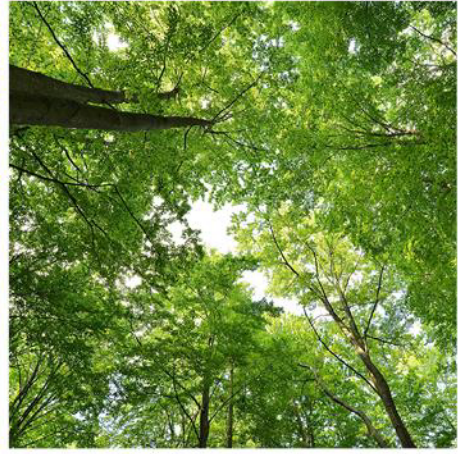
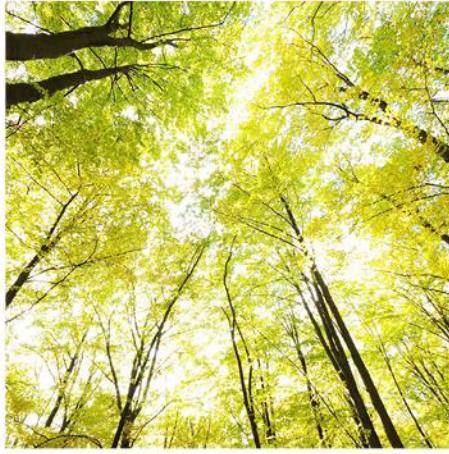




Gale Tree Consultancy

Tree Condition Report

Skeyne Drive, Pulborough, RH20 2BB

August 2026

Ref: TCR/777/26

Gale Tree Consultancy

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Gale Tree Consultancy is a trading name of Andrew Gale Tree Surgery Ltd.
Registered in England & Wales Company Number: 4915639 VAT No. 831 3224 66



Executive Summary

- A mature tree in the communal grounds of blocks of apartments has dropped a large primary stem section
- Decay within the stem section, along with its overextended form and the dry weather has in my opinion contributed to its failure
- Undertake a crown volume reduction to reduce the loading on the lower stem
- To be undertaken within six months of the report's date
- Reassess within three years



1.0 Introduction

1.1 Client and Address

- Debbie Fieldus, DFC Property Management for Skeyne Drive Management Company Pulborough RH20 2BB

1.2 Site Address if Different from the Above

- See above

1.3 Date of Inspection

- 11th August 2026

1.4 Name of Inspector

- Andrew Gale *Dip Arb L6 (ABC) MICFor M.Arbor.A*

1.5 Our Reference

- TCR/777/26

1.6 Instructions Received

- I have been instructed by the client to undertake a visual tree assessment following the unexpected dropping of a large primary stem section
- I am to provide my findings in the form of a report detailing any remedial work that may be necessary

2.0 Scope of the Report

- Trees are dynamic living organisms and their health and condition can be subject to rapid changes, depending upon a number of internal and external factors
- The conclusions and recommendations contained within this report are based on information gained at the time of inspection and are subject to the limitations of the specialist nature of this survey
- Therefore, the likelihood of failure is considered for three years from the reports date based on the information gained on the day of the report and on the assumption that any recommended work will be undertaken in the time frame specified
- It should be noted that even completely sound, healthy trees, can fail given sufficiently severe weather conditions therefore this report is not valid in adverse or unpredictable weather conditions or for any failure due to Force Majeure
- The survey carried out relates to specific defects identified by others in the subject tree and does not constitute a full tree inspection or risk assessment
- The site has not been checked for any statutory constraints
- The trees were not assessed for wildlife which would include birds or bats



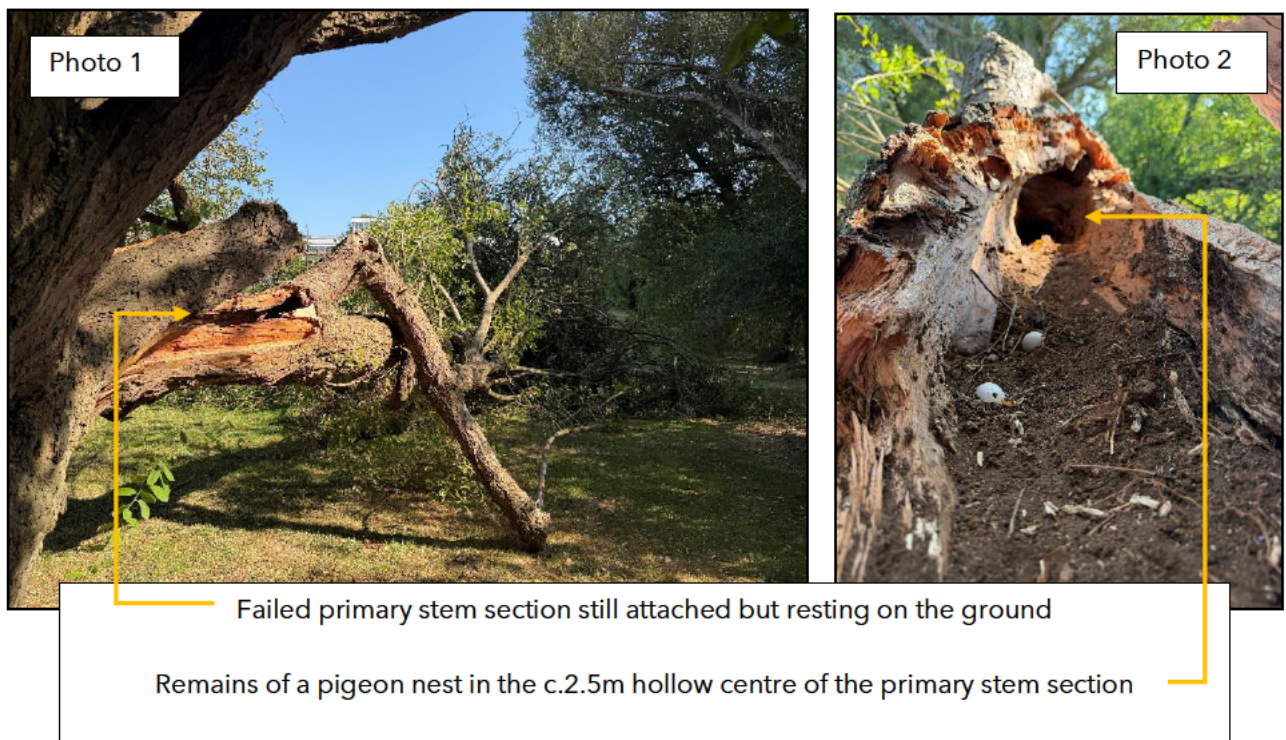
3.0 Results of Inspection

3.1 Tree Species and Dimensions

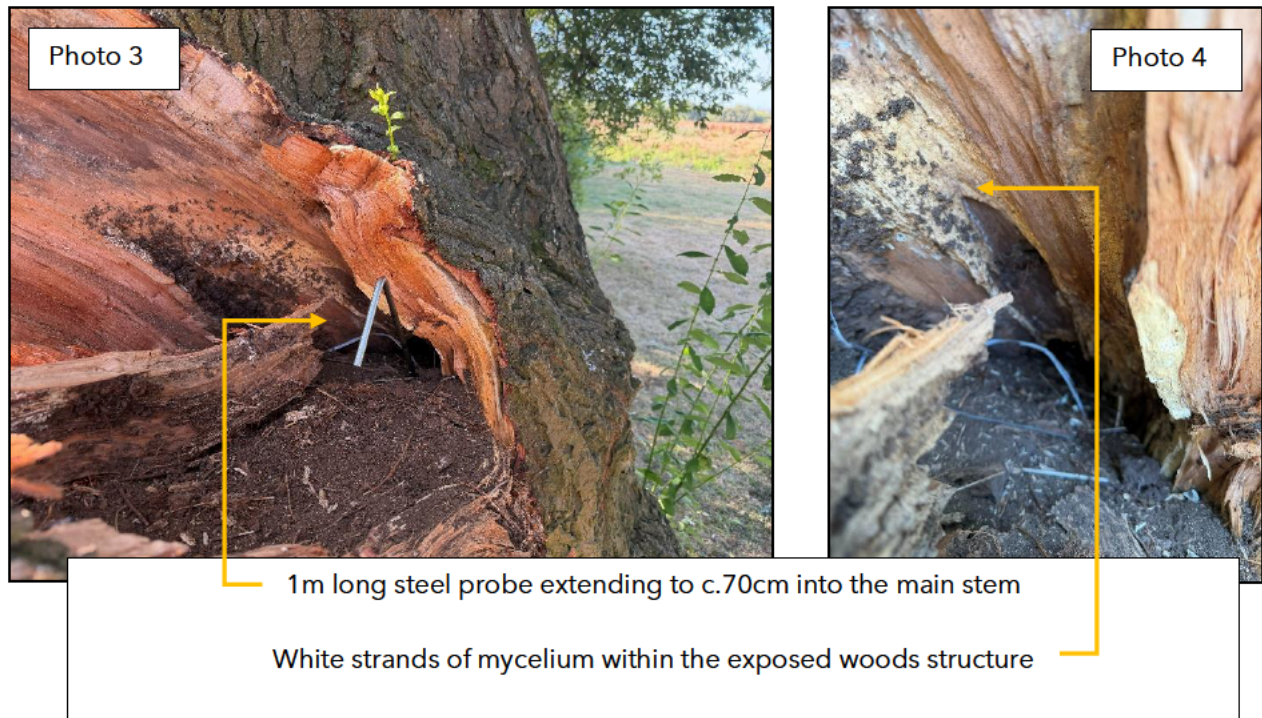
No.	Species	Scientific Name	Stem Dia.	H (m)	Crown Spread (m)				Age	Phys. Con.
					N	E	S	W		
T//	Goat willow	<i>Salix caprea</i>	92cm	10.5	5.0	7.0	6.5	6.5	M	Fair

3.2 General Description

- Sitting at c.6m above sea level¹, the tree is located within the southeast corner of the site's communal gardens
- The wider landscape is open floodplain to the southeast through to the southwest
- At c.1.6m on the north side of the stem a primary stem section has recently failed with the fallen section remaining attached to the main stem, but resting on the ground - see Photo 1 below
- The stem area beneath the failed section emits an audible change in tone when assessed with the nylon headed sounding mallet - see Appendix 1 Method of Inspection
- The centre of the primary stem section is hollow for c.2.5m from its original point of attachment - see Photo 2 below
- The 1m long steel probe was able to access c.70cm into the main stem from the tear out wound - see Photo 3 overleaf
- Strands of white mycelium were noted within the exposed wood structure - see Photo 4 overleaf



¹ www.calcmaps.com



4.0 Summary of Results

- The extent of the hollow primary stem section suggests decay has been active for many years, with the white mycelium² within the wood structure confirming this
- The hollowing nature of the stem section, along with its over extended form, and the excessive dry weather the southeast has experienced has, in my opinion, been the contributing factor in its failure
- The cavity extending into the main stem appears to be following the original branch cone, the more or less cone shaped mass of branch wood embedded in the parent stem wood caused when the branch is smaller than the parent stem
- As evidenced by the audible change in tone beneath the failed section, it appears the decay has migrated outwards and away from the branch cone. However, tests on the remaining stem with the nylon headed sounding mallet suggest that it has not extended further
- Due to members of the *Salix* genus being poor at compartmentalising decay, it must be considered that over time dysfunction in the main stem will eventually lead to a larger area of decay
- Although I see no immediate need to remove the tree, I will recommend the tree undergoes a crown volume reduction to lessen the loading on the lower stem area
- This can be achieved by shortening the longest apical and lateral branch lengths by c.2m
- To be undertaken within six months of the reports date

² Mycelium – a network of hyphae making up the vegetative part of a fungus



5.0 Recommendations

- Implement the tree work in the time period specified
- Reassess in three years of the reports dates
- This time frame should be shortened in the event:
 - The tree's local environment changes significantly
 - Fruiting bodies emerge from anywhere on the tree
 - After extreme weather events such as:
 - Wind gusts in excess of Force 8 on the Beaufort Scale - see Appendix 3
 - After named extreme weather events
- If the tree is located within a conservation area or subject to a tree preservation order, a formal application to the local planning authority will be required and written consent obtained prior to any work is carried out

This concludes my report.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Gale *MICFor Dip Arb L6 (ABC) M.Arbor.A*

 Institute of
Chartered Foresters
Registered Consultant



Date: 12th August 2026



6.0 Appendix 1

Method of Inspection Visual Tree assessment – VTA

- A nylon headed mallet is used to sound the stem as an initial indication of the presence of decay
- Dull tones and changes in resonance indicate areas of lifted and moribund bark, and areas where decay is forming within the main body of the stem
- A thin steel rod is used, where necessary, to assess the depth of any decay in cavities and concavities between buttress roots
- A pair of binoculars are used to inspect features within the upper crown, such as extension growth, bud size and distribution and cracks and splits in the structural branching
- A magnifying glass can be used to assess beetle emergence holes, and other microscopic details that would otherwise be too small to assess with the naked eye



Appendix 2

Survey Key

Tree No.	Relating the tree being assessed	
Species	Common name in English	
Scientific name	The current scientific name will be used	
Stem Diameter	Measured at 1.5m on the highest side and shown in centimetres (cm)	
Height	Measured using a TruPulse digital clinometer and shown in metres (m)	
Crown Spread	Measured using a TruPulse digital clinometer and shown in metres (m)	
Age Class	Young [Y]	recently planted or established within the last 5 years
	Semi Mature [SM]	a well-established youngish tree but far from full maturity
	Early Mature [EM]	long established nearing its full size but not fully mature
	Mature [M]	fully mature tree that has met its full size
	Late Mature [LM]	a fully mature tree that has passed its peak; may exhibit areas of decline
	Veteran [V]	a tree with the physical characteristics of an Ancient tree but is not ancient in years compared to other trees of the same species
	Ancient [A]	a tree that has past full maturity and is old or aged in comparison to other trees of the same species
Physiological Condition	GOOD	No significant physiological problems
	FAIR	Some physiological problems
	POOR	Significant physiological problems
	MORIBUND	In a serious and irreversible decline
	DEAD	Not alive
Tree Structure	Main Stem	The stem, from ground level up to the point at which it bifurcates
	Primary Stem Section (PSS)	The larger stem sections that emanate from the main stem after bifurcation; form the main crown structure
	Secondary Stem Section (SSS)	The stem sections that emanate from the primary stem sections that contribute to the inner crown structure
	Tertiary Stem Section (TSS)	The stem sections that emanate from the secondary stem sections that contribute to the inner and outer crown structure
	Subordinate Branch Structure (SBS)	The smaller diameter branches that help form the inner and outer branch structure; leaf bearing twigs emanate from these to form the crown



Appendix 3

Beaufort Number	Name	Knots	MPH	Effects Observed on Land
0	Calm	Under 1	Under 1	Calm, smoke rises vertically
1	Light Air	1-3	1-3	Direction of wind is shown by smoke drift but not by wind vanes
2	Light Breeze	4-6	4-7	Wind felt on face, leaves rustle, ordinary wind vane moved by wind
3	Gentle Breeze	7-10	8-12	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion, wind extends light flag
4	Moderate Breeze	11-16	13-18	Raises dust and loose paper, small branches are moved
5	Fresh Breeze	17-21	19-24	Small trees in leaf begin to sway, crested wavelets in inland waters
6	Strong Breeze	22-27	25-31	Large branches in motion, whistling heard in telegraph wires, umbrellas used with difficulty
7	Near Gale	28-33	32-38	Whole trees in motion, inconvenience felt in walking against the wind
8	Gale	34-40	39-46	Breaks twigs off trees, generally impedes progress
9	Strong Gale	41-47	47-54	Slight structural damage occurs - chimney pots, slates removed
10	Storm	48-55	55-63	Seldom experienced inland, trees uprooted, considerable structural damage occurs
11	Violent Storm	56-63	64-72	Very rarely experienced, accompanied by widespread damage
12	Hurricane	64 and over	73 and over	