



PULBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Working together for a better future

ATTENTION: THE PUBLIC HAVE A RIGHT TO ATTEND THIS MEETING AND THEREFORE A PUBLIC SPEAKING ITEM HAS BEEN INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA. ANY RESIDENT WISHING TO SPEAK ON ANY ITEM SET OUT ON THIS AGENDA MUST INFORM THE PARISH CLERK NO LATER THAN 12 NOON THE DAY PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

You are hereby SUMMONED to a Meeting of the Recreation & Open Spaces Committee to be held in the Committee Room at Pulborough Sports Pavilion on **Thursday 11th July 2024 at 7.30 pm.**

**Beverly Nobbs
Deputy Clerk**

Swan View, Lower Street, Pulborough, RH20 2BF

Tel: 01798 873532 deputy@pulboroughparishcouncil.gov.uk

Dated 4th July 2024

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive and approve the apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & CHANGES TO REGISTER OF INTERESTS

To receive Councillors' declarations of interest on any of the agenda items and to note any changes to Councillors' Register of Interests

3. MINUTES

To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th June 2024.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKING

In accordance with Standing Order 1f, the Chairman will invite those residents who have given formal notice, to speak once only in respect of business itemised on the agenda and shall not speak for more than **5 minutes** or **10 minutes** if he/she is speaking on behalf of others such as a resident's group.

5. RECREATION CLUB REPORTS

To receive any recreation club reports and discuss any items notified to the Parish Office ahead of the meeting.

6. JOINT EVENT – REPAIR CAFÉ AND MARY HOW TRUST

To receive a proposal is to hold a joint event with the Repairs Café and Mary How Trust on 17th September 2024.

7. PLAYGROUND INSPECTIONS FOR 2024/2025

To receive a recommendation from the Deputy Clerk regarding the next years Playground Inspections - quotes to be provided at the meeting

8. TREE INSPECTIONS FOR 2024

To receive an update from Cllr Esdaile and Cllr Marcusson on the Tree inspection completed recently – See Appendix 1

9. FELLING OF TREE 33 - BY BOWLS CLUB

To consider a request from the Bowls Club to fell the tree no 33 which is overhanging and causing damage to the green

10. FELLING OF TREE – COUSINS WAY

To consider felling the tree in Cousins Way which is encroaching on number 26 property

11. PAYMENTS

To approve payments for signing and transferring. *(Details of payments will be provided at the meeting)*

ARBORSENSE

**ARBORICULTURAL
CONSULTANTS**

1

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

FOR

Pulborough Parish Council

Prepared by: Mr Saul Heath FdScArb TechArborA

Date: 13-06-24

Arborsense

07930644440 saulthetreeman@gmail.com

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1. Introductory Details

*The main Recreation Ground, Rectory Close
Pocket Park, Rectory Close
Chestnut Walk
Rivermead & Nutbourne Common*

1.1. Arborsense Arboricultural Consultants have been instructed by Pulborough Parish Council to undertake tree inspections at the above sites. Inspection observations and any required mitigation measures have been detailed in this report.

2. Scope and Limitations of the Report

2.1. This report includes:

- Assessment of the health, condition and safety of the trees.
- Recommendations on any immediate and future management of the trees based on current best practice guidelines.

2.2. Trees are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly and all trees, even healthy ones, are at risk from unpredictable climatic and man-made events. The assessment of risk for any tree is based upon factors evident at the time of the inspection and the interpretation of those factors by a suitably qualified inspector. The health, condition and safety of trees should be checked on a basis commensurate with the level of risk and preferably on an annual basis.

2.3. The assessment of the trees, conclusions and any recommendations made in this report are valid for a period of 18 months only. This period of validity may be reduced should there be any change in factors affecting both the surrounding environment and built structures within close proximity. In addition, any conclusions were made based on information available at the time of the inspection and any inaccuracies in this information may affect the validity of this report

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2.4. No soil samples were removed from site for analysis.

2.5. The trees were inspected from ground level, further assessment of the trees through climbing or internal investigation was not deemed necessary.

2.6. This is not a detailed dimensional report and the measurements given are approximate.

2.7. No responsibility is assumed by Arborsense for legal matters that may arise from this report, and the consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made.

2.8. Any alteration or deletion from this report will invalidate it as a whole.

2.9. The responsibility for any work undertaken on the surveyed trees rests with the land owner.

2.10. This report was compiled in line with the Common-Sense Risk Management of Trees produced by the National Tree Safety Group, (Published by the Forestry Commission (2011)).

3. Site Visit

3.1. A site visit was undertaken on the 12th of June, 2024 by Mr Saul Heath; Mr Heath is a senior consultant with Arborsense; a LANTRA certified tree inspector with over 20 years' experience in the industry. An academic degree in arboriculture was gained through the University of Central Lancashire (FdScArb). Technical status was attributed by The Arboricultural Association (TechArborA).

3.2. All observations were carried out from ground level using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method (Mattheck, C and Breloer, H (1994) – The Body Language of Trees, Research for Amenity Trees No. 4, Department of the Environment).

4. Observations and Recommendations

(To be read in conjunction with APPENDIX 1. TREE WORK SCHEDULES)

4.1. The Recreation Ground has mixed species trees around the perimeters; maintenance is evident throughout and the general health and condition is good apart from the Acers, **Tagged 29, 25, 22, 12 & 11**. All looking sparse of foliage for the time of year; they may or may not survive; I think we should give them another year to see if they recover.

The tree **Tagged 28** has major decay on the main stem, the tree has little amenity value and should be felled. A replacement tree should be planted.

The tree **Tagged 20** has a fungal bracket at the base of one of its southerly branches; the branch should be removed

4.2. Pocket Park is a great example of how to manage a small wooded area.

The tree **Tagged 48** is dead and should be felled.

4.3. Chestnut Walk: Ivy is beginning to establish itself on many of the main stems; the Ivy should be severed to aid future inspections. There is also standing deadwood opposite 53 & 55 Chestnut Walk that should be removed.

4.4. Rivermead: Branches and stems have previously fallen; no action is required.

4.5. Nutbourne Common is another example of sensible woodland management; fallen trees have been left for habitat and/or rejuvenation. No action required.

4.6. I recommend a further professional inspection 12-18 months from the date of this report.

5. Conclusions

5.1. The health and condition of the trees within the sites is generally good, I was particularly impressed with the management techniques used in Pocket Park and Nutbourne Common, it can be difficult to strike a balance between retaining over-mature trees for their wildlife benefits and the pressures to be risk averse. As the tree population ages it would be wise to budget for new tree planting, nothing major, perhaps one tree every 2 or 3 years.

If this report's recommendations are followed and regular inspections and maintenance works are carried out any risks of harm to visitors and passers-by or damage to property should be reduced to an acceptable level.

Saul Heath FdScArb TechArborA

Arborsense

07930644440 saulthetreeman@gmail.com

6. APPENDIX 1. TREE WORK SCHEDULES

Explanatory notes: The priority heading is given as one of two categories’.

- Routine: The remediation/tree work should be done during routine maintenance work; preferably within 6 months.
- Urgent: The remediation/tree work should be done as a matter of urgency; preferably within one month.

Tree Tag Number	Location /Site	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Priority
29, 25, 22, 12 & 11	The Recreation Ground	Monitor the trees	Routine
28	The Recreation Ground	Fell the tree	Routine
20	The Recreation Ground	Remove the southerly branch	
48	Pocket Park	Fell the tree	Routine
Not tagged Opposite 53-55	Chestnut Walk	Remove standing deadwood	Routine
80-94	Chestnut Walk	Sever the Ivy at the base of the main stems	Routine