Project: 21_VTA_03_54
Site: Pindar Oaks Hospital, Upper Sheffield Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S70 4PX.
Client: Nichola Taylor - Countrywide.

Document Title:	Tree Safety Survey - 3 year time cycle.
Document Author:	Matt Harmsworth
Project Manager:	Matt Harmsworth
Project Title:	Pindar Oaks Hospital, Upper Sheffield Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S70 4PX.

Revision History.

Date:	Version number:	Summary of changes:
21/4/2021	1.0	First Draft
21/4/2021	1.0	First Issue

Distribution.

Approved by:	Signature	Date:	Version:
Matt Harmsworth	MWH	21/4/2021	1.0
Nichola Taylor	NT	21/4/2021	1.0

Re-Survey Date.

Survey Type:	Lifecycle:	Re-survey Date:
Tree Safety Survey	3-Years	April 2022

Summary:

The tree survey for Pindar Oaks Hospital contains the details of four individual trees that are all located on the periphery of the usable site.

Our brief has been to obtain details of the tree population on site with a view to assessing their suitability and safety.

It is clear from our assessment that the trees were damaged by mechanical strikes most likely during the construction of the site. There is also evidence of ground levels being changed which is leading to the decline of the sycamore 1834.

Moving forward we would suggest an annual check of the remaining trees using this survey as a benchmark to their condition.

Report Author.

Matthew Harmsworth attended Merrist Wood College in Guildford, Surrey in the late 1990's studying horticulture and arboriculture as well as a National Diploma in Countryside Recreation before gaining employment as a Countryside Ranger with Surrey County Council (later Surrey Wildlife Trust).

After a number of years Matthew started an Arboricultural Contracting business serving residential and commercial clients across the SE of England and also gained his aerial NPTC certificates.

Following the sale of this business in 2009 Matthew moved to North Wales as a junior self-employed consultant for Fairley Arboriculture and studied at Myerscough online to study an FDSc in Arboriculture and become a technician member of the Arboricultural Association.

ROAVR Environmental was formed in 2010 and since then has carried out arboricultural consultancy Nationwide with directly employed consultants. Matthew has written well in excess of 600 BS 5837 2012 tree reports.

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1. Scope

1.1 We were instructed in April 2020 to assess the site following instruction from Nichola Taylor of Countrywide.

1.2 This survey is to be considered a time mark for all future inspections. The data within the report will allow us to monitor decline (or improvement) of stems.

1.3 To undertake this assessment we have used the visual tree assessment methodology developed by Claus Mattheck. This technique is widely recognised as the benchmark and is the most widely used approach.

It consists of the following stages:

- Visual inspection of the tree for defect symptoms and overall vitality. If there are no signs of any problems the assessment is concluded.
- If a defect is suspected on the basis of the symptoms, the presence or absence of that defect must be confirmed by thorough examination.
- If the defect is confirmed, it must be quantified and the strength of the remaining part of the tree evaluated.

1.4 It should be noted that a visual tree assessment is visual only (although it is often undertaken with the aid of a probe, a sounding mallet and a pair of binoculars). The quantification and evaluation (stage 3) may be beyond the scope of a visual inspection and require the use of diagnostic decay equipment and/or a separate climbing assessment.

1.5 The trees within the scope were inspected on the 16/4/2021 by Mr. Connor Harmsworth who holds a degree in Arboriculture, a Professional Tree Inspection Certificate and is a technician member of the Arboricultural Association.

1.6 The weather was clear, bright and dry allowing for a full and thorough inspection to take place.

1.8 The site is a secure unit, as such a risk based approach has been adopted, if a tree was to fall in this environment, the chances of it striking people or property is high.

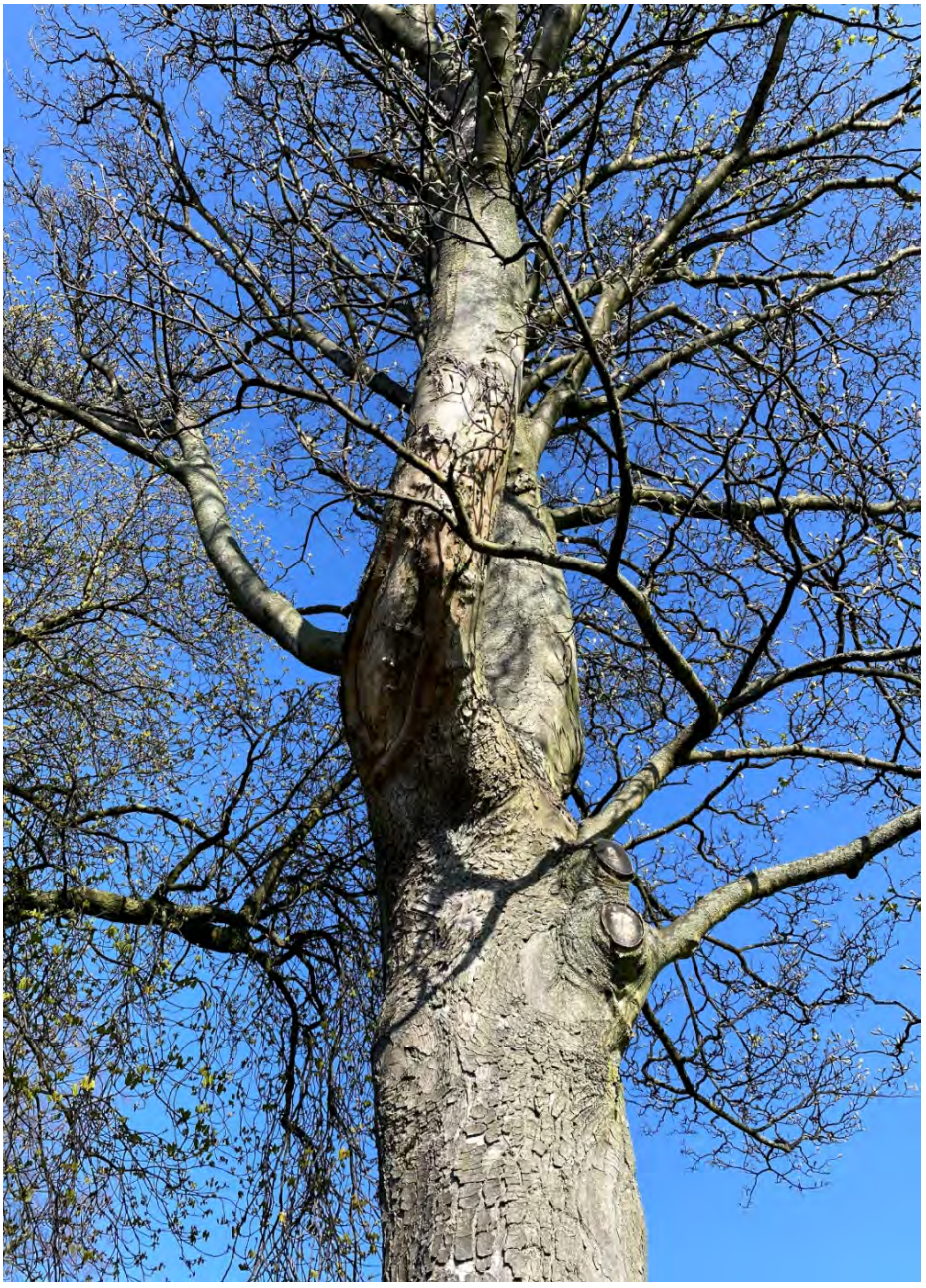
Photographic Plates.

Photographic plate showing the surveyed trees with tree 1881 in the foreground.

Photographic plate showing the basal damage to 1881.

Photographic plate showing the basal damage to 1881, note the tree tag for identification.

Photographic plate showing the tree 1833 with mechanical damage in the Lower stem..



Photographic plate showing the tree 1834 with mechanical damage in the Upper crown.

Photographic plate showing the beech tree - 1882.

2. Site Conditions & Site Surroundings

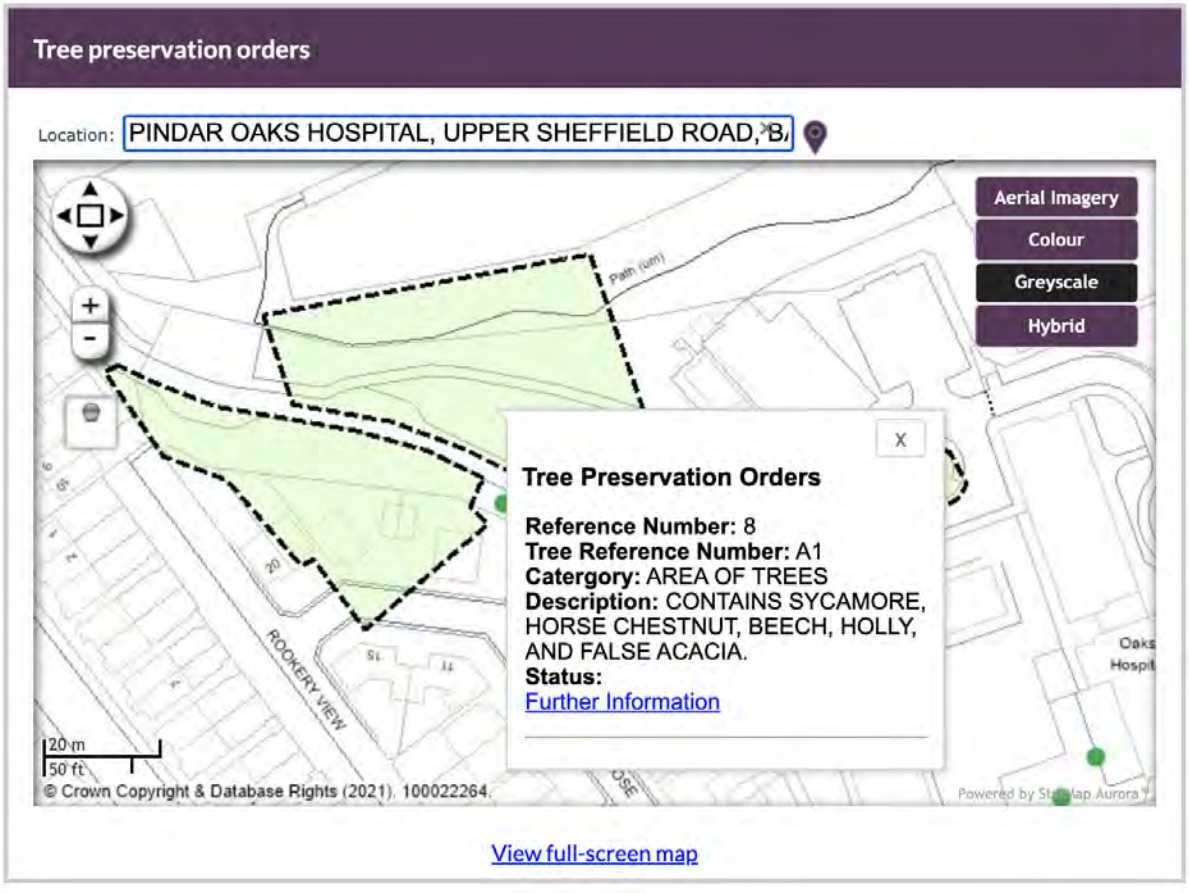
2.1 The site is situated in Barnsley in the Barnsley Council control area.

2.2 The site is home to a secure hospital unit with associated hard and soft landscape.

2.3 The wider locality is predominantly residential housing. The site is accessed via a private entrance driveway.

2.4 A desktop assessment has highlighted that the trees are protected by an area tree preservation order.

https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/parks-and-open-spaces/tree-preservation-orders/



2.5 All desktop assessment data was cross checked and validated on the 21/4/2021 using the web portal provided by the local planning authority and cross checked with the DEFRA MAGIC database.

2.6 Works to protected trees require consent from the local planning authority. In the case of TPO's an application must be made. In the case of conservation areas a notification must be made. TPO applications take up to eight weeks, conservation area notifications take six weeks.

2.7 Certain exemptions apply; for example the removal of deadwood. In the case of dangerous trees 5-days written notice should be given to the local authority (in the cases of immediate danger the work should proceed, but the local authority contacted as soon as possible afterwards) with the works evidenced by photographs and video where possible.

3. The Trees

3.1 Tree cover at the site is predominantly located adjacent to the entrance road and is in a fair condition.

3.2 Data was recorded within our mobile GIS database and then exported in a desktop exercise to form the appended arboricultural data tables. Work within the tables is prioritised over a three-year period from ASAP to <3 years. Additionally, tree condition has been classed in a colour coded system with red being poor or dangerous, fair being orange and good being green.

3.3 Tree positions were captured with our survey handset and have been applied to a Google Map extract to enable contractors to locate and price the works. Budget estimates can be found within the data tables as a labour requirement.

3.4 Full details of the surveyed trees are located within the data tables with general comments in the paragraphs below and in the appended video walkthrough.

3.5 Compaction is an issue across the site. The close mown grass forms almost a concrete like layer that restricts the movement of moisture and oxygen to fibrous tree roots and this has led to some decline.

3.6 A number of trees have suffered mechanical damage to the crowns and stems most likely due to a lack of protection during the construction phase. These will require monitoring moving forwards.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Recommendations for safety works are included within the data tables, with additional recommendations in the paragraphs below.

4.2 The site will require annual monitoring visits due to the large number of declining trees on the periphery of the site.

4.3 There is scope for some new higher quality tree planting but any planting must be robust, sustainable and protected to climate change.

4.4 If the grass is allowed to grow longer beneath the drip line of the trees on the field, this may lead to an improvement in condition and vitality.

4.5 The removal of tree 1881 will require written approval from the local planning authority due to its protected status.

5. Contractors

5.1 Tree works should be carried out by suitable qualified and insured operators who are preferably members of the Arboricultural Association which demonstrates commitment to best practise.

6. Limitations

6.1 ROAVR Environmental has prepared this Report for the sole use of the above named Client/Agent in accordance with our terms of business, under which our services were performed. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this Report or any other services provided by us.

6.2 This Report may not be relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of ROAVR Environmental. The assessments made assume that the land use will continue for their current purpose without significant change. ROAVR Environmental has not independently verified information obtained from third parties.

6.3 This report, video walkthrough, data tables and raw data remain the copyright of ROAVR until such time as any monies owed are settled in full and the report may be withdrawn at any time.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

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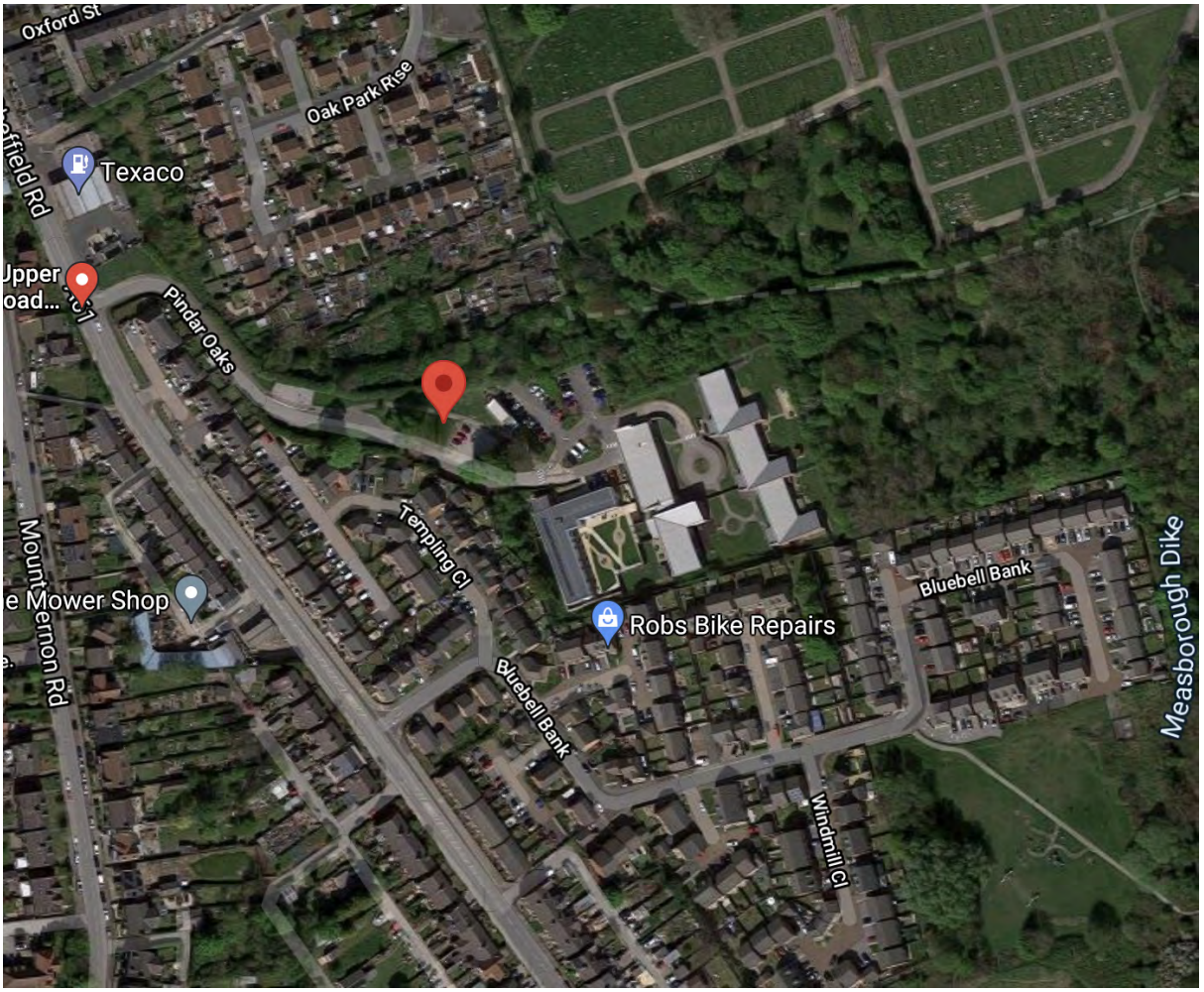
Consultant Arborist

Matt Harmsworth

Prepared by: Matthew Harmsworth.
Checked by: Ffion Maguire.

Appendix 1 – Site Location



Appendix 2 – Arboricultural Data Tables

Tree Tag	Species	Height	Age Class	DBH	Life Expectancy	Condition	Physical Desciption	Works Required	Timescale	Budget
1881	Horse Chestnut	14	M	600	<10	Poor	Located in a grass matrix adjacent to the entrance road; large mechanical wound at the base of the stem that has not fully occluded; decay present; thin crown and stunted form.	Dismantle and fell	<1 year	3 men 1 day
1882	Beech	13	M	500	20+	Good	Located on site boundary; dense ivy cover; good vitality; crown under pressure for unsympathetic pruning due to the proximity to the neighbours houses.	Strip ivy	<2 years	2 men 2 hours
1833	Horse Chestnut	14	M	800	20+	Fair	Mechanical damage to stem from construction works; road within rooting area	Monitor	<1 year	N/A
1834	Sycamore	15	M	600	20+	Fair	Mechanical damage to upper crown, looks like a lorry strike; lack of trunk flare; tree is in decline	Monitor	<1 year	N/A
Notes:	Thhere are a number of mature trees on site that appear to be remnants of the previous land use. Most have been damaged by construction works and will require staged removal over the next ten years.									

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Pindar Oaks Hospital - Tree Location Plan - April 2021.

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