Tree Survey

at

3 Beechwood Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 2TU



Produced for:

Mr. Jonny Beard

JB Landscapes (Holbrook)

Produced by:

Marcus McCormick Tech Cert. (Arbor.A), RFS Cert Arb.

Professional Tree Inspection (PTI)

Mac Tree Services Ltd

Survey date:

9th February 2026

Contents

1. Introduction 3

2. Terms of Reference 4

3. Report Limitations 5

4. Tree Survey Details and Data Interpretation 6

Appendix 1: Tree Survey Data 8

Appendix 2: Site Plan. 11

Appendix 3: Site Photographs 12

Appendix 4: Bibliography 13

1. Introduction

1.1 Instructions were received from Mr. Jonny Beard of JB Landscapes (Holbrook) to produce a survey of the trees found at 3 Beechwood Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 2TU assessing their condition and recommending future tree works.

1.2 The results of the survey have been collected and presented in the Tree Survey Data found in Appendix 1.

1.3 Recommendations for tree works are shown in the Tree Survey Data found in Appendix 1.

1.4 The site map showing the positions of the surveyed trees is in Appendix 2.

1.5 Attention is drawn to section 3.7 of the Report Limitations for a comment on Ash Dieback *(Hymenoscyphus fraxineus).*

2. Terms of Reference

2.1. This report was commissioned by Mr. Jonny Beard of JB Landscapes (Holbrook) following phone and WhatsApp correspondence with confirmation to go ahead given on 30th January 2026.

2.2. The instruction was to produce a tree survey at 3 Beechwood Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 2TUassessing the trees' health, condition and recommending future tree work that may be needed. This survey was conducted on Monday 9th February 2026.

2.3. It has not been indicated if the trees on the site are subject to Tree Preservation Orders or reside within a Conservation Area. Any person conducting future works should make proper enquiries to the Local Planning Authority and gain permission before going ahead with any recommended tree work.

2.4. Marcus McCormick of Mac Tree Services Ltd. conducted this tree survey Marcus McCormick is an arborist based in Belper, Derbyshire and holds an Arboricultural Association Technicians Certificate from Myerscough College, the RFS certificate in Arboriculture from Broomfield College and has the Lantra Professional Tree Inspector (PTI) certificate. He has over 25 years' experience in the industry in both Bristol and Derbyshire.

2.5. Marcus McCormick holds professional indemnity which is limited to £1 million. Should you require more information on this matter please contact Marcus McCormick. mactreeservicesltd@gmail.com

3. Report Limitations

3.1. Whilst every effort has been made to identify defects within the subject trees, no absolute guarantee of safety can be given or intended to any tree detailed in this survey. Extreme weather conditions can cause damage to apparently sound and healthy trees.

3.2 Trees are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly therefore they should be checked on a regular basis, preferably once a year.

3.3 The conclusions and recommendations in this report are valid for 1 year assuming its recommendations are observed. Interim inspections are recommended after periods of inclement weather, i.e., storms, gales, heavy snow etc.

3.4 The report reflects the trees as found on the day of inspection. The period for which this report is valid may be reduced in the case of any work undertaken or changes in the conditions directly adjacent or in proximity to the tree, trees or groups.

3.5. The report looks solely at the health of the trees. No roots were inspected below ground and this report does not comment or discuss subsidence or heave caused by any tree(s).

3.6. The report was compiled using maps and materials available at the time of the survey. It has not been indicated if the trees on the site are subject to Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) or reside within a Conservation Area. Any person conducting future works should make proper enquiries to the Local Planning Authority and gain permission before going ahead with any recommended tree work.

3.7. Attention is drawn to the evolving issue affecting the native Common Ash tree (*Fraxinus excelsior).* Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus)* is spreading through the European tree stock. This is a chronic fungal disease with an 85% mortality rate. There are currently no effective strategies for managing the disease. Trees identified as being healthy at the time of this survey may need reinspection at a shorter interval than would normally be recommended.

4. Tree Survey Details and Data Interpretation

4.1 The tree survey was undertaken on Monday 9th February 2026 between the hours of 1230 and 1430. The weather conditions were adequate for observing the trees.

4.2 The inspection of the trees was undertaken from the ground only, using binoculars and a sounding mallet where required. In some cases, access or debris/plant growth may have hindered inspections.

4.3 Inspections have been based on the Visual Tree Assessment or VTA system developed by Mattheck and Breloer and Matheny and Clark's Evaluation of Hazard Trees in the Urban Environment (1994).

4.4 Trees have been numbered on the site map in a sequence that was deemed best suited to future interpretation. Where appropriate trees have been grouped together. For more precise identification trees may have been given a What Three Words address.

4.5 Trees species have been listed in the report by both common and botanical names where appropriate. Time constraints may, in some cases, have hampered accurate identification. In these cases, only the genus or generic name has been specified.

4.6 The height of the trees has been estimated in m. The stem diameter has been measured in millimetres a diameter tape. Measurements of stem diameter have been included only when deemed helpful to future work.

4.7 An assessment of the tree's age classification has been made in terms of its maturity within the site's landscape. These are:

- Y = Young tree.
- YM = Young mature trees < a 1/3 of their expected life.
- M = Mature trees that are between 1/3 and 2/3 of their lifespan.
- OM = Over mature trees that are more than 2/3 of their expected life span.
- V = Veteran tree.

4.8 An assessment of a tree's physiological condition has been defined as Good, Fair, Poor or Dead:

- G = Good: Fully functioning biological system showing average vitality i.e. normal bud growth, leaf size, crown density, and wound closure.
- F = Fair: Fully functioning biological condition showing below average vitality i.e. reduced bud growth, smaller leaf size, lower crown density and reduced wound closure.
- P = Poor: A biological system with limited functionality showing significantly below average vitality i.e. limited bud growth, small chlorotic leaves, low crown density and limited wound closure.
- D = Dead: Tree in an irreversible state of decline or dead.

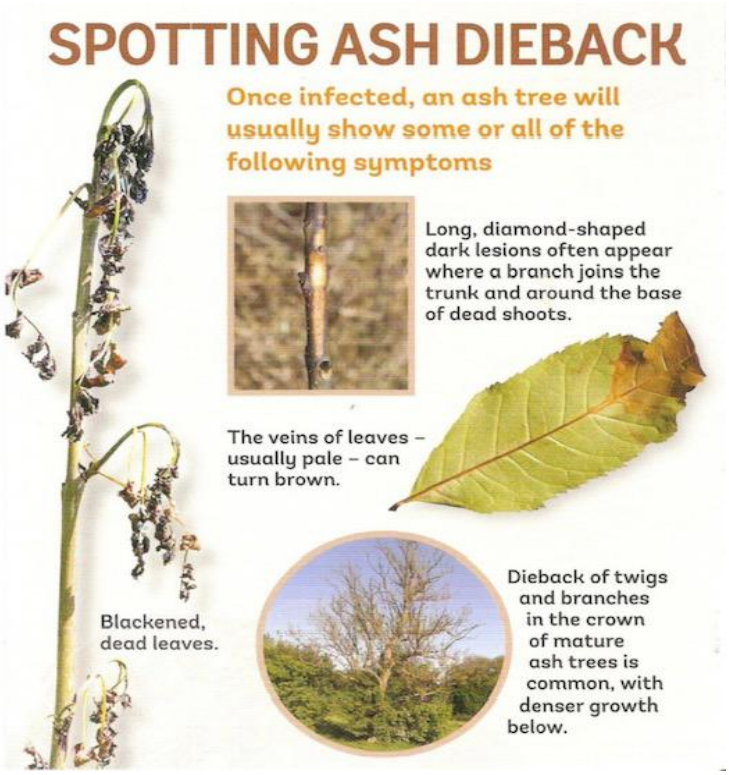
4.9 An assessment of a tree's structural condition has been defined as Good, Fair, Poor or Dead:

- G = Good: No significant structural defects.

- F = Fair: Structural defects which could be alleviated through remedial tree surgery or management practices.
- P = Poor: Structural defects which cannot be alleviated through tree surgery or management practices.
- D = Dead.

4.10 Tree work recommended by this survey has been prioritised as either U, 1, 2, 3 or NW:

- U= Urgent. Work should be conducted at once to make the tree or trees safe.
- 1 = Work should be conducted within 30 days.
- 2 = Work should be conducted within 90 days.
- 3 = Work of a low priority and may be undertaken at the client's discretion.
- NW = No work needed.



Appendix 1: Tree Survey Data – 3 Beechwood Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 2TU **Date:** Monday 9th February 2026

Colour key:

URGENT	PRIORITY 1	PRIORITY 2	PRIORITY 3

Tree number	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Crown height (m)	Crown spread (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
1	Common Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	13	530	3	**N** 6 **S** 6 **E** 6 **W** 6	Mature	Good	Good	**Rooting area.** Growing within the lawn adjacent to the pavement, with a low retaining wall to the north within 2m. No significant disturbance is seen within the structure of this wall. No signs of movement in the root plate were seen that would suggest uprooting or windthrow, and no fungal fruiting bodies were seen. Minor exposed surface roots are seen to the south within the lawn. A Common Beech hedge is regularly maintained around the perimeter of this section of the garden. **Buttress and lower stem.** Slightly underdeveloped towards the south, with more development into the northern and eastern side areas. The stem sounds solid when struck with a sounding mallet, with no fungal growth seen. A slight curve is seen to the lower main stem towards the south, returning to vertical from around 1m height. Occluded pruning wounds from past crown height raising are seen on the main stem. No significant defects are present. **Main union.** The main union is at 5m height and is tensile in structure, with moss present on both orientations of the surface. Above this, two main stems emerge to form the crown. No significant defects are present. **Crown.** The crown forming from the main union shows generally sound structure, with the major unions tensile. The crown has an even distribution and shows ample vigour. Notable pieces of deadwood are present within the crown, with an unattached branch seen on the western side around 6m height. Several past pruning wounds are seen from previous crown-thinning or canopy-raising works. No significant defects are present; however, the deadwood and the	Crown clean.	2

Tree number	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Crown height (m)	Crown spread (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
									unattached branch should be removed. **Recommendations and conclusion.** The tree appears to pose a low concern to health and safety overall and is currently clear of the driveway and property. A lateral limb on the northeast side is growing close to the building but remains clear at present, though future pruning may be required to maintain adequate clearance from the property. A crown clean is recommended to remove dead branches and allow an aerial inspection of the crown structure.		
2	Common Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	13	560	4	**N** 5 **S** 7 **E** 5 **W** 6	Mature	Fair	Poor	**Rooting area.** Rooted on the far eastern boundary within the Common Beech boundary hedge next to an old stone gate pillar. Signs of root impact are seen within the retaining wall to the north within approximately 4m of the main stem. No signs of movement in the root plate were seen that would suggest uprooting or windthrow, and no fungal fruiting bodies were seen within this area. **Buttress and lower stem.** Extensive buttress development is seen, with access to the western side limited due to the proximity of the hedgerow. A very notable wound is present on the main stem from a past stem removal at around 1.4m height. This shows a wound-wood response; however, a cavity is present, currently around 18cm width and 30cm height. The cavity extends inward with accumulations of soil and leaf matter and appears to extend down significantly, by at least 50cm. It is likely that active fungal decay is present within this area, although use of a sounding mallet does not indicate significant voids in the other directions and no fungal fruiting bodies were seen. The main stem has notable pruning wounds, generally from past crown-height raising, with minor adventitious epicormic growth seen on the western side of the stem. **Main union.** The major unions forming the crown are present around 5m to 6m height and are generally sound in structure, with adventitious growth present around the area . **Crown.** The upper crown has been significantly reduced in the past,	Fell or reduce to a monolith structure around 4m height for the retention of a habitat structure. (A suitable replacement tree should be planted in either case to maintain long-term amenity and continuity of canopy cover on the site.)	2

Tree number	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Crown height (m)	Crown spread (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Comments	Recommendations	Priority
									forming from the main union at around 6m height with an uneven structural distribution. The eastern crown is notably less developed due to the removal of a major stem many years ago, resulting in the cavity within the lower stem noted earlier. The structural unions generally show sound form. However, there are advanced signs of infection with Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*), with adventitious shoots seen throughout and multiple minor branches found within the lawn beneath. As this infection advances, the crown will progressively lose structural integrity and is likely to shed increasingly larger branches. **Recommendations and conclusion.** The tree ought to be significantly reduced or removed due to the advanced infection with Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) and the structural concern within the lowest stem caused by the cavity. Given the predicted extent of decline and the compromised structural integrity, full removal is likely the preferred option, with replanting and replacement within the lawn recommended to mitigate the loss to local amenity.		

Appendix 2: Site Plan. 3 Beechwood Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 2TU **Date:** Monday 9th February 2026



Appendix 3: Site Photographs

The Image below shows the two surveyed trees with the Common Sycamore (1) to the left and the Common Ash (2) to the right.



The images below show the base and the lower stem of the Common Ash (2). The cavity in the lower stem can just be seen above the stone pillar with the adventitious growth indicating infection with Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) seen in the image to the right.





Appendix 4: Bibliography

Lonsdale, D., 1999. *Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management.* London: TSO.

Matheny, N.P., Clarke, J.R., 1994. *Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas*. ISA Publication.

Strouts, R.G., Winter, T.G., 1994. *Diagnosis of ill-health in trees.* London: TSO.

Weber, K., Mattheck, C., 2003. *Manual of Wood Decay in Trees.* The Arboricultural Association.

Johnson, O., More, D., 2004. *Tree Guide.* Collins