
Jake Bowdige Arboriculture

An Arboricultural Report on Trees At

Sinton Green

Village Green

Grimley Parish Council

By

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Supporting Documents

There are no supporting documents with the report. All data collected is provided within this report.

1 Introduction

Jake Bowdige Arboriculture (JB Arb) is an independent arboricultural consultancy based in Worcestershire. I offer a professional range of tree services, specialising in tree surveys, arboricultural works and expert advice on tree management, planning, and preservation.

With a **Level 3 Diploma in Arboriculture, Professional Tree Inspection (PTI)** certification, and **Registered Technician** status with the **Arboricultural Association**, I bring a high level of technical knowledge and practical experience to every project. Having worked across residential sites, commercial developments, public landscapes, and conservation areas, I understand the varied needs of clients and stakeholders.

I specialise in **Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)** — a systematic approach to evaluating tree condition through visual indicators — and where appropriate, I use non-invasive tools to support accurate diagnosis and data collection. All surveys and reports are completed in line with **current British Standards** and **industry best practice**.

Additional Services

In addition to arboricultural surveys, we provide a full range of tree services including:

- Crown reduction and pruning
- Tree removal and dismantling
- Tree planting and aftercare
- Stump grinding and site clearance

We manage projects of all sizes and complexities, with a strong emphasis on safety, sustainability, and regulatory compliance.

Commitment to Quality and Sustainability

JB Arb promotes responsible tree management practices that balance client objectives with ecological preservation. We work in close partnership with local authorities, developers, and landowners to deliver environmentally sound solutions that enhance both urban and rural landscapes.

With a focus on professionalism, expertise, and client satisfaction, JB Arb is committed to upholding the highest standards in modern arboriculture.

1.1 Introduction

JB Arb was commissioned by Lisa Stevens to undertake a comprehensive condition survey of the trees located at Sinton Green Village Green

The purpose of this survey is to carry out an arboricultural assessment focused on evaluating the current condition, safety, and long-term viability of the trees, with particular regard to their suitability for retention.

1.2 Limitations

This report is based on a ground-level visual inspection only. No climbing inspections or soil samples were undertaken, and no diagnostic tools were used beyond standard Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) techniques. The assessment does not consider the potential impact of the trees on adjacent structures or underground services.

The inspection was carried out in line with industry best practice, following the principles of VTA. Observations and recommendations are based solely on the condition of the trees at the time of inspection.

It is important to acknowledge that no tree can be considered entirely safe. Even a structurally sound specimen may fail under extreme weather conditions or other exceptional circumstances. However, research suggests that the inherent 'safety factor' of a healthy, structurally sound tree is approximately 4.5 — meaning it is around four and a half times stronger than required to withstand normal environmental stresses. This figure is broadly comparable to safety margins used in the design of man-made structures.

1.3 Documents and information provided

Before conducting the site survey, a desktop study is typically undertaken. This includes reviewing any available tree inventory data, previous arboricultural reports, site mapping resources, and identifying statutory constraints such as Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) or Conservation Area designations that may affect the site's trees or influence their management.

We may request supporting information from the client, including site boundary plans, land ownership details, topographical survey data, or CAD files where available. Additional relevant details may include the location of existing structures and utilities, as well as any proposed development or construction plans that could impact trees on or adjacent to the site.

JB Arb has been provided with a site plan indicating the areas to be surveyed.

1.4 Scope of this report

The purpose of this report is to assess the likelihood of tree or branch failure resulting in injury to persons or damage to property.

This assessment aims to identify any significant structural defects or physiological issues that may pose a risk, thereby supporting informed decision-making in relation to tree management and risk mitigation.

1.5 Copyright

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This report is intended solely for the use of the addressee in relation to the matter for which it was commissioned. It must not be sold, lent, copied, distributed, or disclosed to any third party not directly involved, without express written consent from JB Arb.

2. Site Visit and Observations / Collection of Data

2.1 Site Visit

On Wednesday 23rd July 2025, an independent site visit was carried out at Sinton Green Village Green

Observations were made from ground level using standard arboricultural tools, including a probe, laser rangefinder, and sounding hammer, where appropriate. Unless otherwise stated, all measurements are approximate.

Weather conditions during the inspection were dry, with clear skies and excellent visibility.

2.2 Brief Site Description

Sinton Green is a triangular-shaped village green located within the civil parish of Grimley in Worcestershire, approximately 3 miles north of Worcester. The green is bounded by roads on all three sides, with residential cottages along two edges, and features an open grassy area often used as a community space. A modest football pitch is positioned centrally.

Surrounding the green are traditional rural dwellings, giving it a picturesque, village-green character. It's a small but valued community space, sometimes used for local events such as village fêtes.

The immediate landscape includes open farmland and access to nearby Monkwood Nature Reserve via public footpaths, enhancing the locality's ecological and recreational value. The area supports rural biodiversity and is characteristic of historic Worcestershire villages.

2.3 Identification and location of the trees

All trees surveyed have been identified and tagged with aluminium discs bearing unique numerical identifiers. These tags are consistently placed on the rear of each tree at approximately head height for ease of reference and visibility. Precise dimensional and locational data for each tree have been recorded using GPS software.

These details are comprehensively documented in the General Tree Assessment report and accompanying site maps, ensuring accuracy and facilitating efficient tree management and future reference.

3. Site / Target

All trees surveyed are located within Sinton Green Village Green. Within the surveyed area may pose potential risks and hazards to nearby targets, including properties, infrastructure, Roads and individuals. Key factors contributing to these risks include:

- Proximity to roads, footpaths, or neighbouring buildings, which increases the likelihood of tree-related incidents impacting vehicular and pedestrian traffic, as well as structures.
- Overhanging branches or limbs that could fall, potentially causing damage or injury.
- Tree health issues such as decay, disease, or structural instability, increasing the risk of tree or limb failure.
- Environmental conditions, including high winds or heavy precipitation, which can exacerbate existing hazards.

It is essential to manage these risks through proactive tree management strategies, including regular inspections, maintenance, and appropriate remedial actions where necessary.

3.1 Roots and surrounding ground

The trees on Sinton Green are situated within an open grassed area, with unrestricted root development in all directions. Surrounding ground conditions are predominantly soft, comprising well-maintained amenity grassland with minimal compaction and no significant hard surfacing within root protection areas. No visible signs of root plate movement, soil heave, or surface disruption were observed at the time of inspection. Overall rooting conditions are favourable and consistent with a low-intensity public green space.

Root System Evaluation:

- **Root Structure:** The root systems were inspected for signs of decay, damage, or soil compaction. Particular attention was given to the distribution and extent of roots relative to nearby structures, utilities, and hardscape features.
- **Root Collar Inspection:** The root collar areas were examined for indications of root flare, girdling roots, or soil accumulation that could adversely affect tree stability and health.
- **Soil Composition:** Soil texture, drainage capacity, compaction, pH, moisture levels, and organic matter content were considered to understand the growing environment and its suitability for tree vitality.
- **Root Zone Protection:** Existing protective measures such as mulching and fencing were evaluated for their effectiveness in preventing soil disturbance and preserving root zone integrity.

Surrounding Ground Conditions:

- **Surface Disturbance:** Observations were made for evidence of erosion, soil compaction, excavation, or other disturbances that might compromise root health or tree stability.
- **Drainage Patterns:** Local drainage was assessed to identify any issues of water pooling or inadequate runoff that could negatively impact roots.
- **Surface Features:** Hardscape elements including pavements and landscaping features were reviewed for their impact on root growth and soil condition.
- **Vegetation Interactions:** The presence of competing vegetation or invasive species was noted, considering their potential effect on soil moisture, nutrient availability, and root development.

A thorough evaluation of these factors provides key insights into the health and structural integrity of the trees around Sinton Green Village Green, guiding appropriate management and maintenance decisions to ensure their continued safety and vigor.

4 General Tree Assessment and Recommendations



Details of tree inspections

Site name: All Sites

Risk zone: -

Contact: -

Trees: 16

Work items: 31

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T001	Fir (<i>Abies</i> sp.)	A newly planted tree located on the village green; the stem is currently too small to support a numbered identification tag.	Height (m): 1.5 Crown Radius (m): 0.5 Life Stage: Newly planted	A newly planted tree showing signs of browning, likely due to lack of watering during the recent heat wave.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Water tree. Timescale: 23-Jul-2025 (Urgent) Recommendations 2: If T001 does not recover remove and replant. Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months)

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T181	Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.)	Located on green next to road.	Height (m): 14 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 20+ Years	The canopy encroaches over the road, featuring dense growth in the inner canopy and healthy outer foliage. The main union is well-formed at 1.8m. Minor deadwood is present.	Good	<p>Recommendations 1: Lift canopy over road to 4m Remove deadwood - greater than 25 mm. Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months)</p> <p>Recommendations 2: Ash dieback is a serious fungal disease (caused by <i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) that leads to progressive decline and death of ash trees. If ash dieback develops, close monitoring will be required due to the likely need for felling. It is recommended to begin replanting with a suitable replacement species now to ensure future tree cover. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)</p>

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T182	Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.)	Located on green next to road.	Height (m): 11 Crown Radius (m): 5 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 20+ Years	The canopy encroaches onto the road, with a heavier growth on the roadside due to an elongated lower limb. Minor tip dieback and deadwood are present within the crown.	Good	<p>Recommendations 1: Lift canopy on roadside to 4m Remove deadwood - greater than 25 mm. Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months)</p> <p>Recommendations 2: Ash dieback is a serious fungal disease (caused by <i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) that leads to progressive decline and death of ash trees. If ash dieback develops, close monitoring will be required due to the likely need for felling. It is recommended to begin replanting with a suitable replacement species now to ensure future tree cover. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)</p>

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T183	Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i> sp.)	Located on green next to road.	Height (m): 13 Crown Radius (m): 7 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 10+ Years	The canopy encroaches onto the road and contains deadwood throughout. Early signs of ash dieback are evident, with a noticeably sparser canopy compared to neighbouring ash trees.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Crown lift to 4m for highway clearance. Remove deadwood - greater than 25 mm. Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months) Recommendations 2: Ash dieback is a serious fungal disease (caused by <i>Hymenoscyphus fraxineus</i>) that leads to progressive decline and death of ash trees. If ash dieback develops, close monitoring will be required due to the likely need for felling. It is recommended to begin replanting with a suitable replacement species now to ensure future tree cover. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)
T184	Poplar (<i>Populus</i> sp.)	Located on green next to road.	Height (m): 16 Crown Radius (m): 6 Life Stage: Early Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	The tree has a full canopy exhibiting good vigour, with a slight lean towards the road. Prominent anchor roots are visible on the opposite side of the lean. Low-hanging branches are present below the main union, which is included, with a secondary stem extending toward the stables. Minor deadwood was observed.	Good	Recommendations 1: Lift canopy to main union Reduce secondary limb growing out towards stables by 3m to elevate leverage on union. Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months) Recommendations 2: Monitor lean and rootplate Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T185	Hawthorn (Crataegus sp.)	Located on green next to road.	Height (m): 7 Crown Radius (m): 3 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 20+ Years	The tree is multi-stemmed at 1m and heavily engulfed with ivy, obscuring the main stems and main union. Recent hot weather has caused leaf wilting.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Sever ivy around base, main union and stems upto 1.5m Timescale: 23-Oct-2025 (3 Months) Recommendations 2: Strip ivy when dead and reinspect Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months)
T186	Apple (Malus sp.)	Located on green next to road	Height (m): 5 Crown Radius (m): 2 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 20+ Years	The main stem, main union, and upper branches are heavily engulfed with ivy, preventing a thorough inspection. The canopy encroaches onto the road, with some damage evident. Despite this, the tree has a dense crown, exhibiting good vigour and healthy fruit production.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Sever ivy around stem to 1m Reduce crown on road side by 1m. Timescale: 23-Oct-2025 (3 Months) Recommendations 2: Remove ivy once dead and reinspect. Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months)
T187	Willow (Salix sp.)	Located on green next to pond.	Height (m): 10 Crown Radius (m): 5 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	The tree has been previously pollarded, with ivy extensively engulfing the main stem, main union, and upper crown, including the pollarding points.	Good	Recommendations 1: Lift canopy to 3m Remove scrub around base. Sever ivy up to 1m Timescale: 23-Oct-2025 (3 Months) Recommendations 2: Remove ivy once dead and reinspect. Will require repollarding in 2-3 years. Timescale: 23-Jan-2026 (6 Months)

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T188	Silver birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>)	Located on green next to pond	Height (m): 14 Crown Radius (m): 3 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 10+ Years	The tree has a wilted, brown canopy likely caused by the recent heatwave, with ivy growth ascending the main stem.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Monitor closely to see if crown recovers Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year) Recommendations 2: If T18 does not recover and dies removal will be needed Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)
T189	Willow (<i>Salix</i> sp.)	Located on boundary next to pond.	Height (m): 7 Crown Radius (m): 5 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 20+ Years	The tree is multi-stemmed from the base, with one main stem growing toward the hedge line and the remaining stems extending over the pond. A hazardous branch stem over the pond has failed, and the tree exhibits signs of over-extended growth.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Pollard to 2m Timescale: 23-Oct-2025 (3 Months) Recommendations 2: Re pollard in 4-5 years. Timescale: No Action
T190	Oak (<i>Quercus</i> sp.)	Located on corner of green next to road.	Height (m): 15 Crown Radius (m): 7 Life Stage: Early Mature Life Exp.: 50+ Years	In good condition at time of survey.	Good	No action required. Timescale: No Action
T191	Horse chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	Located on green next to road.	Height (m): 10 Crown Radius (m): 5 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 20+ Years	Bleeding canker is present around the main stem, with the main union located at 1.8m. An elongated limb extends toward the road. Minor deadwood was observed, but the tree is currently in acceptable condition. Pests and Diseases: Bacterial Canker of Horse Chestnut Horse Chestnut Leaf Miner (<i>Cameraria ohridella</i>)	Fair	Recommendations 1: No action required. Timescale: No Action Recommendations 2: Monitor Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T192	Silver birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>)	Located on green next to bus stop and road.	Height (m): 14 Crown Radius (m): 3 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 10+ Years	The tree has wilted, brown foliage attributed to the recent heat wave, with small areas of green leaves remaining. It is single-stemmed.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Monitor to see if canopy recovers. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year) Recommendations 2: If T192 does not recover and dies removal will be needed. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)
T193	Silver birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>)	Located on green next to bus stop and road	Height (m): 14 Crown Radius (m): 3 Life Stage: Mature Life Exp.: 10+ Years	The tree exhibits a historic lean and is twin-stemmed at around 2m. The canopy is mostly wilted and brown, likely from the recent heat wave, with only small sections of green foliage remaining.	Fair	Recommendations 1: Monitor to see if canopy recovers. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year) Recommendations 2: If T193 does not recover and dies removal will be needed. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)
T194	Lime (<i>Tilia sp.</i>)	Located on corner of green next to road.	Height (m): 13 Crown Radius (m): 4 Life Stage: Early Mature Life Exp.: 30+ Years	The tree displays wilted foliage, likely due to recent high temperatures. The canopy hangs low, creating a sheltered area beneath the crown. An included union is present at approximately 1m; however, the tree is considered to be in acceptable condition at this time.	Good	Recommendations 1: No action required. Timescale: No Action Recommendations 2: Monitor main union. Timescale: 23-Jul-2026 (1 Year)

Ref.	Species	Description	Measurements	Survey Notes	Overall Condition	Recommendations
T195	Copper beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> <i>purpurea</i>)	Located on green next to road	Height (m): 9 Crown Radius (m): 3 Life Stage: Semi Mature Life Exp.: <10 years	The tree has a sparse crown with visible dead branches; the main stem shows signs of girdling and bark damage, likely caused by previous tree protection measures.	Poor	Recommendations 1: Fall tree. Timescale: 23-Oct-2025 (3 Months) Recommendations 2: Replant in Autumn. Timescale: 23-Oct-2025 (3 Months)

4.1 Implementation of the works

It is recommended that any tree work arising from this report be carried out by a qualified and insured contractor, preferably one approved by the Local Authority and working to recognised industry best standards. All works should be undertaken in accordance with **BS3998:2010 – Tree Work – Recommendations**, or any relevant updates informed by current research and arboricultural best practice.

5 Other Considerations

Given the public nature of the area and its proximity to the road, it is recommended that all trees be re-inspected within **18 months, by the end of January 2027**. Certain trees identified in this report should be re-assessed following the completion of the recommended works.

Additionally, trees currently showing signs of stress due to recent heat and drought conditions should be closely monitored to assess recovery or further decline.

Trees should also be re-assessed sooner if significant external factors arise, such as severe weather events or further site activity. Regular monitoring will help ensure any emerging issues are identified promptly, supporting the continued safety and accessibility of the site.

5.1 Trees subject to statutory controls

If a tree is protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or is located within a designated Conservation Area, formal consent from the local planning authority must be obtained before undertaking any pruning or other works, unless the works fall under a statutory exemption (e.g. removing deadwood or mitigating immediate danger).

The works proposed in this report are considered necessary for appropriate tree management and are likely to be viewed favourably by the local authority. However, tree owners should be aware that consent is not guaranteed, and the local authority reserves the right to refuse applications based on its own assessment and policies.

6 Maps

