N J PACEY LANDSCAPING

Tree Safety Survey Report

Spalding Services and Social Club

7th July 2024



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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Instruction** – N J Pacey Landscaping has been instructed by Mary Smith of Spalding Services and Social Club, to undertake a tree safety survey of a London Plane tree in the grounds 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 8th of July 2024

2.2 **Identification and location of the trees**
The tree is the only tree in the front left of the Services Club when viewed from The High Street

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).

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 – London Plane
Diameter at 1.5m – 187cm
Height - 22m
Crown Spread – N unknown- E 9.4mm- S6m- W9m

Ganoderma Spp bracket south at 50cm from ground level
Small FFB suspected Ganoderma Spp south at 135cm
Ganoderma Spp bracket west at 160cm and at 10cm

Trunk splits at approximately 3m into 3 main stems

Stem North over adjacent property, 25 High Street, has a large open cavity at 5m opening for approximately 2 meters with two old pruning wounds @ 4 meters believed to have compartmentalised between creating a large open cavity

Branches touching Spalding services club building on south side

Pocket of decay @ 7 m on western stem

Targets beneath include but not limited to, smoking shelter, bin store, entrance to Spalding services club and car parking bays

The tree previously reduced hard, possibly when the club was built 1960s as you can see evidence of reduction points within the form of the canopy

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

These Ganoderma bracket fungus indicate that the progression of the fungal decay of the stem has as a minimum, compromised a quarter of the Western side. Further investigation to map this decay could be undertaken however considering the large cavities in the Northern stem, the retention of this part of the crown in its current state is not viable.

In addition to the proposed works we would also suggest relocating targets by moving smoking shelter from underneath tree canopy.

5.1 **Present requirements:**

We recommend crown reducing the tree as per marked up photo



All works should be undertaken within 3 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 - FFB Ganoderma spp



Figure 2 -FFB Ganoderma Spp

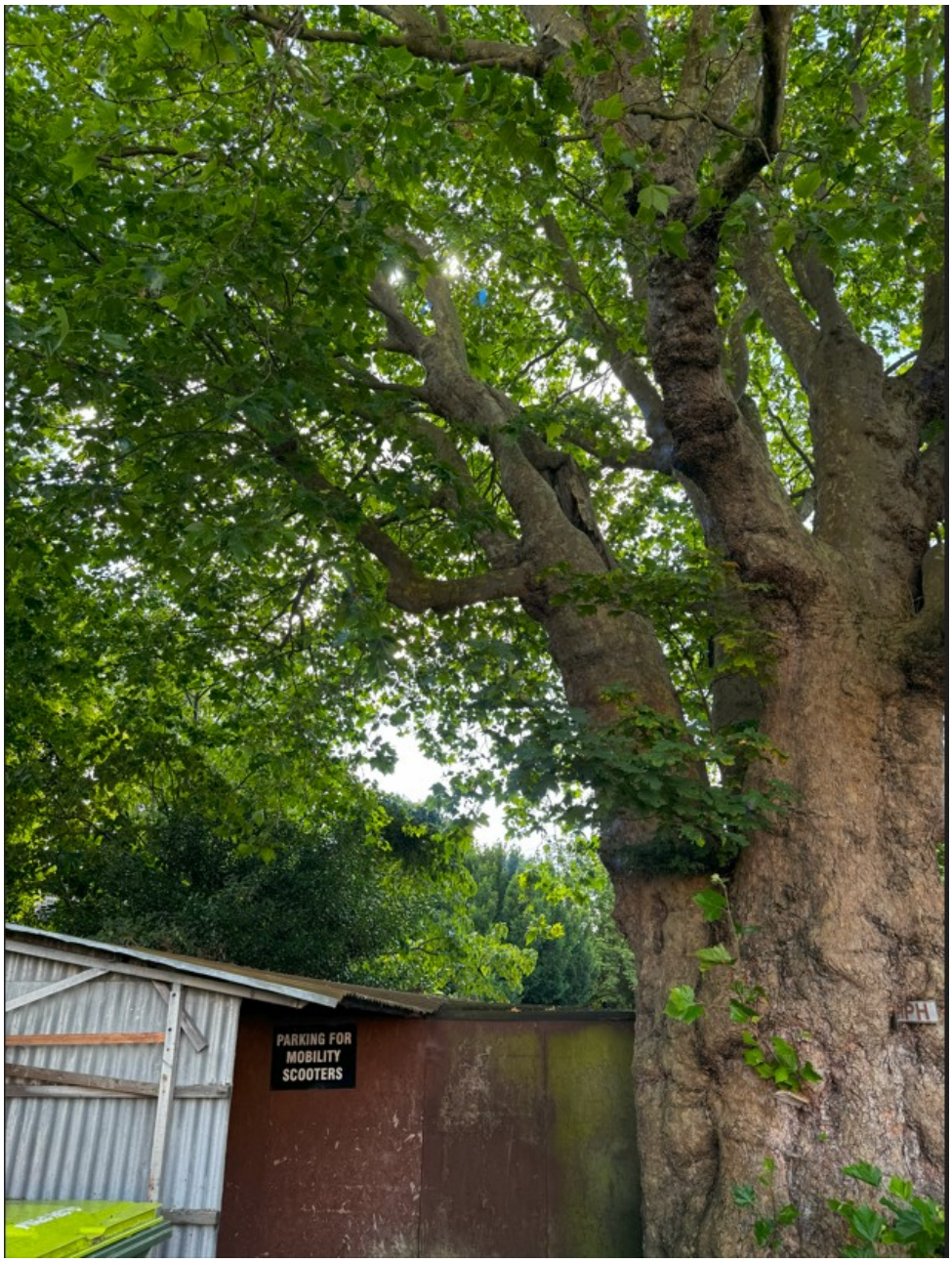


Figure 3 - Large Open cavity on Northern Stem, FFB Ganoderma spp on main stem



Figure 4 - Smoking Shelter situated under tree