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Bob Lock
Craigweil Private Estate Ltd
15 Wychwood close
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The Trees of Influence on Craigweil Private Estate - Nov 2021

Dear Bob

Further to my visit and site inspection of all notable trees on the estate. I enclose the following notes and recommendations, all based on maintaining a level of safety. All recommendations are made with the aim to reduce risk, whilst retaining the presence of as many mature trees as possible.

Mature Trees on the Craigweil Private Estate Verges.

T1 *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey cypress) – This mature tree situated by the kissing gates has been pruned on a semi regular basis. The reduction/reshape was previous approved and carried out in 2018 and included the removal of no more than 1.5 meters of growth all over. Previous to that it was pruned in the winter 2012/13. The tree supports a dense canopy and is in good condition with no visual structural issues or signs of disease.

T2 *Tilia cordata* (Small leaved lime) – This mature tree outside No. 47 the Drive was pruned heavily in the 1980 s and has a dense compact canopy of secondary growth. The tree's height has been kept down due to costal winds. The main trunk is entire with no signs of decay and the canopy in good health for its age. There has been minimal crown lifting over recent years.

T3 & T4 *Quercus robur* (English oak) – Both these mature trees are situated outside No. 70 The Drive. T3 is in good health but supports some deadwood within its canopy. T4 has been regularly hit by the bin lorry. This tree has been reduced recently to compensate for this damage. It is one of the original estate Oaks and an important amenity tree, worth retaining as long as is possible. The damage can be managed by keeping the tree's branch structure to a minimum in size.

T5 *Quercus robur* (English Oak) – Mature tree south of No. 45 Queensway, on the verge of the drive. This tree has lost its top many years ago. The original top is a dead stump. The tree's main leader now being a southerly lateral branch. The tree's lower main trunk is visually sound and structurally good.

T6 *Fagus sylvatica* (Native Beech) – A large mature tree on the triangle of land west end of the drive just outside the gates. Within the buttress roots at the base are early signs of *Ustulina deusta* fungi

This is a serious fungus which causes structural issues. The tree at present only shows one area of possible decay/infection between buttresses.

T7 *Quercus ilex* (Evergreen Oak/Holm Oak) – A mature tree growing out to the west for the light, situated on the triangle of land west end of the drive, just outside the gates. This tree although visually out of balance shows no structural issues or shows any signs of fungal decay.

T8 *Fagus sylvatica* (Native Beech) – Although not that large in girth, it is a mature tree with a good height situated on the triangle of land west of the Drive, just outside the gates. It has grown up for the light amongst other neighbouring trees. There are no signs of decay around its buttress area or main trunk.

T9 *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Horse Chestnut) – Mature tree on the east corner of Queensway and the drive. This tree has cambial damage up the branches caused by Bleeding canker. It is of average condition with some branches more affected than others.

T10 *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Horse Chestnut) – Mature tree directly outside No. 1 Queensway. This tree has been semi pollarded in the past as a result of the new build. It has responded by putting on lots of secondary growth. Structurally this tree looks to be in good health.

T11 *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Horse Chestnut) – Mature tree on the west side verge opposite property No. 1 Queensway. This tree supports a cavity in its upper canopy. It is an interesting hollowed out section with no weighty growth above this area. Structurally I am not concerned about this tree as it is in good health.

T12 *Aesculus hippocatanum* (Horse Chestnut) – This is a large mature/over mature tree on the east side verge of Queensway, to the north side of the entrance/drive way to No 1 Queensway. The tree has extensive cambial damage to many limbs due to bacterial canker. There is also a bracket forming (most likely a Ganaderma) on the main trunk, which looks like a heartwood decay. Identification will be possible as it grows. The tree's canopy shows signs of stress and there is dead wood present within the canopy.

T13 *Cupressus Leylandii* (Leyland Cypress) – This is a large tree on the west verge of Queensway. The tree has a dense canopy and has had the low growth over the road lifted. There are signs of Seiridium Canker within this trees canopy. This is not a structural problem and at present has minimal impact on this tree. I see this tree as structurally sound.

T14 *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Horse Chestnut) - This is a large mature tree on the west corner of Queensway and Kingsway. The trees upper canopy is sparse, which I put down to the costal winds. The main trunk is quite fluted and there are large active buttress roots. The tree looks slightly stressed but not affected by bacterial cancer. I do not see anything that concerns me at the present. I will check the tree next summer 2022 when it is in leaf.

T15 *Populus alba* (White Poplar) - A large tree on the north verge of Kingsway. The tree has been crown lifted sporadically over the years. The tree has a well-balanced canopy and does support some large low limbs which grow out over the neighbouring front gardens.

T16 *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) – A mature tree outside Property No. 15 Kingsway. The tree has a dead top and large areas of die back due to Seiridium canker. This dead wood does not pose a threat.

T17 & T18 *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) - Both these mature trees support large areas of dieback due to Seiridium canker. Although they look unsightly the dead wood does not pose a threat.

T19 & T20 *Quercus robur* (English Oak) – Both trees are semi mature/mature and situated outside property no. 5 Kingsway. The two trees are healthy but do support some dead wood within their canopies and have low spreading limbs.

T21 *Fraxinus excelsior* (Common Ash) – This is a large mature tree situated on the south side verge of Kingsway, by the entrance off Barrack Lane. The tree shows no signs of Ash die back. It does however support some inner canopy dead wood.

T22 *Fagus sylvatica* (Beech) - This is a fully mature tree. The Canopy is spreading and covers the road and frontages of Property no's 8 & 9 Kingsway. The upper canopy is supported by the two main stems which start/divide low down, from a tight bifurcation.

T23 *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) - This large spreading tree is situated outside property No. 8 Kingsway. Due to the spread of this tree and the fact that it supports such a dense canopy, there has been regular crown lifting and the odd removal of hanging limbs over the past few years. In comparison to the neighbouring Macrocarpa and Leylandi trees, this tree has little die back and looks to be in good health.

T24 *Fraxinus excelsior* (Common Ash) – This mature tree is heavily cankered and situated outside No. 10 Kingsway. The tree does support a rapidly declining canopy, comprising of a few structurally weak limbs.

T25 & T26 *Cupressus leylandii* (Leyland conifer) – Both mature trees situated outside No. 12 Kingsway have a thinning canopy due to Seiridium canker. The lateral limbs that are active are very spreading but have little weight to them.

T27 *Fagus sylvatica* (Beech) – This is a mature copper beech tree outside No. 17 and 18 Kingsway. The main trunk Bifurcates at 2 meters from the ground. Although there is a bifurcation the upper canopy which looks to be in good condition, is not heavily weighted.

T28 *Fraxinus excelsior* (Common Ash) – Mature twin stemmed tree which is situated outside No. 14 and 16 Kingsway, does not show signs of Ash die back. The tree's canopy does however hold some dead wood.

T29 *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Horse Chestnut) – This tree is situated on the north verge by the access road, close to property no. 16 Kingsway. The tree has been heavily reduced due to it being heavily infected with bleeding canker.

Estate Maintenance compound/yard

T30 & T31 *Quercus robur* (English Oak) The most southerly tree on the right as you enter the yard has had the Ivy cut. The tree is compact and does not pose a threat as it has a light compact branch structure. The Large Oak which grows out over the shed is situated close to the ditch. The tree is in a low risk/low footfall area, so poses little threat. It does however have an imbalanced canopy which spreads out over the sheds.

The Most Immediate Works required

T3. Mature Oak – Remove Major dead wood.

T6. Mature Beech tree – Pruning works required in response to the tree fungal infection. A recommendation of approximately 1.5 to 2 meters lateral growth removed from the trees northerly/road side spreading canopy.

T12. Mature Horse Chestnut - Due to the extensive cambial damage from bleeding canker + the identification of a heart wood fungus, I recommend the tree's entire canopy is reduced and reshaped by approximately 50% This will leave the tree at a final height of around 10 to 12 meters and a crown spread of around 3 meters all around.

T19, T20 & T21. Two English Oak and a Mature Ash - Remove major dead wood.

T22. Mature Beech tree with the bifurcated trunk – To compensate for the structural issue of the bifurcation, remove approximately 2 meters from the northerly spreading canopy leaving a crown spread of approximately 4 meters on the north side.

T24. Mature cankered Ash – Semi Pollard leaving just the main trunk standing at around 4 meters with light secondary growth.

T28. Mature twin stemmed Ash tree – Remove major dead wood.

Less urgent works. To be done over the next 6 to 8 months

T15. Mature White Poplar - Crown lift the low branches over the two front gardens leaving 6ms ground clearance.

T23. Large Macrocarpa tree outside No. 8 Kingsway – Crown lift allowing 5ms head clearance to maintain road access for larger vehicles.

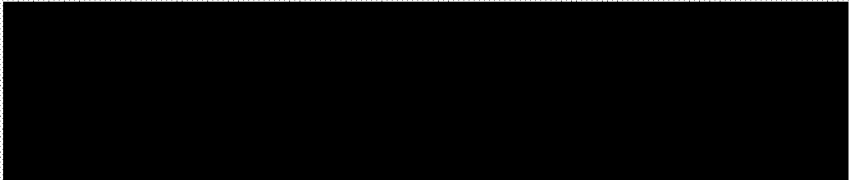
T31. Mature English Oak situated over the sheds in the maintenance compound. Tip back southerly growth leaving a crown spread of approximately 4 to 5 meters.

Recommendations for 2022/23

T1. Mature Macrocarpa – Reduce and reshape as has been done in the past. (five yearly prune).

T5. Mature Oak – Prune back the dominant southerly main leading limb by approximately 3 Meters in length.

If there are any queries or questions in relation to the above information, please do get in touch with me. With the above trees on your estate, it is a good idea to carry out a visual check after notable winds. This should be carried out by a competent person. If an issue or something unusual is spotted It can then be brought to my attention.



John Bentley ND Arb