

Tree Inspection Report for Estates Meeting of 7th April 2022

Inspection carried out by Roger Medley and Councillor Kerry Merritt on 16th March. Trees coming out of winter dormancy with buds and leaves on early varieties beginning to show.

Clopton Playground Some concern about T 89 (Crab Apple) as many of the lower branches appear dead. The upper branches could not be reached. This tree is due to be inspected in the summer. No defects obvious on T90.

All Saints Church and graveyard The Holly (177b), which was in decline, and the Thuja (177a) have now been removed as have some lower branches of other trees (177, 176 and 176b)

Coltsfoot Green No obvious problems.

Attleton Green No obvious problems.

Genesis Green All trees looking good but lots of smaller branches and twigs on the ground, probably the result of overcrowding. To be discussed at next Arboriculturalist visit. The dead willow further along this road (7049) was blown down in the recent gales smashing the post and rail fence. At an on-site meeting it was agreed that this tree was the responsibility of Suffolk County Council.

Playing Fields Big improvement in Bowls Green area; all brambles cleared; small amount of rubbish yet to be needs removed. Small number of branches beginning to overhang the footpath on the eastern side – may need a mild trim. One large broken branch on the ground to the east of the skate park. No obvious changes in condition of trees. The hedge running parallel to school road has not been trimmed.

Cemetery Pleased to see that the hedges bordering both the northern and southern edges have been trimmed and that we have an embryo hedge bordering the new piece of pavement. No obvious deterioration in the condition of the numbered trees. If the two trees overhanging the Chapel (T44 and T45) were cut back there would be less debris on the roof and in the gutters.

The Queens Green Canopy

Hilary has made contact with David Hallewell of the Woodland Trust and his response has been most encouraging. Free trees are available in packs of 15, 30, 105 and 420 (2 packs of 30, and one of 15 will reach our target of 70), the applicant must be a not-for-profit organisation and the area for planting must be publicly accessible. We hope to arrange a site visit in May. The choice of trees on offer includes many suited to heavier soils such as Cherry, Crab Apple, Blackthorn, Field Maple, Guelder Rose, Hazel, Hornbeam, Lime, Oak and Whitebeam. The written guidance suggests that a member of the Local Council Tree Enquiries Team is involved in any discussions. Perhaps an on-site visit could involve this person as well.

Roger Medley 29.3.22