

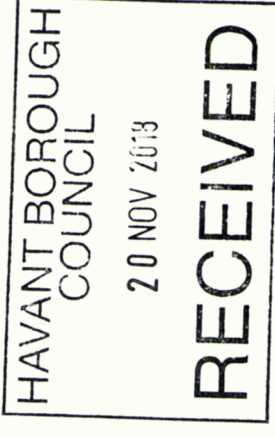


Visual Tree Assessment & Management Strategy Report

41a St.Catherines Road, Hayling Island

-prepared on behalf of Mr & Mrs R Busby –

*The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS
mob: 07875 520881 - email: bernieharverson@gmail.com - VAT Reg No 881 5056 16*



1.0 Clients Brief & Introduction

- 1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Mr & Mrs Busby** who own the property at **41a St Catherines Road, Hayling Island**.
- 1.2 I have been commissioned to carry out a visual tree assessment exercise from ground level on a mature **Monterey Pine** tree positioned to the rear (south) of the property.
- 1.3 I am also to prepare a **Tree Management Strategy Report** and make recommendations for the future management of this tree.
- 1.4 This assessment exercise has been instigated by the owners to address the issues of intense light deprivation to habitable rooms and control the spread and vigorous growth habit of the tree as well as trying to improve matters for their neighbours at No 41 who are experiencing disruption to their lawn by tree roots and suffer from the low branch overhang and shading of their useable garden space.
- 1.5 For the purposes of this investigation exercise I used a digital camera and a pair of high powered binoculars.
- 1.6 The trunk and crown area were inspected first by eye and then with high powered binoculars to detect any defects that might not otherwise have been visible from ground level and to better inform the overall management strategy.
- 1.7 A series of digital photographs were taken as an 'aide memoire' when preparing this report and some have been used within the report to illustrate key points. The remainder have been kept on file should they be needed for any subsequent reports or work instructions.

2.0 Tree Condition Assessment – November 2018

2.1 Tree Survey Data Collection Exercise

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Monterey Pine <i>Pinus radiata</i> Mature / Height 20m N – 7m E – 10m S – 8m W – 9m Cat: B	<u>Basal Area:</u> - No evidence of openings or cavities were found and no sign of any fungal infection. <u>Trunk:</u> - Single trunk throughout but with heavy laterals spirally arranged in whirls around the trunk. - This tree has been crown lifted in a balanced manner in the past to leave a 3m ground clearance to the lowest swirl of branches. - Old pruning wounds have either occluded or are readily occluding. <u>Crown:</u> - This tree has been 'cleaned out' in the past in the western half of the tree but the eastern half still contains a lot of dead branches. - It has been pruned back before to provide a safe clearance from the property facia and is currently approximately 1m from same. - The previous pruning work has been competently undertaken and there are no obvious stumps or stubs and the tree has filled in around the old cuts. - There is currently a crown weighting and imbalance to the east side over the boundary line above the garden at No 41. - The crown is full of cones which are periodically shed from the tree as their weight overcomes the branch that they are attached too or by

natural seed shedding as the cones mature. These are very heavy cones and could cause serious injury but fortunately there are no direct targets below the tree and they would fall harmlessly into the garden – it would be a freak situation if someone happened to be hit by one.

Conclusions:

- There is no current evidence of basal decay or fungal attack so the risk of failure at ground level is **LOW**.
- The trunk appears sound and healthy so the risk of failure of the trunk is **LOW**.
- The crown is full and heavily laden with branches but is also healthy and vigorous so the risk of overall crown collapse is also **LOW** although the exposed coastal location and presence of long attenuated limbs would place it at **MODERATE** risk of individual branch failures due to storm damage.
- This is a mature tree but it has yet to achieve its optimal height and spread so there is growth potential for the future which will naturally bring it into conflict with both residential dwellings and hamper full use and enjoyment of their gardens.
- The density of the crown and the all year round evergreen nature of the species coupled with its densely packed dark green needles and close proximity to the dwellings mean that it will cast significant shade and the needle fall is acidic making it very difficult to grow plants.
- The vigorous rooting habit will deplete the soil of water and nutrients making establishment of other plant material beneath its crown very challenging.
- As can currently be seen in the garden of No 41 the rooting habit is shallow and closely packed large diameter roots protrude above the surface of the lawn.

Recommendations:

- This trees health and vitality and amenity value and contribution in the landscape is not in dispute and as such there is no option for tree removal.
- However, its adverse impact on the properties and detrimental impact denying them the full use and enjoyment of their associated useable leisure space is a cause for concern.
- The management strategy proposed to curtail its vigorous growth habit without spoiling the natural shape and form is one of strategic and judicious pruning work.
- There is very limited scope for crown height reduction because this species tends to only have live growth at the very ends of the main leaders with little behind this zone - thus any heavy lopping would expose stubs and stumps devoid of foliage and this is not good arboricultural practice and would be unacceptable. However, some minor pruning is advocated as the tree cannot be allowed to grow exponentially without curtailment otherwise it will easily reach 30m in due course.
- There is far more potential for pruning where the lateral spread is concerned as there is a lot of live growth to cut back to and to achieve an acceptable finish without leaving stubs or stumps devoid of live foliage. In the case of the spread to the north side much less shortening back is proposed because this side has been pruned back before – whereas the spread to the east has been left untouched as has the growth to the south side – the growth to the west side has been tipped back in the past but not to the degree that the north side has been. The east side of the crown also hangs down lower because it has not been crownlifted like the other three sides.
- Therefore the following works are recommended :-
 1. Reduce in overall height by between 0.5m to 1m but always making final cuts adjacent to live foliage.
 2. Reduce the lateral spread to the north side by 0.5m to increase the clearance from the building line but always making final cuts adjacent to living growth points thus leaving a radial spread of around 6.5m.
 3. Reduce the lateral spread to the east side by between 1.5m to 2m leaving a radial spread of around 7.5m to 8m but always making final cuts adjacent to living growth points.
 4. Crown lift on the east side only by removing the smaller diameter (up to 70mm diameter) 'dropper' branches that grow down from under the main laterals thus preserving the major limbs but giving the tree a more upswept form to this side. The object being to train the tree to grow in an upswept fashion with less scope for significant purely lateral spread in the future.
 5. Reduce the lateral spread to the west side by 0.5m to 1m leaving a radial spread of between 8m to 8.5m but always making final cuts adjacent to living growth points.

N.B. – As far as the exposed roots to the east side are concerned it is not acceptable practice to remove or prune these in any way because this would have an adverse impact on the health and vitality of the tree as a whole - the only solution to this will be to increase the soil levels by covering the roots with high quality topsoil and then laying turf or re-seeding or alternatively creating a raised flower border with railway sleepers or equivalent retaining edges.

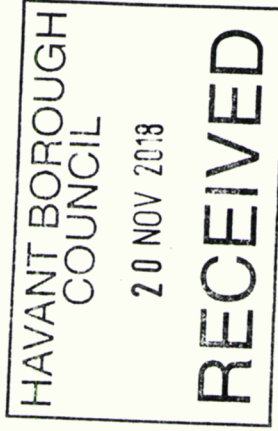
With reference to the crown density on the western half of the tree it is proposed to remove all of the deadwood to improve light penetration through the crown.

2.2 Photographic Evidence



The north side of the crown and its relationship to the property illustrating the degree of pruning which is proposed.

Noting the previous crown lifting works to the north, south and west sides and the absence of same on the east side.

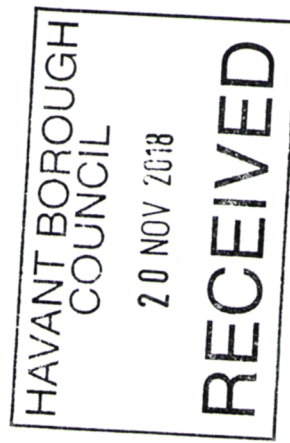




The east side of the crown with the excess/bulge of lower crown growth and illustrating the degree of pruning back that is proposed.



The underside of the branch spread to the east side illustrating where 'dropper' branches would be removed from the main limbs to give a more upswept form.





The west side of the crown illustrating the degree of pruning work proposed.

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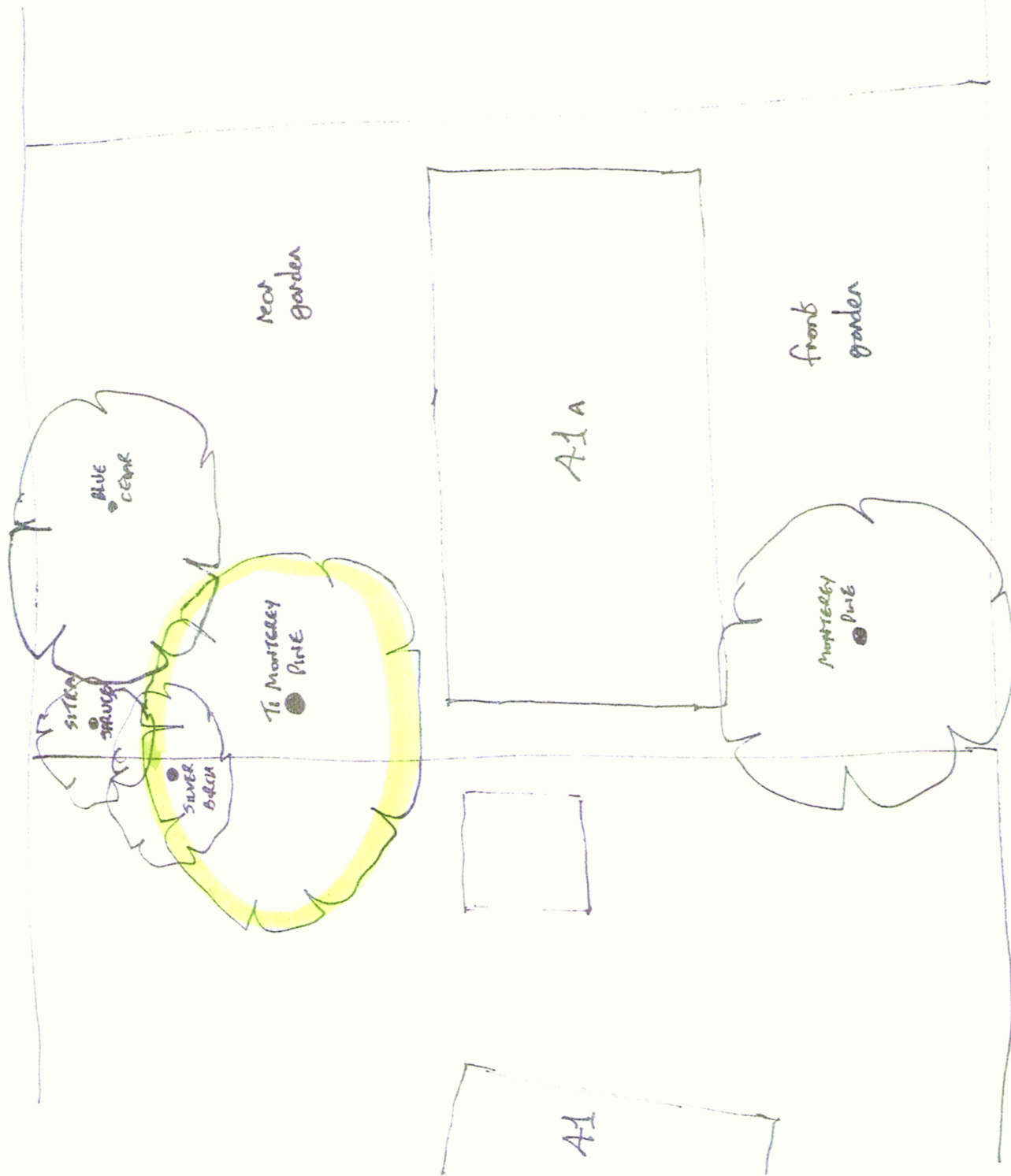


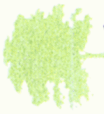
The top of the tree illustrating the degree of reduction that is proposed.



Tree Location Plan





 Bernie Harverson landscape architect	
project	41a St.Catherines Road Hayling Island Havant
client	Mr & Mrs R Busby
title	Tree Location Plan
dwg	BJH 01
scale	Not To Scale
date	Nov 2018
job	0955
drawn by	bjh
The Granary - White Chimney Row Westbourne PO10 8RS 07875 520881 bernieharverson@gmail.com	

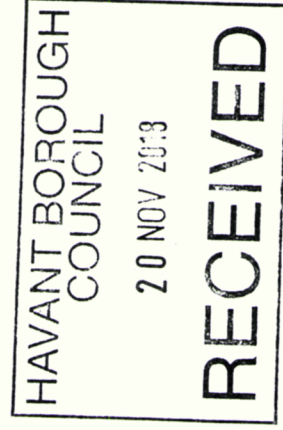
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access drive off ST. CATHERINES ROAD





Experience & Qualifications





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QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- My name is Bernie Harverson and I am a self employed independent arboricultural consultant in private practice. I take instructions primarily in the South of England but also on occasions work nationwide and abroad and have an office at : –

The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS

- I hold the following arboricultural qualification – **National Diploma in Arboriculture** (Royal Forestry Society – 1976)
- I have **forty eight** years of practical and managerial experience in the arboricultural industry including periods in both the public and private sectors.
- My Local Government sector experience comprises one year as a tree surgeon with Brighton Parks and nine years spent in Arboricultural Officer posts with both Westminster City Council and Portsmouth City Council
- My past practical experience in the private sector includes two years at Tilhill Forest Nursery and over ten years for various companies as a Climbing Arborist/Tree Surgeon.
- Managerial work in the private sector includes two years as manager of Beeching of Ash Tree Surgery Company and twelve years with the CBA Tree Consultancy Practice as Managing Director and Senior Arboricultural Consultant.
- As an independent self employed Arboricultural Consultant [since 2005] I now provide a comprehensive range of services including :-
tree surveys, appraisals, assessments and inspections with particular reference to planning and development and tree safety audits with a service offered as a climber to undertake full climbing inspections to better understand the condition of a given tree before prescribing a management strategy.
- I also undertake litigation work appearing as an Expert Witness in Court Actions and at Planning Appeals, Hearings and Local Inquiries.

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