

N J PACEY LANDSCAPING

Tree Safety Survey Report

**21 Westhorpe Road
Gosberton**

3rd June 2024



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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 **Instruction** – N J Pacey Landscaping has been instructed by Kim Sharpe of 21 Westhorpe Road, Gosberton, to undertake a tree safety survey of a poplar tree in the front garden of the property and provide recommendations for any action necessary to reduce risk to an acceptable level. This report has been requested as part of their Duty of Care responsibilities.
- 1.2 **Qualifications and experience:** The survey was conducted by Adam Quant. I have based this report and recommendations on my site observations, experience and technical knowledge. Details of my qualifications and experience are listed in [Appendix 1](#).
- 1.3 **Documents and information provided:** No Documents were provided.
- 1.4 **Scope of this report:** This report is only concerned with the condition of tree in the front of the property, no other trees on site were included in the survey.

2 SITE INFORMATION

- 2.1 **Site visit:** The tree was inspected by Adam Quant on the basis of a VTA on the 3rd of June 2024, On the 30th of May 2024, prior to our survey we had our tree surgery team lead by Paul Appleyard remove sections of the ivy around all major unions from the basket of a cherry picker. Some photos from this are included in this report. Not all ivy was removed as we are in the middle of bird nesting season.
- 2.2 **Identification and location of the trees**
The tree is the only tree in the front garden of 21 Westthorpe Road

3 THE TREE SURVEY

The survey was conducted from ground level with the aid of binoculars where necessary.

The trees were surveyed on the basis of the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method expounded by Mattheck and Breloer in 'The Body Language of Trees', Department for Transport, Local government and the Regions book Research for Amenity Trees No. 4, 1994).

Where trees have ivy cover, judgements have been made within the constraints imposed by this. In some cases, where ivy is particularly dense, recommendations have been made for ivy cutting and re-inspection.

No tissue samples were taken nor was any internal investigation of the subject trees undertaken.

No soil samples were taken.

All dimensions were estimated and are for guidance only.

Work recommended is that which is considered the minimum necessary to reduce risk to an acceptable level.

Trees are living organisms, readily affected by environmental changes, therefore, observations can only be considered as correct at the time of inspection. In the light of this, the report can only be considered valid for a maximum period of 12 months provided all factors remain unchanged.

It is recommended that, unless otherwise stated, the tree is re-inspected after 12 months or after high winds or other extreme weather conditions.

The trees were surveyed in summer and only defects that were significant and visible at the time were recorded.

5 OBSERVATIONS

Species – Poplar

Diameter at 1.5m – 188cm

Height - 32m

Crown Spread – N 14m- E 12m- S14m- W13m

There is ivy still on main stem obscuring visibility however this is removed from major structural unions.

Multiple holes of the Hornet Moth *Sesia apiformis* at base. (They are not listed UK BAP and are nationally scarce classification B)

Concerns over secondary infection at base caused by the infestation of Hornet Moth.

Open cavity at base south west side with a brown rot decay, opening 30cm wide with a hollow cavity of at least 40cm when probed.

First and major notable fork bifurcates at 3m with a 1m diameter estimated branch heading north towards property 21 and 19 Westhorpe Road.

Heavy limbs heading over the roofline of no 21 and over the telecoms cables beneath.

Sparse upper crown showing less leaf volume than expected most probably a sign of dieback, potentially connected with the Hornet Clearwing infestation

Minor deadwood throughout crown

Multiple significant sized breakouts in upper crown over recent years

Recent Failure over road was removed by the team on 30th of May which had failed and was hung up over the footpath and highway. This was dangerous over the highway so was removed as a priority.

Dying ivy remaining in upper crown

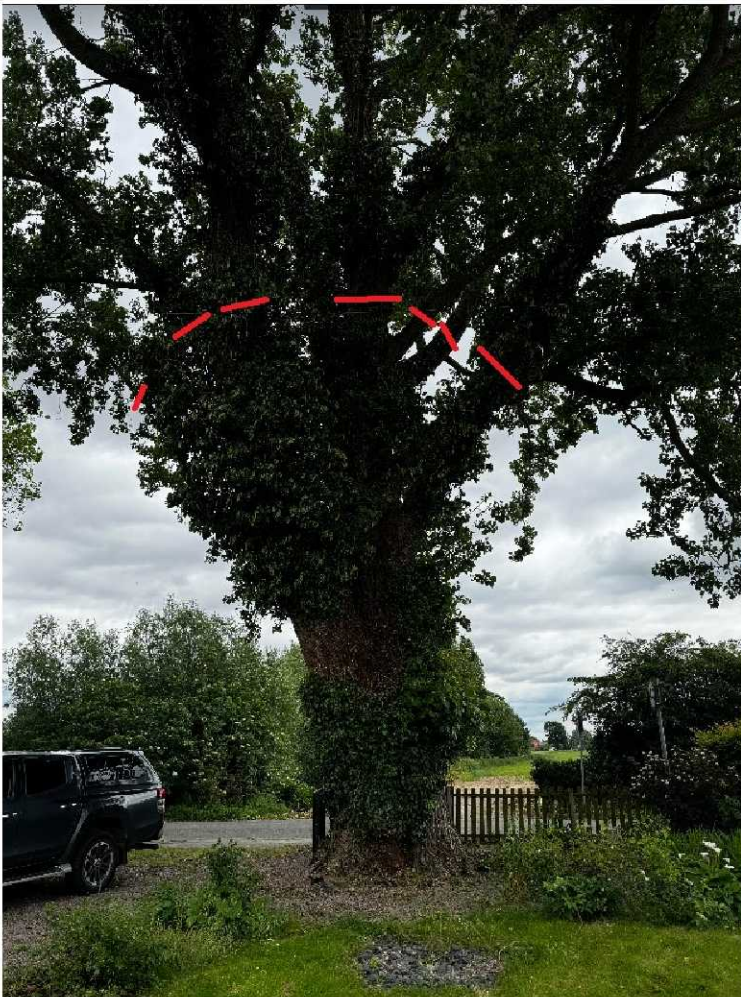
5 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Present requirements:

Crown Reduce by an estimated 70% with the aim of leaving the following 8m tall reduced tree.

We also recommend that a Picus tomogram is undertaken at the base of the tree to see the extent of the decay and see if even further reduction or removal is required.

All works should be undertaken within two months.



6 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 6.1 **Trees subject to statutory controls.** Trees may be subject to constraints such as Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas. Their status should be checked with the Local Authority before undertaking all but emergency work.
- 6.2 **Protected Species:** It is advised to check for protected species (most notably bats and nesting birds) before carrying out work on trees with likely habitats such as cavities and loose bark.

Appendix 1

Brief qualifications and experience of Mr. A. Quant

I have been involved in practical arboriculture since 2001. This has included working with amenity trees on a golf course. Between 2006 and 2011, I worked for Nicholson's in Oxfordshire. This role involved amongst other tasks, undertaking the management of trees for clients from the surveying of trees to recommending appropriate works to current best practice. I continued my professional development whilst in this role to develop my knowledge of trees including tree safety.

Autumn 2011, I joined N J Pacey Landscaping and am still actively progressing my Arboriculture skills by keeping up to date with current literature and best practice.

My qualifications include:-

Bachelors of Science with Honours in Forestry (from the University of Wales, Bangor)
National Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture (from the University of Lincoln)
Attended a course on Basic Tree Survey run by the Arboriculture Association in 2007
Lantra Level 2, Professional Tree Inspection Award in 2008
Professional Tree inspection Refresher Course 2014

Appendix 3

Tree schedule and explanatory notes

- **Mathematical abbreviations:** > = Greater than; < = Less than.
- **Measurements/estimates:** All dimensions are estimates unless otherwise indicated.
- **Species:** Common names are given for species identified on site.
- **Height:** Height is an estimate height in metres as an aid to identification only.
- **Stem Diameter:** The diameters at 1.5m above ground level are estimated and recorded in centimetres.
- **Estimated Age:** Age is estimated from visual indicators and is shown in classes. Age estimates often need to be modified based on further information such as historical records. The age classes used are:-
 - Young - a tree normally less than 15 years old
 - Semi Mature – a tree normally 15 – 30 years old
 - Mature – A tree which has reached the full growth potential of its species
 - Late Mature – A tree which is beginning to decline
 - Veteran – A tree in decline with special habitat or landscape significance.

These age classes will vary according to species.

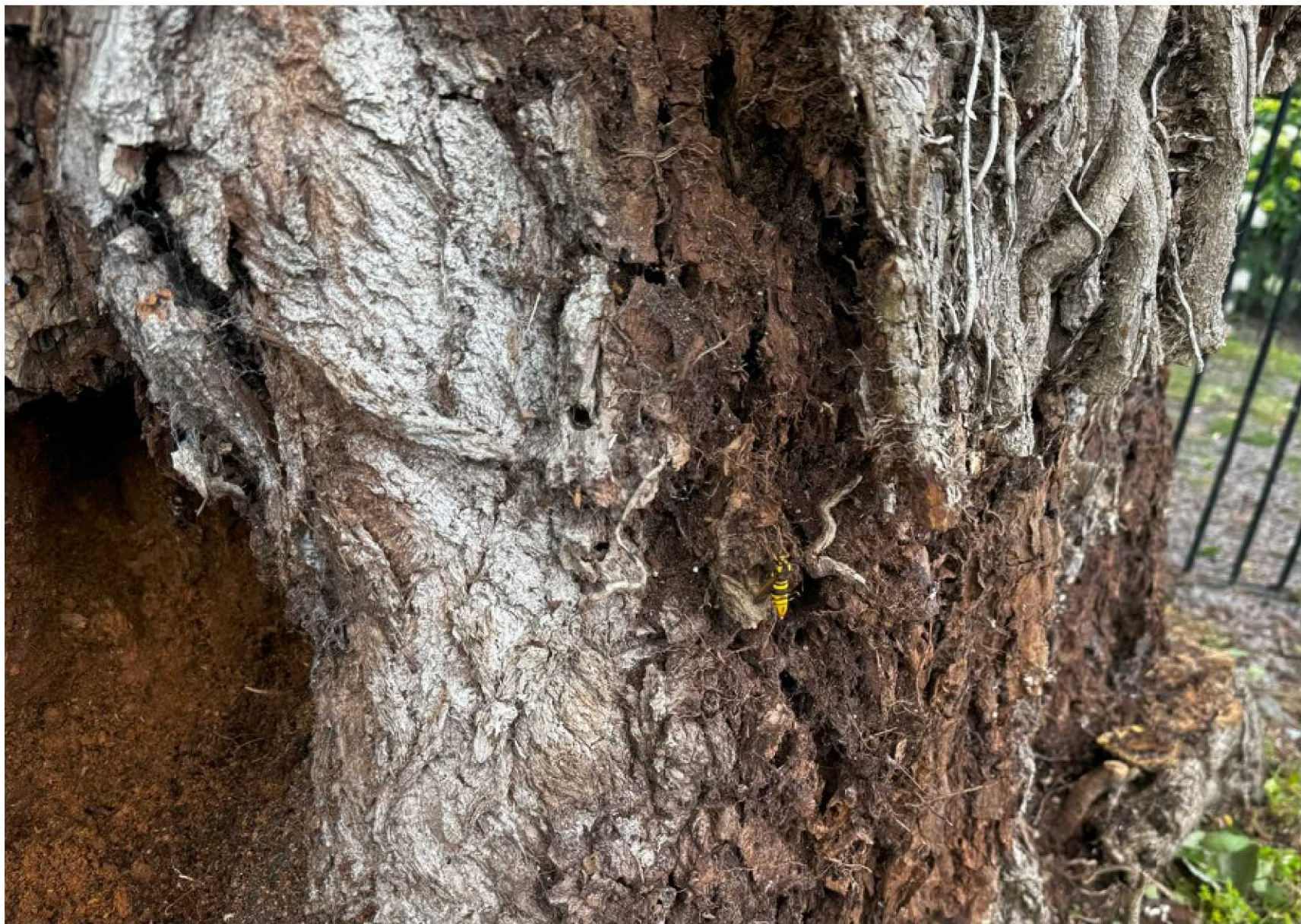


Figure 1 - Hornet Moth *Sesia apiformis*



Figure 2 -Hornet Moth Holes



Figure 3 - open cavity at base



Figure 4 - Ivy covering stem and first main fork viewed from west



Figure 5 - Heavy limbs over neighbours carport and house



Figure 6 - failed limb over highway now removed