Tree 0280 English Oak *Quercus robur*

A tree in Pond Farm Ghyll, Southwater West Sussex. TPO 0/534 W1

The tree has multiple colonies of honey fungus *Armillaria mellea* on the south and east of the base of the tree. Numerous black mycelium “bootlaces” were also observed. Distinct tonal differences were produced when the tree was sounded with a mallet indicating dysfunction in the tissues of the tree in areas around the base. The buttresses appear to be sound. Foliage appears to be dying back in the crown and there is extensive deadwood in the canopy.

To ensure the trees stability the crown is to be reduced by thirty percent reducing the 13m crown spread to 9.1m. Given the location of the tree (woodland edge) I do not believe that the tree will be overshadowed by other trees following this procedure.

The tree will be reinspected for reaction to the operation in the summer of 2026, it is likely that this will be the start of a series of operations in a managed decline.

