

# *TREE ASSESSMENT REPORT*

*Gedney Parish*

*12<sup>th</sup> January 2026*

*Client: Gedney Parish Council*

*Observations and recommendations following an inspection of trees on 4<sup>th</sup>  
December 2025*



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# 1 *Introduction*

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- 1.1 I am a Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association. (RC Licence No: RC202) and have worked as a consultant for over 20 years. I hold the Arboricultural Association's Technician's Certificate and the Royal Forestry Society's Professional Diploma, which is a level 6 qualification equivalent to an Honours degree.
- 1.2 I was instructed by Jane Ripley on behalf of the Parish Council to re-inspect roadside trees at four locations in the Gedney Parish, revising the survey previously conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
- 1.3 This visit forms part of a broader reinspection program.
- 1.4 This report documents my observations and recommendations. Only those trees requiring comment or further consideration have been referenced in this report.
- 1.5 Tree Location Plans showing the locations of trees referenced in this report can be found at Appendix A.
- 1.6 There are some limitations to the method:
  - As trees and shrubs are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly, conclusions and recommendations are only valid for one year. The health, condition and safety of trees should be checked regularly.
  - The soil was not examined and no soil samples were taken. Should soil analysis be indicated, this will be recommended in the report.
  - No invasive investigations were carried out to assess the internal condition of the trees. Should this be required, it will be highlighted in the report.
  - No tree can be guaranteed to be safe. So long as trees are retained, zero risk cannot be achieved. The recommendations in this report are based on a reasonable and proportionate response to risk.

## **2**     *Roadside Trees at Walker Memorial Park, Gedney Drove End*

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- 2.1     The road adjoining the site appears to be in low use.
- 2.2     Most of the recommended actions from my survey in 2023 appear to have been carried out and to a suitable standard.
- 2.3     I did not find any defects that require attention at this inspection.

## **3**     *Dawsmere Cemetery*

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- 3.1     The Cemetery is located opposite Christchurch Dawsmere, within the village of Gedney Dawsmere.
- 3.2     The road adjoining the site appears to be in low use but I acknowledge the fact that cars may be parked on the site boundary occasionally.
- 3.3     As with previous visits, I found dead wood in 3092 Turkey Oak. Although the road is in light use, it would be prudent to remove dead wood from the tree's crown where it overhangs the road.
- 3.4     The tree has decay in the main stem but I am satisfied that the historic works to reduce the crown of the tree have provided an adequate safety factor.

## **4**     *Village Green/ memorial playground*

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- 4.1     This is a small public space with a play area for children.
- 4.2     The road adjoining the site appears to be in low use.
- 4.3     Site use has been designated as high.
- 4.4     I did not find any defects that require attention at this inspection.

## 5 Queen Mother Nature Reserve

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- 5.1 The road adjoining the site appears to be in low use.
- 5.2 The roadside trees at the Queen Mother Nature Reserve are included in Group 3 of South Holland District Council Gedney Tree Preservation Order No 7.2015.
- 5.3 The table below illustrates the findings of the survey.

| Tag    | Species        | Hazard                                                                                                           | Risk             | Level of Risk | Works recommended to reduce risk                                   |
|--------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5041   | Ash            | Scattered minor dead wood throughout crown. Some moderately-sized pieces of deadwood in crown. Dieback in crown. | Injury to people | Low           | Remove dead wood >25mm diameter where the tree overhangs the road. |
| 3094   | Elm            | Scattered minor dead wood throughout crown.                                                                      | Injury to people | Low           | Remove dead wood >25mm diameter where the tree overhangs the road. |
| 3541   | Oak            | Broken branches in crown. Low branches over road.                                                                | Injury to people | Low           | Lift crown to 5m where it overhangs the road.                      |
| NT1/25 | Sweet Chestnut | Low vigour. Scattered minor dead wood throughout crown. Dieback in crown.                                        | Injury to people | Low           | Fell and replace                                                   |

## 6 Recommendations

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- 6.1 No imminent hazards were identified that would warrant immediate or emergency action. However, as all of the trees assessed are located in roadside or other high-risk locations, the recommended works should be undertaken in the short term. These comprise:
- Remove deadwood greater than 25mm in diameter from Turkey Oak 3092 by the gate at Dawsmere Cemetery.
  - Remove deadwood greater than 25mm in diameter from Ash 5041 and Elm 3094 at Queen Mother Memorial Nature Reserve.
  - Fell and replace Sweet Chestnut NT1/25 at Queen Mother Memorial Nature Reserve.
  - Lift the crown of Oak 3541 at Queen Mother Memorial Nature Reserve to 5m where it overhangs the road.
- 6.2 You will need to make an application to fell Sweet Chestnut 1/25 and there is a duty to replace the tree.
- 6.3 We suggest that it is also good practice to contact the local planning authority to inform them of exempt works. This helps them to administer calls from concerned residents that typically occur when treeworks are undertaken.
- 6.4 Before the commencement of any treeworks, the contractor will ensure that the proper checks for bats and nesting birds have been carried out by an appropriately-qualified inspector.
- 6.5 A defendable re-inspection by a suitably qualified arboriculturalist is required on a 18-month cycle. On this basis, the next general inspection, which will include all trees at these locations not just the road ones will be due in May 2027.
- 6.6 A re-inspection by a suitably qualified arboriculturalist should be carried out following significant weather events that could materially affect tree stability or condition. This includes high winds (typically in excess of 50–60 mph), prolonged or repeated periods of heavy rainfall leading to waterlogging, and extended drought conditions.
- 6.7 Future Inspections will also assess whether previous recommended works have been carried out, and to a standard which resolves the original issue.



A M Belson

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## Appendix A: Tree Location Plans

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