Forester & Arborist Services Ltd, Company No.7037426
Registered Office: 19 Arrow Road, Shawbirch, Telford TF5 0LF
07747017979

Tree Inspection on Public Open Spaces for Wem Town Council

Record of Remedial Work Proposed and Completed

From April 2009



Terry Merchant Chartered Forester M.Arbor.A

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Year:	Record of Remedial Work Proposed and Completed		Surveyor:
From 2009	**Property:** Wem Town Council POS	**Location:** Wem	T F Merchant (TFM)

Remit: Inspect trees within falling distance of the roads, buildings and neighbouring property identified on the location plan and 2009 photo detail.
Limitations: The risk assessment and recommendations are valid for a period of one year. No detection or wood boring equipment has been used other than a sounding hammer and metal probe. All trees are at risk of failure through exceptional weather conditions.
Priority: Level 1 = Immediate, work to be completed within 7 days where possible. **Level 2 =** Work to be completed within 3 months where possible.
Level 3 = Pre-emptive works where required completed within 12 months. **Level 4** = Refer to inspection date
Key: T1 = Tree number 1. **Wd1** = Wood 1. **TPO** status not known at date of inspection

Tree No.	Species	Growth stage	Condition	Date inspected	Action required	Priority level	Date completed
T1	Sycamore	Mature	**Recreation Ground. GPS: SJ51602 29191** **Root:** No evidence of soil movement. **Stem:** Old wound sites occluded **Crown:** Cavities in old pruning wounds exposed in past limb reduction on south side. Hazard beam crack in 2nd order limb on south side of lower crown with strong wound wood response. The subsided limb is now in contact with an adjacent smaller diameter branch. Old wound sites on the upper side of limbs on north section of crown are not visible from ground level. Section of deadwood lodged in lower crown on south side **Risk Assessment:** Non-persistent heartwood.	TFM 9.3.09	Remove all major deadwood Reduce smaller limb in contact with the hazard beam Climber to inspect extent of decay in cavities not visible from ground level Inspect in 24 months or following storms Refer to photo detail	2	2009
			No evidence of soil movement, perennial fungi, recent breakouts or dieback	TFM 23.1.12	Inspect in 2 years or following storms	4	
			No evidence of soil movement, perennial fungi, recent breakouts or dieback	TFM 7.3.14	Inspect in 24 months or following storms	4	
			No evidence of soil movement, perennial fungi, recent breakouts or dieback	TFM 16.3.16	Inspect in 24 months or following storms	4	
			No evidence of soil movement, perennial fungi, recent breakouts or dieback	TFM 26.4.18	Inspect in 24 months or following storms	4	
			No evidence of soil movement, perennial fungi, recent breakouts or dieback	24.1.20	Inspect in 24 months or following storms	4	
			No evidence of soil movement. First evidence of fungi fruiting body between buttressing. No evidence of stem bleeds, recent breakouts or significant dieback **Risk Assessment:** No visual evidence of significant risk features at date of inspection	28.2.22	Inspect in 24 months or following storms	4	
			No evidence of soil movement. No increase in fungi fruiting bodies between buttressing. No evidence of stem bleeds, recent breakouts or significant dieback **Risk Assessment:** No visual evidence of significant risk features at date of inspection	23.2.24	Inspect in 24 months or following storms Refer to photo detail	4	
			No evidence of soil movement. No increase in fungi fruiting bodies between buttressing. No evidence of stem bleeds, recent breakouts or significant dieback **Risk Assessment:** No visual evidence of significant risk features at date of inspection	10.2.2026	Inspect in 24 months or following storms Refer to photo detail page 12	4	
			Continued on page 4				

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Tree No.	Species	Growth stage	Condition	Date inspected	Action required	Priority level	Date completed
T1	Sycamore	Mature	Reactive report 17.11.2026 **Tree condition:** The Groundsman reported his concern with the condition of the crown during the summer of 2026; the early loss of foliage was considered to be the natural reaction of the tree to drought-induced stress. The Groundsman observed the loss of bark patches during the Autumn of 2026 and supplied photos of the detail for identification of the potential cause. The causal pathogen was identified as Sooty Bark Disease *Cryptostroma corticale.* Technical information is available at *https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk*. The spores of *C. corticale* can be introduced to the living wood tissues via large wound sites or absorbed through the root system where they remain in a dormant (latent) state while the water content of the live-wood tissues act as a natural suppressing agent. During drought where air temperatures exceed 25 degrees for consistent periods, the natural suppression of the latent spores is reduced, and the fungal infection can develop as is the case with the mature Sycamore T1. **Risk Assessment** Spores of *C. corticale* are hyper-allergenic and the goal is to avoid inhaling large numbers of spores. The Forestry Commission web site has link to an American Safety Sheet listing the precautions that must be observed when removing and disposing the infected material. There is no known remedy to Sooty Bark Disease, and the tree should be removed as a priority.	Report date 17.11.2026	Remove tree following the recommendations contained in the Safety sheet attached a separate PDF	2	


T1 Sycamore
T2
T3
T4
T5
Line of whitebeam
Google Image
Shrubbery Gardens
Park Rd
Wem Tennis Club
Wem Recreation Ground
Wem Childrens's Play Area
Dave Hinton Driving School
Station Rd
Aston Lodge
Hawk Developments (UK)
B5063
Soulton Rd
Wem Methodist Church
Wem

Recreation Ground Photo Detail 11.11.2026 (Wem TC Groundsman)





T1 Sycamore: Spores of *C. corticale* are hyper-allergenic and the goal is to avoid inhaling large numbers of spores. The Forestry Commission web site has link to an American Safety Sheet listing the precautions that must be observed when removing and disposing the infected material. There is no known remedy to Sooty Bark Disease, and the tree should be removed as a priority.

References and main literature sources.

A D Hirons & P Thomas (2018) *Applied Tree Biology* Wiley Blackwell
Londsdale, D (2000). *Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management* (Research for Amenity Trees **7**) HMSO, London
Mattheck, C & Breloer, H (1995). *The body language of trees: A handbook for failure analysis* (Research for Amenity Trees **4)** HMSO, London
Schwarze, Engels & Mattheck (2000) *Fungal strategies of wood decay in trees* Springer
Shigo, A (1991) *Modern Arboriculture* Durham, USA, Shigo and Trees Associates
Slater D (2016) *Assessment of tree forks: Course notes (1st ed.).* Cheltenham: Arbor Association.
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