

# Supporting Documentation

## Christleton St James – Tree removal

### Note to parish

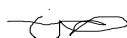
This bundle includes all the supporting documentation to your faculty application as required under Rule 5.5 of the Faculty Jurisdiction (Amendment) Rules 2019.

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Caroline Hilton, DAC Secretary



20 June 2022

**We petition the Court for a faculty to authorise the following-**

*Please describe the works or other proposals for which a faculty is sought in the way recommended by the Diocesan Advisory Committee in its Notification of Advice.*

**SCHEDULE OF WORKS OR PROPOSALS**

Felling of two Lawson cypress trees which have caused and continue to cause damage to the main path to the currently used burial areas. The path and adjoining graves have suffered upheaval as the trees are too close. The trees are near the end of their lives and have already been topped several times, one leans at an acute angle and the other's trunk is in three sections. The path is a hazard to people; those with reduced mobility are at risk, wheelchairs are impossible and coffin bearers constantly trip.

Two holly trees naturally grown from seeds and causing gravestones to move plus a hawthorn which is dead also need removal.

An arboreal survey of the Churchyard has already been submitted to the DAC as the file is too large to be included here. This also includes photographs and geo location map.

A report from the CWAC Tree Officer has also been submitted.

An application to the Planning Department (CWAC) has already been submitted.

*Copies of the Standard Information Form and any drawings, plans, specifications, photographs or other documents showing the proposals must be provided with this petition.*

## **STATEMENT OF NEEDS FOR FACULTY APPLICATION TO FELL TREES IN CHURCHYARD OF ST. JAMES' CHURCH CHRISTLETON**

The footpaths and the main drive entrance to the Church have become badly broken up and potholed. Recent wet winters have exacerbated the problem and it is anticipated that they will require resurfacing imminently, preferably before this winter.

The churchyard is still open for burials and interment of ashes.

The south side of the Churchyard is currently used and access is via a Tarmac footpath accessed from the car park and the Church building.

The Churchyard contains 52 individual trees and five offsite trees/groups. Most of the trees are mature specimens and many are taxus (yews) most in need of pruning.

Two holly trees have self-seeded among graves, one with multiple stems and one small hawthorn is dead/dying. Two Lawson cypresses were planted 50-60 years ago close together and very close to the footpath. One has split into three sections and the other leans at an acute angle. Both have disturbed nearby gravestones and the sandstone coping stones along the edge of the path. Both have been "topped" several times in the past to reduce their height and now present unnatural shapes. The path itself has become distorted and potholed posing a hazard to the public. This is a very well -visited section of the Churchyard. The path is impassable for wheelchairs, a hazard for anyone with reduced mobility and a real problem for coffin bearers. It has deteriorated significantly recently.

The PCC commissioned a tree condition survey as part of normal maintenance and H&S and also requested a visit from CWAC Tree Officer.

The survey recommended that the two Lawson cypresses be felled (plus the hollies and hawthorn) and the Tree Officer said the Council would not object to their removal.

The PCC agreed to the felling in the interests of ultimate safety and that two trees would be planted in a suitable environment to replace those lost.

If permission is given to fell the trees we will be able to proceed with resurfacing work on the Churchyard paths thereby complying with our obligation to provide a safe physical environment for churchgoers and visitors.

<b>Ref:</b>	2022-073000	<b>Church:</b>	Christleton: St James
<b>Diocese:</b>	Chester	<b>Archdeaconry:</b>	Chester
<b>Created By:</b>	Mrs Bettie Gilliatt (16/05/2022)	<b>Contact Tel.:</b>	01244 335645
<b>Status:</b>	Pre-formal consultation review		

## Statement of Significance

The file has been uploaded separately.

### Section 1: The church in its urban / rural environment.

#### 1.1 Setting of the Church

Christleton is a village and civil parish on the outskirts of Chester in the unitary authority of Cheshire West and Chester and the ceremonial county of Cheshire, England. The 2001 Census recorded a population for the entire civil parish of 2,112. The Shropshire Union Canal (originally Chester Canal) passes through the village. There is also a large pond situated by the village widely known as "Christleton Pit" which attracts children from the village and surrounding areas due to the abundance of wildlife, swans, and ducks.

Its history can be traced with certainty to the Domesday Book, which contains an entry for Christleton, though there is evidence of earlier occupation. It is likely that a church was on the site at this time. In 1093 the patronage of the church was given to the monks of St Werburgh's Abbey, Chester. The church was rebuilt in stone around 1490, and the tower built at this time is still present. The church sustained considerable damage during the Civil War and around 1730 the nave and chancel were repaired. However, during a service in 1873 the roof of the nave partly collapsed. Plans for rebuilding the church were prepared by Butterfield, retaining the 15th-century tower, adding gargoyles to each corner and a short spire to the turret. The rebuilding took place between 1874 and 1878.

#### 1.2 The Living Churchyard

In the churchyard is an ashlar red sandstone sundial from the mid-late 18th century, and the headstone of William Huggins and members of his family dated 1884. Both of these are listed at Grade II. Also listed at Grade II is the lych gate which was designed by Butterfield and is built from ashlar red sandstone and timber framing with a Welsh slate roof and a red tile ridge. The churchyard contains the war graves of six soldiers of World War I, including former Wales international footballer Billy Matthews who is commemorated as 'Shoeing Smith William Mathews, Royal Field Artillery, and a soldier and a Home Guardsman of World War II.

The Church register from 1604 shows that Christleton was hit by a severe plague, and two local families were particularly badly affected, as shown below.

The list of burials include

2 May Margaret Seller 4 June Thomas Spiser  
3 May Thomas Seller 5 June Janeta Spiser  
21 May Elena Seller 16 June William Spiser  
21 May Johnannes Seller 17 June Anne Spiser  
31 May Robertus Seller 23 June Margareta Spiser

Members of the Dixon Family of Littleton are laid to rest in a large family vault in the rear churchyard adjacent to the Rector's vestry. There are separate graves for the first Thomas & his wife Anne, buried with their son James and his family. For William & Barbara Dixon, and for Dr F.M and Sir Rupert Granger & families connected by marriage to the Dixon's.

The other great benefactor of the Victorian period was Lucy Anne Ince. Her life is commemorated on a tablet in the churchyard as well as within the church. The large family vault is situated to the north the footpath from Pepper Street. It was she, together with several other families and with the active support of Canon Garnett, who influenced the decision to rebuild the present church on its original site. A decision that now seems to have been very successful, and benefits us all.

Whilst researching the graveyard for members of the community who served in WWI, we came across seven graves from 1914-18 War, and one from WWII listed as Commonwealth Graves Commission Memorials. There are also records of other men who died in WWI, and were buried or missing in the battlefields of France, Belgium and Gallipoli which are inscribed on family memorials. Full details of these can be found in the Christleton Great War Stories Book published by Christleton Local History Group, or on the Christleton website [www.christleton.org.uk](http://www.christleton.org.uk)

St James' Church & Churchyard stands as testament to these people, and to the thousands who have worshipped and supported the church in Christleton over the centuries.

### **1.3 Social History**

Recent investigations suggest that a church existed on this site soon after the Roman occupation of Chester. The evidence for this comes from the fact that early churches of this period were built with a circular churchyard, and Christleton like several others in the Chester area followed this pattern. In these churches the oldest graves are also laid in concentric circles around the church building. This design is also found in churches in north Wales and usually associated with the fourth or fifth century. The balance of probability is that the church was in existence before the arrival of the pagan Saxons during the 7thC. The name "Christetone" in the Domesday Book of 1086 suggests the existence of a Christian settlement. The name Christleton means "the village or place of Christ", or alternatively "Cristentum" the enclosed farm of the Christians. Local names of this type are thought to date back to AD 600-750. Other sources state that the name Christleton comes from "farmstead with a cross" or the "Township of Christ."

It is likely that this early meeting place, was in the vicinity of the Manor House Farm, or perhaps on the present church site, which sits on a broad expanse of underlying old red sandstone on the top of a ridge

running from Helsby to Waverton, overlooking the Cheshire Plain, and with good views of the city of Chester and the River Dee. The fact that those farm inhabitants were sufficiently unusual to be noted as Christians, suggests the name was coined by pagan Saxons.

Christleton, Christetone, Christlington, Ham Cristleton (The main hamlet near the church), Magna Cristleton, Kirkecristleton, Kysterton and Kryrsylton are all variations of the village name. Littleton an abbreviation of Little or parva Christleton appears in the twelfth century, as does Rogh or rough Christleton now Rowton. The name Cotton Abbots comes from the Abbots of Chester who owned the land around 1096, and Cotton Edmunds comes from parva Cotton, the land which belonged to William de Cotton who lived at Cotton Hall in the fourteenth century, who had a son called Edmund, hence the name Cotton Edmunds. The five townships of Christleton, Littleton, Rowton, Cotton Abbots and Cotton Edmunds make up the Ecclesiastical Parish of Christleton.

It is almost certain that a more substantial wooden building existed by the 14thC, and the present tower is thought to be from the second church, built in the time of Rector Thomas in 1484. It is said that a woodcutter, Thomas Meyer from Bavaria was employed at this time, and his family (now the Mayer's family) have worshipped here ever since. The timber for the church building would have come from local forests, and there is evidence of timber from Christleton being sold for building purposes as late as the 18thC. There are no formal records of the building of this first stone church, but local stone from the nearby Christleton and Waverton Quarries was used.

The earliest recorded clergyman was Robert, Parson of Christleton in 1215, but as the church was in the patronage of the monks of the Abbey in Chester there might have been a small meeting place rather than a formal building at this time. The Abbots Well is another link between the Village and the Abbey, because water from the well in Christleton was channelled in pipes through Boughton to the site of the Abbey. (Now Chester Cathedral)  
1282.

The Burnells granted to the monks of St Werburgh "The fountain of Christleton" A cistern 20ft square was formed near the village and another within the cloisters of the Abbey.

The list of clergy is continuous from 1215 to the present day. This list of Rectors is intriguing to the modern reader as it includes titles such as Monsignor, Dom, terms used in the English church before the reformation.

Christleton village and its inhabitants suffered a great deal during the English Civil War (1642-45) when it was occupied by Officers and Men of the Parliamentary Army, led by Sir William Brereton. The church building was part of the reason for their deployment here, as the tower commanded views across vast swathes of countryside, including Chester & the River Dee. The building itself could hold hundreds of troops. This deep involvement of an attacking force meant that the building itself suffered damage, although this was comparatively light compared to the rest of the village which was largely destroyed before the main battle at Rowton Moor which took place on September 24th 1645. As the Parliamentarians remained in control of the area long after the Battle, no revenge attack occurred to cause further harm to the building. Any damage was temporarily patched up until the nave and chancel were completely rebuilt in brick in the 1730's.

This part of the church was re-built in Georgian style in 1736 by the Rev. Philip Smallridge Rector and a Chaplain to Queen Caroline, who managed to obtain money by the issue of a Parliamentary "Brief", a device used to get churches from a wider area to contribute to the building of a new church. £1, 250 was gathered for Christleton through this appeal, but £1,000 of this went in legal costs, with local people then contributing "in kind" using their own transport and labour to enable the building to be completed.

Research reveals that there were two important chapels to be found within St James precincts. "The Brereton and Cholmondeley Chapel", and the "Cotton or Venables Chapel". "In 1525 Eleanor daughter of Sir William Brereton\* caused two windows to be made, one with shields with her arms, and those of her husband Thomas son of Thomas Bulkeley of Ayton. The second was dedicated to Eleanor and her second husband Hugh Cholmondeley who possessed the manor of Rowton. This chapel was thought to be in ruins

by 1619"

"The Cotton Chapel was to the south side of the church and had one window. In the 1737 plan it is styled the Chapel for Cotton Hall." Sir William Venables of Kinderton and second wife Katherine daughter of Robert Grosvenor of Eaton had the window adorned with two shields. The window may have been erected in celebration of Sir William being elected High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1526. The Arms of Cotton were borne by the Cottons of Cotton Hall. A Cotton Chapel was still present in the 1737 building, but there is also evidence of there being an even larger chapel belonging to the Townsend Family. Robert Townsend an Ironmonger of Chester acquired substantial property in Christleton from his Aunt Egerton. There is a record that states that in 1712 his grandson Robert Townsend later "The Recorder for Chester" was given permission to build a chapel or oratory with burying place under it in Christleton Church. It also states that two of the Townsend pews had fireplaces.

\*This Sir William Brereton is not the leader of the Parliamentary soldiers mentioned earlier.

On Sunday January 1873 part of the roof of the brick building of 1736 collapsed and some of the congregation were covered with snow. Canon Garnett used the opportunity and his influence to have a substantial rebuild of the nave and chancel. He was determined to provide the best, and spent more money than the church and village could afford to ensure that the new structure would last for much longer than the previous buildings. The red sandstone blocks came from quarries in Delamere and Waverton, and were used together with a creamy white sandstone, from Stourton Hill Quarry, on Wirral. This building designed by William Butterfield and completed in 1876, was consecrated in July 1877, is described more fully in the remainder of the text, is the church we see today. It remains as the place of worship for the people of Christleton, a place where worship has been continuous for well over a thousand years.

A number of smaller changes have taken place in the succeeding years, but are mainly to do with the artefacts within the church, or stained glass windows, the moving of the font from the tower vestry, to the nave, and the removal of a memorial wrought iron rood screen to create a new lady chapel, where the choir vestry once stood. A new oak cross was placed on the Lych Gate in 2000, donated by Mrs Nancy Catherall (nee Mayers) continuing a link with the family that has probably existed since 1484. New gates were erected on the porch, the war memorial and the gate entry on Pepper Street in 2006. The church building itself was brought up to date with major work on the roof, tower and the electrics following a quinquennial review in 2000. The Millennium Window in the Lady Chapel was paid for by public subscription and commemorates a thousand years of history in the village, and the work of Churches Together in Christleton. In 2016 a new central heating boiler was installed.

## **1.4 The church building in general**

The church is built in ashlar red and white sandstone with a green slate roof. Its plan consists of a nave and chancel in one range with a clerestory, north and south aisles, a south porch, side chapels to the chancel, and a west tower. The tower is in two stages with diagonal buttresses and a stair turret at the southeast angle. It has a three-light west window. The bell openings have two lights and are louvred. The parapets are embattled and have gargoyles. On top of the tower is a shingled pyramidal cap.

## **1.5 The church building in detail**

Church: late C15 tower, the rest 1874-77 by W.Butterfield. Ashlar red sandstone. Green slate roof. Nave and chancel in one range, north and south aisles, south porch, side chapels to chancel and a 2-stage west tower. Aisles have rectangular windows of 2 or 3 cusped lights. Similar 2-light windows in the clerestorey. Gabled porch with arched entrance on engaged columns. Tall gabled and buttressed side chapel has a 3-light window with cusped tracery. Similar tall 2-light window in the chancel and a 3-light east window. Tower has diagonal buttresses and a stair turret at the south-east angle. 3-light west window and a 2-light louvred bell opening. Gargoyle rainspouts below an embattled parapet. The shingled pyramidal cap is Butterfield's addition. Interior: decorated with red and white sandstone. 5-bay nave arcades of double chamfered arches on octagonal piers. The clerestorey windows are over the piers and all the windows have wooden lintels. A wagon roof is sprung from stone corbels. Tall narrow triple-chamfered tower arch where plaster mimics the white stone. Wrought iron chancel screen beneath a hanging wooden screen. The panels of coloured stonework continue into the chancel and have a chequerboard pattern added in the upper portion. 2 bay arcades to the side chapels with the sanctuary beyond. This has a large alabaster reredos with cusped and quatrefoil panels filled with mosaic. Above, the roof contains painted quatrefoil panels. West window of 1877 by Gibbs and much of the other glass by Kempe 1884-1904. Large painted panels of the royal arms dated 1665, by Randle Holme III (Pevsner and Hubbard). The red sandstone came from Waverton quarry and the white from Stourton Hill.

## **1.6 Contents of the Church**

The interior is decorated with red and white sandstone with a chequerboard pattern added in the upper portion. There is no chancel arch, but between the nave and the chancel is a tympanum marking the division. In the chancel is a large alabaster reredos having panels filled with mosaic. The chancel is floored with Minton tiles. The west window dated 1877 is by Gibbs and much of the other stained glass is by the firm of Kempe, and is dated between 1884 and 1904. In the north aisle is a window dating from about 1986 by Cliff Boddy, and there is a window celebrating the 2000 millennium in the south transept by Bill Davies. A large painted panel of the royal arms dated 1665 is by Randle Holme III. The font is made from Sicilian marble on a Derbyshire limestone base. The churchwardens' benches have canopies. The altar table is Jacobean. Also in the church is a carving of a pelican feeding her young with her own blood, and an old village constable's staff. The two-manual organ was built by George Holdich, and rebuilt around 1990 by Rushworth and Dreaper. There is a ring of eight bells cast in 1928 by John Taylor and Company.

## **1.7 Significance for mission**

The Churchyard is a precious green space in the centre of the Christleton Conservation Area. It is used extensively by local residents and visitors, is bounded on the west side by a public footpath and on the north by an open aspect overlooking fields. There are approximately 55 trees, mostly mature and many requiring some pruning, apart from those to be felled. We have begun a programme of re-wilding in the older section, planting wildflowers in selected areas this year. Last year saw a great increase in pollinator insect activity and birds. Due to the increase in footfall it is now more important than ever to ensure that the Churchyard is a physically safe place for both people and wildlife.

## **Section 2 : The significance of the area affected by the proposal.**

### **2.1 Identify the parts of the church and/or churchyard which will be directly or indirectly affected by your proposal.**



When the two Lawson cypress trees are felled, the coping stones at the side of the footpath can be re-instated as they have been pushed out of alignment by the trees and their roots. The adjoining footpath has been distorted and potholed making it dangerous particularly in bad light. To anyone of reduced mobility it is extremely hazardous and impassable for wheelchairs. Additionally it is a tripping hazard for coffin bearers.

It is intended to re-surface the paths in the churchyard as they have fallen into disrepair over the years. This is the only area which poses an obstacle due to the proximity of these trees to the main path in the new section of the Churchyard. The civil engineering company who will be doing the resurfacing work have advised that it is not advisable to "bridge" the damaged area as the problem would merely surface again.

## **2.2 Set out the significance of these particular parts.**

This has been dealt with in the above section.

## **Section 3: Assessment of the impact of the proposals**

### **3.1 Describe and assess the impact of your proposal on these parts, and on the whole.**

The two Lawson cypress trees are not particularly good specimens according to the Tree officer and are nearing the end of their normal lives. They have been "topped" several times in the course of their lives presenting an unbalanced appearance.

The safety of people using the Churchyard is paramount - it is the view of the PCC that the Churchyard looks cared for. Were the two trees and the path left unchecked there is potential for insurance claims. The decision may have to be made to close the path..

### **3.2 Explain how you intend, where possible, to mitigate the impact of the proposed works on the significance of the parts affected and the whole.**

The immediate area would be closed to the public with physical barriers and notices for a maximum of two days while the felling work is under way. The entrance from the car park would be closed. as would the entrance from the side of the Church.

## **Sources consulted**

Adam Carpenter - CWAC Tree officer

Peter Murray - Murray Tree Consultancy

Nick Gilliam - Arboreal Tree Surgery

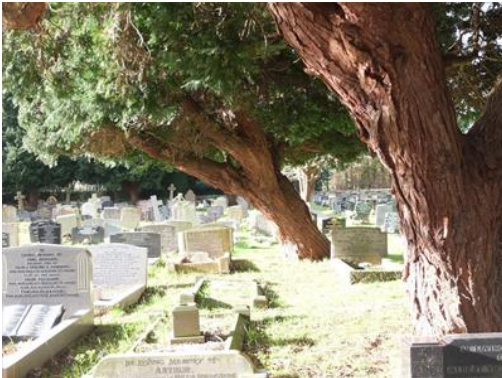
Henry Williams and Son - Civil Engineering

St. James' Christleton PCC

**Plan**

**Interior**

**Exterior**





MURRAY  
TREE CONSULTANCY

## TREE CONDITION ASSESSMENT

AT

ST JAMES'S CHURCH  
VILLAGE RD  
CHRISTLETON  
CHESTER  
CH3 7AJ

April 2022

PM/11/04/22

Murray Tree Consultancy | 0161 425 2138 | 07920 264374 | [peter@murraytreeconsultancy.co.uk](mailto:peter@murraytreeconsultancy.co.uk)

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## APPENDICES

APPENDIX A - Arboricultural Glossary of Terms

APPENDIX B - Survey Data

APPENDIX C – Digital Photographs

APPENDIX D - Key References

APPENDIX E - Site Plan

*Disclaimer*

*The tree(s) referred to in this report are living entities and are therefore subject to natural processes. They will also be subject to changes to their environment caused by human's activities and to exceptional weather conditions. The inspection undertaken by our qualified staff relies on visual attributes of tree health and structure which can be assessed from a ground-based inspection. Hidden defects which are not readily visible may not be detected. We therefore cannot wholly guarantee the condition and safety of the trees inspected beyond what can be reasonably assessed from the procedure used. We would recommend that the trees are regularly inspected and our staff will advise on the suitable frequency of these inspections.*

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Professional Details**

- 1.1.1 My name is Peter Murray and I have been working and studying in the Arboricultural Industry since 1989. I have many years practical and consulting experience as a Local Authority arboriculturalist and more recently as a private sector practitioner.
- 1.1.2 I so far hold the Higher National Diploma in Arboriculture and am a professional member of the Arboricultural Association. I regularly attend numerous conferences and seminars keeping up to date with latest research and best practices.

### **1.2 Tree Condition Assessment**

- 1.2.1 An authority or any person responsible for the safety of trees is under a duty to have them inspected by a competent person at reasonably frequent intervals so that any indication of disease, possible disease, structural defect or other problem present at the time of inspection can be noted and acted upon.
- 1.2.2 This report was commissioned by Bettie Gilliatt (Churchwarden) and its purpose was to carry out a site visit and to make a visual assessment on the health and stability of all significant trees within the site as shown on the Site Plan of Appendix E.
- 1.2.3 This document provides details of their condition and recommendations for management and should be read in conjunction with the data tables of Appendix B and site plans of Appendix E.
- 1.2.4 The survey on which the findings of this report are based was undertaken on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and the weather was dry and bright. No background information was supplied.
- 1.2.5 All trees were inspected from ground level only and all comments and recommendations made have taken into account the location of each tree, their surroundings and their likely impact on persons or property.
- 1.2.6 The limitations of this report are restricted to the persons, time, information made available and purpose for which this report has been prepared. This report does not deal with tree root/building conflicts and no information has been provided regarding soil type and no analysis undertaken by this company.

## **2.0 ASSESSMENT**

### **2.1 Tree Risk Assessment**

- 2.1.1 A total of fifty-two individual trees and five offsite trees/groups were plotted and assessed. The results are clearly described in the data tables of Appendix B and the site plan of Appendix E.
- 2.1.2 To give assistance in reading the assessment a full arboricultural glossary of terms has been produced and can be found within Appendix A of this report.
- 2.1.3 The mature trees on and immediately adjacent to the site are the most likely to cause injury to persons or damage to property, due to the size of parts that may fall in the event of their whole or partial failure. These trees have been inspected with the aim of evaluating any potential risk they present to visitors to St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester and any surrounding property including the main highway and public footpaths. The word risk, within this context, refers to the likelihood of a tree shedding branches or falling and causing injury/damage.
- 2.1.4 'Tree risk assessment' involves the process of inspecting and assessing trees for their potential to injure people and/or damage property. There are three fundamental factors that should be considered when considering the risk of tree failure and the likely outcome of such an event:
- likelihood of failure – nature of defect/characteristic of tree,
  - impact potential – size/weight of the tree part most likely to fail and,
  - target object/s – what could be injured or damaged in the event of tree failure.

### **2.2 Trees of the Site**

- 2.2.1 In the main, the trees off the site were found to be in reasonable/typical condition for their age and species.
- 2.2.2 Several trees have been recommended for imminent works due to their potential for failure, which are T42, OS4 & T48 as detailed within the data of Appendix B and photographic evidence of Appendix D. In addition, although T18 & T19 are healthy specimens it is felt that they have now outgrown their location due to the impact that they are having on the footpath. Roots can be cut, and the tarmac can be repaired but it never lasts very long before roots return. They are old mature specimens of no major significance and can be replaced with smaller less vigorous species in an alternative location if necessary.
- 2.2.3 The Priority 3 works are mostly maintenance issues or works that would improve trees or groups. If they are not carried out at some point, then these issues will become a higher priority and, in some cases, more difficult to resolve.



2.2.4 The data tables and plan with the Appendices are self explanatory but should any clarification be sought then please contact me directly.

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that all works to the trees be carried out in accordance with the data tables of Appendix A in order to bring them into good management and continue long-term tree cover in this area. The works required to establish acceptable levels of safety for the site are listed as Priority 1 and 2. They should be carried out within the time scales indicated. Priority 3 works are advisory to establish high levels of arboricultural management and are not necessary for safety reasons. All works are summarised within the table below: -

Priority	Tree Number	Species	Description of Works
2	T18	Lawson Cypress	Fell to ground level.
2	T19	Lawson Cypress	Fell to ground level.
2	T42	Yew	Reduce and re-shape whole crown by approximately 2m.
2	OS4	Holly	Check ownership and negotiate its removal.
2	T48	Yew	Reduce and re-shape whole crown by approximately 2m.
3	T1	Yew	Light crown lift to approximately 2.5m.
3	T2	Yew	Light crown lift to approximately 2.5m.
3	T3	Holly	Fell and treat stump to prevent re-growth.
3	T5	Yew	Light crown lift to approximately 2m.
3	T6	Yew	Sever Ivy at base to 1m.
3	T9	Holly	Consider some aeration and some fertiliser around base.
3	T13	Yew	Remove basal shoots.
3	T14	Yew	Sever Ivy at base to 1m and remove basal shoots.
3	T15	Yew	Sever Ivy at base to 1m and remove basal shoots.
3	T17	Hawthorn	Fell to ground level.
3	OS2	3 Silver Maple	Sever Ivy at base to 1m.
3	T21	Field Maple	Remove two lower damaged branches.
3	T22	Japanese Cherry	Sever Ivy at base to 1m.
3	T45	Yew	Light crown lift to approx. 2m.
3	T46	Yew	Light crown lift to approx. 2m.
3	T52	Holly	Cut all Holly to ground level and treat stumps to prevent re-growth.

### 3.2 Standard of work

All tree work undertaken should be done in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 and by competent contractors insured with public liability cover of at least two million pounds.

### 3.3 Statutory controls

If the trees on site are subject to any Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) or are encompassed within a Conservation Area then statutory permission from the Local Planning Authority (LPA) will be required, other than certain exemptions, before any tree works take place. The works specified above are necessary for reasonable management and should be acceptable to the local authority. However, tree owners/managers should appreciate that they may take an alternative point of view and have the option to refuse consent. A recent check on the Local Authorities Website revealed that the site is within the Christleton Conservation Area, but none of the trees are protected by a TPO.

### 3.4 Wildlife

All operations should take account of wildlife needs and be planned to take advantage of weather conditions and time of year for minimum damage and disturbance. If any protected species or nesting birds are present or discovered while the works are taking place all work should cease until contact has been made with Natural England for further advice. Natural England can be contacted on 0300 060 3900 or by e-mail to: [enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk). Specific consideration should be given to the possible presence of roosting bats, which are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (schedule 5) and included in schedule 2 of the Conservation Regulations 1994. Ideally, a survey should be carried out to identify any potential roost sites and if bats are found to be present advice should be sought from a person qualified and experienced in handling such matters and fully conversant with the implications of the Act.

### 3.5 Repeat survey's

It is recommended that a repeat survey of the trees within the site should be carried out on a three-yearly basis; next 2025.

Signed



Peter Murray (HND. ARB, M, Arbor A)  
Consulting Arborist

12<sup>th</sup> April 2022



## APPENDIX A – Arboricultural Glossary of Terms

The following terms are concurrent with best Arboricultural practice and within the guidelines set by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the Arboricultural Association (AA) and the British Standards Institute (BSI).

**Age Range:** Age is site specific and categorised:

Young (Y)	Out-planted trees that have not yet established
Semi-Mature (SM)	Established trees up to 1/3 of expected height and crown
Early Mature (EM)	Between 1/3 and 2/3 of expected height and crown
Mature (M)	Between 2/3 and full expected height and crown
Fully Mature (FM)	Full expected height and crown
Over Mature (OM)	Crown beginning to break-up and decrease in size
Senescent (S)	Crown in advanced stage of break-up

**Height:** Height was estimated and recorded in five metre intervals such as: 0-5, 6-10, 11-15, 16-20, 21-25 and 26+

**Condition:** Assessment of current physiological condition and structural morphology incorporating vigour and vitality and categorised:

- A – Tree needing little, if any attention
- B – Tree with minor, but rectifiable defects, or in the early stages of physiological stress
- C – Tree with significant structural and physiological flaws and/or extremely stressed
- D – Tree that is dead, biologically/physically moribund or dangerous

**Priority Rating:**

- E – Emergency – Should have been reported by other means for immediate action
- 1 – High - Action should be taken immediately (within 1-2 months)
- 2 – Moderate - Work should be implemented in a programme of works (within 6-12 months)
- 3 – Low - Work that would benefit the trees which is not essential, but should be implemented if funding becomes available (preferably within 12-24 months)

### Definition of Physiological & Morphological Terms

**Adaptive Growth** - The process whereby wood formation is influenced both in quantity and in quality by the action of gravitational force and mechanical stresses on the cambial zone.

**Bifurcation** – Forked or divided union.

**Brown Rot** - Form of decay where cellulose is degraded, while lignin is only modified.

**Cankers** (target or tumorous) - A localised area of dead bark and cambium on a stem or branch, caused by fungal or bacterial organisms, characterised by woundwood development on the periphery. This may be annual or perennial.

**Cavity** - An open wound, characterised by the presence of extensive decay and resulting in a hollow.

**Chlorotic Leaf** - Lacking in chlorophyll, typically yellow in colour.

**Compartmentalisation** - The physiological process that creates the chemical and mechanical boundaries that act to limit the spread of disease and decay organisms.

**Coppicing** - Is an ancient form of woodland management that involves repetitive felling on the same stump, near to ground level, and allowing the shoots to re-grow from that main stump. (Also known as the coppice stool).

**Crack** - Longitudinal split in stem or branch, involving bark and/or underlying wood. These may be vertically and horizontally orientated.

**Decay** - Process of degradation of woody tissues by fungi and bacteria through decomposition of cellulose and lignin.

**Deadwood** - Deadwood is often present within the crown or on the stems of trees. In some instances, it may be an indication of ill health, however, it may also indicate natural growth processes. If a target is present beneath the tree, deadwood may fall and cause injury or damage and should be removed, otherwise deadwood can remain intact for conservation purposes (insects, fungi, birds etc.).

**End Weight** - The concentration of foliage at the distal ends of stems and deficient in secondary branches.

**Girdling Root** - Root which circles and constricts the stem or roots causing death of phloem and/or cambial tissue.

**Hazard Beam** - An upwardly curved branch in which strong internal stresses may occur without the compensatory formation of extra wood (longitudinal splitting may occur in some cases).

**Included Bark Union** - Pattern of development at branch junctions where bark is turned inward rather than pushed out. Potential weakness due to a lack of a woody union.

**Ivy Growth** - Ivy growth may ascend into the tree's crown, increasing wind resistance, concealing potential defects and reducing the tree's photosynthetic capacity. Ivy growth is often acceptable in woodland areas as a conservation benefit.

**Live Crown Ratio** - The relative proportion of photosynthetic mass (leaf area) to overall tree height.

**Reaction Wood** - Specialised secondary xylem, which develops in response to a lean or similar mechanical stress, attempting to restore the stem to the vertical.

**Root Plate Lift** - The physical movement of the rooting plate causing soils to shift and crack. May occur during adverse weather conditions. Trees may become unstable.

**Structural Defect** - Internal or external points of weakness, which reduce the stability of the tree.

**Suppressed** - Trees which are dominated by surrounding vegetation and whose crown development is restricted from above.

**Topping** - A highly disfiguring practise, likely to cause severe xylem dysfunction and decay in major structural parts of the wood.

**White Rot** - Form of decay where both cellulose and lignin are degraded.

**Wound** - Any injury, which induces a compartmentalisation response.

**Woundwood** - Wood with atypical anatomical features, formed in the vicinity of a wound and a term to describe the occluding tissues around a wound as opposed to the ambiguous term “callus.”

**Woodland Structure** - The vertical and horizontal arrangement of trees within a group or woodland i.e. Dominant - trees with a crown above the upper layer of the canopy, Co-dominant - trees that define the general upper edge of the canopy, Intermediate - trees that have been largely overgrown by others, Suppressed - trees that have been overgrown and occupy an under storey position and grow slowly, often severely asymmetrical.

**Note:** The definitions described above, may not necessarily be included within the Arboricultural Survey Data.

# APPENDIX B – Tree Survey Data

Tree Condition Assessment: St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ							
Date: 18/03/22				Weather: Dry		Surveyor: PM	
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Age	Condition Rating	Comments	Recommendations	Priority Rating
T1	Yew	6-10	M	A	An individual specimen with typical multi-stemmed form and a spreading crown. Previous removal of lower branches. Stem shoots regularly pruned. Minor low branches over graves. Good form and vigour.	Light crown lift to approximately 2.5m.	3
T2	Yew	6-10	M	A	An individual specimen with typical multi-stemmed form and a spreading crown. Previous removal of lower branches. Stem shoots regularly pruned. Minor low branches over graves. Good form and vigour.	Light crown lift to approximately 2.5m.	3
T3	Holly	6-10	EM	B/C	A multi-stemmed specimen, which appears to be growing form and old stump. Slightly sparse crown. Stems and roots affecting adjacent monuments. A poor specimen with low potential.	Fell and treat stump to prevent re-growth.	3
T4	Weeping Cherry	0-5	Y	B	A young memorial tree, slightly one sided. Reasonable vigour.	n/a	-
T5	Yew	6-10	M	A/B	An individual specimen with typical multi-stemmed form and a spreading crown. Previous failure within the fork but the wound doesn't appear decayed, and a resonance test also provided no signs of decay. Stem shoots regularly pruned. Minor low branches over graves. Reasonable form and vigour, slight unbalanced due to limb failure.	Light crown lift to approximately 2m.	3
T6	Yew	6-10	M	A	An individual specimen forked near base with a spreading crown. Previous removal of lower branches. Stem swamped in Ivy. Good form and vigour.	Sever Ivy at base to 1m.	3
T7	Irish Yew	6-10	EM	A	Located adjacent within raised planting area exhibiting good form and vigour.	n/a	-

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Tree Condition Assessment: St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ							
Date: 18/03/22				Weather: Dry		Surveyor: PM	
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Age	Condition Rating	Comments	Recommendations	Priority Rating
T8	Irish Yew	6-10	EM	A/B	Located adjacent to the Lych Gate exhibiting good form and vigour. Previously pruned to clear structure.	n/a	-
T9	Holly	0-5	SM	B/C	A memorial tree with a slightly sparse crown.	Consider some aeration and some fertiliser around base.	3
T10	Irish Yew	6-10	EM	A/B	Located adjacent to the Lych Gate exhibiting good form and vigour. Previously pruned to clear structure.	n/a	-
T11	Copper Beech	6-10	M	B	Located to rear of retaining wall adjacent to highway. Previously reduced at approx. 8m. Reasonable re-growth. Bifurcates at 1.8m with a typical spreading crown.	n/a	-
T12	Irish Yew	6-10	EM	B	Located on the boundary with adjacent property. High crown due to previous pruning.	n/a	-
T13	Yew	6-10	FM	A	A large old tree exhibiting good form and vigour. Previous removal of lower branches. Minor low foliage. Profuse basal shoots present.	Remove basal shoots.	3
T14	Yew	6-10	M	A/B	A co-dominant specimen within group exhibiting reasonable form and vigour. Previously crown lifted. Profuse basal shoots and Ivy on the stem.	Sever Ivy at base to 1m and remove basal shoots.	3
T15	Yew	6-10	M	A	A co-dominant specimen within group exhibiting good form and vigour. Previously crown lifted. Profuse basal shoots and Ivy on the stem.	Sever Ivy at base to 1m and remove basal shoots.	3
T16	Yew	6-10	M	B	Located on the boundary wall, previous removal of stems near base with dieback from pruning points. Sound wood at base. Reasonable vigour.	n/a	-
OS1	Weeping Birch	0-5	M	A/B	An ornamental specimen located within the adjacent property exhibiting good form and vigour. Overhangs site slightly.	n/a	-

### APPENDIX B – Tree Survey Data

<b>Tree Condition Assessment: St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ      Date: 18/03/22      Weather: Dry      Surveyor: PM</b>							
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Age	Condition Rating	Comments	Recommendations	Priority Rating
T17	Hawthorn	0-5	M	C	Previous loss of secondary stem at base, wound significantly decayed. High likelihood of failure.	<b>Fell to ground level.</b>	<b>3</b>
OS2	Group – 3 Silver Maple	11-15	M	B	Located within the adjacent site. High crowns from previous pruning and evidence of previous reduction works within the crown. One stem is heavily swamped in Ivy.	<b>Sever Ivy at base to 1m.</b>	<b>3</b>
T18	Lawson Cypress	6-10	FM	B	A mature Coniferous tree previously topped with a spreading crown. Exhibits good vigour but is considered to have outgrown its location. The roots are causing major disturbance to the paths and edging stones, which would be difficult to practically repair with the trees in place.	<b>Fell to ground level.</b>	<b>2</b>
T19	Lawson Cypress	6-10	FM	B	A mature Coniferous tree previously topped with a spreading crown and leaning stem. Exhibits good vigour but is considered to have outgrown its location. The roots are causing major disturbance to the paths and edging stones, which would be difficult to practically repair with the trees in place.	<b>Fell to ground level.</b>	<b>2</b>
T20	Hawthorn	0-5	M	B	An individual specimen with reasonable form and vigour. Minor wounds with associated decay.	<b>n/a</b>	<b>-</b>
T21	Field Maple	6-10	M	B	Located on the boundary with spreading form and good vigour. Large surface roots present. However, there are two lower branches that have been damaged and will eventually fail.	<b>Remove two lower damaged branches.</b>	<b>3</b>
T22	Japanese Cherry	0-5	EM	B	Located on the northern boundary. Exhibits major crown asymmetry and the stem is swamped in Ivy.	<b>Sever Ivy at base to 1m.</b>	<b>3</b>
T23	Japanese Cherry	0-5	Y	B	A young specimen located on the northern boundary still at the stake.	<b>n/a</b>	<b>-</b>

### APPENDIX B – Tree Survey Data

Tree Condition Assessment: St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ							
				Date: 18/03/22		Weather: Dry	Surveyor: PM
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Age	Condition Rating	Comments	Recommendations	Priority Rating
T24	Japanese Cherry	0-5	EM	B	Located on the northern boundary. Exhibits major crown asymmetry. Previously reduced.	n/a	-
T25	Hawthorn	0-5	EM	B	A minor specimen located on the northern boundary previously pruned.	n/a	-
T26	Hawthorn	0-5	EM	B	A minor specimen located on the northern boundary previously pruned.	n/a	-
T27	Hawthorn	0-5	EM	B	A minor specimen located on the northern boundary previously pruned.	n/a	-
T28	Hawthorn	0-5	EM	B	A minor specimen located on the northern boundary previously pruned.	n/a	-
OS3	Elderberry	0-5	M	B	Located on the other side of the fence, ownership unclear. Previously pruned to clear site.	n/a	-
T29	Yew	0-5	EM	B	A coppiced stump with vigorous re-growth regularly trimmed. Shrub like form.	n/a	-
T30	Maple	6-10	EM	B	Located within a linear strip. Previous removal of lower limbs. High crown. Vigorous roots affecting path edgings.	n/a	-
T31	Maple	6-10	EM	B	Located within a linear strip. Previous removal of lower limbs. High crown. Vigorous roots affecting path edgings.	n/a	-
T32	Maple	6-10	EM	B	Located within a linear strip. Previous removal of lower limbs. High crown. Vigorous roots affecting path edgings.	n/a	-
T33	Maple	6-10	EM	B	Located within a linear strip. Previous removal of lower limbs. High crown. Vigorous roots affecting path edgings.	n/a	-
T34	Whitebeam	6-10	M	B	Located within a linear strip. Previous removal of lower branches. Good form and vigour. Minor deadwood present.	n/a	-

### APPENDIX B – Tree Survey Data

<b>Tree Condition Assessment: St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ</b> <b>Date: 18/03/22</b> <b>Weather: Dry</b> <b>Surveyor: PM</b>							
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Age	Condition Rating	Comments	Recommendations	Priority Rating
T35	Whitebeam	6-10	M	B	Located within a linear strip. Previous removal of lower branches. Good form and vigour. Minor deadwood present.	n/a	-
T36	Lawson Cypress	6-10	FM	B	Located within a linear strip, dense crown previously reduced. Reasonable vigour.	n/a	-
T37	Irish Yew	0-5	EM	B	A suppressed specimen within linear group.	n/a	-
T38	Lawson Cypress	6-10	FM	B	Located within a linear strip, dense crown previously reduced. Reasonable vigour.	n/a	-
T39	Lawson Cypress	6-10	FM	B	Located within a linear strip, dense crown previously reduced. Reasonable vigour.	n/a	-
T40	Irish Yew	6-10	EM	B	A slightly one-sided specimen within linear group. Reasonable vigour.	n/a	-
T41	Yew	6-10	M	B	Exhibits reasonable structural form, typically multi-stemmed. Slightly sparse foliage.	n/a	-
T42	Yew	6-10	M	B/C	A large specimen close to Church. Forked near base with co-dominant stems. Major stem decay and hollowing of stem. High likelihood of imminent failure unless the crown is reduced in order to lessen the strain on the weak stems. Exhibits good vigour.	<b>Reduce and re-shape whole crown by approximately 2m.</b>	<b>2</b>
OS4	Holly	6-10	EM	D	A dead tree located within the adjacent footpath area. Ownership unclear but it is a hazard to the footpath and could impact on the Churchyard as well. Starting to break up.	<b>Check ownership and negotiate its removal.</b>	<b>2</b>
OS5	Group – Oak, Yew, Beech & Cherry	6-15	EM	B	A mixed group located within the adjacent property. No apparent issues. Minor overhang but mostly over the footpath.	n/a	-



### APPENDIX B – Tree Survey Data

<b>Tree Condition Assessment: St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ</b> <b>Date: 18/03/22</b> <b>Weather: Dry</b> <b>Surveyor: PM</b>							
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Age	Condition Rating	Comments	Recommendations	Priority Rating
T43	Holly	6-10	M	B	Located within linear group to the rear of low retaining wall adjacent to footpath. Exhibits reasonable form and vigour. Previous pruning.	n/a	-
T44	Yew	6-10	M	B	A co-dominant specimen on the edge of the group exhibiting reasonable form and vigour. Previous removal of lower branches.	n/a	-
T45	Yew	6-10	M	A/B	A co-dominant specimen within linear group to the rear of low retaining wall adjacent to footpath. Exhibits good form and vigour. Previous removal of lower branches. Slightly low foliage over graves. Disturbance to low retaining wall.	Light crown lift to approx. 2m.	3
T46	Yew	6-10	M	A/B	A co-dominant specimen within linear group to the rear of low retaining wall adjacent to footpath. Exhibits good form and vigour. Previous removal of lower branches. Slightly low foliage over graves. Disturbance to low retaining wall.	Light crown lift to approx. 2m.	3
T47	Variegated Holly	6-10	EM	B	Located within linear group with major crown asymmetry over footpath due to suppression.	n/a	-
T48	Yew	6-10	M	B/C	A co-dominant specimen within linear group to the rear of low retaining wall adjacent to footpath. Forked at 1.5m forming two co-dominant stems, the southern stem is severely decayed, which could be due to historic topping operations. This stem is liable to collapse.	Reduce and re-shape whole crown by approximately 2m.	2
T49	Yew	6-10	M	A/B	A co-dominant specimen within linear group to the rear of low retaining wall adjacent to footpath. Exhibits reasonable form and vigour. Previous removal of lower branches, high crown. Minor disturbance to low retaining wall. Possible historic topping operations.	n/a	-

# APPENDIX B – Tree Survey Data

Tree Condition Assessment: St James's Church, Village Rd, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ							
Date: 18/03/22				Weather: Dry		Surveyor: PM	
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Age	Condition Rating	Comments	Recommendations	Priority Rating
T50	Yew	6-10	M	B	A co-dominant specimen within linear group to the rear of low retaining wall adjacent to footpath. Exhibits reasonable form and vigour. Previous removal of lower branches, high crown. Minor disturbance to low retaining wall. Historic topping operations.	n/a	-
T51	Yew	6-10	M	B	A co-dominant specimen within linear group to the rear of low retaining wall adjacent to footpath. Exhibits reasonable form and vigour. Previous removal of lower branches, high crown. Minor disturbance to low retaining wall. Historic topping operations.	n/a	-
T52	Holly	0-5	Y-M	B/C	An old 2m stump adjacent to wall. Profuse re-growth around base. As it matures it will cause disturbance to the wall. Foliage also spilling over into path.	Cut all Holly to ground level and treat stumps to prevent re-growth.	3

Recommended works should be carried out to the *British Standard Recommendations for Tree Work, BS 3998:2010*

## APPENDIX C – Key References

1. *Lonsdale, D. (1999) Principles of tree hazard assessment and management, Research for amenity trees No. 2. HMSO, London. ISBN 0-11-753355-6*
2. *Mattheck, C. and Belier, H. (1994) The body language of trees. Research for amenity trees No. 4. HMSO, London. ISBN 0-11-753067-0*
3. *Shigo, A. L. (1989a) A new tree biology. Shigo and Trees Associates, Durham, New Hampshire. ISBN 0-943563-04-6*
4. *Stouts R. G. and Winter T. G. (1994) Diagnosis of ill-health in trees, Research for amenity trees No. 2. HMSO, London. ISBN 0-11-752919-2*
5. *British Standard BS 3998: (2010) Tree Work-Recommendations. ISBN 978-0-580-53777-6*

## **APPENDIX D – Digital Photographs**



T52



T1



T3



T5 limb failure





T9 sparse crown



T16



T17



T17





T18

T19



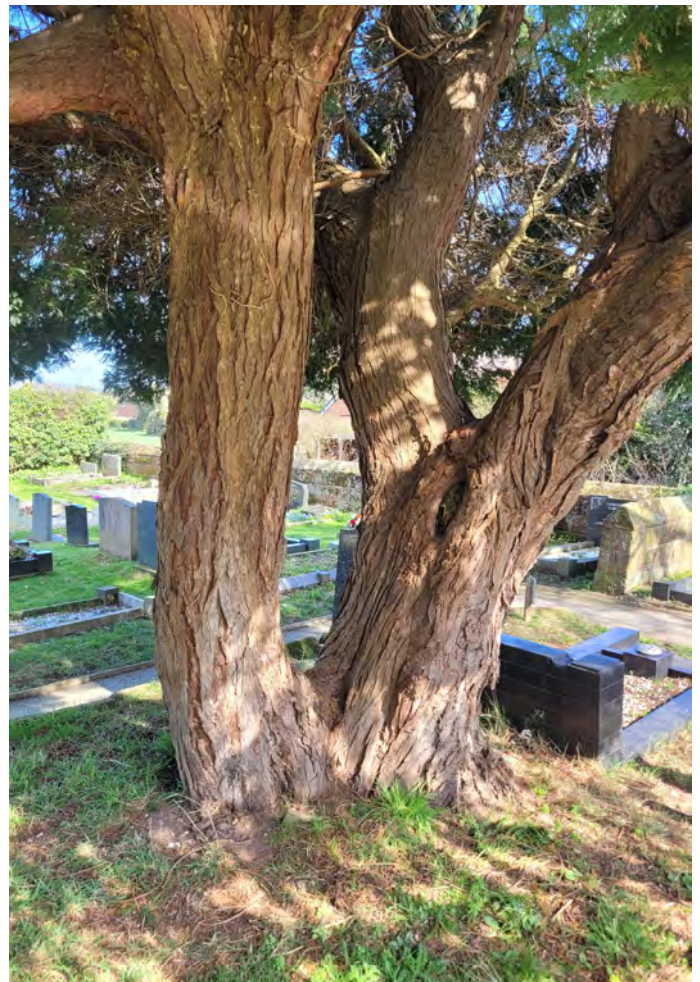
T18 root disturbance



Root disturbance to path

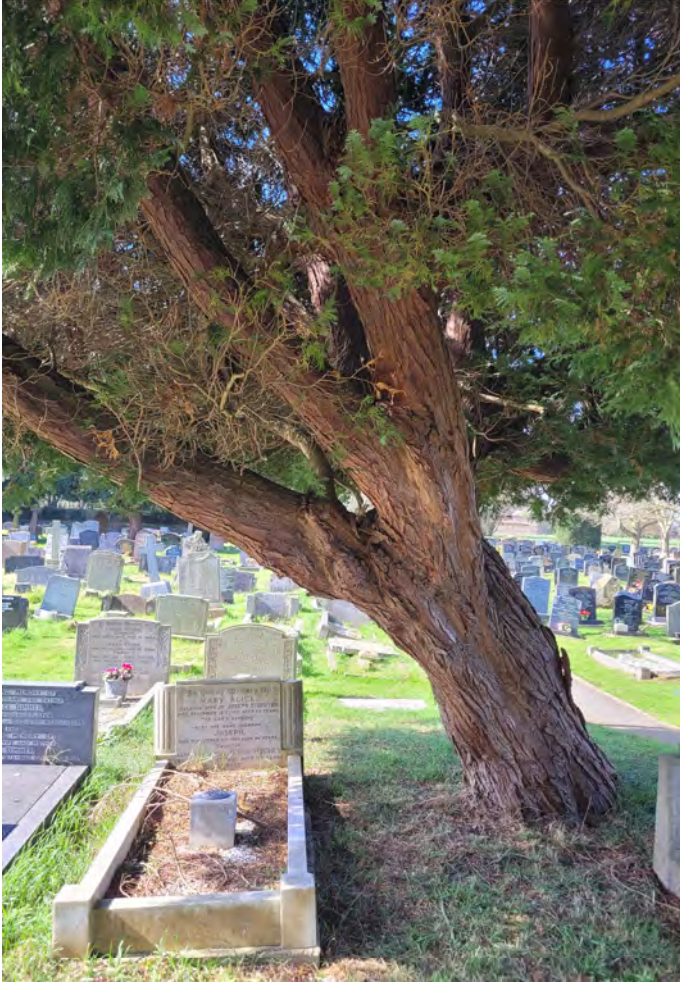


T18





T19



T20 damaged lower limbs



T42 stem decay





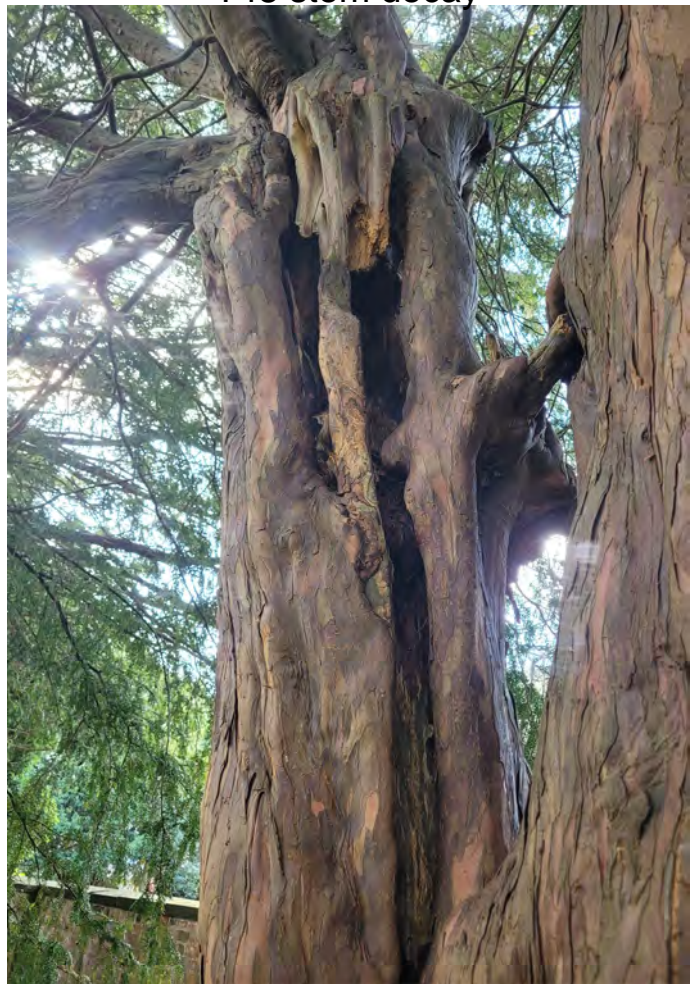
T42



OS4



T48 stem decay





T51



T50

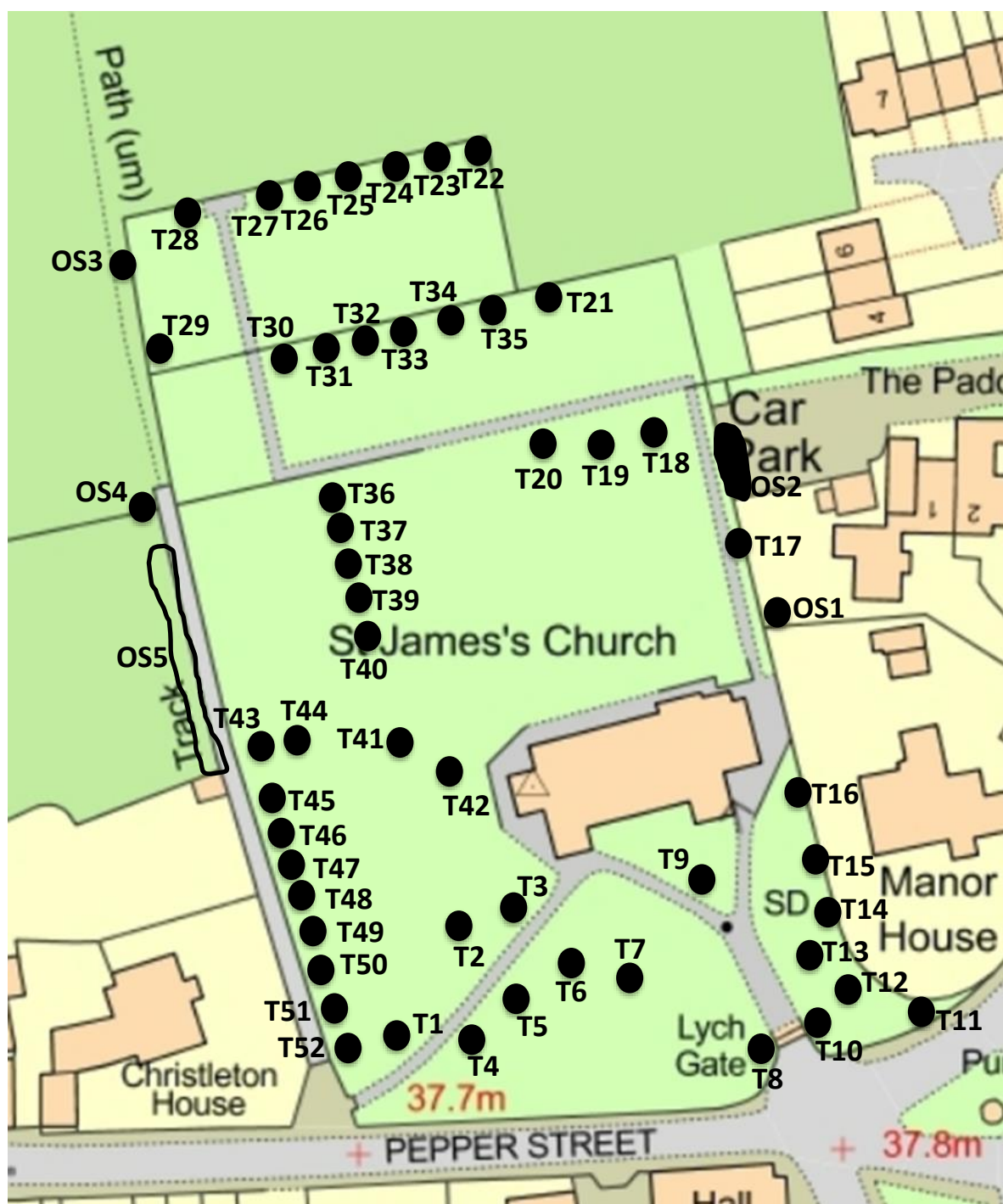


Low retaining wall



## **APPENDIX E – Site Plan**





0.

**Site Location Plan – St James's Church, Christleton, Chester, CH3 7AJ**  
Tree Condition Survey March 2022



From: CARPENTER, Adam  
To: Bettie Gilliatt, CANOVAN, Peter  
14/02/22 14:50  
2  
Inbox

Dear Bettie

Further to our meeting last Tuesday I have discussed the two Cypress trees with our Senior Tree Officer Peter Canovan.

While we would prefer to see the trees retained if at all possible it is very unlikely they would qualify for a Tree Preservation Order given the species, evident 'topping' in the past, limited remaining lifespan and damage they are causing to the path and adjacent grave stones. This being so should you decide to make a section 211 Notice to the Local Authority to remove the trees then we would not object.

While the trees are not the finest specimens they are mature with attractive main stems and are of some aesthetic value to the Churchyard.

As discussed on site consideration might be given to repairing/resurfacing the path with the trees in situ. The removal/pruning back of any large diameter surface roots within the path should be avoided as they may potentially provide anchorage and stability. However I am sure that with careful excavation the uneven surface could be levelled off although I appreciate that future root growth may well cause further disturbance.

I hope our meeting was of some help and should you require any further assistance please drop me a line.

Kind regards

**Adam Carpenter ND Arb. Tree Officer.**

## **Cheshire West and Chester Council**

To report a new service request, please use one of the following methods:

- [Via the website](#)
- [Via Cheshire West and Chester reporting app](#)

You can also check the status of your report or log another fault using our [status checker](#).

## Christleton St James - Correspondence with parish and others

Attachments are listed according to the numbering on the supporting documents list

- [Attachments in blue are included within the proposals section](#)

Date	Message
<b>25/01/2022</b> To: Caroline Hilton, Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt	<p>The footpaths around the Church and churchyard are in a poor state in many places, largely due to the roots of trees planted close to them.</p> <p>We have had a tree survey carried out last week plus a path survey for repairs. The Archdeacon mentioned monitoring the churchyard trees when he conducted his inspection in December. The last survey was approximately four years ago when work was done.</p> <p>Two cypress trees along a path in the new section have caused heaving of the tarmac which has been the cause of recent trips and a fall. The proximity of the trees to the path make it difficult now for coffins to pass. Repairing the tarmac is pointless as it cannot be levelled in its current state. The arborealist recommends the felling of both trees - they are both non-native, too large and beginning to split. We have received quotations from a local company which specializes in path rejuvenation and motorway repairs (they have created the paths at the new RHS gardens at Bridgewater) and hope we would be able to effect repairs - ideally from March but no later than September.</p> <p>I'm awaiting photographs of the affected areas.</p> <p>I am assuming that a List B request is necessary.</p> <p>We will, of course consult the Local Authority tree warden and the Parish Council. There are no tree preservation orders on any of the trees in the churchyard.</p>
<b>25/01/2022</b> To: Bettie Gilliatt From: Katy Purvis	<p>This will probably be OK under List B, but you are in a Conservation area, so you will need to speak to CWAC and get their approval and we will need the tree specialist's report to ascertain whether the trees are considered dying or dangerous. Please could you send that with the photos?</p>
<b>26/01/2022</b> To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt	<p>I'll need to ask Nick (tree man) to give his opinion, then contact the tree warden for CWAC. I'll get back to you asap.</p> <p>Mike (Lightfoot) has taken some photographs which you will have in due course.</p>
<b>01/02/2022</b> To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt	<p>I spoke to Adam Carpenter (CWAC tree warden) today. He said he would not have a problem with our felling the two cypresses along the path. There is no tree preservation order on any trees in the churchyard although as we are in a conservation area we need permission to fell trees. We will have to wait 6 weeks before doing any</p>

	<p>work - he may come and look at them but will probably be satisfied with photographs.</p> <p>Meanwhile I will put together our proposal to repair the paths for the Archdeacon's approval</p>
<p><b>03/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt</p>	<p><del>I have submitted a form of completion for the lych gate (I hope!) and trust all is well.</del></p> <p>We commissioned a churchyard tree survey recently as we need to undertake a fair amount of work including the felling of two lawson cypress trees which have caused damage to an access path and to several graves, a holly tree which has grown from seed, is split into several sections and caused upheaval on two tombstones at the front of the Church and a wizened hawthorn along an access path. I have applied to the Local Authority for permission to do this work. Tree Officer Adam Carpenter has visited the site and says he has no problems with our felling the cypresses - there is no TPO, they are at the end of their lives, one leans at a crazy angle and the trunk of the other has split into three and both have been topped out several times in the past.</p> <p>I believe that a List B request may be required. Could you confirm this please?</p>
<p><b>04/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt</p> <p><b>With attachments</b></p>	<p>Please find attached the survey which we commissioned as part of our ongoing stewardship.</p> <p>The paths are urgently in need of repair as a health and safety measure, being not really usable for anyone of reduced mobility or wheelchairs and a hazard for funeral undertakers with coffins.</p> <p>The window for paths is fairly tight as they would need to be resurfaced by the end of September.</p> <p>At an extraordinary meeting of the PCC it was agreed that the recommendations of the survey could be implemented - minuted.</p> <p><a href="#">4) Tree Condition Assessment of Murray Tree Consultancy dated April 2022</a></p>
<p><b>06/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Bettie Gilliatt From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>Almost of all this is List B, unfortunately the cypresses need faculty, but it should be straightforward, I can put this on the agenda for the May meeting, and I would expect the DAC to recommend the works.</p> <p>T18 and T19 Cypresses are Condition B, which is less than dead, dying or dangerous according to the tree report, which is why they need faculty.</p> <p>OS4 Holly is dead (Condition D), so that can be removed under List B</p>

	<p>T3 Holly is nearly dying (Condition B/C), but the diameter of stems at 1.5m above ground level are probably less than 75mm from the photo, which would allow removal under List A</p> <p>T17 Hawthorn is dying (Condition C) so can be removed under List B</p> <p>All the other work is OK under List B</p>
<p><b>06/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt</p>	<p>Just something more to keep me super-busy!</p> <p>There is too much work overall to tackle at the same time not to speak of cost so we shall have to phase pruning as necessary.</p> <p>The cypresses need to be removed before we can tackle the paths.</p> <p>I future if anyone wants to plant tree we shall ask for donation of £100,000 to look after it during its life!</p>
<p><b>09/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Bettie Gilliatt From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>List B approval doesn't have a time limit, so if you apply for that work you would still have permission after the faculty is sorted for the cypresses, so it is still worth sorting that part out, even if you don't do all of it at once.</p> <p>Yes, trees can be expensive to look after! Walls are worse though, we shouldn't ever let anyone build a wall!</p>
<p><b>13/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt</p>	<p>I have gone into the system to apply for permission to fell the two lawson cypress trees (two others also need to be felled).</p> <p>According to the information I put into the application, List B is required although you said in your last email that a Faculty is required.</p> <p>Does this application look okay to you, please?</p>
<p><b>13/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Bettie Gilliatt From: Katy Purvis</p>	<p>The other tree work is fine under List B, but the cypresses are not dead, dying or dangerous according to the tree report. I know they are damaging the path, but they are not dangerous, and are healthy, which is why they need faculty for removal. The holly is fine under List B</p>
<p><b>13/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt</p>	<p>BUT I'm not sure exactly where I put the information which will direct me to "Faculty"! According to the data I entered I was taken down the List B route!</p> <p>I'll try again. Although the trees are not dangerous in themselves, their roots are because they have caused the path to buckle, crack and heave making it hazardous for walking or carrying (e.g a coffin) and especially for anyone with reduced mobility. A suggestion that the path could be built around and over the obstacle would not work as the same thing would happen again shortly which we could not afford to contemplate. The paths are dangerous in many places and urgently require rebuilding. Our notices re uneven paths only go so far!</p>
<p><b>19/05/2022</b></p> <p>To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt</p>	<p>Query on completion of Statement of Significance. Details of my previous application for the lych gate have come up on this form. I have added a bit about the "significance for mission" for the</p>



	<p>application for tree work. If I change anything does that delete all the previous application data? It is not clear to me.</p> <p>I attach a screen capture for your edification!</p>
<b>19/05/2022</b>  To: Bettie Gilliatt From: Katy Purvis	<p>You can edit the bits about the lychgate out, and add the bits about the trees, the rest will stay the same, just make sure you press save.</p>
<b>19/05/2022</b>  To: Katy Purvis From: Bettie Gilliatt	<p>I just did not want to 3erase everything</p>
<b>06/06/2022</b>  To: Bettie Gilliatt From: Katy Purvis	<p>I'm writing to let you know that at its meeting of 27 May 2022 the DAC considered the formal application to for the removal of the cypresses and resolved to recommend the scheme</p> <p>This means that Caroline will shortly be able to produce the notification of advice, which will allow you to proceed with the public notice period</p>