

**Tree Hazard Assessment
St Edwards Church
Racecommon Road
Barnsley
S70 6JY**

Report Reference: TCC-1462-1
30 October 2021

Report Title:	Tree Hazard Assessment
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Written by:	Joe Hardaker FdSc Arb BSc Hort
Client:	St Edwards Church
Date:	30 October 2021



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Introduction

1. Tree Care Consultancy was instructed by Mr. J Gostelow to inspect trees within the church grounds and to provide a report detailing their condition and management requirements.

Limitations of the Report

2. Climate conditions including storm, drought and temperature-related factors can cause damage and failure in healthy trees. It should be remembered that trees do pose a risk and whilst every effort has been made to detect any major defects in inspected trees, no guarantee can be given as to their safety.
3. Any observations made by the author regarding the condition of built structures are from a lay person's view.

Site Description

4. St Edward The Confessor Church is located on the corner of Racecommon Road and Park Road, Barnsley. The site comprises of a single church building within the centre of the grounds and a pathway which surrounds the building, A stone boundary wall fronts Racecommon Road and Park Road. On site, trees are located along the southern and western boundaries, and partially overhang the public pavement/highway. The area surrounding the church and its grounds is predominantly residential, including the old Vicarage to the north of the site which is now in separate ownership.

Survey Details

5. The survey was undertaken by Joe Hardaker on 21st September 2021. Joe holds a National Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture, a Foundation degree in Arboriculture with Urban Forestry and has recently also undergone a top up program to progress his academic qualifications into a bachelor's degree, where he achieved 1st class honours in Applied Horticulture. In addition to academic studies, Joe has worked in practical areas of Arboriculture gaining over 10 years' experience in the field.
6. The weather at the time of inspection was overcast with minimal visibility constraints.

Methods of Inspection

7. The survey used the Tree Risk Survey method of tree inspection, whereby trees and/or tree groups are recorded, and observations provided. This approach includes a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) methodology, as devised by Mattheck (1991). V.T.A is a ground level visual assessment of a tree, which is carried out to identify obvious mechanical defects, signs of ill health, potential mechanical failure.

Identification of the Trees

8. The collected tree data, tree location and management recommendations are provided in a schedule at appendix 2. The individual trees included in the survey have been assigned a unique number which corresponds with the number given within the schedule.
9. The approximate locations of the tree and tree groups are shown on the Tree Survey Plan at appendix 3. This plan has been constructed by adding the tree information onto an Ordnance Survey Map.

Tree Status

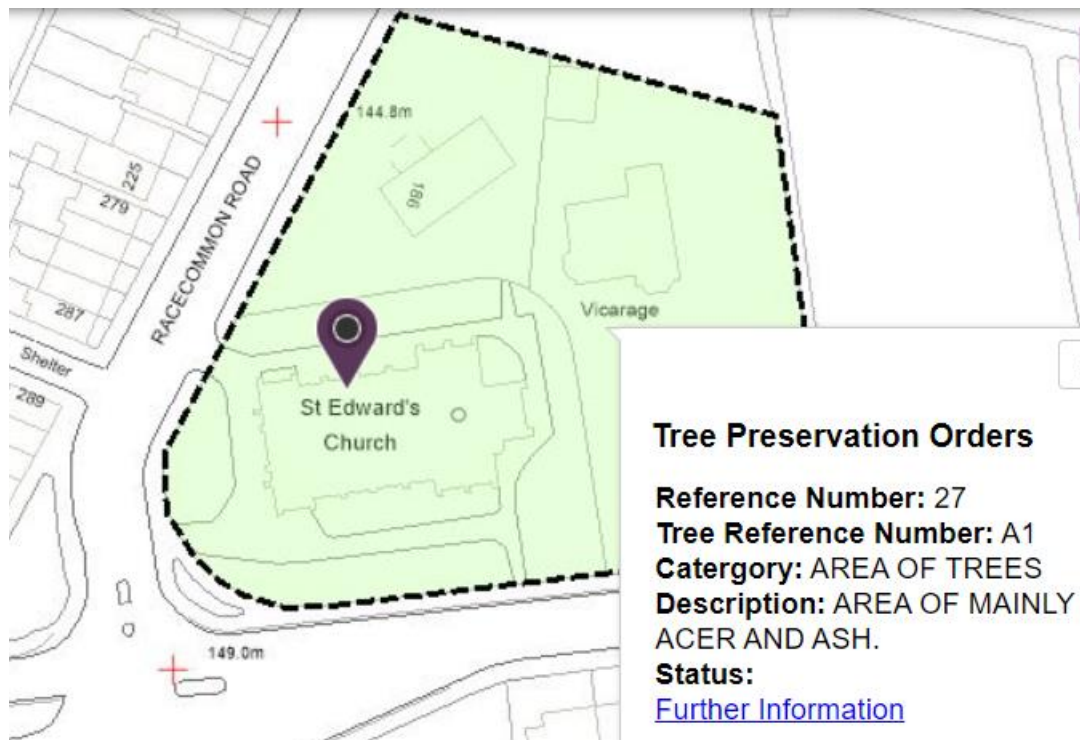


Figure 1: St Edwards Church is subject of Tree Preservation Order (TPO) area no.27.

10. It is understood the church and its grounds are subject of a Tree Preservation Order as detailed above. In the case of trees that are subject of TPO, Conservation Area controls or planning application procedures it is essential the Local Authority's advice is sought and where necessary consent obtained prior to undertaking any tree removal or pruning operations.

Tree Appraisal

Overall Condition

11. The survey identified 12No. individual trees. It was not felt necessary to include a number of saplings, hedges and smaller trees within the survey due to their limited stature as these trees pose little or risk to their surroundings.
12. The majority of trees are in good condition and do not require further attention. For trees that do require further work their condition and management options have been discussed in further detail below.
13. The work highlighted within this report has been allocated a priority rating dependant on the tree's location and condition (See appendix 1).

Trees that Require Removal

14. T2612 has been recommended for removal due to its impaired physiological condition and location. The tree has been severely infected by Ash Dieback disease, a fungus which enters the tree through the branch tips. The tree exhibits a declining canopy has can be viewed in Figure 2 below. It is unlikely the tree will recover from the infection and in view of its location adjacent the public footpath removal is considered the preferred course of action.



Figure 2: T2612 is unlikely to recover from the effects of Ash dieback disease.

Trees that Require Pruning

15. T2601 has been recommended for pruning works to provide adequate clearance for vehicle and pedestrian movement.
16. The removal of deadwood from the crowns of T2609 and T2611 has been recommended to improve the levels of public safety and tree health.

Implementing the Tree Work

17. The recommended tree work included within this report should be carried out by a suitably qualified, experienced and insured contractor. The contractor should carry out the work in accordance with the recommendations contained in the BS 3998: 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.

Tree Planting

18. It is recommended that the tree recommended for removal be replaced with suitable species. Advice on suitable species, establishment and management can be provided on request.

Trees that Require Future Monitoring/Inspection

19. T2609 and T2611 are Ash trees which also exhibit signs of Ash dieback and should be monitored in subsequent years to determine if they are able to recover from the infection. In the interim it has been recommended that these trees have the deadwood removed to limit risk to life and property and to better determine the effects on the disease at future inspections.

Summary

20. Save for the presence of Ash dieback disease the trees on site are in good overall condition.
21. Replacement planting should include differing tree varieties to those present on site in order to increase species diversity.
22. If any further assistance is required, please do not hesitate to contact Tree Care Consultancy.

Appendix 1 - Explanation of Survey Details

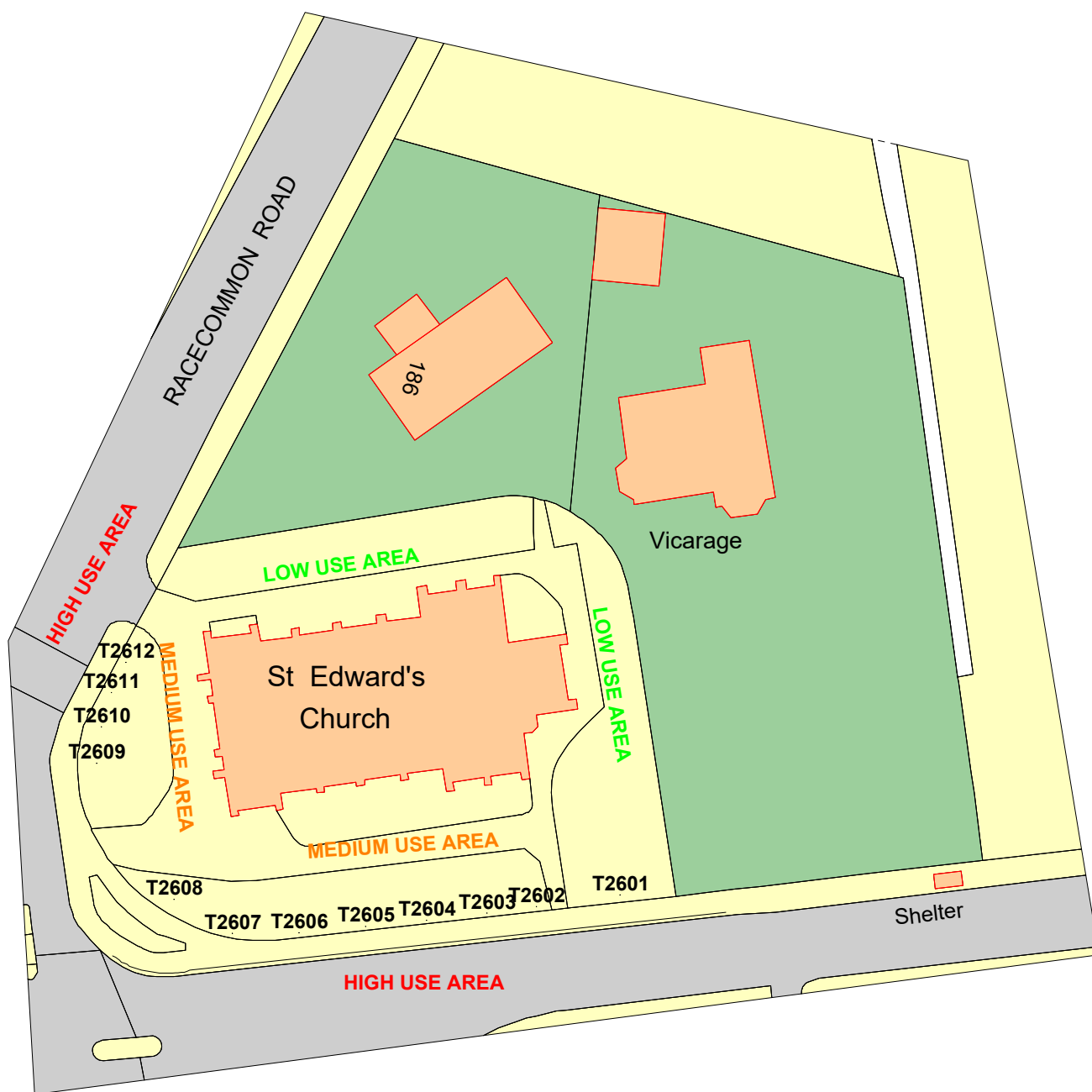
Tree Id	Each tree/group has been given a unique number, which coincides with the tree survey plan located in appendix 3. To aid identification several trees have been tagged with corresponding numbered tags.
Species & Botanical Name	Where identifiable the full botanical name has been given. Where a cultivar, variety or species cannot be accurately given the genus name only will be given.
Target	The object most likely to be impacted upon in the event of tree failure.
Age	Is described as young, semi-mature, mature, early mature or over mature.
Height	This is estimated as: 0-5m, 5-10m, 10-15m, 15-20m or 20+. If height issues are critical, measurements can be collected accurately using optical instruments.
Structural condition	An assessment of the trees structural condition. It is described as Good = no significant defects, Fair = significant defects that can be remediated and Poor = significant defects with no remedy.
Vitality	An overall appraisal of a trees physiological and biochemical process. It is described as either normal, moderate, early decline or sever decline.
Life Expectancy	An estimate of a trees future life expectancy and recorded as 0-5, 5-20, 20+ and 40+.
Observations	Narrative comment on general condition, significant defects and overall appearance (e.g. the presence of any decay).
Recommendations	Description of recommended work.
Work Priority1	Work that should be completed immediately to minimise the risk of injury or property damage.
Work Priority 2	Work of a high priority that should be undertaken within the first twelve months after the date of the published report.
Work Priority 3	Work of a low priority usually recommended for aesthetics or good arboricultural practice, rather than risk management.

Tree Survey Schedule

Tree No	Species, Botanical Name	Target	Age	Height (m)	Structural Condition	Vitality	Life Expectancy	Observations & Defect Assessment	Recommendations	Priority
T2601	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Well formed single stemmed item forking at 4m into multiple stems. Lowest branch over road infringing minimum highway clearance.	Remove lowest branch over footpath and road to meet Highway Regulations (5.2m clearance requirement).	3
T2602	Common Ash, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Crown form dictated by neighbouring trees. Minor deadwood present within canopy.	No action.	N/A
T2603	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Well formed single stemmed item forking at 3m into multiple stems. Some lower branch tips beginning to infringe on minimum highway clearance.	No action.	N/A
T2604	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Well formed single stemmed item forking at 3m into multiple stems.	No action.	N/A
T2605	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Well formed single stemmed item forking at 3m into multiple stems. Slightly biased canopy due to loss of historic neighbour tree.	No action.	N/A
T2606	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Well formed single stemmed item. Slightly biased canopy towards road due to presence of a previously removed neighbouring tree and more dominant existing tree.	No action.	N/A
T2607	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Well formed single stemmed item. No visible defects.	No action.	N/A
T2608	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Single stemmed item forking into multiple stems from 3m. Moderate sized deadwood present. Slightly biased canopy due to earlier stem loss from one side of canopy. Recent pruning wounds present.	Remove deadwood.	3
T2609	Common Ash, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Fair	Early-decline	05-20	Single stemmed tree with sparse overall appearance and moderate deadwood, probably due to early stage Ash dieback (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) infection.	Remove deadwood and re-inspect in 18 months.	2

Appendix 2 - Tree Survey Schedule

Tree No	Species, Botanical Name	Target	Age	Height (m)	Structural Condition	Vitality	Life Expectancy	Observations & Defect Assessment	Recommendations	Priority
T2610	Sycamore, <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Good	Normal	20+	Well formed tree dividing into triple stems at 3m. Branch tips over road are beginning to infringe on minimum highway clearance.	No action.	N/A
T2611	Common Ash, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Fair	Early-decline	05-20	Single stemmed tree with sparse overall appearance and moderate deadwood, probably due to early stage Ash dieback (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) infection.	Remove deadwood and re-inspect in 18 months.	2
T2612	Common Ash, <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Footpath; Highway	Early-mature	10-15	Fair	Early-decline	>5	Single stemmed tree with sparse overall appearance and moderate deadwood, probably due to Ash dieback (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) infection. Appears to be more severely impacted by infection of Ash dieback (<i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) than T2609 and T2611. Unlikely to recover from the infection sufficient to provide a viable specimen.	Fell to ground level. Replant with suitable alternative genus and species of tree.	2



Tree Survey Plan

St Edwards Church, Racecommon Road, Barnsley

SCALE :
Not to scale

DATE :
19/10/2021

MAP FILENAME : TCC-1462-1



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