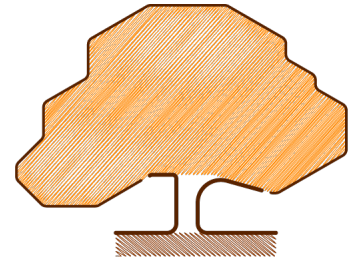


S1042-J1-SFR-1

REPORT

on selected trees at

The Green, Leintwardine SY7 0JZ



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View of tree 1 from the south-east

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Contents

1	Introduction and Instructions	1
2	Sources and Documents	1
3	Statutory constraints	1
4	Observations and appraisal	2
5	Photos	3
6	Appraisal	5
7	Conclusions	5
8	Recommendations	5
9	General	6
10	Limitations	7
11	Schedule	8
12	Plan	9

1 Introduction and Instructions

1.1

This is a tree condition report. My instructions are considered to be in essence to report on the safety of selected trees at The Green, Leintwardine SY7 0JZ on behalf of Leintwardine Group Parish Council. The trees were indicated by representatives of the client body to the writer when on site.

1.2

I made an inspection on 15th February 2023 and report as follows.

2 Sources and Documents

2.1

Ground level inspection.

2.2

According to British Geological Survey data, the subsoil underlying the site is Alluvium - Clay, silt, sand and gravel.

3 Statutory constraints

3.1

The site is within the administrative area of Herefordshire Council.

The site stands within the Leintwardine Conservation Area.

No information on Tree Preservation Orders is available on the local authority website.

4 Observations and appraisal

4.1 Tree data

Tree number	Tree type	Height (m)	Stem diameters (mm)	Comments	Age class	Condition summary	Heritage assessment	Landscape contribution	Urgency of any recommendations
1	English (?) oak	21	1317	Focal tree in the village. Single-trunked to about 2m above ground level, thereafter subdividing into two principal stems and above that subdividing the normal way. History of minor pruning to lower branches, typically 'containment pruning' over the road. Some scattered major dead wood throughout the tree, some possibly large enough to be bat roosts, but considered rather unlikely. The most obvious introduced feature is the shelter and bench structure. Stabilize dead wood.	Mature	Good	Very high	Very high	Medium
2	English (?) oak	13	700	Measured low, below obvious low fork. Bifurcation about 1.5 metres above ground level, thereafter subdividing the normal way. Crown of normal vitality. Scattered deadwood noted, branch unions normal. Stabilize dead wood.	Young mature	Good	Low	Moderate	Medium

URGENCY RATING:

"very high" – immediate, "high" - within 2 months, "medium" - within 12 months, "low" - within 24 months

4.2

Soil type was not verified by on-site sampling.

5 Photos





Images showing points of impingement of structure on tree



6 Appraisal

6.1

The oak was not certainly identified as to species. Many of the species now hardly in the British Isles interbreed quite readily. Some sessile oak (*Quercus petraea*) characteristics were noted on fallen leaves nearby but these were also mixed with English oak.

6.2

I am somewhat concerned that some of the ground-bearing supports may have damaged large buttress roots of tree 1. It is perfectly possible these have been installed with some care to avoid such parts of the tree (see photographs above). Steel parts of the structure are close to some parts of the tree and my concern is that the tree will expand and thereafter start to incorporate the steelwork within the tissue of the tree, which would not be desirable. I recommend some redesign and modification of the steel structure so that it is well clear of the tree tissue and allows room for expansion. Consideration should be given to the design life of the structure and possibly a re-think as to whether any structure is needed around the tree. It would be possible to design and position a suitable encircling bench structure some way from the tree. The zone 2m and more from the perimeter bark would probably be free of major roots and ground bearing supports could probably be sited easily enough to miss any significant roots, e.g. those larger than 22mm diameter or so.

7 Conclusions

7.1

Some minor tree management is considered necessary (stabilize dead wood). Beyond this strictly arboricultural point, removing parts of the shelter structure that are impinging on the tree is considered necessary. This, practically, may mean removal of the entire shelter.

8 Recommendations

8.1

All tree work should be carried out to BS 3998: 2010 'Tree Work - Recommendations'. Removal of part or all of the shelter should be carried out under arboricultural supervision with a view to ensuring that no damage occurs to the tree.

8.2

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 protects with certain exceptions all birds and their nests. It is an offence to destroy such nests or take or injure such birds in the course of tree works operations.

8.3

If a tree is a bat-roost, a licence to work on the tree must first be obtained from the relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Organization (in England: Natural England 0845 601 4523.) Acting without a licence is likely to be justifiable only in acute emergencies threatening human life and where all other legally available option such as footpath diversion, fencing and warning signs cannot be applied.

8.4

Conservation Area restrictions do apply and therefore a formal notification of intent should be given to the local planning authority and the notification period allowed to expire, before carrying out work to any such protected trees.

9 General

9.1

All trees growing close to life and property require regular inspection and sometimes maintenance, to ensure conflict between the arboreal and human spheres of existence is avoided. A basic annual inspection should be carried out by the landowner. Re-inspect using a properly qualified arboriculturist, such as a Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association within three years of the date of this report, unless there is cause to consider an earlier re-inspection of that nature prudent, for example if obvious deterioration, gale or other damage has taken place, or fungal fruiting bodies (mushrooms or bracket-type) appear on or close to the tree.

Dated: 7th March 2023

Signed:



John C. M. Cromar,

Dip.Arb.(RFS), F.Arbor A.

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10 Limitations

10.1

Copyright is retained by the writer. This is a report for the sole use of the client(s) named above. It may be copied and used by the client only in connection with the subject of the instructions. Its reproduction or use in whole or in part by anyone else without the written consent of the writer is expressly forbidden. Any appended schedule of tree work, and any plan, may, without the written consent of the writer, be reproduced to contractors for the sole purpose of tendering.

10.2

This is not a subsidence management or subsidence risk assessment survey. This can be provided but a further fee is payable. Whilst comments relating to matters involving built structures or soil data may appear, any opinion thus expressed should be viewed as qualified, and confirmation from an appropriately qualified professional sought. Such points are usually clearly identified within the body of the report.

10.3

It will be appreciated, and deemed to be accepted by the client, that inherent in tree inspection is assessment of the risk associated with trees close to people and their property. Most human activities involve a degree of risk, such risks being commonly accepted if the associated benefits are perceived to be commensurate. Risks associated with trees tend to increase with the age of the trees concerned, but so do many of the benefits.

10.4

Recommendations will therefore be formulated on the basis of:

1. The arboricultural considerations- safety, good practice and aesthetics.
2. The cost-benefit analysis (cost being in terms of amenity) of measures needed to avoid the threat of all damage and/or injury.

11 Schedule

Works to tree or trees at The Green, Leintwardine SY7 0JZ.

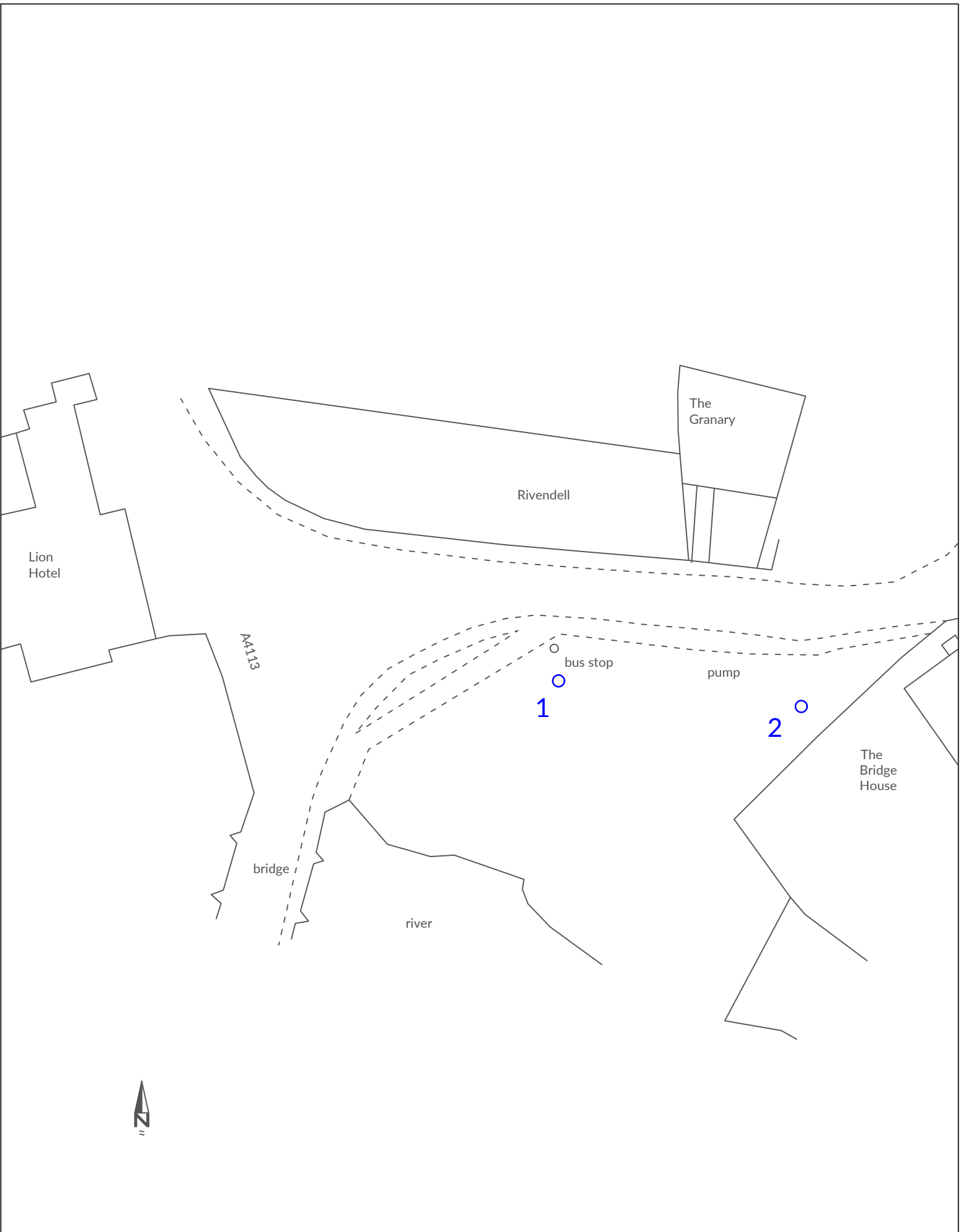
Please read in conjunction with plan S1042-J1-P appended.

Tree number	Tree type	Height (m)	Stem diameters (mm)	Comments
1	English (?) oak	21	1317	Stabilize dead wood.
2	English (?) oak	13	700	Stabilize dead wood.

NOTES:

All tree work should be carried out to BS 3998: 2010 'Tree Work - Recommendations'. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 protects with certain exceptions all birds and their nests. It is an offence to destroy such nests or take or injure such birds in the course of tree works operations. If a tree is a bat-roost, a licence to work on the tree must first be obtained from the relevant Statutory Nature Conservation Organization (in England: Natural England 0845 601 4523.) Acting without a licence is likely to be justifiable only in acute emergencies threatening human life and where all other legally available option such as footpath diversion, fencing and warning signs cannot be applied.

'Crown cleaning' – an umbrella term now covered by several separate sections in BS3998:2010 - should be understood to mean: removal of foreign objects (section 7.13),; removal of ivy to the extent needed to facilitate inspection (section 7.12), typically trimming back (e.g. with a hedge cutter or secateurs) to near the line of the trunk or branches, and/or removing selected stems so that the structure of the tree can be seen sufficiently. Dead wood can be an important ecological feature. Treatment of dead wood under 'crown cleaning' shall mean (section 7.3.2) shorten and retain if safe to do so, thus retaining some resource for invertebrates, etc.



Plan NTS @ A4

Trees in relation to The Green, Leintwardine SY7 0JZ
S1042-J1-P v1

