Toby Harkness Level 3 Arboriculture

Site address: **Bucks cottage, Tismans Common, Rudgwick, Horsham, West sussex, RH12 3BJ**

My client has requested a report on tree species, condition and what value these trees give to the property so a brick wall can be erected from the inside of my clients property.

Inside the fence line are numerous species including Ash, Leylandii, Horse chestnut, Laurel shrubs, Yew and Prunus.

Multiple trees have died due to close planting or possible fungus related but we were not able to see and signs of fungus due to the time of year we viewed these trees. 80% of the trees are young or semi mature other than the leylandii which is the largest of the trees being approximately 30 feet in height, which has previously been reduced in height and also has a dead Ash tree growing through the middle causing damage to the main stem of the conifer.

There are multiple Ash trees which have late stages of Ash die back (Chalara) so will require removal for safety reasons. Due to close proximity to the road and power cables, none of the trees inside the fence line offer any visual amenity.

Outside the fence line are Elm, Ash, Oak and Holly Hazel and Hawthorn.

Most of the trees on the outside of the fence are Elms which all have Dutch Elm disease and are dead causing high chance of failure on to the road side and power cables or BT wires which could cause severe injury to public or damage to my clients property.

There is an early mature Oak tree which I estimate to be roughly 70-80 years old. This is the only tree on the outside fence line which offers visual amenity to public.

The remainders of the trees are small self-sown holly trees, Hazel and Hawthorn which is common to be planted on boundary's to grow a quick hedge and offer screening for homeowners.

I recommend removal of all dead trees on the outside of the fence line, grind the stumps and replant with native hedging - Hawthorn for example. The Oak tree can be left due to its visual amenity taking care of the root system when building the wall to prevent any damage. All other trees on the inside of the fence line can be removed as they are mostly semi mature or young in age. There are many dead or dangerous trees. I recommend replanting with Cherry, Beech, silver birch, Cedar, scots pine to leave more space for the new wall and between the newly planted trees to prevent future problems.

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Toby's Trees