

Gloaming Tree Surgery
Tree Surgery & Arboricultural Consultancy
www.gloamingtreesurgery.com
01709 770121 & 07735 315721

Tree Condition Report

Location: 28 Oaks Farm Drive, Darton, Barnsley, S75 5BZ

Date of tree inspection: 25/03/2017

Tree inspection and report completed by: James Dyson BSc (Hons) RFS Cert Arb PTI

Client: Chris Evans

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to present the findings from a thorough ground based visual tree inspection carried out on the above date after T1 Oak tree, standing in the rear garden of the above address, shed a large limb. The report outlines the results of the inspection, examining the condition of the tree in question, it's future prospects and remedial work recommendations.

The tree recently shed a major limb which landed in the rear garden of the above property. Our client is concerned about the condition of the tree and the subsequent risk it poses to his family and neighbours.

Position of tree

The tree stands in the rear garden of the above property on the boundary with number 30. The crown spans both the garden of number 28 and number 30. Terminal branches are approximately 1m from the top of the dwelling at number 30.

Condition

T1 Oak tree stands at approximately 16m in height with an average canopy spread of 8m measured from the base of the main stem. Outwardly the tree appears to be in reasonable health. Bud density appears to be normal and the tree's vigour appears good. The tree leans to the North-West towards the dwelling at number 30. There is no sign of any recent movement in the root plate and the trees stability appears sound.

A major limb has split out of the Southern crown at approximately 8m above ground level. The reason for the limb failure is unknown but is likely to have been caused by an internal defect. The limb has torn out of a union with the main stem and a neighbouring major limb. The resultant wound is significant and extends into the main stem and the neighbouring major limb. The tear out wound may be subject to decay and due to its size, the tree may not fully compartmentalise. As such, this wound may deteriorate, eventually leading to further mechanical failures.

The failure of the limb has left a large gap in the Southern crown which is an estimated 25% of the canopy. This gap has opened the crown up considerably, subsequently exposing the inner crown to increased wind pressure. The crown is now imbalanced, being much heavier in the Northern side. The increased wind pressure into central and inner crown may lead to further branch breakouts in limbs not used to coping with such stresses.

The neighbouring major limb to the one shed measures approximately 8.5m in length and is near horizontal. This limbs union with the main stem has been severely compromised by the previous limb failure. As this limb flexes to cope with wind pressures, loading will be put on the limbs union with the main stem, which is now weakened. There is now a strong probability of this limb failing if retained. Removing this limb would further imbalance and open up the crown.

Remedial recommendations

The damage caused to the tree from the major limb failure is severe and as discussed, will likely lead to further limb failures. Remedial pruning work will not satisfactorily reduce these hazards. As such, due to the trees condition, size and location in a relatively small urban garden, it is recommended that T1 Oak is removed to ground level as it cannot be safely retained.