

**From:** Smith, Joe      **Sent:** 29 March 2018 09:51  
**To:** clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk  
**Subject:** Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area, at Gardiner Recreation Ground - Ref CA 8030

Dear Goring Parish Council,

**Notification of proposed works to trees in a conservation area, at Gardiner Recreation Ground - Ref CA 8030**

The District Council have now considered the above tree works notification to fell a lime tree at Gardiner Recreation Ground. This assessment found the tree to have significant amenity value and makes an important contribution to the character and appearance of the Conservation Area, meeting the criteria to be protected by a tree preservation order.

The council's assessment carried out by 2 tree officers from a ground level inspection found the tree to be in good condition with no significant defects recognised from ground level. There are some minor areas of deadwood located within the crown of the tree that could be removed without the council's consent and there is also a small cavity located adjacent to a fork at 4-5m above ground level on the south east side. It is recommended that the cavity should be inspected by a competent arborist during an aerial inspection, to ensure that there is no significant decay within the cavity. If the decay at the cavity has been compartmentalised and therefore is not significant then the council considers that there is likely to be no further work required to the tree at this time. If some decay is found then an assessment will need to be made on the management of the tree, as there is significant scope for works such as crown reduction if this is necessary. It is recommended that the aerial inspection is carried out within 6 months and by a competent arborist, a list of arboricultural consultants can be found on the website of the Arboricultural Association (<https://www.trees.org.uk/Registered-Consultant-Directory>).

Therefore from the information that has been submitted with the notification and the council's assessment of the tree, the council considers that there is insufficient information to justify the removal of the tree. As it is a prominent feature of the landscape and there is insufficient evidence that the tree is required to be felled on health and safety grounds, with the council's assessment finding the tree to be in good health.

The council therefore requests that the Parish Council withdraws notification Ref CA 8030 and therefore the District Council would not need to make a Tree Preservation Order to protect the tree. As the notification expires on 4 April 2018, please can you confirm if you agree to withdraw the notification by 10am on Tuesday 3 April 2018.

If you require any further information or would like to discuss this matter then I can be contacted. I look forward to your reply.

Kind regards,

Joe Smith Dip Arb L4 (ABC) TechArborA  
Assistant Tree Officer

Planning  
South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils



28<sup>th</sup>. January 2018

Site: Goring PC, Gardiner Recreation Ground, Upper Cleve Rd., Goring on Thames

Item: T.63 *Tilia cordata* Lat. 51 31' 24" Long. 1 8' 7"

The initial climbing survey for T.63 considered four specific target areas in accord with a wider in-situ tree maintenance schedule, further proposed by arborist specialist George Downham (2018)

The specific target area's observed are;

1 a bifurcation target zone adjacent a small cavity

2 a deadwood zone in the upper north east aspect of the tree canopy area, primarily observed by Loudon et al (2017)

3 root damage caused into effect by grounds maintenance regimen

4 profusion of epicormic growth in the main plant stem basal area

Detail:

1 The cavity is located at the tree 'bole' (the branching structures/main plant stem union area) and is a significant component part of the living organism retaining both medullary rays and unifying stroma, connecting to the scleratomes of the periderm and epidermis - as observed (Aerial Survey 2:2017).

This particular dry cavity measures approx. 800 mm x 500 mm and is on closer inspection considered as both naturally occurring and advantageous, with regard to the structural factors as aforementioned.

2 Therefore, there is no connection between the cavity and the significant deadwood stem, primarily identified in the north east aspect of the upper canopy and will require removal in the near future.

3 This means that the root damage area requires further focus. What are the implications?

The 'established' tree injury here is well healed, however this area is of consequence with regard to the standardised RPA (root protection area) criteria (After: BS 5837 2012), defining further the other, considerable *Tilia cordata* affordances in-situ (see: agenda item 4, para. 4-5), impacting on the action of acetyl secreted by the root nodes. This significant factor is therefore considered indicative of increased acidity within the RPA and elsewhere, critically the basal main stem area, connecting the 'bifurcation' zones to the anomalies observed (epicormic growth) in the secondary vascular system.

4 Other decisive factors such as elevated oxygen secreted by defined lesions adjacent the basal main plant stem sclera are therefore of consequence with regard to the likely presence of Verticillium wilt, collectively known as Gnomonia tiliae (Gilman & Watson USFS (Asheville, N.Carolina) factsheet ST-637). Unusually, the presence of chlamydoconidia type mycelium (see: macroconidia or 'white mycelium' in arbhaus Aerial Survey2: 2017, frames 3a-c ) is contrasted against most likely microsclerotia evidence, and there is a high probability that this obligate agency explains the presence of collective Albo atrum or Verticillum dahliaea within the bifurcation target areas.

## Conclusion

The presence of distinctive sub-epidermal factors, such as stroma discoloration is considered to connect the microconidia observed to the adjacent sporocarp (mushroom) and signifies a high probability that the profusion of epicomic growth is considered to be objective of applying further basic common sense risk management in the short term. This means that the evidence for the soil borne obligate pathogen Verticillum tricorpus (After: Barbara & Cleves 4(4) 2003, 297-305) is considered highly probable, caused into effect by the nematode sp. Pratylenchus penetrans. Other localised evidence is conspicuous of this particular vector, and so best practice methods are propositioned, and it is strongly recommended to be in accord with new biosecurity protocol standards (2013). Thus, my recommendations are to look closer in at the wider site correlates, and ask the Clerk to consider the following proposed works;

4a) emplacing an exclusion zone around the canopy area

4b) to survey other small leafed lime trees within the statutory prospect area in accord with further monitoring, such as  $KAr - K_2O_4S$ (potassium argon / potassium sulphate) impacting on the wider maintenance schedule in-situ.

4c) reduce T.63 by controlled sectional felling to coppice level, opposing the 'three stage removal' criteria (BS 3998: 2010), which is seen to compromise other specimens in the southern sector

4d) periodically monitor and selectively control the anticipated coppice metabolism & regrowth

Other collective observational data;

- vicinity of St. Crispins Church, High Wycombe - maintained by approved master forester (Assoc. of Approved Foresters)
  - a) Medmenham Abbey wider environs
  - b) Turville Heath Common – The Tilia cordata Avenue
  - c) Cookley Green Tilia cordata avenue
    - Veteran sp. Tilia cordata
    - It is therefore propositioned that the collective evidence is to be considered further with regard to the incomplete results of culturing & low density of samples, however there is now an opportunity to look closer through resolute methods, contrasted against the low – mid range service so far administered to arbhaus by other faculties).