

Tree Survey Report

The Butts
Butts Road
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 1RD

Site Surveyed by
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Date
25th November 2021



Gristwood&Toms
Managing Great Britain's Trees



Contents

Introduction	3
Documents and Information Provided.....	3
Scope of This Report	3
Limitations of Use	3
Site Visit Observations	3
Identification and Location of Trees	3
Observations	4
Works Priority	4
Recommendations.....	5
Future Considerations.....	5
Other Considerations	6
Appendices.....	7
Appendix 1: Tree Schedule – Priority Works	7
Appendix 2: Site Map(s).....	10



1. Introduction

Assignment

Gristwood & Toms has been instructed by Alton Town Council to carry out a survey of The Butts, Butts Road, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1RD. Where appropriate, I am to make recommendations on the immediate and future management in the interest of safety.

2. Documents and Information Provided

No documents or information were provided.

3. Scope of This Report

This report solely relates to the trees that Ian Lightfoot surveyed on 15th and 20th October 2021.

4. Limitations of Use

The content and format of this report are for the exclusive use of the addressee in dealing with this site. It may not be sold, lent, hired out or divulged to any third party not directly involved in this site without the written consent of Gristwood & Toms.

5. Site Visit Observations

An unaccompanied site visit of The Butts, Butts Road, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 1RD was carried out by Ian Lightfoot on 15th and 20th October 2021. The trees were inspected using the visual tree assessment method described by Mattheck and Breloer (*The Body Language of Trees*, DOE booklet Research for Amenity Trees No. 4. 1994). All observations were from ground level without detailed investigations. All dimensions were estimated unless otherwise indicated. The weather at the time of the survey was overcast and mild with good visibility.

6. Identification and Location of Trees

The survey schedule lists the species, based on visual observation, giving the scientific and common names of the tree. The tree survey schedule is included in the appendices of this report.



7. Observations

There were **38 trees** in total inspected on the site. **33 trees** were identified to be in a fair condition. **5 trees** was identified to be in a poor condition.

8. Works Priority

Urgent – Public Safety

Works are urgently required to make safe a tree that has been identified as dead/structurally unsound and is putting public safety at risk.

These works are recommended to be completed within **3 months**.

Essential

Works may be required for the following reasons:

To keep the highways infrastructure (e.g. street lights and road signs) clear of obstructions and maintain sight lines for vehicles or pedestrians.

To abate an actionable nuisance (e.g. branches damaging windows and gutters).

When an inspection has identified visible decay, fungal brackets or other structural defects.

To reduce a significant overhang of tree branches into an adjacent property.

When previous maintenance regimes have determined that future works are of the same specification for that specimen (e.g. pollarding and crown reduction).

These works are recommended to be completed within **18 months**.

Desirable

Works may be carried out on a cyclic pruning regime to provide long term health and safety benefits to the tree.

These works are recommended to be completed within **36 months**.

No Action Required

Where a tree's health and condition indicate no works are required at the time of inspection.



The presence of any defect will increase the chances of failure. Each species has its own profile of defects. Some factors that must be considered include the species growth habit, tree condition, branch attachments, resistance to decay, condition of anchoring roots, cultural or maintenance history and previous damage.

Failure Potential	Urgent – Public Safety	Essential	Desirable	No Action Required
Works Within 3 Months	1			
Works Within 18 Months		33		
Works Within 36 Months			0	
No Action Required				4

9. Recommendations

Recommendations have been made for tree works in line with sound arboricultural management and it is recommended that the works are undertaken within the suggested timescales.

There is **1 tree** identified that requires **Urgent – Public Safety** tree work. It is recommended that the works should be completed within the next **3 months**.

There are **33 trees** identified that require **Essential** tree work. It is recommended that the works should be completed within the next **18 months**.

There are **0 trees** identified that require **Desirable** tree work. It is recommended that the works should be completed within the next **36 months**.

There are **4 trees** identified as **No Action Required**.

All recommended tree works are to be carried out in accordance with BS 3998: 2010 – Tree Work Recommendations.

10. Future Considerations

When the recommended tree work has been carried out, it is suggested that a maintenance regime is introduced so that the subject trees are managed on a **3-yearly cycle**.



11. Other Considerations

Trees subject to statutory controls

If any trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or located in a conservation area it will be necessary to consult the local authority before any tree work can be carried out. The works specified above are necessary for reasonable management and should be acceptable to the local authority.



Appendix 1

Tree Schedule – Priority Works

Tree number	Site features	Location	Tree species	Height (m)	Spread (m)	Stem diameter at breast height (cm)	Tree defects	Condition	Recommendations	Priority	Date of inspection	Date of next inspection
1	- Footpath Damage (Minor) - Grass - Public access: high - Telephone wires in canopy	Opposite Albert Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	15.0m	12.0m	100cm	- Basal and trunk suckers - Historic pruning wounds (<i>Minor decay</i>) - Minor dead wood <50mm - Codominant stems (<i>Trifurcates at 2m, historic metal cable bracing located approximately 6-7m above ground level triangler formation. Approximately 1.5m above dynamic nylon bracing. Bracing looks taught between East to West and West to North stems</i>)	Fair	- Basal/Epicormic growth removal (<i>Remove up to 4m above ground level, Bracing - Replace bracing with 8T Cobra bracing, follow manufactures installation recommendations and record date of installation</i>) - Crown lift to 6 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
2	- Grass - Public access: high - Telephone wires in canopy	Opposite 56 The Butts	Fraxinus excelsior (Common Ash)	17.0m	12.0m	70cm	- Hanging broken branch - Fungal fruiting bodies (<i>Inonotus hispidus located on Northern limb bias at approx 6-7m above ground level on eastern aspect, an old bracket also found on the ground adj to the highway</i>) - Historic pruning wounds - Major dead wood >50mm - Minor dead wood <50mm	Fair	- Crown lift to 4 metres - Reduce crown (<i>Reduce crown by 3m and reduce lowest West bias lateral limb by 5m, prune back to vertical growth approx 12cm in diameter</i>) - Remove dead and diseased wood - Remove hanging branch/limb	Urgent-Public safety	15/10/2021	October 2024
3	- Grass - Public access: high - Street lamp	Opposite 56 The Butts	Tilia x europaea (Common Lime)	20.0m	12.0m	90cm	- Historic pruning wounds - Low branches - Major dead wood >50mm - Minor dead wood <50mm	Fair	- Basal/Epicormic growth removal - Crown lift to 4 metres - Prune back from street furniture (<i>Prune 1m back from lamp column</i>) - Remove dead and diseased wood	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
4	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 56 The Butts	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	13.0m	9.0m	90cm	- Historic pruning wounds - Low branches - Major dead wood >50mm - Minor dead wood <50mm - Regrown pollard or topped tree (<i>Lapsed pollard at approximately 7-8m</i>)	Fair	- Basal/Epicormic growth removal - Crown lift to 6 metres (<i>Lift 6m over highway</i>) - Reduce and reshape crown by 2m	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 60 The Butts	Fraxinus excelsior (Common Ash)	14.0m	10.0m	70cm	- Fungal fruiting bodies (<i>Inonotus hispidus located East aspect on stem at approx 8-10m above ground level</i>) - Historic pruning wounds - Major dead wood >50mm - Minor dead wood <50mm	Poor	- Fell to ground level and remove all arisings - Grind out 50cm - 100cm dia	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
6	- Grass - Public access: high - Street lamp	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	13.0m	9.0m	90cm	- Asymmetrical crown - Historic pruning wounds - Low branches - Narrow forks with included bark - Regrown pollard or topped tree (<i>Lapsed pollard at approximately 7-8m</i>)	Fair	Crown lift to 4 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
7	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 60 The Butts	Stump	0.2m	1.0m	70cm	No work required	Poor	Grind out stump 50cm - 100cm dia	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
8	- Grass - Public access: high - Street lamp	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	13.0m	10.0m	105cm	- Basal and trunk suckers - Cracked & lifting bark (<i>Bark damage on Western aspect from ground level up stem to South bias limb, characteristic of lightening damage</i>) - Historic pruning wounds - Low branches - Codominant stems (<i>Trifurcates at approx 2.5m, Historic wire bracing installed at approx 10m. Dynamic bracing installed above wire bracing</i>)	Fair	- Basal/Epicormic growth removal (<i>Remove suckers up to 4m above ground level, Bracing - Replace bracing with 8T Cobra bracing, follow manufactures installation recommendations and record date of installation</i>) - Crown lift to 6 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
9	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Castanea sativa (Sweet Chestnut)	4.0m	4.0m	20cm	- Damaged branches - Low branches	Fair	Crown lift to 3 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
10	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Castanea sativa (Sweet Chestnut)	4.0m	4.0m	20cm	Low branches	Fair	Crown lift to 3 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024



Tree number	Site features	Location	Tree species	Height (m)	Spread (m)	Stem diameter at breast height (cm)	Tree defects	Condition	Recommendations	Priority	Date of inspection	Date of next inspection
11	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	4.0m	4.0m	20cm	Low branches	Fair	Crown lift to 3 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
12	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	3.0m	3.0m	20cm	- Trunk or branch cankers - Low branches	Poor	- Fell to ground level and remove all arisings - Grind stump 300mm single stump	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
13	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Platanus x hispanica (London Plane)	5.0m	5.0m	25cm	Low branches	Fair	- Crown lift to 3 metres - Crown lift to 6 metres (Lift 6m over highway)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
14	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Liriodendron tulipifera (Tulip tree)	2.0m	1.0m	5cm	No work required	Fair	Young tree maintenance (Ensure grass within 50cm radial to the stem is removed to a depth of 5cm and replaced with wood chip mulch, mulch should be 8-10cm deep and ensuring it does not come into contact with the stem)	Essential	20/10/2021	October 2024
15	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	0.1m	1.0m	105cm	No work required	Fair	Grind out stump 100cm+ dia	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
16	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	6.0m	5.0m	25cm	Low branches	Fair	- Crown lift to 3 metres - Crown lift to 6 metres (Lift 6m over highway)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
17	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	6.0m	5.0m	34cm	Low branches	Fair	- Crown lift to 3 metres - Crown lift to 6 metres (Lift 6m over highway)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
18	- Grass - Public access: high - Street lamp	Adjacent Butts Road	Platanus x hispanica (London Plane)	6.0m	5.0m	30cm	Low branches	Fair	- Crown lift to 3 metres - Crown lift to 6 metres (Lift 6m over highway) - Prune back from street furniture	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
19	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Platanus x hispanica (London Plane)	6.0m	5.0m	30cm	Low branches	Fair	- Crown lift to 3 metres - Crown lift to 6 metres (Lift 6m over highway)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
20	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Castanea sativa (Sweet Chestnut)	6.0m	5.0m	30cm	Low branches	Fair	- Crown lift to 3 metres - Crown lift to 6 metres (Lift 6m over highway)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
21	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts bridge	Fraxinus ornus (Manna Ash)	6.0m	6.0m	30cm	Low branches	Fair	Crown lift to 3 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
22	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts bridge	Fraxinus ornus (Manna Ash)	4.0m	3.0m	20cm	- Asymmetrical crown - Low branches	Poor	- Fell to ground level and remove all arisings - Grind stump 300mm single stump (Replant with a Standard 10-12cm girth containerized Betula pendula (Silver birch). Centralise tree with grass area. Ensure grass within 50cm radial to the stem is removed to a depth of 5cm and replaced with wood chip mulch, mulch should be 8-10cm deep and ensuring it does not come into contact with the stem. Irrigation required during April-September at least 20litres once a week. If temperatures exceed 25 degrees for over 10 consecutive days then a higher frequency of watering is required)	Essential	20/10/2021	October 2024
23	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts bridge	Fraxinus excelsior (Common Ash)	14.0m	9.0m	60cm	- Ash Dieback 51-75% dieback - Stage 3 - Low branches	Poor	- Fell to ground level and remove all arisings - Grind out stump 50cm - 100cm dia (Replant with a Standard 10-12cm girth containerized Betula pendula (Silver birch). Centralise tree with grass area. Ensure grass within 50cm radial to the stem is removed to a depth of 5cm and replaced with wood chip mulch, mulch should be 8-10cm deep and ensuring it does not come into contact with the stem. Irrigation required during April-September at least 20 litres once a week. If temperatures exceed 25 degrees for over 10 consecutive days then a higher frequency of watering is required)	Essential	20/10/2021	October 2024
24	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts bridge	Betula pendula (Silver Birch)	12.0m	8.0m	40cm	Typical of species and age	Fair	No work required	No action required	15/10/2021	October 2024



Tree number	Site features	Location	Tree species	Height (m)	Spread (m)	Stem diameter at breast height (cm)	Tree defects	Condition	Recommendations	Priority	Date of inspection	Date of next inspection
25	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts bridge	Fraxinus excelsior (Common Ash)	14.0m	8.0m	50cm	- Ash Dieback 1-25% dieback - Stage 1 - Low branches - Minor dead wood <50mm	Fair	No work required	No action required	15/10/2021	October 2024
26	- Grass - Public access: high - Road sign	Adjacent Butts bridge	Castanea sativa (Sweet Chestnut)	8.0m	6.0m	30cm	Typical of species and age	Fair	- Crown lift to 3 metres - Reduce crown (Reduce South Western aspect of crown to allow for clear line of site of road sign)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
27	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 3 Bow Cottage	Fagus sylvatica atropurpurea (Purple Beech)	1.6m	1.0m	5cm	Typical of species and age	Fair	Planting (Relocate tree 4m from road, as its current position will eventually block site of 'Give Way' and height restriction public highway signs)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
28	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 3 Bow Cottage	Stump	0.1m	1.0m	100cm	No work required	Fair	Grind out stump 100cm+ dia	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
29	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 98	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	18.0m	10.0m	70cm	- Low branches - Typical of species and age	Fair	Crown lift to 4 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
30	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 92	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	18.0m	12.0m	100cm	- Basal and trunk suckers - Low branches - Typical of species and age	Fair	Basal/Epicormic growth removal (Up to 4m above ground level)	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
31	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 86	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	5.0m	5.0m	30cm	- Basal and trunk suckers - Low branches - Typical of species and age	Fair	- Basal/Epicormic growth removal - Crown lift to 3 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
32	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 82/80	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	12.0m	12.0m	100cm	- Cavity (Approximately 2.5m above ground level) - Low branches - Main stem rot - Narrow forks with included bark	Fair	- Basal/Epicormic growth removal (Up to 4m above ground level) - Crown lift to 4 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
33	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 74	Castanea sativa (Sweet Chestnut)	2.0m	2.0m	10cm	Typical of species and age	Fair	No work required	No action required	15/10/2021	October 2024
34	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 72	Liriodendron tulipifera (Tulip tree)	2.0m	2.0m	10cm	Typical of species and age	Fair	No work required	No action required	15/10/2021	October 2024
35	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 68	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	5.0m	4.0m	24cm	- Low branches - Narrow forks with included bark	Fair	Crown lift to 3 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
36	- Grass - Public access: high	Opposite 65	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	12.0m	12.0m	100cm	- Low branches - Narrow forks with included bark	Fair	Crown lift to 4 metres	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024
37	- Grass - Public access: high		Liriodendron tulipifera (Tulip tree)	2.0m	1.0m	4cm	Typical of species and age	Fair	Young tree maintenance (Ensure grass within 50cm radial to the stem is removed to a depth of 5cm and replaced with wood chip mulch, mulch should be 8-10cm deep and ensuring it does not come into contact with the stem)	Essential	20/10/2021	October 2024
38	- Grass - Public access: high	Adjacent Butts Road	Aesculus hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut)	0.1m	0.3m	25cm	Stump	Fair	Grind stump 300mm single stump	Essential	15/10/2021	October 2024

Priority Key	
No action required	
Desirable	
Essential	
Urgent-Public Safety	

Appendix 2

Site Map(s)

