



Gill Ayres <greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com>

RE: Tree Survey

1 message

MCCONNELL, Ryan <Ryan.McConnell@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk>

28 May 2019 at 09:38

To: Gill Ayres <greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com>

Dear Gill,

Thank you for your email, I remember the pump house Oak tree. Periodic tree surveys would be encouraged as they inform tree owners of the current tree health and condition and allow the planning of suitable tree works which can be staged over time to allow for budget planning.

To my knowledge, we do not undertake tree surveys for third parties as time and budget constraints are already very restricted. Our own tree stock is managed on a reactive system and we are currently working to try and manage our trees in a more proactive manner.

I would advise that the best place to start in finding a suitable tree contractor or consultants (where more detailed tree condition reports are required) would be the Arboricultural Association (link below) where a suitable qualified company can be contacted to carry out a survey for you.

www.trees.org.uk/ARB-Approved-Contractor-Directory

I will contact the senior tree officer re: funding as although we would not be in a position to fund anything ourselves he may be able to point you in the right direction if he is aware of any available.

Regarding the trees to be surveyed, there are some considerations. Some contractors may charge a flat fee for a survey of a set area of trees while others may choose to charge per tree, I would be of the opinion that where trees can be surveyed during the inspection of your own trees it may make sense to inspect these however, unless they would likely have an impact to your land or property (is this justified?) consent would also need to be sought to access land which does not belong to the parish council and works identified to private trees is ultimately the responsibility of the tree owner and in effect you would be paying for the survey of someone else's trees, this may seem reasonable if only a limited number but un-reasonable if a large number are to be inspected.

The extent of the local authority involvement would be to advise on the TPO, Conservation area restrictions and work around a way to enable you to undertake the required works to protected trees in as timely a manner as is possible and consider what replacement planting our department may be able to help with whether this is underground utility stats checks or the advising of tree species selection and raising of planting works.

I hope this information is helpful

Thank you for contacting Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Kind Regards

Ryan McConnell FdSc Arb, MArborA, Cert Arb

Tree Officer

Highways and Environment Team



**Arboricultural
ASSOCIATION**
Professional Member

Member Number. PR5077

Email: Ryan.McConnell@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Location: Phoenix House, Clough Road, Winsford, CW7 4BD

Visit: www.Cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk<<http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/>>

Tel: 0300 123 7036

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If you are reporting a new service request, to ensure this matter is dealt with in my absence please contact us via any of the following ways:

· Via the "Your Streets Portal" <http://westcheshireyourstreets.co.uk/> , once on the home page select the Roadcare Scheme tab and follow the respective link

From: Gill Ayres [<mailto:greatbudworthparishclerk@gmail.com>]

Sent: 24 May 2019 13:14

To: MCCONNELL, Ryan

Subject: Tree Survey

Ryan,

We've corresponded previously about the oak tree by the Lower Pumphouse so I hope you're the right person to contact about the issues set out below.

Following a recent large tree fall across High St in Great Budworth, Councillors have been wondering if there would be any merit in carrying out a tree survey from a safety point of view to identify risks, and also perhaps with a view to developing a replacement strategy to ensure the sustainability of the village environment.

I stress that it's very early days and they don't even know yet if they want to go down this route but it would be helpful to have your views on a few related questions

1) Does CW&C conduct such surveys on behalf of Parish Councils?

2) If not, are there any contractors you could recommend or a list somewhere of suitably qualified contractors? We don't need actual names at this stage but it would be helpful to know if it's something you could help with further down the line.

3) Would there be any funding available from CW&C? or are you aware of other organisations who might help? Mersey Forest perhaps? Lottery? Other environmental organisations?

4) From your experience would the Parish Council have to restrict itself to surveying trees on its own land? Or could we look at those on private land too? What if ownership of land cannot be established?

5) If we were to go down the route of a) in the short term, tackling trees at risk b) a long term tree replacement strategy, how would your department wish to be involved?

I would very much welcome your advice.

Kind regards

Gill

Gill Ayres

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer for Great Budworth Parish Council

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