

Tree 

Maintenance Ltd

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

TREE SURVEY REPORT

TOWN GARDENS, SWINDON

Date: JUNE 2021

Unit 60, Aston Down
Gloucestershire GL6 8GA

Tel: 01285 760466
Fax: 01285 760983

Email: sales@treemaintenance.co.uk
www.treemaintenance.co.uk

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1.0 Summary

- 1.1 All trees on within the fenced boundary of Town Gardens were subject to a ground level, condition and safety inspection on the 17th and 21st June 2021 by a qualified and experienced arboriculturalist. All trees were inspected and only defective trees were recorded. A Survey Schedule is included at Appendix 1 and a Tree Location Plan at Appendix 2.
- 1.2 The tree stock consists of mainly mature Sycamore and Beech with a limited mix of ornamental specimens planted over the last 3-4 decades and planting is continuing as part of the park's management. Overall, the tree stock is considered to be in fair condition. However, given the restricted species mix and maturity of the tree stock there is a potential for a large number of tree losses to occur in a relatively short period of time without extensive future management, including the introduction of new planting to vary the age range and species mix of the tree stock.
- 1.3 I was not instructed to investigate if the site is within a Conservation Area or if trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order and this should be confirmed by Swindon Borough Council Before any works are implemented. Failure to obtain written consent/give notification is a criminal offence and could result in a fine of up to £20,000 on summary conviction, unlimited fine if indicted to crown court and/or 6 months in prison.
- 1.4 Birds and Bats are protected under UK and European Law from disturbance and harm. Where work is being carried out and bats are present, or if the tree is a known roost, consultation must be made with the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation, Natural England, www.naturalengland.org.uk. Work likely to disturb nesting birds should be avoided from late March to August.
- 1.5 No trees are of such poor quality or contain extensive defects which pose a significant and immediate risk to park users.
- 1.6 Trees 919 and 942 contain significant defects which, although not imminently dangerous, require attention within 3 months of date of survey.
- 1.7 Trees 920, 921, 922, 926-929, 931, 933, 937-940 contain defects which require works within 6 months.
- 1.8 Tree 932 requires a detailed inspection of the tree base with a Picus Tomograph as basal decay is suspected. Trees 934 and 941 require a climbing inspection to confirm the structural condition of the upper crown. These works should be completed, after which final management recommendations can be made, within 3 months from the date of the original survey.
- 1.9 Trees 923-925, 930, 935 and 936 contain recognisable, low-risk, defects but require works within 12 months.

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 I am Ken Sheppard, the senior Arboricultural Consultant with Tree Maintenance Limited. I have 35 years' experience in arboriculture and urban tree management, I am a Fellow of the Arboricultural Association and a Chartered Arboriculturalist through the Institute of Chartered Foresters. I am also a qualified Professional Tree Inspector as assessed by the industry lead body Lantra.
- 2.2 In accordance with our quotation 15266 / 65481 dated 5th May 2021, I have been instructed by Chief Executive Rob Core to carry out a survey of all trees within Town Gardens, Swindon.
- 2.3 I have been instructed to inspect all trees within the Park. All individual trees and groups of trees have been inspected; and only those with defects significant to safety are recorded within the Survey Schedule at Appendix 1 and shown on the Tree Location Plan at Appendix 2.

3.0 Site Description

- 3.1 The 5-acre park was created in the late 19th and early 20th century on an old quarry. The Park is surrounded by Penfold Gardens to the north, Quarry Road to the east, Westlecot Road to the south and The Quarries to the west. The site is gently undulating and includes a café, bandstand, bird enclosure, bowling green and pavilion, together with a large, enclosed, covered stage and viewing area within the central park bowl area.
- 3.2 It is a public park previously managed by Swindon Borough Council but now managed by the recently formed South Swindon Parish Council. The park is extensively used in all weathers and has a network of footpaths, bridges; seating areas and lawn areas are extensively used, as are soft landscaped shrub borders all of which show signs of significant compaction and surface capping.
- 3.3 The tree stock consists of mainly mature Sycamore and Beech with a limited mix of ornamental specimens planted over the last 3-4 decades and planting is continuing as part of the park's management. Overall, the tree stock is considered to be in fair condition.

4.0 Method and Abbreviations

- 4.1 Trees have been visually inspected from ground level using binoculars where necessary. A system of Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) has been used to assess both the physiological and structural condition of the trees. No detailed inspection of suspected defects has been carried out and where this is considered necessary it will be detailed in the recommendations.
- 4.2 All individual trees have been numbered with an aluminium tag installed at around 2 metres and their numbers shown on Tree Location Plan 15266/65767 included at

appendix 2.

4.3 Groups have not been tagged but are shown on the Tree Location Plan.

4.4 Codes used are as follows:

4.4.1 Size Class:

L	Large	Trees more than 20 metres tall
M	Medium	Trees 10-20 metres tall
S	Small	Trees less than 10 metres tall

4.4.2 Age Class:

Age classification is a best predicted assessment considering the tree species together with its current environment:

Y	Young	Recently planted trees at less than a quarter of life expectancy
SM	Semi Mature	Established trees at less than a third of their predicted life expectancy
MA	Early Mature	Trees between a third and two thirds of their predicted life expectancy
M	Mature	Trees at over two thirds of their predicted life expectancy
D	Dead	Trees which have little or no functioning networks of living cells

4.4.3 Structural Condition:

This relates to the physical condition of a tree including its roots, trunk, branch unions and limbs. It is an overall assessment of bio mechanical strength based on visible defects or defect indicators identified at the time of the survey:

G	Good	No significant structural defects
F	Fair	Structural defects which can be improved or removed through moderate remedial tree surgery or other management practices
P	Poor	Significant structural defects which cannot be alleviated through moderate tree surgery or other management practices

4.4.4 Physiological Condition:

Physiological Condition is an assessment of the tree's overall health (ability to resist strain) which affects its ability to tolerate changes such as climate, local environment and colonisation by pests and diseases. The assessment is based on bud density and distribution, leaf size and colour, crown density, annual extension and wound closure compared with similar species within the locality:

G	Good	A tree with a fully functioning biological system showing evidence of normal sustained growth.
F	Fair	A tree with fully functioning biological system showing some evidence of continuing growth which has the potential to improve or decline depending upon environmental conditions and future management.
P	Poor	A tree with a biological system of limited functionality and declining health, unlikely to recover but which may remain in a moribund state for a significant period of time.
D	Dead	A tree which lacks any significant live tissue or functioning biological systems.

4.5 Recommendations are based on an assessment of risk (the likelihood of harm occurring), the size of the hazard (anything with the potential to cause harm), the value of the target (persons or property that could be injured or damaged) and the frequency of occupation. The targets to be considered here are:

- Visitors to the site/property
- Employees and visitors to the site
- Users of Westlecot Road and Quarry Road, The Quarries and Penfold Gardens
- Users of footpaths across the site
- Buildings and infrastructure within the site
- Neighbouring residential properties and gardens

4.6 Trees that require work are listed in the schedule (Appendix 1). Works have been prioritised based on the level of risk they pose, as follows:

- 1 Month** Works required immediately
- 3 Months** Works recommended within 3 months
- 6 Months** Works recommended within 6 months
- 1 Year** Works recommended with 1 year
- ABA** Works recommended as budgets allow

5.0 Additional Considerations

- 5.1 Grey squirrels are present within the park in high numbers, and this has resulted in extensive damage to the Sycamore, Beech and Maples - a problem which will only continue unless squirrel numbers are reduced to acceptable levels, ideally 1-3 per hectare but preferably less. Advice on squirrel control can be found at <https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/research/management-of-grey-squirrels/>. There is often a negative perception of squirrel control by the public, who identify Grey squirrels as a good connection with the natural world. Consideration should be given to disguising kill or capture traps which would require checking and emptying on a daily basis whilst in situ. Failure to control and maintain squirrel numbers will result in on going damage, increased risk of branch failure, increased work costs and early loss of specimen trees all to the detriment of park quality.
- 5.2 Soil compaction across the site is a continuing, not only within the lawn areas but also shrub borders and the more woodland type areas of the site. Compaction results in increased water runoff, poor soil aeration and increased degradation the organic matter, increased soil carbon dioxide and reduced nutrient availability, again resulting in gradually reducing the health of the park's tree and shrub stock. Advice on soil compaction is available at <https://www.trees.org.uk/Trees.org.uk/files/82/82b8e6c2-12da-461b-b358-ea543ac82540.pdf> & <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/remove-soil-compaction>. A programme of soil protection, decompaction, incorporation of organic matter and mulching of shrub beds would significantly improve the long-term viability of existing and future planting in the park. Advice on improving soil structure is available at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/increase-soil-organic-matter>
- 5.3 Sub soil within the park was indicated to be a deep coarse sand and as a result will be freely draining and have low fertility as nutrients can be readily leached from the soil.
- 5.4 Although deadwood can pose a risk of harm to park users it is also an important habitat and should be retained in low-risk areas. Deadwood over high shrubs and small trees is unlikely to cause significant harm even if it fails in its entirety as it will become tangled in lower growth. Even in high-risk areas without cover, deadwood can be stabilised to retain it for decades. Where trees are felled, consideration should be given to retaining standing deadwood through artificial veteranisation. Larger sections could be retained in boundary shrub borders to further diversify deadwood habitat.
- 5.5 Ivy has ecological benefit, in particular as a late nectar source and habitat for insects, and as a nesting or roosting site for birds and bats. It is non-parasitic, only using the tree for support and to reach the light. However, when extensive it can become disadvantageous to the tree through displacing foliage, preventing new shoots arising (making a 'hollow' crown), masking defects and thereby preventing a proper inspection and by adding wind load. Where considered necessary, it is been recommended for removal (or severing at the base, when it will die off) reducing the wind loading and allowing a more complete inspection the next time the tree stock is surveyed.
- 5.6 Here, Ivy has been kept clear of many trees in the past and this can presumably be carried out by you. As a policy I would recommend a rolling programme of Ivy severing,

at least where it extends high into the crown of vulnerable trees.

5.7 Ash Dieback

5.7.1 Ash Dieback, over the last two years has become endemic across the country due to its wind bourn and highly infectious nature. It results in the widespread death of young and early mature trees and extensive crown death of mature specimens.

5.7.2 Although larger trees have a potential to recover, they are likely to be extensively disfigured and could be subject to further attack in future years which results in their eventual early demise.

5.7.3 Within individual specimens, the spread of the disease can be very rapid from initial infection to almost complete crown death in less than 12 months. In addition, it appears that the wood embrittlement occurs more rapidly which results in dead, standing trees having an increased failure rate over those dying of other causes. Removing dead trees is therefore likely to be costly whilst removal of extensively infected but live trees is likely to be both cheaper and safer as standard arboricultural climbing techniques can be employed.

5.7.4 Given the wide distribution of Ash on site, their loss could result in significant changes in the canopy density and character of the site in the short to medium term. Consideration should therefore be given, not only to budgets for the removal of the declining Ash, but also for additional planting to mitigate their loss both now and in the future. A suggested planting list and specification can be provided on request.

5.7.5 Additional information on Ash Dieback can be found at

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

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/tree-diseases-and-pests/key-threats/ash-dieback>

6.0 Planning Considerations

6.1 I was not instructed to investigate if the site is located within a Conservation Area or if trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). A notification/ application will need to be made to Swindon Borough Council and written consent obtained before non exempt works can be completed. I recommend that this is investigated with Swindon Borough Council before starting works.

6.2 If trees are within a Conservation Area or if trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order, failure to obtain written consent/give notification is a criminal offence and could result in a fine of up to £20,000 on summary conviction, unlimited fine if indicted to crown court and/or 6 months in prison.

- 6.3 If Tree Maintenance Ltd is instructed to carry out the works we will make all the relevant applications/ notifications on your behalf.

7.0 Wildlife Issues

- 7.1 Bats. Under current legislation it is an offence to ‘intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat’ or ‘damage, destroy or block access to the resting place of any bat’ (Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2001 and further strengthened by other legislation).

Where work is being carried out and bats are present, or if the tree is a known roost, consultation must be made with the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation Natural England, www.naturalengland.org.uk.

A European Protected Species Habitat Regulations Licence is likely to be required. Work to trees with the potential for roosting bats is best done from late August to early October. March through to April is also suitable although this may conflict with nesting birds (see below).

- 7.2 Birds. It is an offence under section 1 of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to kill, injure or take any wild bird; intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird or take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. So work likely to disturb nesting birds should be avoided from late March to August.
- 7.3 All trees requiring work should be evaluated prior to work starting as part of a normal on-site risk assessment. If a bird, badger or bat issues are suspected then the tree works will be suspended and further advice from our office should be sought.

8.0 Arboricultural Methods

- 8.1 All tree work should be carried out to the highest standards, based on British Standard 3998:2010 ‘*Recommendations for Tree Work*’ and current best practice.
- 8.2 The pruning of some species should avoid specific times. *Prunus* species (eg flowering and fruiting Cherry, Plum, Almond etc) should only be pruned during June – August in order to minimise the risk of infection by Silver Leaf disease. *Acer* (Maples including Sycamore), *Betula* (Birches) and, *Morus* (Mulberry) should not be pruned February – June due to sap bleeding; also *Juglans* (Walnut) from December – June. The trimming of most conifers and other evergreens should avoid the frosty winter months.

9.0 Limitations

- 9.1 Due to the changing nature of trees – and possibly other site circumstances – this report and recommendations are limited to a two year period. Similarly, this report could be invalidated if any alterations are made to the property that could change the conditions as seen at time of inspection.

- 9.2 Under certain circumstances, roots can affect foundations, drains and other underground services. These issues have not been addressed by this report unless specifically referred to.
- 9.3 Trees are dynamic structures that can never be guaranteed 100% safe; even those in good condition can suffer occasional damage under only average weather conditions. A lack of recommended work does not imply that a tree will never suffer damage.

10.0 Re-inspections

- 10.1 For a site like this, where tree safety is of paramount importance, and in accordance with the Parish Council Tree Policy, I recommend professional inspection once every 18 months to allow the inspection to alternate between seasons, as different information can be evaluated.
- 10.2 As set out in section 9.0 even healthy trees can be subject to damage as a result of even moderate weather conditions. I would therefore recommend that in addition to the regular professional survey you / your grounds staff / a competent employee carryout a quick visual inspection of all of the trees following any heavy snow fall or storms which exceed Beaufort Scale 7, near gale force winds. This should quickly identify any hazards to users of the site which require immediate attention.
- 10.2 All Ash trees on site should be inspected annually when in full leaf so that timely and appropriate action can be taken.

11.0 Costs for Recommended Works

- 11.1 Costs can be given in due course if required, however this report is a stand-alone document. Please confirm which tree works you would like costed and I will arrange for a colleague to visit site prior to preparing a quotation for the works, which can then be carried out by one of our very experienced and professional contracting teams.

Signed:



Ken Sheppard, MICFor, FArborA, Dip Arb (RFS), Tech Cert (ArborA), CUEW.

Senior Arboricultural Consultant

DATE: June 2021

APPENDIX 1
Tree Survey Schedule



TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

Client: South Swindon Parish Council	Site: Town Gardens
Date: June 2021	Consultant: Ken Sheppard
Tagged: yes	Weather:

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
919	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M	2	L	7 5 0 +	1 6	F	P	Close to footpath. Growing on bank. Part of group. Suppressed and misshapen tree. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Forks into two with weak forks with included bark present, no evidence of primary failure. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Tall and drawn due to group environment. Epicormic growth on trunk. Asymmetric crown form. Major dead wood within crown. Crown density reduced. All small twigs and branches 25% dead / absent. Apical dieback. Crown density reduced. All small twigs and branches 25% dead / absent. Apical dieback. Cavity in main fork with minor decay. Major deadwood over high use path.	Remove major dead wood.	3 Months
920	Common Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	M A	1	L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	8	F	F	Close to building. Close to footpath. Close to leisure area. Growing on boundary. Part of linear group. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Bark wounds on trunk. Tall and drawn due to group environment. Asymmetric crown form. Minor dead wood within crown. Poor crown form. Ash dieback Health class 2 - 25-50% leaf loss	Fell to leave 4 metre section for habitat creation.	6 Months

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
921	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M A	1	L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	2 0	F	F	Individual specimen. Growing in public open space. Close to footpath. Part of group. Principal/Dominant tree. Soil compaction around base. Large surface roots creating trip hazard. Large buttress roots. Crown upright form. Minor dead wood within crown. Stubs. Old pruning wounds on limbs occluding. Old pruning wounds on limbs occluded. Crown density reduced. Reduced annual shoot extension. Leaves small and sparse. Crown density reduced. Reduced annual shoot extension. Leaves small and sparse.	Remove major dead wood.	6 Months
922	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M A	1	M	4 5 0- 6 0 0	1 3	F	G	Close to footpath. Growing in public open space. Part of group. Sheltered by adjacent trees. Soil compaction around base. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Squirrel damaged branches liable to failure. Major dead wood within crown. Broken hanging branches.	Remove major dead wood. Remove suspended broken branches, stubs and deadwood.	6 Months 6 Months
923	Common Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	M	1	L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	1 2	F	F	Boundary tree. Growing in woodland garden setting. Part of group. Sheltered by adjacent trees. Suppressed and misshapen tree. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Ivy on trunk. Major decay present in trunk. Epicormic growth on trunk. Tall and drawn due to group environment. Trunk leaning to West. Minor dead wood within crown. Heavy phototropic limb/s. Ash dieback Health Class 1.	Reinspect June/July 2022 when in full leaf.	

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
924	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M	1	V L	7 5 0 +	2 0	F	G	Boundary tree. Close to leisure area. Growing in public open space. Part of group. Large buttress roots. Wounds occluding. Forks into three. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds decayed into cavities on trunk. Major dead wood within crown. Normal leaf size and colour.	Stabilise major deadwood.	1 year
925	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M	1	V L	7 5 0 +	2 2	G	G	Boundary tree. Growing in woodland garden setting. Overhanging neighbouring property. Part of group. Sheltered by adjacent trees. Large buttress roots. Ivy on trunk. Multi stemmed. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Minor decay present. Major dead wood within crown. Asymmetric crown form. Normal leaf size and colour.	Stabilise major deadwood.	1 year
926	Common Horse Chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	M A	1	M	4 5 0- 6 0 0	9	F	G	Boundary tree. Close to footpath. Growing on bank. Growing on boundary. Parkland tree. Part of group. Sheltered by adjacent trees. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Old pruning wounds with extensive decay on trunk. Old pruning wounds decayed into cavities on trunk. Epicormic growth on trunk. Asymmetric crown form.	Reduce crown height by 3-4 metres. Reduce lateral branches to shape and maintain form.	6 Months

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
927	Austrian Pine <i>(Pinus nigra ssp. Nigra)</i>	O M	1	V L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	7	F	M	Tree moribund. Adjacent to access. Close to footpath. Growing in amenity lawn area. Part of group. Poor quality tree. Soil compaction around base. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Tall and drawn due to group environment. All small twigs and branches 75% dead / absent. Leaves discoloured. Leaves small and sparse. All small twigs and branches 75% dead / absent. Leaves discoloured. Leaves small and sparse.	Fell to leave 4 metre section for habitat creation.	6 Months
928	Norway Maple <i>(Acer platanoides)</i>	M	1	L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	1 8	F	G	Boundary tree. Close to footpath and road. Overhanging parking area. Part of linear group. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Large surface roots creating trip hazard. Major dead wood within crown. Overhanging verge and footpath.	Remove major dead wood.	6 Months
929	Chinese Elm <i>(Ulmus parviflora)</i>	M	1	L	6 0 0- 7 5 0	2 2	F	F	Close to footpath. Growing on bank. Part of group. Parkland tree. Suppressed and misshapen tree. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Trunk leaning to West. Asymmetric crown form. Broad spreading crown form. Major dead wood within crown. Overhanging footpath/steps and flower borders.	Remove major dead wood.	6 Months

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
930	Common Ash <i>(Fraxinus excelsior)</i>	M	1	L	6 0 0- 7 5 0	1 8	G	F	Close to footpath and road. Growing in amenity lawn area. Parkland tree. Individual specimen. Large buttress roots. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Asymmetric crown form. Broad spreading crown form. Minor dead wood within crown. Crown density reduced. Crown density reduced. Ash dieback Health class 1	Reinspect June/July 2022 when in full leaf.	1 year
931	Common Beech <i>(Fagus sylvatica)</i>	M	1	V L	7 5 0 +	2 8	F	F	Close to footpath and road. Growing in amenity lawn area. Individual specimen. Principal / Dominant tree. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Multi-stemmed with weak forks with included bark present, no evidence of primary failure. Broad spreading crown form. Major dead wood within crown. Old pruning wounds on limbs occluding. Old pruning wounds on limbs occluded. Crown density reduced. Reduced annual shoot extension. Tree under stress.	Remove suspended broken branches, stubs and deadwood.	6 Months
932	Silver Birch <i>(Betula pendula)</i>	O M	1	M	4 5 0- 6 0 0	1 2	F	P	Close to footpath and road. Close to leisure area. Close to building. Growing on boundary. Individual specimen. Part of linear group. Small areas of dead bark on trunk. Minor decay present. Broad spreading crown form. Crown density reduced. All small twigs and branches 25% dead / absent. Leaves small and sparse. Crown density reduced. Suspected basal decay due to lack of defined buttress roots and bottle butt form of trunk at ground level. Tree of limited life expectancy, likely to rapidly decline if requiring significant reduction.	Further inspection required of lower trunk using Picus Tomograph to determine extent of decay at near ground level.	3 Months

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
933	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M	1	L	750+	20	F	F	Close to footpath and road. Close to leisure area. Growing in amenity lawn area. Growing in public open space. Individual specimen. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Old pruning wounds decayed into cavities on trunk. Forks into three with strong fork union. Asymmetric crown form. Stubs and deadwood within crown. Broken hanging branches. Leaves small and sparse. Reduced annual shoot extension.	Remove suspended broken branches, stubs and deadwood.	6 Months
934	Common Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>)	M	1	V L	750+	22	F	F	Adjacent to access. Close to footpath and road. Close to building. Growing in landscaped planting bed. Growing on boundary. Part of linear group. Principal / Dominant tree. Suppressed and misshapen tree. Large buttress roots. Large surface roots. Old pruning wounds decayed into cavities on trunk. Old pruning wounds with extensive decay on trunk. Trunk leaning to East. Asymmetric crown form. Broad spreading crown form. Weak forks present but with no evidence of primary failure. Crown density reduced. Cavity in end loaded limb extending over access. Cavity in old pruning wound on trunk.	Further inspection required by climbing to inspect areas of suspected decay/structural weakness.	3 Months
935	Austrian Pine (<i>Pinus nigra ssp. Nigra</i>)	M	1	V L	600-750	10	G	G	Close to footpath. Growing in amenity lawn area. Individual specimen. Parkland tree. Growing in public open space. Large buttress roots. Trunk leaning to South. Minor dead wood within crown. Large dead limb over footpath and well used lawn area.	Remove major dead wood.	1 year

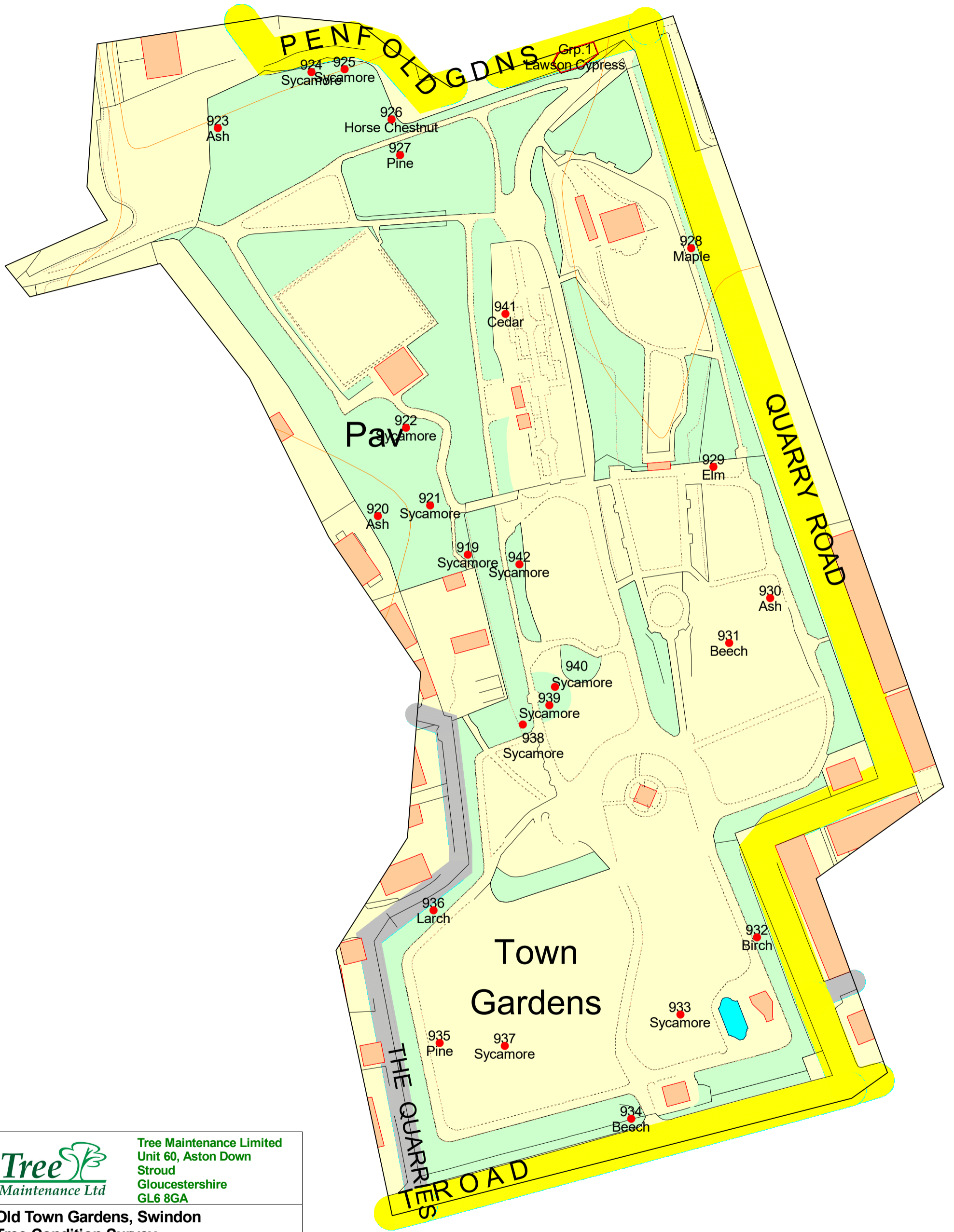
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							Structural	Physiological			
936	Hybrid Larch <i>(Larix eurolepis)</i>	M	1	L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	9	F	M	Tree moribund. Close to footpath and road. Growing in landscaped planting bed. Part of group. Sheltered by adjacent trees. Asymmetric crown form. Crown density reduced. Leaves small and sparse. Tree of limited life expectancy. Suspected Larch phytophthora.	Fell to leave 5 metre section for habitat creation.	1 year
937	Sycamore <i>(Acer pseudoplatanus)</i>	M	1	L	6 0 0- 7 5 0	2 0	G	F	Growing in amenity lawn area. Close to footpath. Individual specimen. Parkland tree. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Minor dead wood within crown. Broken hanging branches. Leaves small and sparse.	Remove suspended broken branches, stubs and deadwood.	6 Months
938	Sycamore <i>(Acer pseudoplatanus)</i>	M A	2	M	4 5 0- 6 0 0	1 0	F	F	Close to footpath. Growing on bank. Individual specimen. Suppressed and misshapen tree. Soil compaction around base. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Minor decay present. Minor decay in main limbs. Stubs. Major dead wood within crown. Squirrel damaged branches liable to failure. Apical dieback. Crown density reduced. Leaves small and sparse.	Remove squirrel damaged branches. Remove major dead wood.	6 Months 6 Months

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
939	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M	1	L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	9	G	G	Close to footpath. Growing on bank. Growing in landscaped planting bed. Part of group. Suppressed and misshapen tree. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Major dead wood within crown. Squirrel damaged branches liable to failure. Large dead limb over main path junction.	Remove major dead wood.	6 Months
940	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M	1	V L	6 0 0- 7 5 0	1 5	G	G	Close to footpath. Growing on bank. Part of group. Principal / Dominant tree. Large surface roots. Large buttress roots. Forks into two. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Major dead wood within crown. Large Squirrel damaged dead limb over path.	Remove major dead wood.	6 Months
941	Atlas Cedar (<i>Cedrus atlantica</i>)	M	1	L	7 5 0 +	2 0	P	F	Close to footpath. Growing in landscaped planting bed. Growing in garden. Individual specimen. Parkland tree. Principal / Dominant tree. Large buttress roots. Soil compaction around base. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluded. Old pruning wounds on trunk occluding. Minor decay in main limbs. Major dead wood within crown. No defined central leader. Asymmetric crown form. Broad spreading crown form. Extensively storm damaged; multiple damaged limbs and missing central leader. Decay and cavities in top wound supporting developing, heavy, end-loaded limb, growing towards main footpath.	Further inspection required by climbing to inspect areas of suspected decay/structural weakness.	3 Months

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	No. of Stems	Size Cat.	Stem Dia (mm)	Crown Dia (m)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority
							Structural	Physiological			
942	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M A	1	L	4 5 0- 6 0 0	7	F	F	Avenue tree. Close to footpath. Growing in amenity lawn area. Growing on bank. Part of linear group. Suppressed and misshapen tree. Tall and drawn due to group environment. Trunk upright. Asymmetric crown form. Major dead wood within crown. Large dead limb over amenity lawn.	Remove major dead wood.	3 Months

Tree No.	Species	Age Class	Size Cat.	No. of Stems	Stem Dia. (mm)	Condition		Comments, Observations and defects	Recommendations	Priority	Rec. Next Survey
						Structural	Physiological				
Grp.1	Lawson Cypress(2)	M A	M	2	300	P	M	Boundary edge group. Adjacent to access. Close to footpath and road. Growing on bank. Linear group. Soil compaction around base. Restricted rooting environment. Crowns upright form. Multiple trees with major dead wood within crown. Apical dieback in some trees. All small twigs and branches 50% dead / absent. Trees of very limited life expectancy.	Fell to ground level.	6 Months	N/A

APPENDIX 2
Tree Location Plan



Tree Maintenance Limited
 Unit 60, Aston Down
 Stroud
 Gloucestershire
 GL6 8GA

**Old Town Gardens, Swindon
 Tree Condition Survey**

SCALE : 1 : 1250	DATE : 06/07/2021
MAP FILENAME : 15266/65767	
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