

Tree Hazard Survey Report

St John the Baptist Church
Wrotham Road, Meopham
Gravesend
DA13 0AA

<https://w3w.co/cope.space.across>

Plan prepared by:

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Fig 1: Image of entrance to site from Google Maps – Apr 2021

Summary

1 Scope of work

NPC Tree Surgery was commissioned to carry out a Tree Hazard Survey at St John the Baptist Church, Wrotham Road, Meopham, Gravesend DA13 0AA. The tree survey was undertaken by NPC Tree Surgery to identify the tree locations and assess the tree health and safety with the outlining of any proposed remedial works. The site visit was carried out on the 05th October 2022.

2 Site Location

The site is located on Wrotham Road, Meopham, Gravesend DA13 0AA on a main arterial road with surrounding domestic residential properties in close proximity to the site's boundaries.

3 Breakdown of action plan

During the tree survey a total of 22 trees or Groups of trees were recorded as requiring remedial/tree management works including 4 trees or Groups of trees from a neighbouring property, a further breakdown of the safety work recommendations can be found at Section 12, table 1 of this report.

4 Duty of care

We would respectfully remind you that there is a duty of care (legal responsibility of the owner of the site) towards anyone entering the site. Providing you with a tree survey report for the site is only the initial step to ensure a plan is established to maintain a good standard of health and safety throughout the whole site. We would strongly recommend you follow the recommendations on the risk assessment provided in this report.

5 The Trees

5.1

- a) The information contained in this report covers only the items that were examined and reflects the condition of aforementioned items at the time of inspection; and
- b) This inspection was limited to visual examination of accessible items. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the plant or property in question may not arise in the future.

5.2

The trees have been assessed from ground level. All information was collected by carrying out a Visual Tree Assessment (VTA). A VTA diagram showing identifiable signs can be seen on page 11 of this report.

6 Insurance

NPC Tree surgery are insured by Arborisk Insurance for professional indemnity including legal liability for professional services to a value of £5,000,000 for any one claim.

7 Disclaimer

7.1

This tree risk assessment contains a suggested timescale for remedial works to be undertaken from the date of the survey. In the expert opinion of the author these times scales should be adhered to. Trees are living organisms and as such their health and condition are naturally subject to change over time. The recommendations and assessments are based upon the trees' condition on the day of inspection. This report cannot cover unforeseen circumstances such as neglect or wilful damage to the trees or severe weather conditions.

7.2

The local planning authority (LPA) has been consulted via the website at www.gravesham.gov.uk to determine whether any Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) are present and if the site is in a Conservation Area. Before undertaking any work to the tree, it would be advisable to check whether either of these planning controls are in operation; if they are, it would be necessary to obtain consent (or in case of a Conservation Area give six weeks' notice of intent) before undertaking any such work.

8 Declaration

I hereby confirm that this tree hazard survey report was undertaken and completed by:

Mr Neil Adams

Employed by: NPC Tree surgery

Signed:

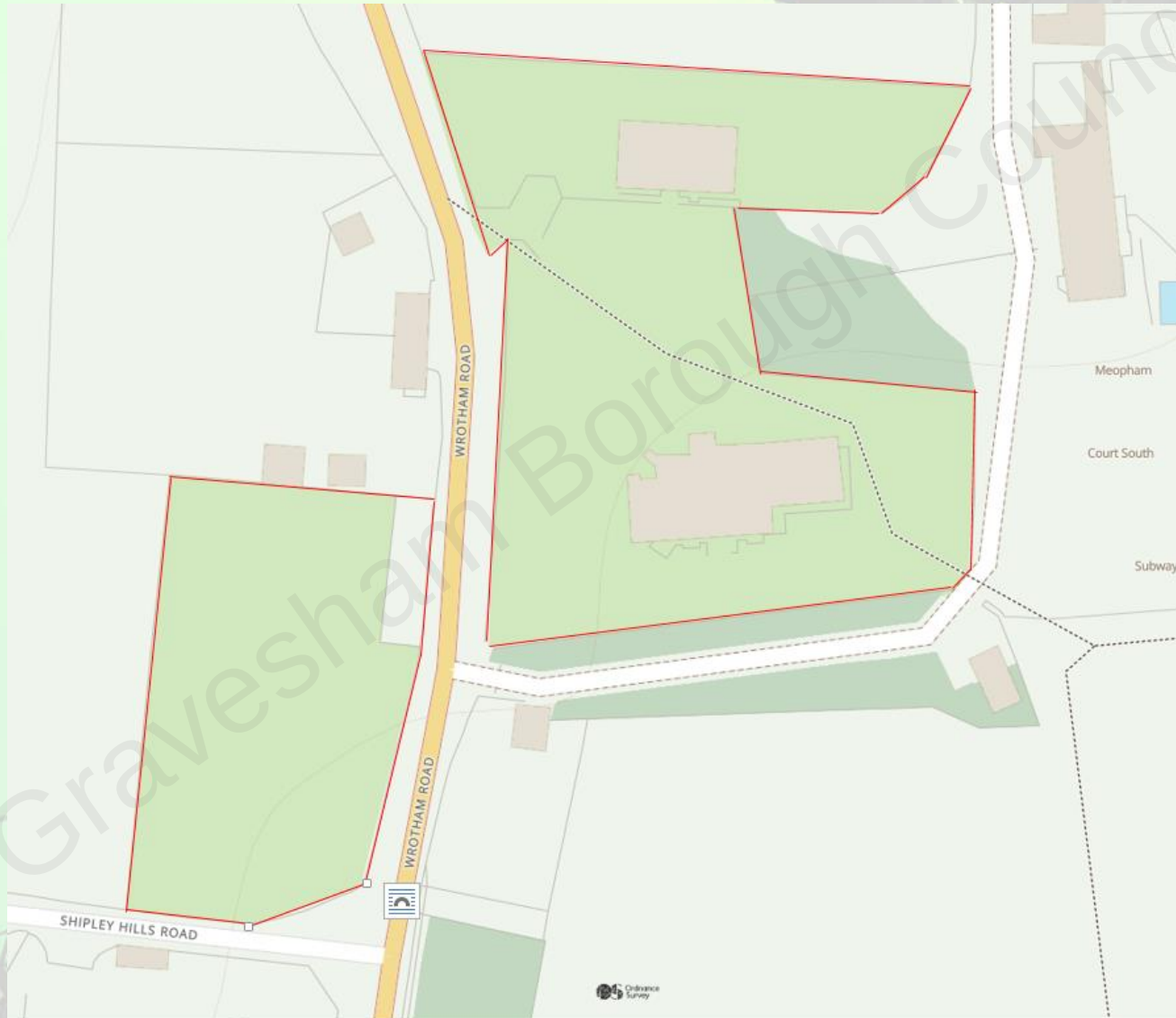


Neil Adams
Operations Manager
NPC Tree Surgery

Date: 05/10/2022

9 Site Reference Plan

Fig 2: Ordnance Survey Map with site location marked



10. Tree preservation order and conservation area check

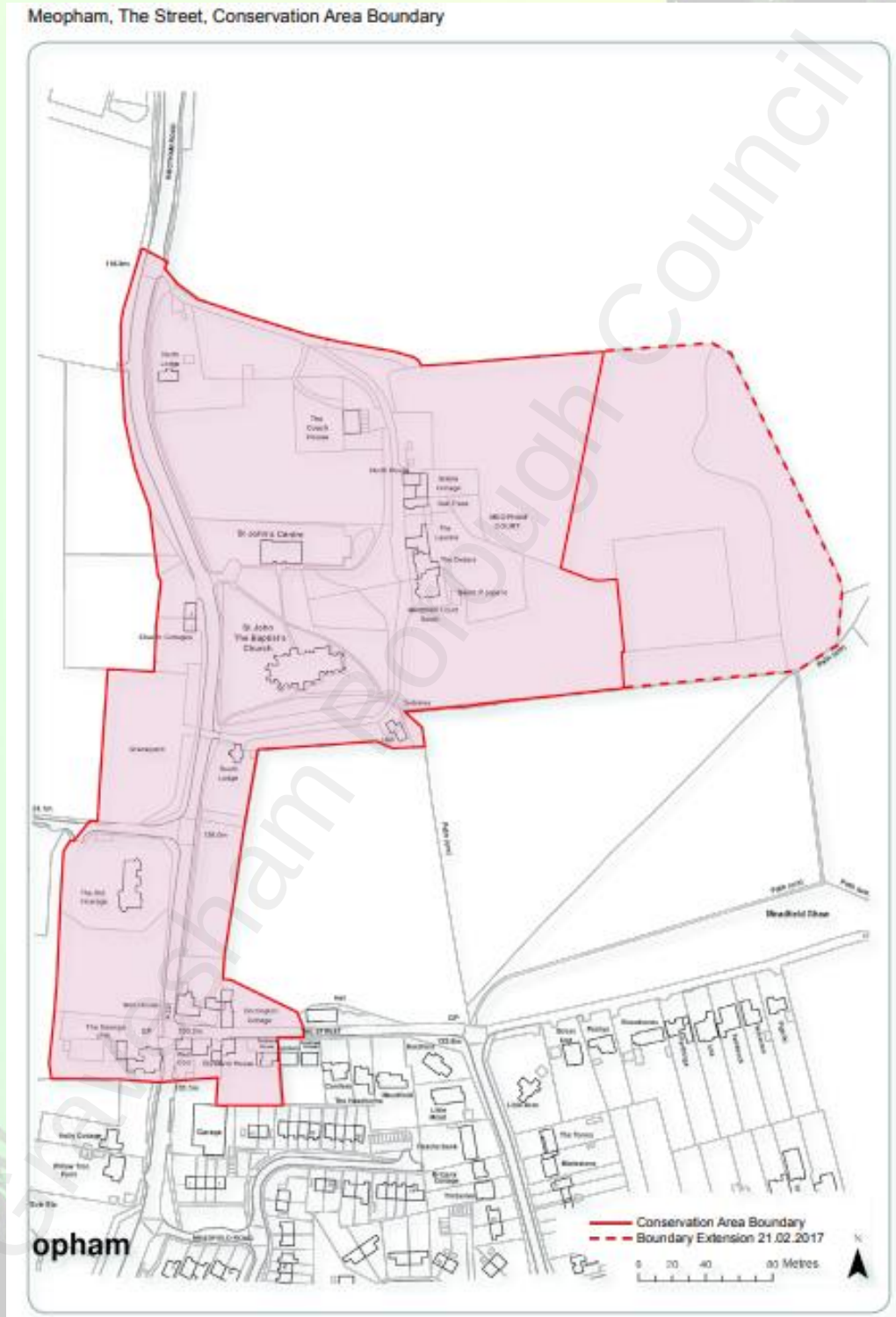


Fig 3: Map aerial view with conservation area marked

Information obtained from <https://www.gravesham.gov.uk/downloads/file/368/meopham-the-street-boundary-map> as at 05/10/22 the site is in a conservation area and there are TPOs present.

11 Tree Survey Identification and Tree Plotter



Fig 4: Map showing tree location

12 Key to Tree Survey Data Table

Tree identification:

T1 = All 'T' tree numbers relate to the position of the trees as shown on the plan at Section 11.

G1 = All 'G' tree numbers relate to the position of the groups of trees as shown on the plan at Section 11.

N1 = All 'N' tree numbers relate to the position of neighbouring property trees as shown on the plan at Section 11.

Work Priority:

IMM
High
Med
Low

– Immediate works required in the interests of safety

– works to be undertaken within the next month following the date of inspection.

– works to be undertaken within the next three months following the date of inspection.

– Works that can be undertaken post six to 12 months following the date of inspection

12 Tree Survey Data

Table 1:

Tree Number	Tree Species	Height in meters	Spread In Meters	Surveyor Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority
T1	Pine	12	3	Ivy covering trunk.	Sever ivy at base.	Med
T2	Pine	12	8	Minor Deadwood throughout Crown.	Remove Deadwood.	Med
T3	Pine	12	6	Ivy covering trunk.	Sever ivy at base.	Med
T4	Horse Chestnut	10	3	Ivy covering trunk.	Sever ivy at base to allow future assessment of trees condition.	Low
T5	Common Ash	10	6	Advance stages of Ash dieback, 1m cavity in trunk.	Dismantle tree to ground level.	High
T6	Standing Dead Tree	6	1	Standing dead tree	Dismantle tree to ground level.	High
T7	Sycamore	14	8	Overhanging Deadwood branch presenting hazard to grave-sites Dead wood present throughout Crown.	Remove Deadwood Branch Remove Deadwood in crown.	Med
T8	Cherry	6	8	Major Deadwood present throughout crown.	Remove Deadwood in crown. Continue to monitor for additional limb failings.	Med
T9	Cherry	3	3	Standing dead tree	Dismantle tree to ground level.	High
T10	Cherry	8	5	Branches heading toward church building.	Tip prune to give 2m clearance from building.	High
T11	Sycamore	12	4	Ivy covering trunk.	Sever ivy at base to allow future assessment of trees condition.	Low
T12	Holly	6	2	Standing Dead Tree.	Land Owner Action required Dismantle tree to ground level	Med

12 Tree Survey Data (Continued)

Table 1 (Continued):

Tree Number	Tree Species	Height in meters	Spread In Meters	Surveyor Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority
T13	Elder	3	3	Standing Dead Tree	Dismantle Tree to ground level	High
T14	Walnut	12	12	Ivy covering trunk.	Sever ivy at base to allow future assessment of trees condition.	Low
T15	Sycamore	8	6	Overhanging branches presenting hazard to pedestrians on pathway.	Crown Lift to 3m and remove branches overhanging path.	Med
G1	Holm Oak	N/A	N/A	Overhanging branches presenting hazard to pedestrians and roadway. Ivy present throughout tree.	Sever Ivy at base. Crown lift to Highway Spec.	Med
G2	Various	N/A	N/A	Overhanging branches presenting hazard to pedestrians and vehicles.	Crown lift to give 3m clearance on car park	Low
G3	Various	N/A	N/A	Overhanging branches presenting hazard to pedestrians.	Cutback to Highway Spec.	Med
N1	Beech	20	10	Overhanging branches presenting hazard to pedestrians.	Land Owner Action required Crown lift to 2.5m and cut back to boundary.	Med
N2	Holm Oak	10	6	1m cavity in trunk @ 2m bifurcation point.	Land Owner Action required Remove large overhanging branch @ main union.	High
N3	Mainly Redwood Group	N/A	N/A	Potential Weaknesses in holding wood, major deadwood throughout. Tree's move heavily under wind stress – Target Area high Risk. 1 x leaning dead tree overhanging grave.	Land Owner Action required Micro drill survey to establish internal resistance of basal holding wood. Dismantle dead tree to ground level.	High
N4	Redwood	16	4	Tree in seemingly in poor health. Large cavity in Trunk, Root plate compromised by animals. Tree moves heavily under wind stress – Target Area high Risk.	Land Owner Action required Micro drill survey to establish internal resistance of basal holding wood.	High

13 Visual Tree Inspection (VTA) Guide

Defects to be noted during a Visual Tree Assessment Taken from Updated Field Guide for Visual Tree Assessment by Claus Mattheck (ISBN 978-3-923704-59-0).

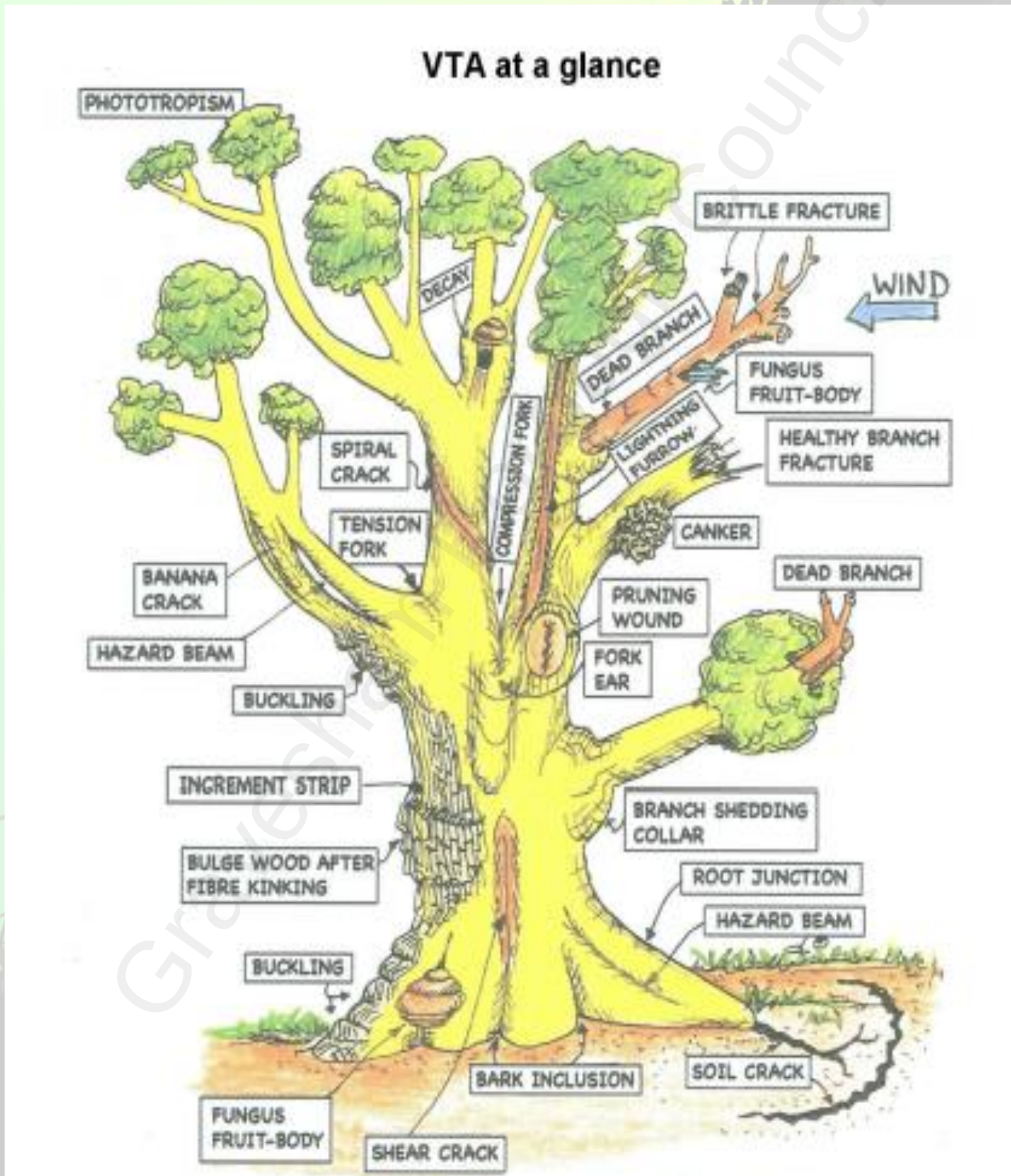


Fig 5: Extract from updated Field Guide for Visual Tree Assessment by Claus Mattheck