



10th September 2026

Mr Johnathan Jones,
Porlock Parish Council,
Old School Centre,
West End,
Porlock,
TA24 8NP

Our ref: DE/C997/0826

Dear Johnathan,

Re: Porlock Parish Council Tree Assessment

We visited the following parish sites on 25th August 2026:

- Old School Centre, TA24 8NP
- High Bank Car Park, TA24 8NS
- St Dubricius Churchyard, TA24 8QJ
- Swiss Lodge Lane, TA24 8QN
- Zig-Zag Path, TA24 8LL
- Porlock Cemetery (War Memorial), TA24 8LW
- Village Hall Car Park, TA24 8QD

We undertook a ground based visual survey of all the significant trees across these sites. The purpose of the survey was to assess the health and safety of the trees and to give recommendations for any risk management of the trees that may be required. We have also given some general advice regarding the management of trees in line with good arboricultural practice. The site was walked over and the trees assessed from ground level unless otherwise noted. Trees are assessed in a systematic way both from a distance and at closer quarters (where feasible). Where we have noted defects associated with trees that could lead to a risk of harm being caused to persons or property, we have undertaken a detailed safety inspection. We have then given recommendations for managing the trees so as to reduce any risk of harm to an acceptable level. Details of those trees subject to a detailed safety inspection or where routine management works are advised are given at Appendix A of this report. Trees within the survey remit but not individually recorded are either considered a low enough risk to not require an individual safety assessment or otherwise do not require comment. Site maps, showing the approximate location of the inspected trees, are attached at Appendix B. Photographs of selected trees are attached at Appendix C. A glossary of Terms and Definitions is attached at Appendix D.

advanced:

progressive *adj.*
forward-thinking
forward-looking
unconventional
cutting edge
innovative

higher *adj.*
superior
highly developed
sophisticated
complex

Our survey of the trees on this site was undertaken using the principles of Visual Tree Assessment (VTA). VTA is a systematic, non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of individual trees. By visually examining a tree, an arboriculturist can gather information on the condition of its roots, trunk and crown in order to make an assessment and draw conclusions about its general condition, health and vitality. If serious disease or mechanical weakness is suspected that cannot be confirmed using VTA techniques, then there may be a need for more detailed investigation, such as using specialist decay detection equipment or climbing techniques. Where necessary we will recommend the use of specialist equipment or other more detailed investigations. If these techniques will not add any significant new information for our consideration then we will not recommend their use.

Accessible cavities or decayed areas within trees may have been probed using a 60cm long thin metal probe to investigate the depth of any decay. Trees may also have been sounded using a rubber mallet to help detect the presence of internal decay or to assist in the determination of the extent of any suspected decay. Where appropriate the use of these tools will be detailed below.

We have assessed tree risk by relating any observable defects to the likelihood of those defects causing harm, using our knowledge and experience of tree hazard assessment and management, and have used this to inform a hazard rating for each inspected tree as detailed below. In essence we have considered any observed defects and their probability of failure in relation to the nearby land use (or "target"). Whilst any one tree may exhibit significant defects, the likelihood of that tree causing significant harm will be related to the size of the affected part, the probability of failure and the value of the target and/or the likelihood of persons being present within influencing distance of that tree at the time of failure. Risk cannot be reliably quantified in all situations and is therefore viewed in the context of a spectrum, with High and Low representing the extremes and Moderate being everything that falls in between.

In some cases, we may advise non-safety-critical works to trees where we consider that such works may help prolong the safe useful life expectancy of a tree or where they are in the interests of good arboricultural management. Such works will generally be given a Works Priority 5 within the Table of Recommendations.

Trees are dynamic organisms and their safety cannot be absolutely guaranteed under all weather conditions. This report has been prepared using all reasonable skill and care. Opinions are provided in good faith.

Unless otherwise specified, all measurements have been estimated from ground level and should be considered as indicative only. Individually inspected trees may have been tagged on site with tree tags affixed at approximately 2 metres above ground level where feasible to do so and their locations have been shown on the attached site map. Groups of trees or Work Priority 5 trees have not been tagged.

Above ground survey only. Soil type has not been ascertained on site. This report is not concerned with tree related subsidence risk issues.

Where appropriate, trees have been identified using metal tags displaying a four-digit number. Where tagging was not practicable, trees subject to removal or substantial reduction were marked with biodegradable forestry marking paint, positioned as discreetly as practicable while remaining visible to the appointed contractor. This

marking is intended solely to assist identification on site and shall be read alongside the tree number, site plan, recommendations schedule and associated photograph.

What3Words (W3W) references have also been provided for trees included within the recommendations. What3Words is a free location system that divides the world into unique 3 m x 3 m squares, each identified by a three-word address. The references can be viewed using the What3Words website (<https://what3words.com>) or the app, available from the Apple App Store and Google Play. They are reproduced within the findings schedule and associated photographs to assist reliable identification on site.

A review of the Exmoor National Park Authority's Conservation Area mapping indicates that the Old School Centre, St Dubricius Churchyard, Swiss Lodge Lane, Porlock Cemetery and Village Hall Car Park fall within the Porlock Conservation Area. High Bank Car Park and Zig-Zag Path appear to lie outside its boundary. Where trees fall within a Conservation Area then most works require that a notification (*Section 211 Notice*) be submitted to the LPA. They then have 6 weeks in which to decide the notification. Within that time, they can only allow the notified works or, alternatively, serve a TPO on the subject trees. If the LPA does not respond within the 6 week period, then the works can proceed as per the notification. Some exemptions to the above are permitted for the removal of deadwood or to deal with dangerous trees.

The Tree Preservation Order (TPO) status of individual trees could not be conclusively confirmed from the publicly accessible mapping reviewed during preparation of this report. Third-party mapping indicates that a group TPO may apply to trees at Porlock Rectory, immediately east of St Dubricius Churchyard, potentially including Oak T5. Its status shall therefore be confirmed with the Exmoor National Park Authority before works are undertaken, subject to the statutory exemption for removal of a wholly dead branch from a living tree.

Where a tree is protected by a TPO, most works require a formal application to the local planning authority (LPA). The LPA may grant consent, refuse consent or grant consent subject to conditions, and should normally determine a valid application within eight weeks. If an application is not determined within that period, the applicant may appeal to the Secretary of State. No works shall proceed unless written consent has been issued or a relevant statutory exemption applies.

This is the first time that Advanced Arboriculture have inspected these sites.

Observations and Conclusions

In general, tree condition across the seven sites is considered fair and no urgent works are recommended. The higher-priority actions comprise removal of hanging or dead branches over pedestrian and highway targets. Further maintenance, monitoring and succession recommendations are made for selected trees, including proactive management of one Ash affected by Ash Dieback Disease (ADD) while access and tree condition remain favourable.

Some sites include Ash trees, a number of which overhang or are potentially within falling distance of targets. Ash Dieback Disease (ADD) is now widespread throughout the UK, though specific symptoms are not always obvious on more mature trees in the early stages of infection. The rate of decline of infected trees and the long-term prognosis for the health of Ash trees generally is currently uncertain. Some sources suggest that

the UK may experience losses of up to 90% or more of its Ash trees in some areas. Once infected, trees can decline rapidly and quickly lose their structural integrity. On reaching less than 50% of their normal foliar density, they are likely to require removal where they pose a threat to persons or property.

To assess the condition of Ash trees suspected of infection with ADD we have used the nationally recognised system drawn up by The Tree Council. This classifies the disease into 1 of 4 Classes depending on the progress of the disease. Trees in Classes 1 and 2 (above 50% normal foliar density) do not usually require works purely based on the presence of the disease. At Classes 3 and 4 (below 50% normal foliar density) it can be assumed that the tree is more likely to be unstable or that the infection is terminal. In certain circumstances it may be more cost effective to remove trees in Class 1 and 2 at the same time as removing Class 3 and 4 trees.

Some Ash trees on the sites are showing signs of infection with ADD and we have no doubt that affected trees will continue to decline. Trees growing away from significant targets pose a lower risk of causing harm and can be left to decline unless this presents an unacceptable risk. Trees overhanging or within falling distance of significant targets will require closer monitoring. As the disease progresses and target occupancy changes, an ad hoc approach to management is often required.

We note the presence of varying amounts of deadwood within some of the other trees on site. We encourage the retention of deadwood, where safe to do so, for its wildlife and biodiversity value. Some breakage is possible, and where trees overhang areas used by people there is a foreseeable risk of falling material. We have not recommended wholesale deadwood removal; instead, works are limited to specific branches presenting a material risk to identified targets.

Old School Centre, TA24 8NP

To the rear of the Old School Centre is a small publicly accessible orchard containing a historic cider press. At inspection the area appeared lightly used; maintained paths and surrounding no-mow areas generally discourage access immediately beneath the trees. Most trees are of modest stature and stand clear of buildings and more frequently occupied areas, so the consequences of branch or whole-tree failure are generally low.

Pear T1 (tag 0918) has developed a tall, etiolated upper crown following a period without formative fruit-tree management. Its present form restricts practical fruit collection, although no safety-critical works are required. A staged reduction undertaken during winter dormancy would improve accessibility and gradually return the tree to a more manageable form without imposing an abrupt loss of leaf-bearing crown.

Apple T2 (tag 0917) has a substantial basal wound associated with removal of a former codominant stem, with decay ingress and limited occlusion. A further cavity at approximately 1 m above ground level was probed to a depth of approximately 300 mm. The stem and crown are strongly biased towards and over a small outbuilding. A light, selective reduction and thinning would reduce end-weight over the outbuilding while retaining the tree's fruiting and amenity value. The basal wound and cavity should be reassessed at the next scheduled inspection. See T1 and T2 in Appendix A and Figures 1 and 2 in Appendix C.

High Bank Car Park, TA24 8NS

Situated to the rear of Porlock Fire Station, High Bank Car Park is a small private parking area bounded by several semi-mature Paper Birch. Two trees overhang the boundary fence to the fire station but retain acceptable clearance from the building. Several crowns extend over parking spaces, although current canopy height provides adequate clearance for vehicles. Birch T6, at the entrance, has low branches encroaching over the public footway; a minor crown lift to approximately 2.5 m is recommended to maintain convenient pedestrian access. See T6 in Appendix A, the site plan in Appendix B and Figure 6 in Appendix C.

St Dubricius Churchyard, TA24 8QJ

St Dubricius Churchyard contains an impressive veteran Yew, T3, at the frontage. The original stem is extensively hollowed and structurally degraded, with narrow strips of functional vascular tissue supporting a dense, healthy crown. A support has been installed to assist the remaining structure. Continued palliative management is appropriate: the crown should be retained in its current compact form, with vitality, functional vascular tissue and the support checked at each inspection.

Mature Yew T4 stands to the rear of the churchyard and has a high target occupancy because its crown extends over graves, footpaths, walls and part of the church. The tree is in generally good condition and makes a notable contribution to local amenity. Ivy currently obscures the base and lower stem; severing and carefully removing the lower growth will facilitate future inspection of the basal union and reaction wood.

Oak T5 stands outside the Parish Council's managed boundary, adjacent to the school/rectory grounds, but a large wholly dead lower branch extends over the churchyard footpath. The tree appears to be naturally retrenching, with a thinning crown and scattered minor deadwood. Subject to landowner approval, the dead branch should be removed within three months. The tree's TPO status shall be confirmed with the Exmoor National Park Authority before attendance, notwithstanding the statutory exemption applying to removal of a wholly dead branch from a living tree. See T3-T5 in Appendix A and Figures 3-5 in Appendix C.

Swiss Lodge Lane, TA24 8QN

Swiss Lodge Lane is a short, narrow pedestrian route with permitted vehicular access from Parson's Street to the tennis courts. A group of Ash forms most of the canopy on the western side and contains only minor deadwood, with no current work requirement. Sycamore on the eastern side is in good visible condition. No works are recommended at this stage; the Ash should continue to be inspected at regular intervals for symptoms of ADD and any associated increase in deadwood. See the site plan in Appendix B.

Zig-Zag Path, TA24 8LL

Zig-Zag Path is a steep pedestrian route descending from the unnamed road east of the site to the level field south of the tennis courts. The path passes beneath a mixed canopy of mature Oak, Scots Pine and Ash, with Elder and Hazel beneath. At the top of the path, Oak T7 has a snapped dead branch lodged in the crown at approximately 6 m, above the road and pedestrian access. Although the branch appears relatively secure, dislodgement cannot be ruled out and removal within three months is recommended. Approximately halfway down the path, Ash T8 is affected by ADD at Class 3 of 4. Its elongated form and limited anchor points are

likely to make safe climbing and rigging more difficult as decline progresses. The tree has therefore been marked for substantial reduction to a habitat pole while access and condition remain favourable. See T7 and T8 in Appendix A and Figures 7 and 8 in Appendix C.

Porlock Cemetery (War Memorial), TA24 8LW

Porlock Cemetery is an open memorial burial ground with generally low occupancy. A small Irish Yew, T9, and a Douglas Fir stand within the central area. A cohesive row of cypress forms the northern boundary, while several late-mature Oaks occupy the elevated eastern boundary. The Oak crowns are weighted towards the cemetery and extend above graves and memorials; no associated root-plate movement, ground disturbance or fruiting bodies of decay fungi were observed. No immediate work is recommended, although their asymmetric crowns should remain under review at future inspections.

Irish Yew T9 presents as two closely spaced stems or trees whose crowns are progressively separating. No above-ground union, cracking, splitting or root-plate movement was evident. Crown separation is approximately 500 mm at the upper canopy and reduces towards ground level. Given the tree's modest stature and the site's low occupancy, the foreseeable consequence of failure is low and removal is not considered safety critical. Static or dynamic bracing was considered, but the uncertainty of below ground conditions, limitations for future inspection and potential limited remaining life expectancy make controlled removal and replacement the more sustainable long-term option.

We recommend removal of T9 as a WP5 advisory action and replacement during the next available planting season with three standard Common Yews. The stumps may be cut close to ground level; some gradual settlement can be expected as the residual woody material decays. Stump grinding or excavation and backfilling would be disproportionately invasive in the burial ground and is not recommended unless required for future grave management. See T9 in Appendix A and Figure 9 in Appendix C.

Village Hall Car Park, TA24 8QD

The small, grassed area west of Porlock Village Hall Car Park contains two mature Lime trees. The southern tree is a multi-stemmed specimen beside New Road with good crown density and branch formation. It has been maintained regularly to provide clearance from low-voltage overhead conductors. The northern tree appears to have been pollarded approximately three to five years ago and has since developed dense epicormic growth around the base and throughout the crown. This growth obscures parts of the lower stem and branch framework, but the reduced crown height and absence of significant targets beneath mean that no immediate works are required. The lower stem and regrowth should be reviewed at the next scheduled inspection. See the site plan in Appendix B.

Recommendations - Porlock Parish Council

Table of recommendations and works priorities

Tree No	Species	Recommendations	WP
Old School Centre T1 (0918)	Pear	Undertake a staged crown reduction of approximately 2m, returning growth to suitable pruning points. Carry out during winter dormancy and review the need for any further reduction after 2-3 years.	5
Old School Centre T2 (0917)	Apple	- Selectively reduce and thin the crown by no more than approximately 20%, concentrating on extended growth over the outbuilding. Retain the natural crown outline and fruiting framework; undertake during winter dormancy. - Reinspect the basal wound and cavities at the next scheduled inspection.	5 4
St Dubricius Church T3 (no tag)	Yew	- Continue the established cyclical crown management, maintaining the current compact form and avoiding any increase in crown dimensions. - At each visit, check that the support remains correctly positioned and serviceable; monitor crown vitality and continuity of functional vascular tissue.	3 4
St Dubricius Church T4 (00012)	Yew	- Carefully sever Ivy at ground level and remove a minimum 300 mm section. Where practicable, remove Ivy up to approximately 2 m without damaging bark or cambium, to facilitate inspection. - Reinspect the basal union, reaction wood and crown at the next scheduled survey due to the surrounding targets.	3 4
St Dubricius Church T5 (No Tag)	Oak (TPO)	- Subject to landowner approval, remove the large, wholly dead lower branch on the western aspect extending over the footpath. - Confirm the tree's TPO status with the Exmoor National Park Authority before attendance. Removal of a wholly dead branch from a living tree is exempt from TPO consent and section 211 notice requirements.	2
High Bank Car Park T6 (No tag)	Birch	Crown lift the lowest branches on the northern aspect to suitable pruning points, providing approximately 2.5 m clearance over the footway while retaining a balanced crown.	3
Zig-Zag Path T7 (No Tag)	Oak	Remove the snapped, hung-up dead branch at approximately 6 m above the road and footpath. Avoid unnecessary pruning of the supporting live crown.	2
Zig-Zag Path T8 (Sprayed)	Ash	Dismantle to a monolith/habitat pole approximately 4 m high while tree condition and access still allow safe climbing and rigging. Retain habitat features where it is safe to do so.	3
Porlock Cemetery T9 (No Tag)	Irish Yew	- Remove following submission of a section 211 notice. This is an advisory, non-safety-critical recommendation made because of progressive loss of crown cohesion and limited long-term management options. - Replant during the next available planting season with three standard Common Yews (<i>Taxus baccata</i>), spaced to allow independent crown development. Provide watering, weed control and establishment maintenance until established.	5 5

WP	<i>Work Priority. Priorities 2 and 3 are indicative timescales to aid scheduling of any works</i>
1	<i>1st Priority, Urgent</i>
2	<i>2nd Priority, suggest within 3 months</i>
3	<i>3rd Priority, suggest prior to next scheduled survey</i>
4	<i>At next scheduled survey</i>
5	<i>Advisory. Non safety-critical works to be programmed when time and finances permit</i>

Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 & Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 it is an offence to recklessly damage or destroy the nest of a wild bird whilst in use or being built. Trees and shrubs on this site may contain nesting birds between early March and late August. It is recommended that vegetation clearance works are avoided between these dates if there is a reasonable potential for the disruption of nesting birds. If works need to be undertaken during the nesting season then it is advisable that a survey of the site be undertaken by a competent person before commencing any tree or shrub removal, to ensure that no nesting birds are present. Other species, including bats, are also protected under this legislation.

Ivy (*Hedera helix*) does not directly damage trees. It can, however, obscure defects within the trunk of the tree and increase the windage on the crown of the tree. Ivy can prevent an effective inspection of trees, particularly the lower trunk where decay can often have serious consequences. For this reason all trees requiring an inspection for safety reasons should be kept clear of ivy. This may require the complete removal of ivy from the tree, or it may be sufficient to sever the ivy at the base of the tree and allow it to die off.

Most recommended works concern trees within the Porlock Conservation Area and shall not proceed until the relevant Section 211 notice has been submitted to the Exmoor National Park Authority and either the six-week notice period has elapsed without a TPO being made or the Authority has confirmed that the works may proceed. The status of Oak T5 shall be confirmed before attendance. Removal of a wholly dead branch from a living tree is exempt from TPO consent and Section 211 notice requirements; nevertheless, the tree owner's permission is required and this report and the associated photographs should be retained as evidence. Works to trees outside the Conservation Area and not protected by a TPO may proceed subject to landowner permission and all other statutory protections.

All tree works shall be undertaken in accordance with BS 3998:2010 Tree work - Recommendations. Every effort has been made to ensure that the pruning specifications above are achievable and appropriate to the individual trees. Where a maximum finished-cut diameter is stated, the arborist should avoid exceeding it unless this is necessary to complete the specified work safely and effectively.

We recommend that the trees surveyed for this report are reinspected by a suitably qualified and experienced arboriculturist during autumn, within two years of the date of the site survey. Tree condition can change following severe weather, accidental or malicious damage, changes in ground conditions, development activity or altered use of the surrounding sites. Additional inspection should therefore be arranged sooner if a material change is observed or reported.

Yours sincerely



Daniel Eaton
Cert Arb (ABC/RFS), NCF Arb

Appendix A

Abbreviations used in the survey are as follows:

Tree No	Corresponding to tag and/or to number on attached Tree Location Plan.				
Species	Common name				
Age Class	Y	Young (grown to less than one third of life expectancy)			
	MA	Middle Aged (grown to between one to two-thirds of life expectancy)			
	M	Mature (grown to over two thirds of normal life expectancy)			
	LM	Late Mature			
	V	Veteran			
Ht	Height range measured to nearest metre or estimated as below:				
	L	Low (0-10 metres)			
	M	Medium (10-20 metres)			
	H	High (20-30 metres plus)			
LE	Safe Useful Life Expectancy:				
	D	Dead			
	S	Short (less than 10 years)			
	L	Low (10-20 years)			
	M	Medium (20-40 years)			
	H	High (40+ years)			
AE	Amenity Evaluation:				
	L	Low			
	M	Moderate			
	H	High			
Struct Cond	Structural Condition:				
	G	Good (tree with no significant defects)			
	F	Fair (tree with some defects amenable to surgery)			
	P	Poor (tree with significant defects)			
Phys Cond	Physiological Condition:				
	G	Good (trees of good vigour)			
	F	Fair (trees of reasonable vigour)			
	P	Poor (trees of poor vigour)			
	D	Dead			
Haz Rate	Hazard Rating:				
	H	Higher, significant risk of failure causing damage to persons or property. Risk is unacceptable – reduce hazard or remove target			
	M	Moderate risk of failure causing damage to persons or property. Risk falls between extremes of High and Low – reduce risk, taking other factors (amenity, ecological) into account			
	L	Lower, insignificant risk of failure. Risk is acceptable			
Other	m/s	Multistem tree	n/m	Not measurable	e Estimate
	av	Average	agl	Above ground level	
	Minor deadwood		Deadwood with a basal diameter < 10cm and/or < 3m length		
	Major deadwood		Deadwood with a basal diameter > 10cm and/or > 3m length		

Table of Findings Porlock Parish Council

Tree No	Species	Age Class	Ht (m)	L/E	AE	Struct Cond	Phys Cond	Comments	Haz Rate
Old School Centre T1 (0918)	Pear	M	L	M	H	F	F	- Location reference: ///panics.thrilled.taxed. - Publicly accessible orchard, but the maintained paths and no-mow areas result in low occupancy beneath the crown. - Tall, etiolated upper crown following a period without formative fruit-tree management; fruit is not readily accessible. - No material structural defect identified. Staged management would improve access to fruit and retain amenity value.	L
Old School Centre T2 (0917)	Apple	M	L	M	H	F	F	- Location reference: ///howler.skidding.angle. - Low-occupancy public orchard; stem and crown are strongly biased towards and over a small outbuilding. - Substantial basal wound from removal of a former codominant stem, with decay ingress and limited occlusion. - Additional cavity at approximately 1 m above ground level; probe penetration approximately 300mm.	L
St Dubricius Church T3 (no tag)	Yew	V	L	L	H	P	G	- Location reference: ///sprains.cardinal.knees. - Veteran tree at the churchyard frontage; original stem approximately 1 m diameter and extensively hollowed/decayed. - Narrow strips of functional vascular tissue support a dense, healthy crown. - Support installed on the northern aspect; established frequent pruning maintains a compact crown.	L

Tree No	Species	Age Class	Ht (m)	L/E	AE	Struct Cond	Phys Cond	Comments	Haz Rate
St Dubricius Church T4 (00012)	Yew	M	M	H	H	G	G	- Location reference: ///jotting.shift.alleyway. - Prominent mature tree overhanging graves, footpaths, walls and part of the church. - Main stem bifurcates at ground level with established reaction wood around the union. - Ivy obscures the stem base and lower crown, limiting inspection; otherwise good visible vitality and structure.	L
St Dubricius Church T5 (No tag)	Oak (OSB/TPO)	LM	M	H	H	G	F	- Location reference: ///event.paddocks.lance. - Significant landscape tree outside the managed boundary but within falling distance of the churchyard. - Large wholly dead lower branch extends over the footpath. - Crown appears to be naturally retrenching, with thinning foliage and scattered minor deadwood.	M
High Bank Car Park T6 (No tag)	Birch	M	M	M	M	G	G	- Location reference: ///caused.hero.encrusted. - Located beside the car park entrance. - Low branches on the northern aspect encroach over the public footway; otherwise good visible condition.	L
Zig-Zag Path T7 (No tag)	Oak	M	H	H	H	F	F	- Location reference: ///shimmered.smothered.thuds. - Snapped dead branch lodged in the crown at approximately 6 m above the road and footpath. - The branch appears relatively secure, but dislodgement cannot be ruled out. - Remaining visible crown form and vitality are satisfactory for the wooded setting; no other material defect identified.	M

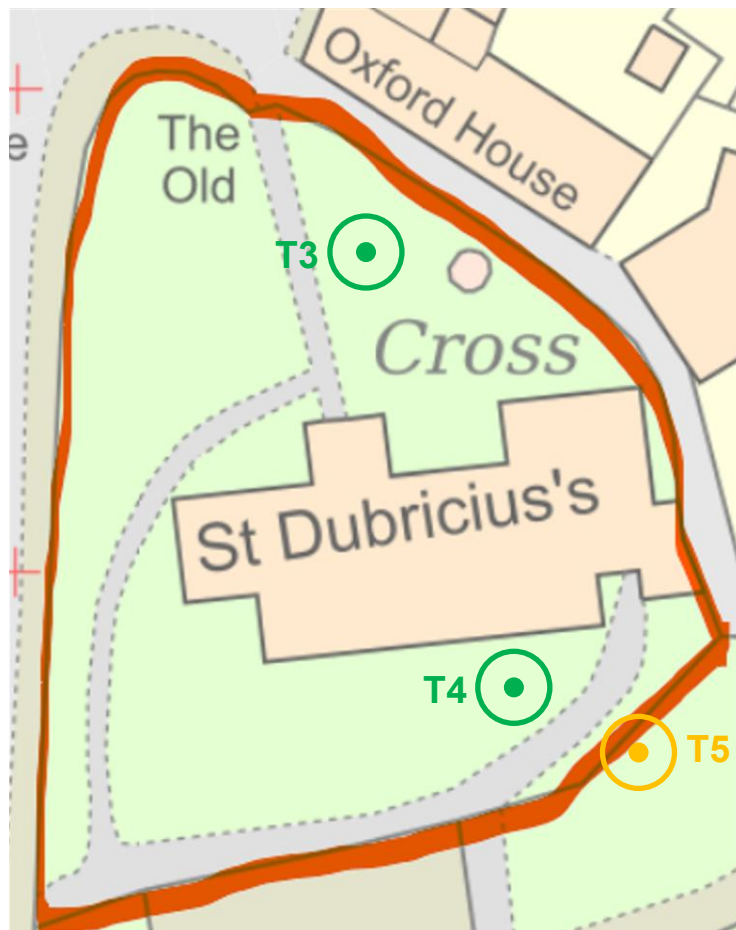
Tree No	Species	Age Class	Ht (m)	L/E	AE	Struct Cond	Phys Cond	Comments	Haz Rate
Zig-Zag Path T8 (Sprayed)	Ash	M	M	S	M	F	P	- Location reference: ///steeped.stolen.defender. - Located approximately halfway down the northern side of the path. - ADD Class 3 of 4, with crown thinning and development of minor and major deadwood. - Elongated form and limited anchor points are likely to make safe climbing and rigging more difficult as decline progresses.	M
Porlock Cemetary T9 (No tag)	Irish Yew	M	L	L	H	F	F	- Location reference: ///deed.hurt.reinvest. - Noteworthy central tree in a low-occupancy burial ground. - Appears to comprise two closely planted trees or a bifurcation below ground level; no above-ground union, cracking, splitting or root-plate movement observed. - Crowns are separated by approximately 500 mm at their upper extent, reducing towards ground level. Removal and replacement are advisory rather than safety-critical.	L

End table.

Appendix B – Site Maps



Old School Centre, TA24 8NP



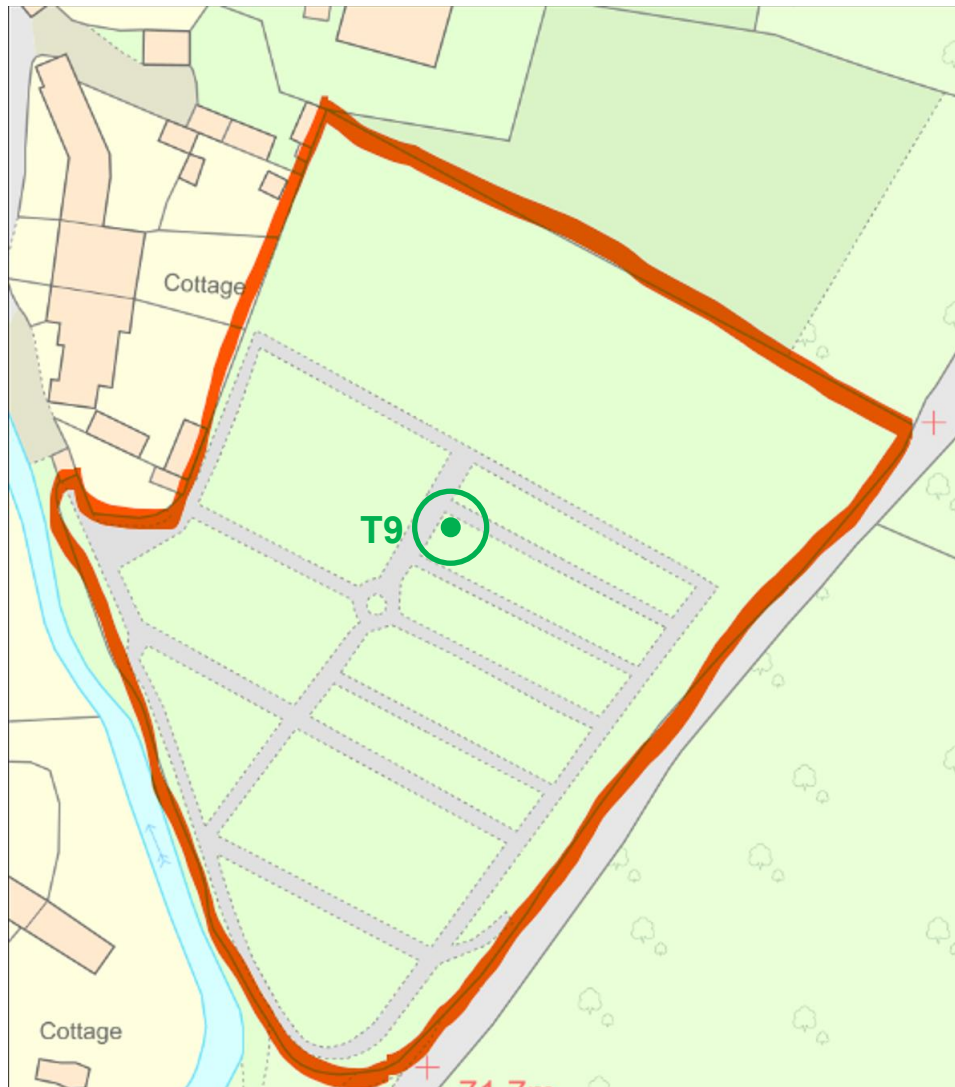
St Dubricius Churchyard, TA24 8QJ



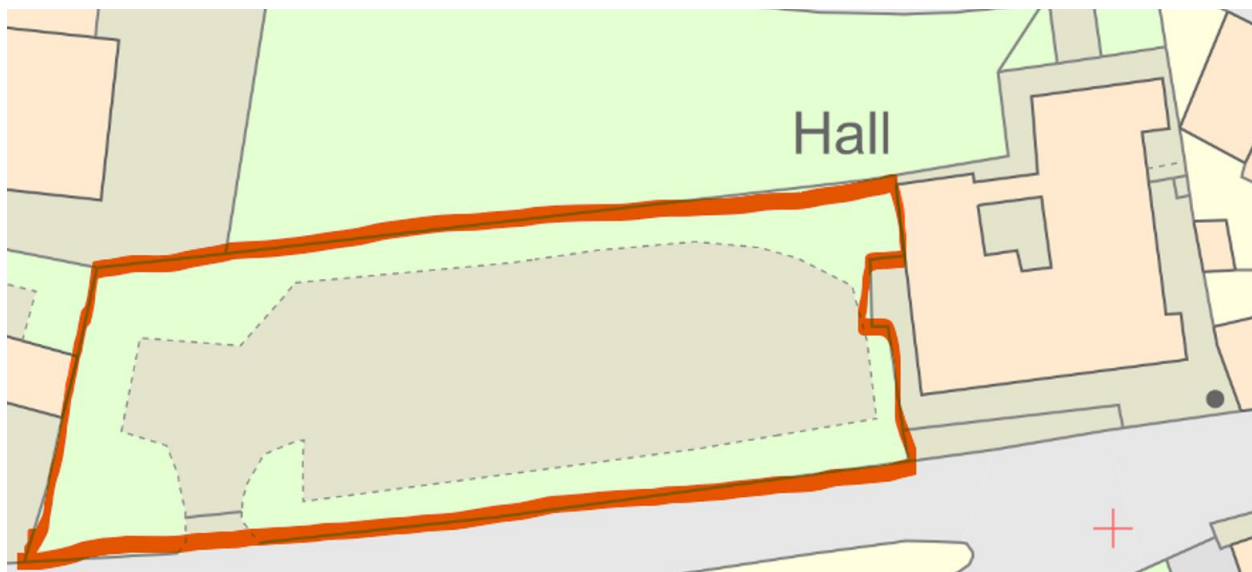
High Bank Car Park, TA24 8NS



Zig-Zag Path, TA24 8LL (including Swiss Lodge Lane)



Porlock Cemetery (War Memorial), TA24 8LW



Village Hall Car Park, TA24 8QD

Appendix C – Photographs



Figure 1: Old School Centre, T1 Pear



Figure 2: Old School Centre, T2 Apple



Figure 3: St Dubricius, T3 Yew

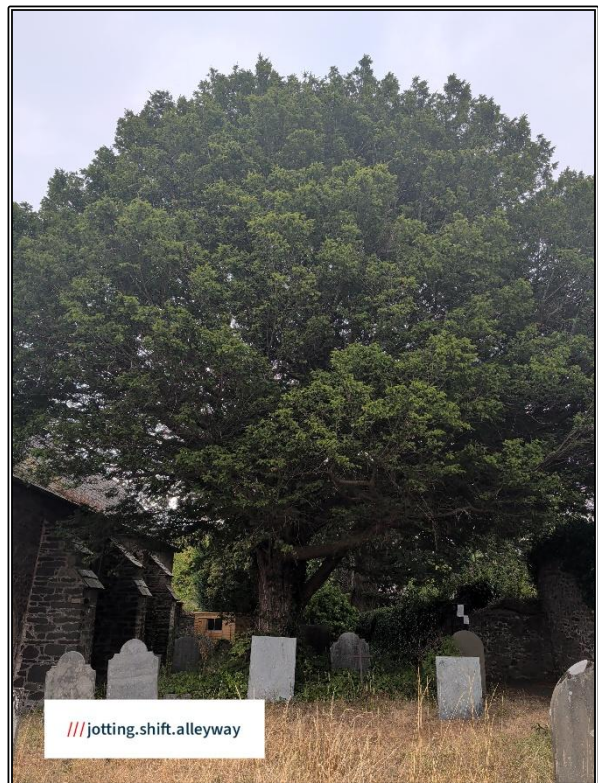


Figure 4: St Dubricius, T4 Yew



Figure 5: St Dubricius, T5 Oak



Figure 6: High Bank carpark, T6 Birch



Figure 7: Zig-Zag Path, T7 Oak

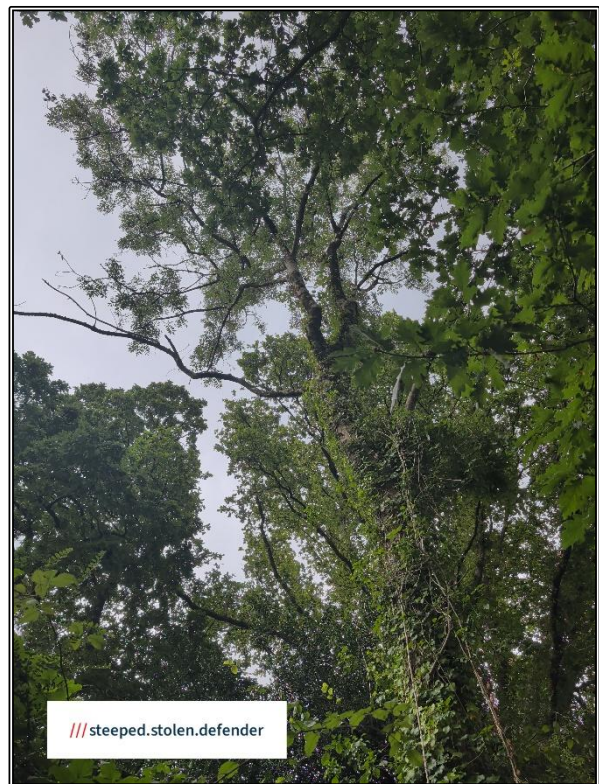


Figure 8: Zig-Zag Path, T8 Ash



Figure 9: War Memorial Cemetery, T9 Irish Yew

Appendix D

Arboricultural Terms and Definitions

Abiotic - Pertaining to non-living agents.

Absorptive Roots - Non-woody short-lived roots, generally having a diameter less than one millimetre, the primary function of which is the uptake of water and nutrients.

Adaptive Growth - The process by which wood formation rates and wood quality can increase in response to stress within the structure of a tree.

Anchorage - The process in which a tree uses its roots system to support itself within the soil structure.

Ancient Woodland - Woodland that has persisted since 1600.

Arisings - Parts of the tree that have been removed for disposal during tree works.

Canker - Area of dead, sunken or malformed bark.

Codominant stems - Two or more stems that are about the same diameter and emerge from the same location on the main trunk.

Coppicing - Removal of all aerial parts of the tree leaving a stump for regeneration of new shoot.

Crown break – The point at which the main limbs arise from the stem of a tree.

Crown/canopy - The parts of the tree that supports the leaves.

Crown lifting - The removal of limbs and small branches to a specified height above ground level.

Crown thinning - The removal of a proportion of branch growth throughout the crown to produce an even density well balanced crown structure.

Crown reduction/reshaping - Removal in the height and spread to a specified description to maintain a flowing crown structure.

Deadwood - Non-functional branches which no longer support natural growing conditions of the tree. May be beneficial for the support of habitats.

Defect – In a tree, a feature that may lead to a risk of harm, subject to a target being present.

Dieback - Death of woody parts of the tree starting at distal ends of the tree.

Distal - Furthest distance away from the main body of the tree.

Epicormic growth - Growth from previously dormant buds, most often seen on trunks or along main limbs.

Fruiting bodies – Spore producing parts of fungi, also called Toadstools or Mushrooms.

Girdling roots - A circling root which constricts the stem or other roots.

Heartwood – Non living timber which no longer has conducts water or nutrients.

Included bark - Face to face contact of bark at fork unions. Sometimes known as compression forks

Limbs – the main structures, normally arising from crown break, that support the network of branches within a tree.

Mulch - Material laid down over the rooting area of trees to suppress weed competition, increase moisture retention and increase organic material and nutrients.

Pathogen – An organism that causes disease within another organism.

Pollarding - The cyclical removal of the tree canopy to produce pollard points where new growth develops.

Root plate – The parts of a tree's root system needed to keep a tree windfirm.

Stem – The trunk of a tree. The main structure that supports the limbs, branches and the rest of the crown.

Stress - In plants, the physiological depletion as a result of environmental or other influences. A reversible condition.

Structural roots - The primary larger diameter roots which hold and support the aerial parts of the tree.

Targets - In risk assessment, persons or property at risk of harm as a result of a hazard (falling tree, branch etc).

Veteran tree - Tree that, by recognized criteria, shows features of biological, cultural or aesthetic characteristics of, but not exclusive to, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species concerned.