Structural Features Related to Tree Crotch Strength by Robert W. Farrell
- c. Tree Pulling Tests of Large Shade Trees in the Genus Acer, Brian Kane and Peggi Clouston
- d. Modern Arboriculture, Alex Shigo
- e. The body language of trees, Dr Claus Mattheck
- f. Fungal strategies of wood decay in trees, Francis Schwarze
- g. How much pruning is necessary for an effective crown reduction? Dr Frank Rinn

Tree no. on plan	Species	Ht (M)	Crown spread (M) N E S W	Stem dia. @1.5m (mm)	Life stage	Estimated remaining contribution in years	General observations Physiological condition- P Structural condition - S	Preliminary management recommendations	Likelihood of causing damage/harm
1	<i>Quercus robur</i>	15	5 5 7 6	460	M	>20	P- Fair S- Fair Recent hard surfacing installation has caused some damage to the rooting area of unknown significance at this time. Major deadwood N and W aspects at 8 and 10m. Epicormic on main stem.	Remove deadwood Crown lift to 5m.	Moderate
2	<i>Quercus robur</i>	19	9 7 8 10	620	M	>20	P- Fair S- Fair Recent hard surfacing installation has caused some damage to the rooting area of unknown significance at this time. Major deadwood throughout canopy and at 7m N aspect. Small cavity at base W aspect 200mm x 200mm x 150mm of low sig. Epicormic on main stem impedes access to high sided vehicles.d	Remove deadwood Crown lift to 5m.	Moderate

Tree no. on plan	Species	Ht (M)	Crown spread (M) N E S W	Stem dia. @1.5m (mm)	Life stage	Estimated remaining contribution in years	General observations Physiological condition- P Structural condition - S	Preliminary management recommendations	Likelihood of causing damage/harm
3	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	16	7 5 9 7	540	M	>20	P- Fair/Poor S- Fair Recent hard surfacing installation has caused some damage to the rooting area of unknown significance at this time. Major deadwood N aspect at 14m, coupled with overall canopy dieback. Tree is now in significant retrenchment with deadwood over highway.	Reduce height and spread by 3m, removing all deadwood.	High
4	<i>Quercus robur</i>	19	7 5 9 7	680	M	>40	P- Fair S- Fair Recent shed base installation has caused some damage to the rooting area of unknown significance at this time. Major deadwood S aspect at 5m, Sparse canopy and moderate retrenchment from tips. S aspect canopy extends over garden and is misshapen.	Reduce S aspect by 2m, retaining height. Remove deadwood.	Moderate
5	<i>Quercus robur</i>	18	6 7 6 4	760	OM	<20	P- Poor S- Poor Offsite tree with severe retrenchment from tips. Poses significant safety risk to road users.q	Reduce height and spread by 3m, removing all deadwood.	High

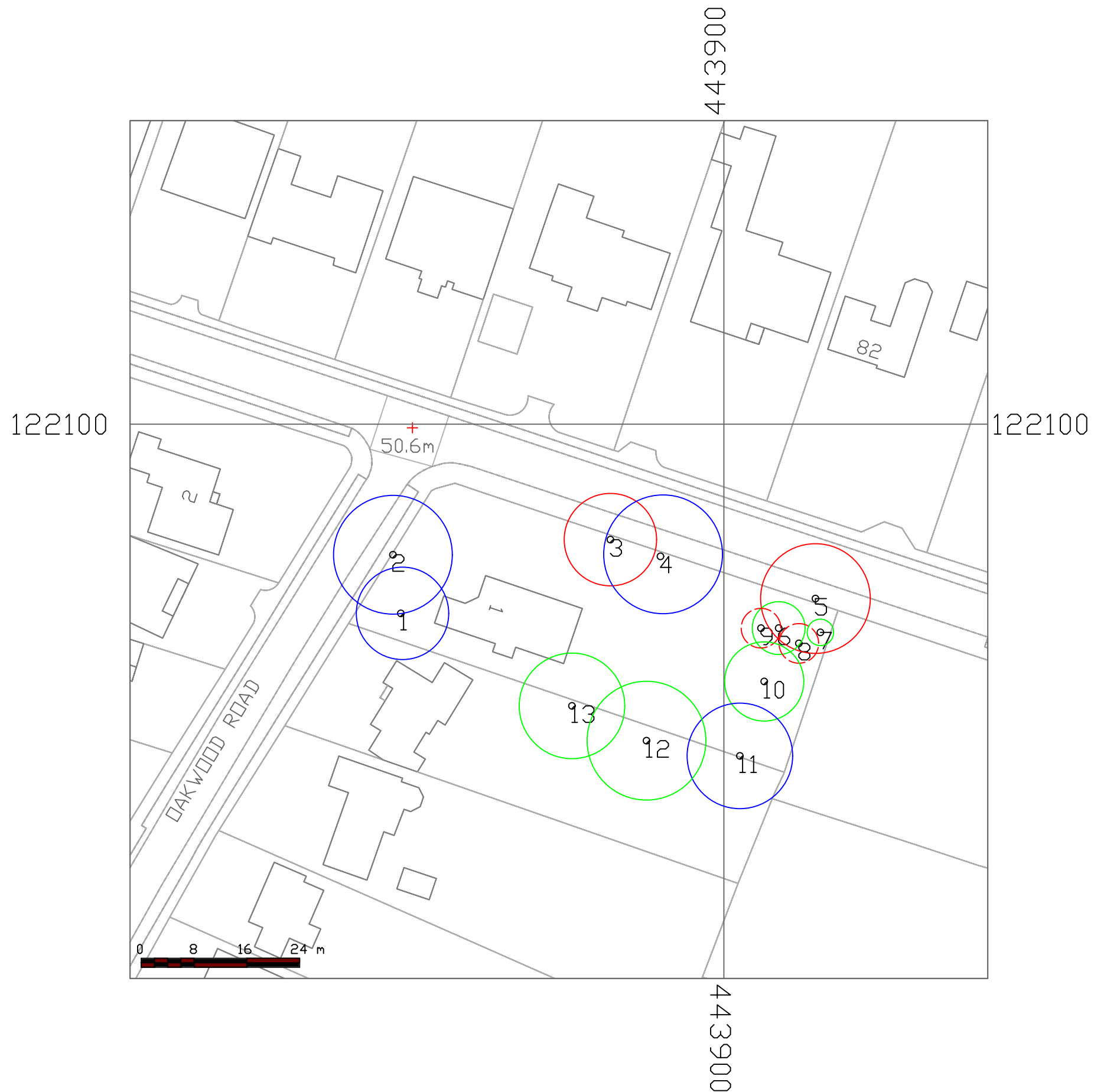
Tree no. on plan	Species	Ht (M)	Crown spread (M) N E S W	Stem dia. @1.5m (mm)	Life stage	Estimated remaining contribution in years	General observations Physiological condition- P Structural condition - S	Preliminary management recommendations	Likelihood of causing damage/harm
6	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	17	7 5 5 6	380	YM	>40	P- Good S- Good High value tree, suppressed by adjacent birch trees.	None	Low
7	<i>Taxus baccatta</i>	8	2 2 2 2	260	YM	>40	P- Good S- Good	None	Low
8	<i>Betula pendula</i>	19	4 2 2 4	370	M	<10	P- Fair S- Ivy Recent landscaping has caused some damage to the rooting area of unknown significance at this time. Heavily ivy clad and suppressing trees 6 and 7 that are much better specimens.	Fell	Low
9	<i>Betula pendula</i>	19	2 2 2 2	290	M	<10	P- Fair/Poor S- Fair Sparse canopy with minor retrenchment from tips. Suppressing tree 6 that is a superior specimen.	Fell	Low
10	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	20	7 6 9 10	490	M	>40	P- Good S- Good	None	Low

Tree no. on plan	Species	Ht (M)	Crown spread (M) N E S W	Stem dia. @1.5m (mm)	Life stage	Estimated remaining contribution in years	General observations Physiological condition- P Structural condition - S	Preliminary management recommendations	Likelihood of causing damage/harm
11	<i>Quercus robur</i>	24	10 9 12 11	980	M	>40	P- Good S- Good Ivy clad. Previously pollarded at a height of 15m. Major deadwood over garden N aspect at 10m.	Remove deadwood N aspect.	Moderate
12	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	22	9 10 10 9	1050	M	>40	P- Good S- Good Offsite tree. Canopy encroaching on and excessively shading garden to N aspect.	Reduce N aspect by 3m.	Low
13	<i>Quercus robur</i>	21	9 5 8 11	760	M	>40	P- Good S- Good Offsite tree. Canopy encroaching on and excessively shading conservatory to N aspect. Ivy clad.	Reduce N aspect by 3m.	Low

Survey schedule key

- Tree ID: Refers to numbers as shown in the tree location plan.
- Species: scientific name
- Height (measured in meters)
- Crown spread (measured in meters at the points of North, South, East and West). Where “#” is used as a suffix, the measurements are approximate.
- Stem diameter measured at 1.5m height in mm.
- Life stage: Young (Y) (small trees at a very early stage of their growth), young mature (YM)(larger trees at an early life stage with the potential to still grow considerably larger), Mature (MA)(trees which have reached their maximum size and are self sustaining at the point), Over mature (OM)(trees that are beginning to decline and starting to die back from the tips), Veteran (V)(trees that are rapidly in decline and steadily losing canopy spread), Dead (D)
- Estimated remaining contribution in years: Until such a time as any residual amenity is lost.
- General observations - a visual assessment of the physiological and structural condition of the tree, classed as :Poor, fair, good, dead, decline. Physiologically refers to the vitality and vigour of the tree; Structural refers to the presence of physical defects within the tree's structural makeup. For example, a multi stemmed tree from a lapsed pollard with multiple defects in those unions, but with good vitality and good leaf cover would be classed as physiologically good, but structurally poor.

- Preliminary management recommendations - recommendations to maintain the tree as part of the proposals, or assessing whether its retention is viable, whether it be the suggestion of aerial inspections, remedial pruning, or detailed decay inspections.
- Likelihood of causing damage/ harm: None, low, moderate, high and critical. These mean that respectively, the recommendations are to be actioned with no time scale and within 5 years (green canopy spread), 1 year (blue canopy spread), 6 months (red canopy spread). Trees to be felled with have the canopy spread denoted in a dashed line.



General Notes

Key

Low risk trees	
Moderate risk trees	
High risk trees	
Trees to be felled	

No.	Revision/Issue	Date

Firm Name and Address

Romsey
Tree Surgeons Ltd

Project Name and Address

1 Oakwood Road,
Chandlers Ford,
Eastleigh

Project RTS/RW/10RCF/VTA/V1	Sheet A3
Date 16/05/2025	
Scale 1:500	