



5-year Tree Management plan: 2026 – 2031

Client

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council

Site name

Laverstock, Bishops Down Farm, Ford & Old Sarum

Arboriculturist

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1 Introduction

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council are landowners of significant public open space in Laverstock, Ford, Bishops Down Farm and Old Sarum. They require a management plan to aid with their management of the tree stock which is on the land.

2 Scope of works

To compile a tree management plan overview of the Parish tree stock from the completed tree survey of each individual site A, B, C, D, E, F, G, O, P, Westside Close and a review of past tree surveys for Bishops Down Farm sites and additional data provided around previous spend and works completed.

To create a 5-year management plan to aid with the short-, medium- and long-term management of each site and the tree stock as a whole.

To include attending a parish council meeting to aid with sharing the details of the tree stock and management and attending up to two additional site meetings with the operations officer.

In addition, a Google map of the completed tree survey sites will be provided to link with this management plan.

3 Aims and objectives

The overall objectives set by the parish council were to provide a 5-year management plan including the following:

- A future tree-management approach
- Have a strategic tree-surveying approach
- Ensure a cost-efficient approach
- Ensure a sustainable and ecologically sensitive approach
- Have a balanced approach to managing the tree stock

The purpose of this document is to provide a strategic framework for the management of the parish's tree stock over the next five years, ensuring that trees remain safe, healthy and sustainable and continue to provide ecological, landscape and community benefits while enabling the Parish Council to plan maintenance budgets efficiently.

A site meeting was held on Friday, the 13th of February 2026, with Richard Heather, operations officer, and Jon Sloane, parish clerk. This was to run through the background behind the current tree management approach to discuss options and the requirements for a 5-year management plan.

Not all the sites will have been surveyed recently. Bishopsdown and Longhedge will be included within this management plan, but a full re-survey has yet to be undertaken, and this may change the overall aims for those sites once this is completed.

4 Document disclosure

Table 1 provides details of all the documentation provided to aid with the compilation of this management plan and to carry out the tree survey work.

Table 1: Document disclosures

Documents provided
PDF copies of the previous tree survey for sites A, B, C, D, E, F, G, I, J, K, L, M, N, O and P by Jonathan Astill of Astrill Treecare Limited from November/December 2022 and January/February 2023 were provided in addition to a location plan for the trees.
Map extracts from Parish Online for specific sites to review the boundaries from Richard Heather
The tree condition survey report for sites A, B, C, D, E, F, G, O and P dated November 2022 to February 2023 by Astill Treecare Limited was provided in a PDF format.
The tree condition and management survey report for sites 1 to 5 at Bishops Down dated May 2021 by Astill Treecare Limited was provided in a PDF format.

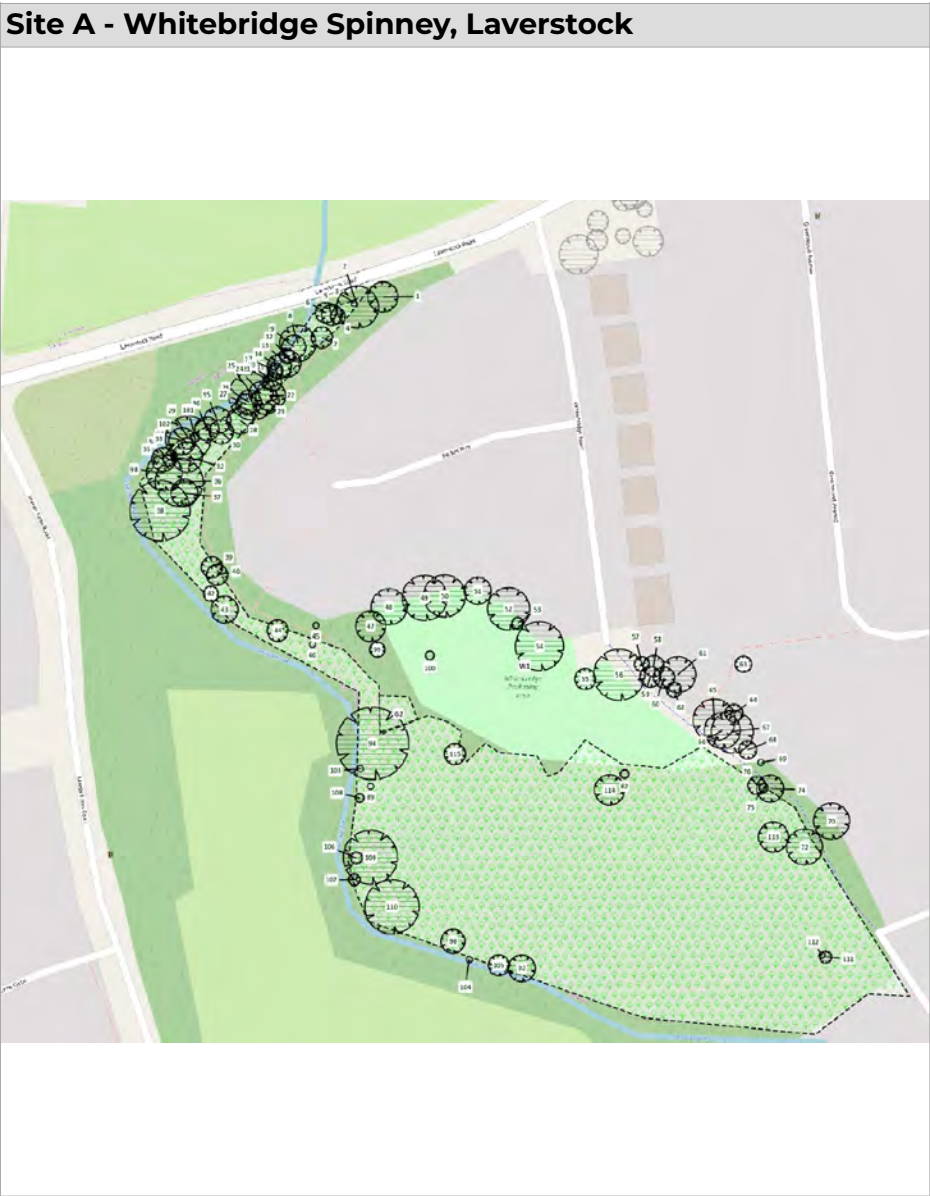
5 Site survey locations

This tree management plan has been developed following completion of detailed tree surveys across the parish-owned sites, including sites A, B, C, D, E, F, G, O, P and Westside Close.

The plan also incorporates a review of previous tree surveys undertaken at the Bishops Down Farm sites together with historical expenditure records and details of tree works previously completed.

Table 2 provides the maps for each of the sites that are being managed by Laverstock and Ford Parish Council (LFPC) for trees, groups, hedges and woodlands and shows the overview of each of the tree survey areas using both the previous survey map from Astill Treecare Ltd extracts and the most current ones following the surveys by The Arboricultural Company Ltd.

Table 2: Tree survey location map extracts



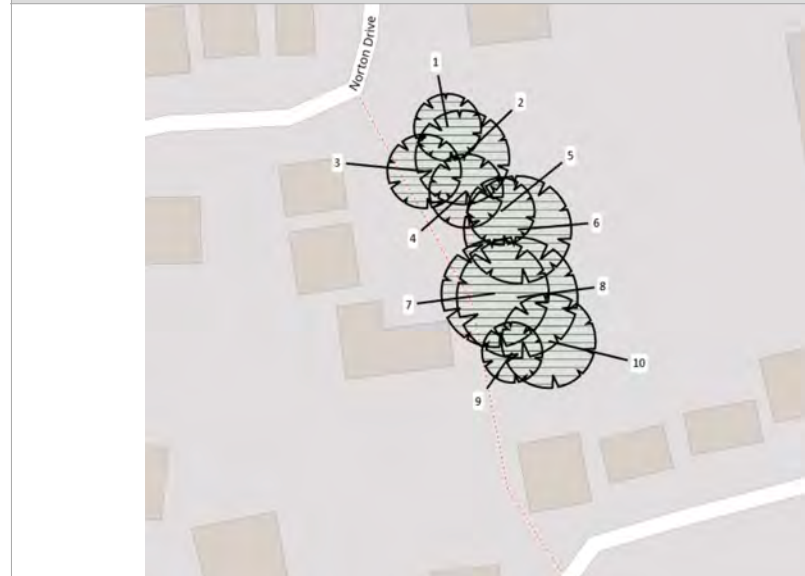
Site B - Whitebridge Road, Laverstock



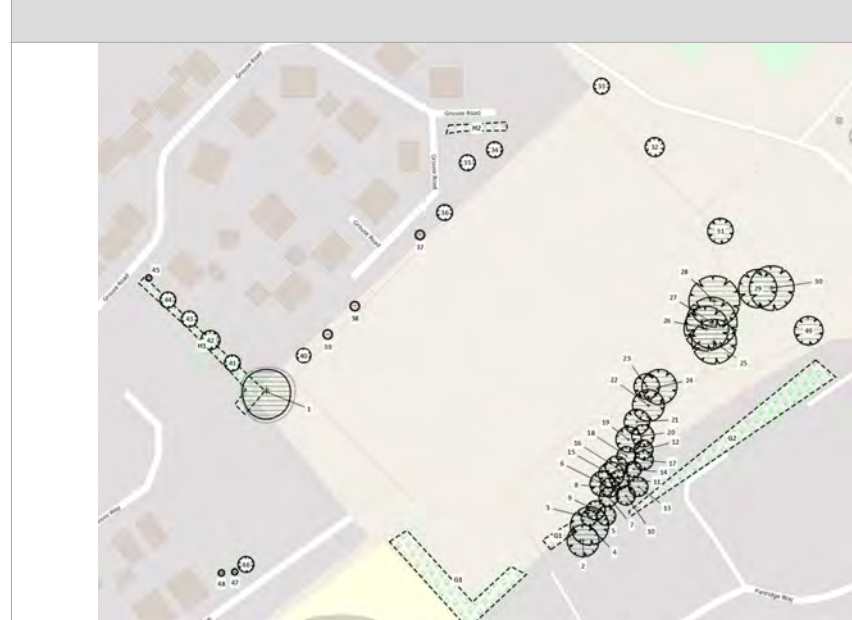
Site C - The Green, Laverstock



Site D - Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford



Site E - The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum



Site F - Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock



Site G - Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum



Site H - Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum

TBC

Site I - Site 1 - Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown



Site J - Site 2 - Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown



Site K - Site 3 - Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown



Site L - Site 4 - Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown



Site M - Site 5 - Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown



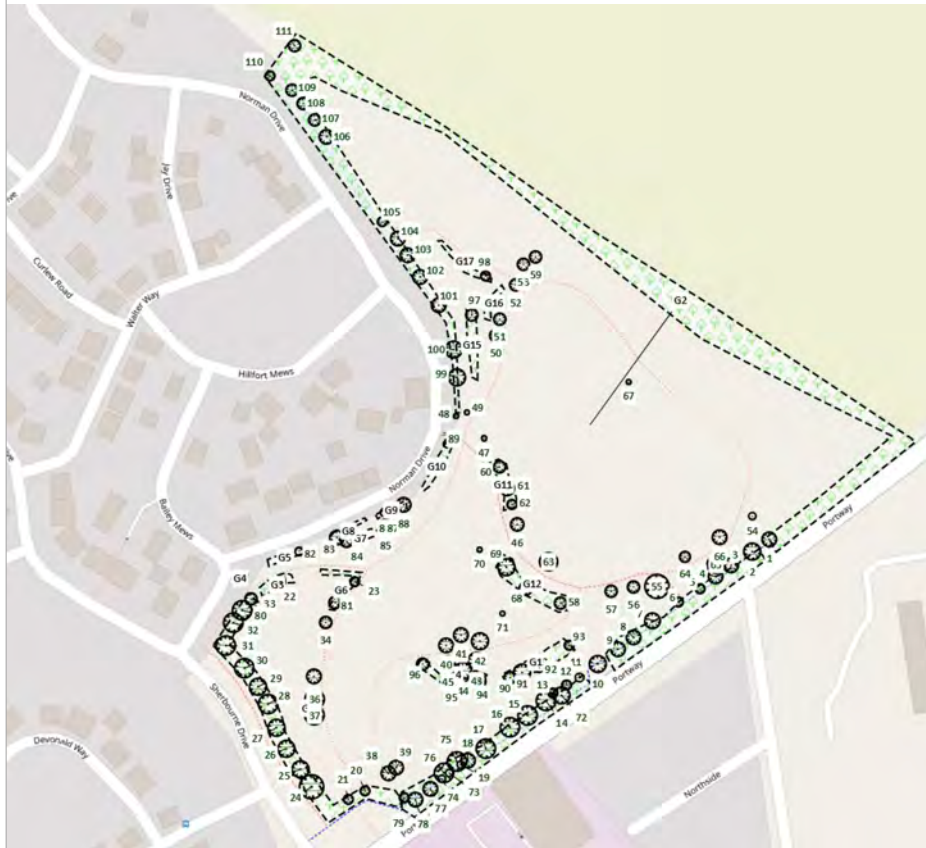
Site N - Site 5 - Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown



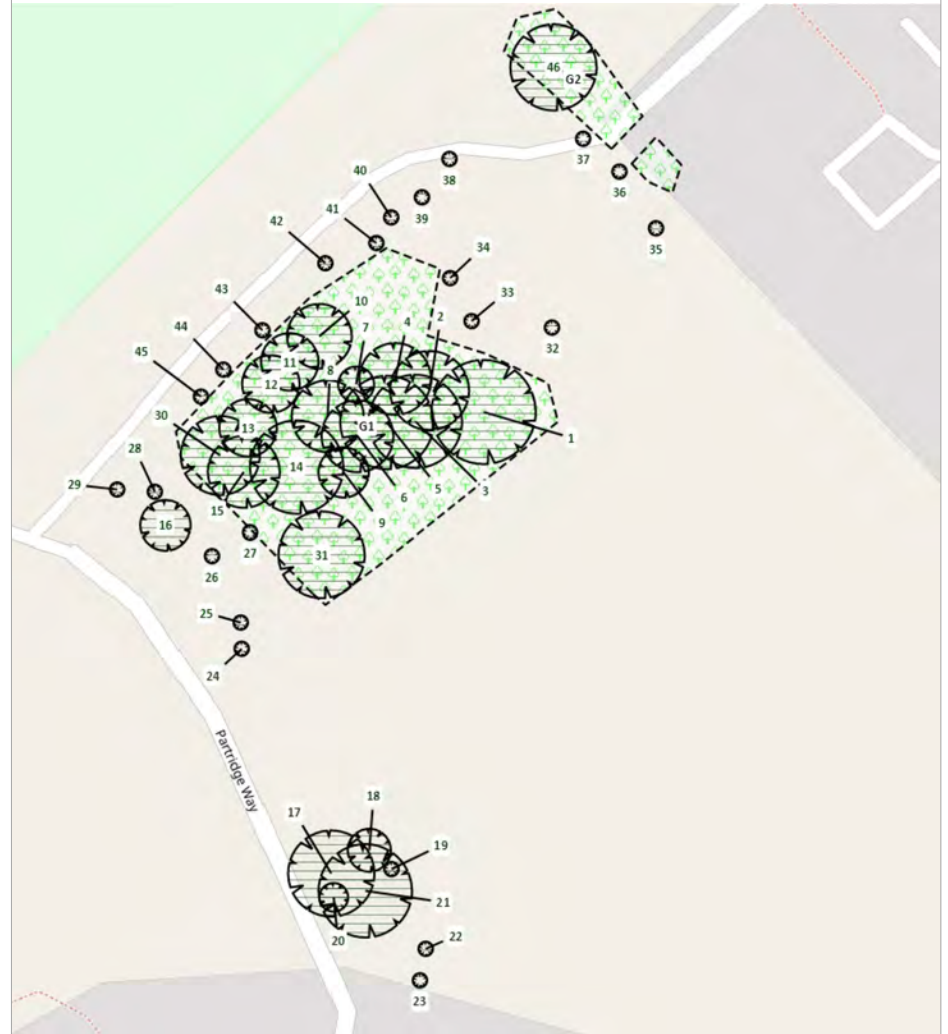
Site O - Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock



Site P - Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum



Westside Close, Old Sarum



6 Legal protection and statutory requirements

Before proceeding with any of the tree work or tree management recommendations, it is essential to carry out a check to see if any statutory designations apply. If the trees are within a conservation area or the subject of a tree preservation order, the permission of the local authority will be required before carrying out any tree works.

Tree preservation orders and Conservation Areas

The main statutory obligations relate to tree preservation orders and conservation areas in the context of tree work. A review of the Wiltshire Planning Explorer interactive map has been carried out and is summarised in Table 3 with extracts for the relevant sites in Table 4 showing the extent of the TPOs.

Felling licences

Furthermore, if the works exceed 5 cubic metres in timber volume within one calendar quarter, this may require a felling licence, which is obtained from the Forestry Commission. For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/apply-online-for-a-felling-licence>.

Protected species

In addition, it is important to note key ecological and wildlife considerations, for example, the potential for trees to be bat roosts or the nesting bird season and wildlife habitat, and only carry out works in the appropriate season unless the works are urgent. Wildlife is protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. If protected species are suspected to be present, then a licensed ecologist should be engaged to carry out the appropriate surveys prior to proceeding with any works to the tree.

Section 154 Highways Act 1980

Under the Highways Act (as amended), responsibility for trees, hedges and shrubs that adjoin the public highway is the responsibility of the owner. The landowner is required to make sure that vegetation from their property does not:

- overhang the pavement/road so as to obstruct pedestrians or vehicles;
- pose an unreasonable health and safety risk to pedestrians or vehicles;
- obstruct or interfere with traffic signals, road signs, or the light from a street light;
- block drivers' or pedestrians' sightlines, view or crossings.

To provide adequate clearance from the highway, we will follow accepted best practice to achieve the following:

- for pedestrians, a minimum vertical headroom of 2.3m for pedestrians;
- for a carriageway and a distance of 0.45 immediately adjacent to it, a minimum vertical headroom of 5.2 m.

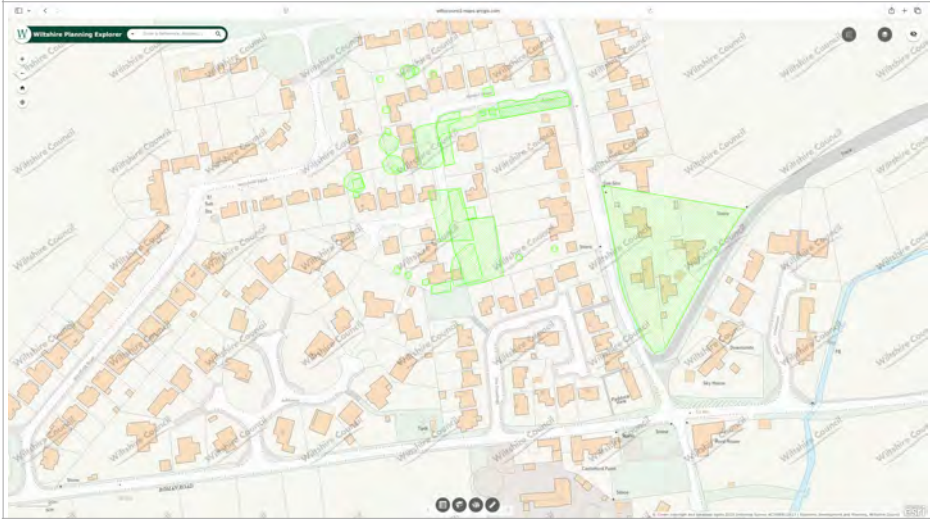
Table 3: Summary of the legal protection on the sites

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Sites – Review of statutory protection

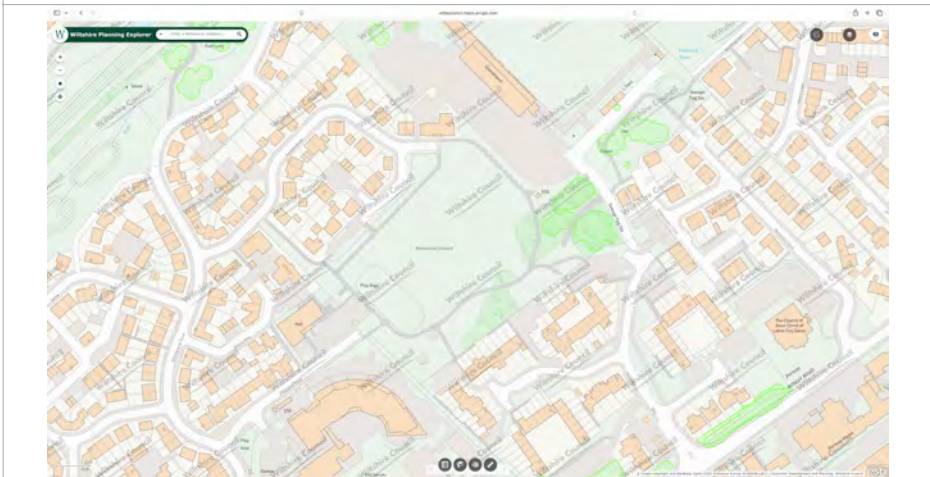
Sites	Name	Legal protection
1 Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	None following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer
2 Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	None following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer
3 Site C	The Green, Laverstock	None following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer
4 Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	TPO present on site covering the trees. Application required to Wiltshire Council prior to undertaking any tree work. S/TPO086.
5 Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	For land at Site E: The Green, (Former MOD land), Old Sarum, it is believed that trees 0876-881 are subject to a Tree Preservation Order (Ref: S/TPO194)
6 Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	None following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer
7 Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	Not in a Conservation Area but a section of the site is subject to a Tree Preservation Order following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer. Reference S/TPO334
8 Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	Not checked at this stage.
9 Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	None following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer
10 Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	Various tree preservation orders throughout the site.
11 Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	Various tree preservation orders throughout the site.
12 Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	Various tree preservation orders throughout the site.
13 Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	Various tree preservation orders throughout the site.
14 Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	Various tree preservation orders throughout the site.
15 Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	Various tree preservation orders throughout the site.
16 Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	None following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer
17 Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	None following a check on the Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer
18	Westside Close, Old Sarum	Various tree preservation orders throughout the site.
	NOTE:	Prior to undertaking any tree work for any site, it is recommended to check the Wiltshire Council Planning website for any tree preservation orders or changes.

Table 4: Summary of the tree preservation orders for the sites

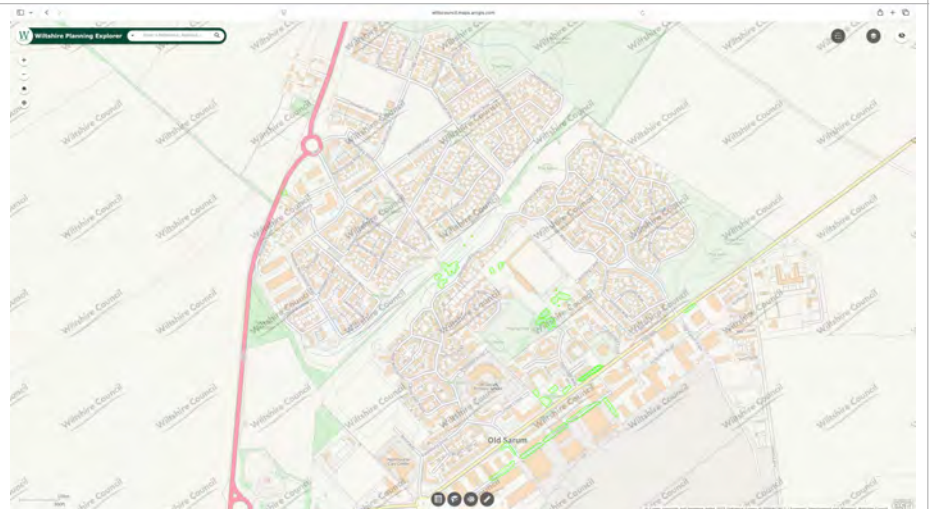
Site D: Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford - TPO present on site covering the trees. Application required to Wiltshire Council prior to undertaking any tree work. S/TPO086.

A map from the Wiltshire Planning Explorer showing a residential area with several green-shaded polygons indicating tree preservation orders. The map includes street names and a scale bar at the bottom.

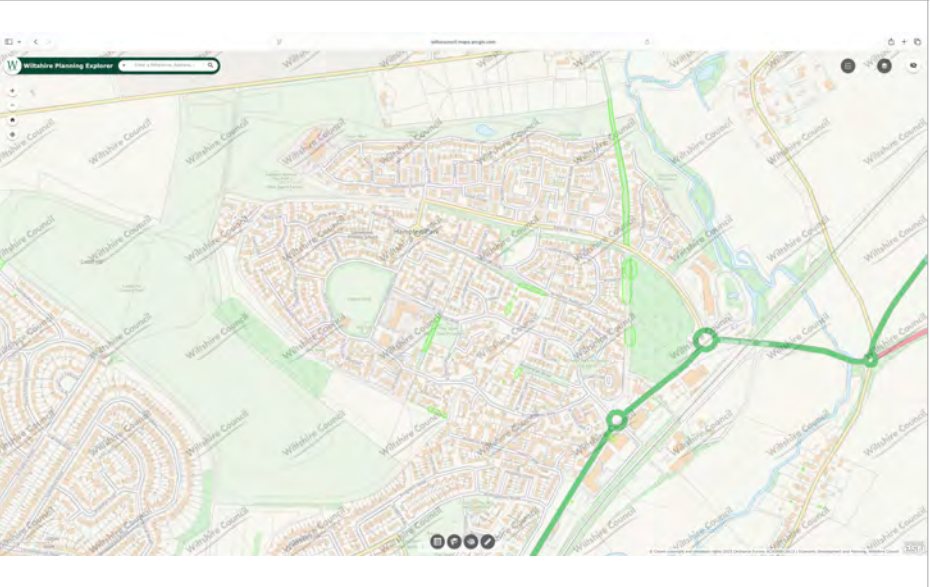
Site E: The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum - For land at Site E: The Green, (Former MOD land), Old Sarum, trees 0876-881 are subject to a Tree Preservation Order (Ref: S/TPO194)

A map from the Wiltshire Planning Explorer showing a residential area with several green-shaded polygons indicating tree preservation orders. The map includes street names and a scale bar at the bottom.

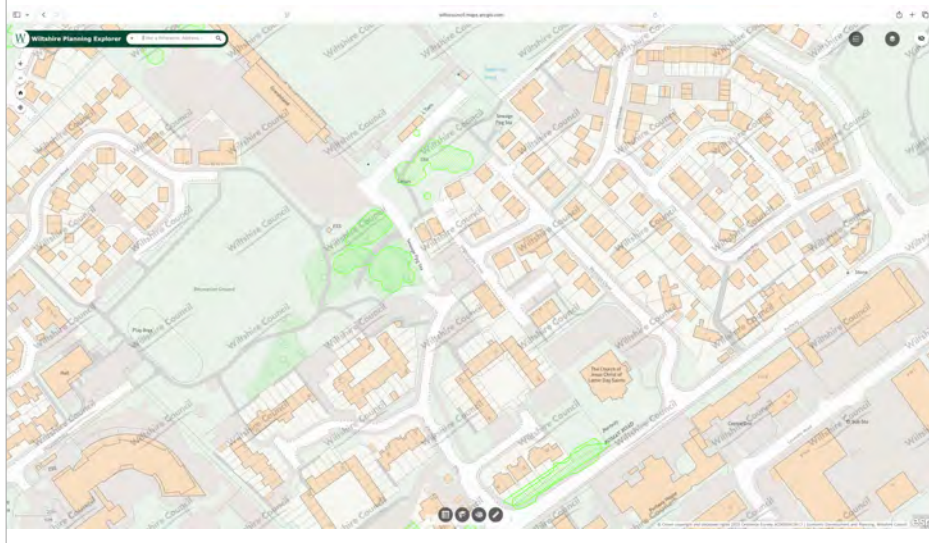
Site G: Swale POS Old Sarum - the site is subject to a tree preservation order Reference S/TPO334

A map from the Wiltshire Planning Explorer showing a residential area with several green-shaded polygons indicating tree preservation orders. The map includes street names and a scale bar at the bottom.

Sites J to N Bishops Down, Salisbury - Various TPO's throughout the site

A map from the Wiltshire Planning Explorer showing a residential area with several green-shaded polygons indicating tree preservation orders. The map includes street names and a scale bar at the bottom.

Westside Close, Old Sarum - Various tree preservation orders over the site



7 Tree survey and site summaries

The Parish manages a diverse tree population comprising ornamental planting, native woodland species, avenue trees, mature parkland specimens and younger replacement planting across recreational spaces, housing areas and amenity land.

The current tree stock demonstrates a varied age structure with:

- Mature landscape trees requiring cyclical inspection and management.
- Semi-mature trees entering long-term formative development.
- Young trees requiring establishment maintenance.
- Veteran and over-mature specimens providing significant ecological value but requiring increased monitoring.

The review of historical surveys indicates that the Parish has maintained a proactive approach to tree safety, with previous expenditure largely directed towards the following:

- Deadwood removal
- Crown lifting
- Crown reductions
- Removal of dead or dangerous trees
- Management of ash dieback
- Clearance around highways, footpaths and neighbouring properties

Overall, the existing tree stock is considered to be in reasonable condition, with no evidence that previous recommendations have been systematically neglected. However, a number of trees now require programmed maintenance to prevent a future backlog of works.

Management plan prepared by Amelia Williams
Project ref 0235

The following tables set out the details in summary from the tree survey. Tables 5a and b show the species breakdown for all the sites for individual trees. The dominant 10 tree species are the following:

1. London plane	(91)
2. Sycamore	(86)
3. Ash	(60)
4. Beech	(53)
5. Lime	(44)
6. Norway maple	(43)
7. Alder	(32)
8. Rowan	(28)
9. Silver lime	(25)
10. Elm	(25)

Table 6 shows the tree age summary, with the majority of the tree stock being young, with 475 individual trees currently out of 799, which is 59.4%, with 35% middle-aged and only 5% mature and less than 1% saplings. The majority of the mature trees are at Whitebridge Spinney and within the Swale Public Open Space at Old Sarum. Norman Drive has the highest number of young and newly planted, establishing trees.

Table 7 shows the vigour of the tree stock, and 87% are normal vigour and 13% are low-vigour. Data for Bishops Down to follow once the area is fully resurveyed.

Table 8 shows the condition of the tree stock, and the majority of trees are in good condition (56%), while 33% are in fair condition, 4% are in poor condition, 5% are in very poor condition, and 2% are dead. Therefore, a positive tree stock is at present.

In terms of risk assessment, for the sites that have been resurveyed, the results are in table 9. The overall risk is insignificant, with 90% of the tree stock of very low risk. 6% is of minimal risk, 1% is of slight risk and 3% is of moderate risk. Therefore, overall the risk level is not within the three higher risk categories for any trees currently of significant, serious or extreme risk. The two sites with moderate-risk trees are Site A, Whitebridge Spinney, and Site F, Pilgrim's Way, and this risk will have been reduced following the tree work recommendations being carried out.

Table 10 highlights the sites with veteran trees, of which ten have been identified. These relate to Site E, The Green in Old Sarum, with one veteran ash tree. Also site G, Swale Public Open Space at Old Sarum, with 6 veteran beeches and 3 veteran Norway maples.

The tree work summaries are set out in table 11, and 45% of the tree stock has no tree work required at present. 2% require miscellaneous works or advisories. 8% are down for monitoring and are predominantly ash. 32% require routine tree works within 12 months or longer. 13% require priority works within 3-6 months for reasons of health and safety. The main priority tree work sites from the most recent re-survey are Site A, Whitebridge Spinney, and Site O, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock. Sites B, C, D, E, F, G and Westside Close also have some priority tree work.

There are a range of tree work types, and these are set out in table 12. The main tree-work recommendations are for crown lifting and pruning back from footpaths and roads. Deadwood over targets like footpaths and severing ivy to enable future inspections. A few trees are in regimes for crown reductions at Sites A, E and J; pollarding at Sites A, I and M; and coppicing at

Sites A, G, N and O. Young tree maintenance is required at Sites A, E, G, K, P and Westside Close.

To aid with savings costs, minor tree work that could be carried out from ground level could be carried out by trained volunteers or grounds maintenance staff for crown lifts over footpaths, small growth coppicing and recoppicing, and ivy severance and removal from the first 2 metres of trunks. Also for basal sucker removal and young tree maintenance. This could be carried out on a schedule seasonally each year.

Tables 5a and b: Individual tree species breakdown across all sites

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Individual Tree Stock Species summary																								
Sites	Name		Species																					
	Botanical name		Acer campestre	Acer platanoides	Acer platanoides Crimson King	Acer pseudoplatanus	Aesculus hippocastanum	Alnus cordata	Alnus glutinosa	Amelanchier sup.	Betula nigra	Betula pendula	Betula pubescens	Betula utilis	Carpinus betulus	Carpinus betulus Fastigiata	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	Cornus mas	Corylus avellana	Crataegus monogyna	Fagus sylvatica	Fagus sylvatica Alaburpurea	Fraxinus excelsior	Fraxinus ornus
	Common name		Field maple	Norway maple	Purple Norway Maple	Sycamore	Horse Chestnut	Italian Alder	Common Alder	Snowy Mespil	River Birch	Silver Birch	Downy Birch	Himalayan Birch	Hornbeam	Fastigate Hornbeam	Lawson cypress	Cornelian Cherry	Hazel	Hawthorn	Common Beech	Copper Beech	Common Ash	Minor Ash
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	4		1	12	1		19			1		3						4	8	3	14	
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	1			2																	1	
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock		4																				
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford					5													1				
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum		2		8	1			1	1		1	4									1	
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock				41													1		1		18	
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	1	17		6	3		13			4									27		9	
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum																						
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown																						
10	Site J	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS																						
11	Site J	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	1	4	1	2	3													4			7	
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown										1								1				
13	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown																						
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown								1														
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown																					2	
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	3			2	7	4						8	1	1	1				15		8	
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	10	16								2		4	4						1			2

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Individual Tree Stock Species summary																													
Sites	Name	Species																											
	Botanical name	Morus nigra	Pinus nigra	Pinus sylvestris	Platanus x hispanica	Platanus orientalis	Populus alba	Prunus avium	Prunus spinosa	Prunus serotina	Prunus spinosa	Quercus agrifolia	Quercus robur	Quercus petraea	Salix alba	Salix caprea	Salix purpurea	Sambucus nigra	Sorbus arbuscula	Sorbus aucuparia	Sorbus intermedia	Taxus baccata	Tilia cordata	Tilia x eucalyptata	Tilia x europaea	Tilia x tomentosa	Ulmus glabra	Ulmus laevis	Viburnum lantana
	Common name	Crab Apple	Austrian Pine	Scots Pine	London plane	Oriental Plane	White Poplar	Wild Cherry	Double White Cherry	Callery Pear	Turkey Oak	English Oak	Fastigiate Oak	White Willow	Weeping Willow	Goat Willow	Crack Willow	Elder	Whitebeam	Rowan	Swedish Whitebeam	Common Yew	Small leaved lime	Caucasian Lime	Common Lime	Silver Lime	Wych Elm	Elm sp.	Gelder Rose
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock																											
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock																											
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock																											
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford																											
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17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum																											
18	Site Q	Westside Close, Old Sarum																											
Totals		5	1	1	91	3	8	14	1	8	1	16	3	7	2	5	12	3	20	28	2	1	10	3	44	25	4	25	1

Table 6 : Tree stock age summary

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Tree Stock Age summary

Sites	Name	Age						
		Sapling	Young	Middle aged	Mature	Over mature	Totals	
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	0	34	50	11	0	95
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	0	4	4	0	0	8
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	0	0	4	1	0	5
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	0	0	9	1	0	10
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	0	26	23	4	0	53
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	2	45	17	0	0	64
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	1	100	33	23	0	157
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	0	0	84	0	0	84
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	0	21	2	0	0	23
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	0	0	29	3	0	32
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	0	8	3	0	0	4
13	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	0	1	1	0	0	2
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	0	20	2	0	0	22
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	0	60	4	0	0	64
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	0	128	0	0	0	128
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	1	28	19	0	0	48
		Totals	4	475	284	43	0	799

Table 7: Tree Stock vigour assessment summary

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Vigour of Tree Stock summary				
Sites	Name	Low	Normal	
1 Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	30	65	
2 Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	2	6	
3 Site C	The Green, Laverstock	1	4	
4 Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	0	10	
5 Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	0	53	
6 Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	7	57	
7 Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	26	131	
8 Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	N/A	N/A	
9 Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	
10 Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	N/A	N/A	
11 Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	
12 Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	
13 Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	
14 Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	
15 Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	
16 Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	6	58	
17 Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	3	125	
18	Westside Close, Old Sarum	7	41	
	Totals	82	550	

Table 8: Tree stock condition assessment summary

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Tree Stock Condition Summary								
Sites		Name	Condition					
			Good	Fair	Poor	Very poor	Dead	Totals
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	31	40	7	11	6	95
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	5	3	0	0	0	8
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	1	4	0	0	0	5
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	6	4	0	0	0	10
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	44	9	0	0	0	53
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	6	51	5	0	2	64
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	82	64	3	3	5	157
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	83	1	0	0	0	84
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	0	0	3	21	0	24
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	6	22	3	1	0	32
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	0	9	1	0	1	11
13	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	0	1	0	0	1	2
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	0	20	2	0	0	22
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	41	19	3	0	1	64
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	115	13	0	0	0	128
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	35	7	2	4	0	48
		Totals	455	267	29	40	16	807

Table 9: Tree stock risk assessment summary

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council THREATS Risk Assessment of Tree Stock summary

Sites	Name	Insignificant	Minimal	Slight	Moderate	Significant	Serious	Extreme
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	79	9	1	6	0	0
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	6	2	0	0	0	0
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	4	1	0	0	0	0
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	7	3	0	0	0	0
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	52	0	1	0	0	0
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	39	10	5	10	0	0
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	143	12	2	0	0	0
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
13	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	63	1	0	0	0	0
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	125	3	0	0	0	0
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	48	0	0	0	0	0
		Totals	566	41	9	16	0	0

Table 10 Veteran tree stock summary

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Veteran Tree Stock summary

Ref	Site	Site Name	Veteran Ash	Veteran Beech	Veteran Norway Maple	Totals
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	0	0	0	0
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	0	0	0	0
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	0	0	0	0
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	0	0	0	0
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	1	0	0	1
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	0	0	0	0
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	0	6	3	9
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
13	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	0	0	0	0
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	0	0	0	0
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	0	0	0	0
		Totals	1	6	3	10

Table 11: Tree work summaries for each site

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Tree Work Summary 2025/2026

Sites		Name	No. of items of urgent works within 24 hrs	No. of items of High priority work within 1 month	No. of items of priority tree work within 3 - 6 months	No. of routine items of tree work within 12 months or longer	No. of monitors	No. of miscellaneous items of work or advisories	No work required
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	0	0	32	13	10	4	40
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	0	0	2	1	1	0	5
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	0	0	4	0	2	0	1
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	0	0	8	0	1	5	2
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	0	0	4	16	0	0	32
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	0	0	13	28	12	1	15
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	0	0	8	66	13	0	80
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	0	0	14	7	11	4	30
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	0	0	0	48	0	0	80
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	0	0	4	31	0	0	13
		Totals	0	0	89	210	50	14	298

Table 12: Tree work type summaries for each site

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Tree Work Type Summary 2025/2026														
Sites	Name	Crown lifting / prune back	Deadwood removal	Remove hanging branches	Branch removal or reduction	Crown reduction	Pollard/repolard	Fells	Monolith creation	Coppice / recoppice	Sever climbing plant	Remove rope swing	Young tree maintenance	Remove basal sucker/ epicormic growth
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	Yes								Yes			Yes
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	Yes	Yes										
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	Yes	Yes							Yes			
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes							Yes	
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	Yes	Yes				Yes			Yes			Yes
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum												
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown					Yes							
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS						Yes						
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes			Yes			
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	Yes			Yes		Yes			Yes		Yes	
12	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown												
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown					Yes	Yes			Yes			
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	Yes					Yes		Yes				
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	Yes			Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	Yes										Yes	
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	Yes		Yes						Yes		Yes	

Each site is quite different, but there are some themes across all sites, and the key observations and issues for each site are set out in table 13.

Table 13: Summary of the key issues and observations from each site

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Issues and observations

Issues and observations	Site A Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	Site B Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	Site C The Green, Laverstock	Site D Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	Site E The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	Site F Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	Site G Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	Site H Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	Site I Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	Site J Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	Site K Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	Site L Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	Site M Footpath verges between Apostile Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	Site N Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	Site O Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	Site P Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	Westside Close, Old Sarum
Ivy-clad stems and whole trees	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes				Yes		Yes
Low-hanging branches over targets	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Desire lines	Yes		Yes			Yes	Yes							Yes	Yes		
Soil erosion and compaction on the footpaths and desire routes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes							Yes	Yes	Yes	
Mower and strimmer damage to the base of the trees	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes
Previous tree works carried out - felling, coppicing, reduction	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Heavily used recreational area for dog walking	Yes					Yes	Yes							Yes	Yes	Yes	
Wooded boardwalk	Yes																
Items in trees - rope swings, constrictions, Dens	Yes					Yes	Yes								Yes		
Ash dieback	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes				Yes			Yes	Yes		
Dutch Elm disease							Yes			Yes							
Bark damage to trees							Yes				Yes				Yes	Yes	
Bacterial infection of trees	Yes			Yes			Yes										
Anthraxnose of Plane									Yes								
Major deadwood over targets	Yes			Yes			Yes										
Newly planted trees	Yes						Yes									Yes	Yes
Formal play area	Yes						Yes								Yes	Yes	
Fallen trees causing potential hazards	Yes																
Tarmac footpaths within or through the site	Yes	Yes													Yes		Yes
Standing dead trees	Yes																
Bird and or bat boxes on trees	Yes					Yes	Yes										Yes
Standing and fallen deadwood providing good habitat	Yes						Yes										
Educational notice boards	Yes																
Squirrel damage						Yes	Yes										
River	Yes																
Poorly planted trees - too deep or too close							Yes								Yes	Yes	Yes
Lack young tree maintenance - stakes, ties remain							Yes		Yes		Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes
Drought stressed trees															Yes	Yes	Yes
Fly tipping and or litter		Yes		Yes		Yes								Yes	Yes		
Tree issues with residents						Yes								Yes	Yes		
Opportunity for replacement tree planting						Yes									Yes	Yes	
Fire risk						Yes											
Trees overhanging roads	Yes	Yes	Yes														
Trees overhanging overhead utilities			Yes														
Trees overhanging residential gardens	Yes	Yes		Yes											Yes		
Trees overhanging driveways		Yes		Yes													
Dog mess on site				Yes										Yes			
Residents carrying out boundary tree works														Yes	Yes		
Wild flower areas															Yes		
Uncontrolled regrowth from aspen and poplar														Yes			
Pollard maintenance regime									Yes								

8 Tree management principles and tree risk management

The key principles for Laverstock and Ford Parish Council (LFPC) tree management of their existing tree asset and meeting their legal obligations include the following:

- Proactively inspecting and risk-assessing the trees on all sites owned and managed by LFPC is the top priority for tree management for public safety.
- Inspect their trees about which residents have expressed concern, and refer to the LFPC tree policy for exceptions to tree surgery work for reasons of shade, interference with TV or satellite signals, blocked views, overhanging gardens or any other non-legal reason.
- Felling or pruning trees which are dead, dying or dangerous as quickly as possible.
- Promptly responding to any insurance claim relating to one of their trees once they have thoroughly examined the circumstances.
- Removing branches which obstruct free passage of roads and pavements or cause a danger, and clearing street lights, traffic signs and signals, sightlines and crossings when a problem is reported;
- Following best practice in managing their trees and capturing and storing their tree asset and risk management data to provide a robust record.
- Wherever possible, planting a new tree nearby when one of theirs has to be felled.

Management objectives

Over the next five years it is recommended that the parish seek to do the following:

- Maintain public safety through regular inspections and records.
- Complete the recommendations within the tree surveys for tree works within the timescales recommended for all priority and routine works.
- Retain healthy mature trees wherever practicable.
- Reduce reactive emergency works through a proactive approach.
- Improve resilience against pests and diseases.
- Increase biodiversity through sympathetic management.
- Plan future succession planting.
- Spread expenditure evenly across financial years.
- Protect important landscape features.
- Maintain compliance with current arboricultural best practice.

The key guidance in the National Tree Safety Group guidance 'Common Sense Risk Management of Trees', second edition, published in 2024, states the following:

- Trees provide a wide range of benefits to society.
- Trees are living organisms, and they naturally lose branches or fall.
- The overall risk to public safety is extremely low.
- Tree owners have a legal duty of care.
- Tree owners should take a balanced and proportionate approach to tree risk management.

Therefore, all tree owners have a legal duty of care under the owner's liabilities for injury to others caused by the fall of a tree or branch.

The formal duties come from the Occupiers' Liability Acts of 1957 and 1984 and the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 (HSWA). This means that as a tree owner, it is important to understand how healthy your trees are and whether they pose any obvious defects that would be a risk to others and could cause them harm.

The current approach to tree surveys and inspections by LFPC has been to commission these every three years with regular formal inspections by a qualified arboriculturist of all sites, aiding in meeting this legal duty of care.

It is recommended that this continue, as all sites are public open space and publicly accessible at all times, and this implements the guidance within the National Tree Safety Group guidance 'Common Sense Risk Management of Trees', second edition, published in 2024.

Annual walkover inspections are recommended to monitor particular issues like trees in decline or those with Chalara ash dieback, and the requirement for these is set out in table 16. This can be carried out by LFPC staff who do not necessarily have specific tree-related qualifications but who have received basic training in tree inspection and possess a general knowledge of trees.

At present one member of staff holds the recommended qualification for carrying out the walkover site inspections for trees, which is the Lantra Basic Tree Survey and Inspection course, after completing the one-day course.

The proactive survey approach is currently supported by reactive inspections from residents raising enquiries for tree-related issues in between these three-year periods.

It is also supported by reports from contracting staff and employed staff who may observe issues whilst performing their duties on the sites. The tree survey summary is in Table 14 with the inspection frequency in Table 15.

Table 14: Tree survey summary and inspection frequency

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Inspection Frequency and tree survey summary

Sites		Name	Date last surveyed	No. of trees	No. of groups	Total number of trees and groups	Date for next survey
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	12.05.2026 & 13.05.2026	93	2	95	2029
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	29.04.2026	8	0	8	2029
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	29.04.2026	5	0	5	2029
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	29.04.2026	10	0	10	2029
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	05.06.2026	49	4	53	2029
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	06.10.2025	62	2	64	2028
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	09.10.2025 & 10.10.2025	148	9	157	2028
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	TBC	TBC	TBC	0	TBC
9	Site I (Site 1)	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	May 2021 by Jonathan Astill & Nil reporting survey by Barrells from 2024	84	0	84	2027
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	May 2021 by Jonathan Astill & Nil reporting survey by Barrells from 2024	22	2	24	2027
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	May 2021 by Jonathan Astill & Nil reporting survey by Barrells from 2024	30	2	32	2027
12	Site K (Site 3)	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	May 2021 by Jonathan Astill & Nil reporting survey by Barrells from 2024	4	7	11	2027
13	Site L (Site 4)	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	May 2021 by Jonathan Astill & Nil reporting survey by Barrells from 2024	0	0	0	2027
14	Site M (Site 5)	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	May 2021 by Jonathan Astill & Nil reporting survey by Barrells from 2024	2	1	3	2027
15	Site N (Site 5)	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	May 2021 by Jonathan Astill & Nil reporting survey by Barrells from 2024	2	20	22	2027
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	05.05.2026	55	9	64	2029
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	05.06.2026 & 09.06.2026	111	17	128	2029
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	05.06.2026	46	2	48	2029
		Totals		731	77	808	

Table 15: Inspection frequency over the next 5 years

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Inspection Frequency for the next 5 years

Sites		Name	No. of trees and groups	Frequency for full re-survey	Date for next re-survey	Date for following re-survey
9	Site I (Site 1)	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	84	3 years	2027	2030
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	24	3 years	2027	2030
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	32	3 years	2027	2030
12	Site K (Site 3)	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	11	3 years	2027	2030
13	Site L (Site 4)	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	0	3 years	2027	2030
14	Site M (Site 5)	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	3	3 years	2027	2030
15	Site N (Site 5)	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	22	3 years	2027	2030
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	TBC	3 years	2027	2030
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	64	3 years	2028	2031
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	157	3 years	2028	2031
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	95	3 years	2029	2032
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	8	3 years	2029	2032
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	5	3 years	2029	2032
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	10	3 years	2029	2032
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	53	3 years	2029	2032
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	64	3 years	2029	2032
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	128	3 years	2029	2032
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	48	3 years	2029	2032
		Totals	808			

Table 16 : Annual Monitoring plan

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council Annual monitoring plan

Sites	Name	Monitoring recommendations	No, of individual ash to monitor	Approximate no. of ash within groups of woodlands to monitor	Other species health monitors (Lime, Beech, Horse Chestnut, Sycamore, Norway maple)	Frequency for monitors	Date for next monitoring visit	
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	10	4	18	6	Annually	2027
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	1	1	0	0	Annually	2027
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	2	0	0	2	Annually	2027
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford	1	0	0	1	Annually	2027
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	1	1	0	0	Annually	2027
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	12	18	2	0	Annually	2027
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	13	9	106	2	Annually	2027
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
9	Site I (Site 1)	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown	8	6	3	1	Annually	2027
12	Site K (Site 3)	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown	0	0	TBC	0	Annually	2027
13	Site L (Site 4)	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
14	Site M (Site 5)	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
15	Site N (Site 5)	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown	15	0	15	0	Annually	2027
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	11	6	4	6	Annually	2027
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	0	2	0	0	Annually	2027
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
	Totals		74	47	148	18		

9 Funding and annual spend on trees

The annual tree budget for Laverstock and Ford Parish Council is set at £26,000 for the 2026/2027 financial year. This is a planned increase from previous years to handle ongoing parish-wide maintenance, such as the pollarding of plane trees, essential surveys, and ash dieback mitigation. Table 17 sets out the previous 5 years funding.

Table 17: Financial analysis

Financial year	Allocated tree budget	Primary expenditure drivers and details
2026/2027	£ 26,000.00	Pollarding of plane trees, comprehensive health surveys, and ash dieback mitigation.
2025/2026	£ 20,000.00	Increased by £5,000 due to expanding ash dieback issues and unexpected tree maintenance needs.
2024/2025	£ 15,000.00	Main operational budget. An additional draft allocation was initially proposed but adjusted.
2023/2024	£ 30,000.00	Significant one-time increase specifically to cover £20,000 for pollarding plane trees at Bishopdown, plus £5,000 for safety surveys.
2022/2023	£ 5,000.00	Standard maintenance and hazard control baseline.

Core drivers of tree expenditure

- **Ash Dieback & Safety Problems:** Recent years saw the council lift baseline funding because overspends occurred from tackling diseased trees that posed immediate public safety hazards.
- **Cyclical Pollarding Maintenance:** Major strategic spikes (such as the £30,000 budget in 2023/24) are tied to cyclical management, specifically the high cost of pollarding mature plane trees in the Bishopdown area.

The average annual budget to manage a tree stock of 731 individual trees and 77 groups of trees on public open spaces should be between £29,630 and £48,870 with a recommended baseline of £39,250. Therefore, the overall tree budget is just below the average of low-intensity management.

Low-intensity management (£29,630) allows for around £30 per tree and £100 per group.

Standard management (£39,250) allows for £40 per tree and £130 per group and provides a balanced fund to allow for routine inspections and targeted group management.

High-intensity management (£48,870) allows for £50 per tree and £160 per group. This aids in managing ash dieback and other more significant tree hazards or maintenance requirements for trees in high-risk locations like roadsides or public footpaths.

Table 18 sets out a phased approach to the allocation for the current year’s funding.

Table 18: Budget breakdown

Funding Allocation phasing based on annual budget for 2026/2027

Phase	Requirement	Action	Annual budget	% of budget
1	Planned tree safety surveys	Formal inspections of individual trees and groups every 3 years plus any reactive annual inspections or monitoring.	£ 5,200.00	20%
2	Planned cyclical and group maintenance	Crown reductions, pollarding, clearing highway sightlines, coppicing groups, lifting back from footpaths, crown lifting over footpaths, major deadwood removal, ivy severance, young tree maintenance	£ 11,700.00	45%
3	Reactive maintenance.	Reactive works including residential enquiries relating to tree issues.	£ 5,200.00	20%
4	Emergency contingency	Immediate response to storm damage, clearing sudden windthrown trees, fallen trees or limbs or blocked paths.	£ 1,300.00	5%
5	Canopy cover regeneration	Replacement planting and to include 4 years of post planting maintenance to enable the trees to become established.	£ 2,600.00	10%
		Total	£ 26,000.00	

10 Tree management recommendations

Management of pollards at Hampton Park Recreation Ground

The 84 London plane trees at Hampton Park Recreation Ground at Bishops Down Farm have been pollarded. This sets them into a long-term management regime requirement that will maintain them at a suitable size for the available space to avoid conflict with the highway.

It will keep their crowns in a juvenile state while extending the overall lifespan of the trees in the location. It is recommended to have them re-pollarded on a 3-5-year cycle, subject to the regrowth, to aid with crown weight management on the pollard heads. The timing for this work would be from January to March during the dormant season.

Hampton Park Trail

Hampton Park Trail is a footpath that runs around the perimeter of the Hampton Park Estate in Bishopsdown and is around 1 km in length. It is a planted landscape circa the 1990s with native tree species including ash, field maple, hawthorn, elder, aspen, black poplar, sycamore, beech, blackthorn, and wild cherry. It has not had any significant management through thinning historically but has had reactive works for health and safety.

In addition, residents have carried out self-help pruning works to varying standards. This has led to excessive natural regeneration of poplar and aspen saplings and suckers, forming dense swathes of regrowth around the boundary perimeters behind residents' properties and within the footpath.

Therefore, various management options are proposed to aid with the short- and long-term management of the trail.

Phased coppicing of the natural regeneration and of all the larger aspen and hybrid black poplar trees on the side of the path closest to residential dwellings and gardens. This will significantly reduce future issues of dominance and encroachment whilst enabling crown development of moderate-sized alternative tree species and shrubs to maintain vertical structure and screening.

Regular coppicing of suckers will eventually permit developing crowns of other desirable tree and shrub species to suppress their regrowth. There will be an initial cost, but it will save money in the long term as the cost of dismantling these trees will increase significantly as they continue to mature. Once the main coppicing work is done, it should be easier to maintain and potentially an option for mechanised maintenance using machinery like Greenclimber.

A phased plan should be drawn up for the removal through thinning of hybrid black poplar and aspen suckers and larger trees of these species on the outer edge of the path, which could be prepared during the next full resurvey in 2027.

Continued annual (summer) monitoring of ash for ash dieback with marking up and removal of heavily infected trees, and this could also be captured on the next full re-survey in 2027.

Engagement and consultation with directly adjacent residents before carrying out proposed tree works or allowing any work by residents or volunteer groups to ensure they understand the objectives of management and reduce conflict (some

residents will approve of proposed management and others will not).

In order to address some of the low-level routine types of work to aid with the maintenance of sites, for example, with low branches over footpaths that need lifting or young tree maintenance checks, consider setting up a tree warden scheme or volunteer working group for each main site. This aids with community engagement and encourages more people to go out into the public spaces and take ownership of their environment.

Consider informing residents that they would be permitted to clear a 1 metre gap behind their fence to enable their own maintenance of their boundary and fence around the Hampton Trail perimeter. Under the proviso that it allows only for the removal of trees within the 1 metre gap and no trees beyond that. All debris should be disposed of or left neatly on the 1-metre line in windrows of debris no higher than 1 metre in height for habitat.

For any tree issues beyond the 1-metre limit, they would need to request permission from Laverstock and Ford Parish Council, and this would be assessed on a case-by-case basis. There may be a case where a resident offers to pay for tree works, and this should be reviewed in line with the current tree policy. Any changes to the main ethos of work outside the scope of the current tree policy may require a review of the policy to update it to reflect such changes.

Annual pruning of all low branches, stubs and snags that encroach over and into the footpath should be pruned back to provide a minimum height of 2.5 metres of clearance over the path for safe and unobstructed passage of pedestrians.

All pruning should be 'target pruning' (taken back to the trunk or a suitable secondary branch) – not internodal (stub) cutting, as this promotes vigorous regrowth and will increase the need for further management.

For any arising from tree works, this can be used to create habitat piles and windrow brash runs, or chipped brushwood can be sprayed evenly into the understory or used to dress the footpath.

Bishops Down Farm Sites I to N

Historic survey information demonstrates ongoing management over several years.

Future management should continue to prioritise the following:

- Ash dieback monitoring and phasing out later-stage ash with ash dieback.
- Woodland edge management
- Crown lifting and pruning back, deadwood removal, crown reductions and pruning, ivy severance
- Young tree maintenance
- Retention of habitat features
- Removal of declining trees like young dead elms
- Natural regeneration where appropriate
- Replanting with climate-resilient native species
- Management regime with pollarding the London plane trees around Hampton Park Recreation Ground
- Phasing out Aspen and Poplar around the Hampton Park Trail and boundary fence line management.

Figure 1 shows an annotated plan of Bishops Down and tree management recommendations for the next 5 years.

Figure 1: Bishopdown sites



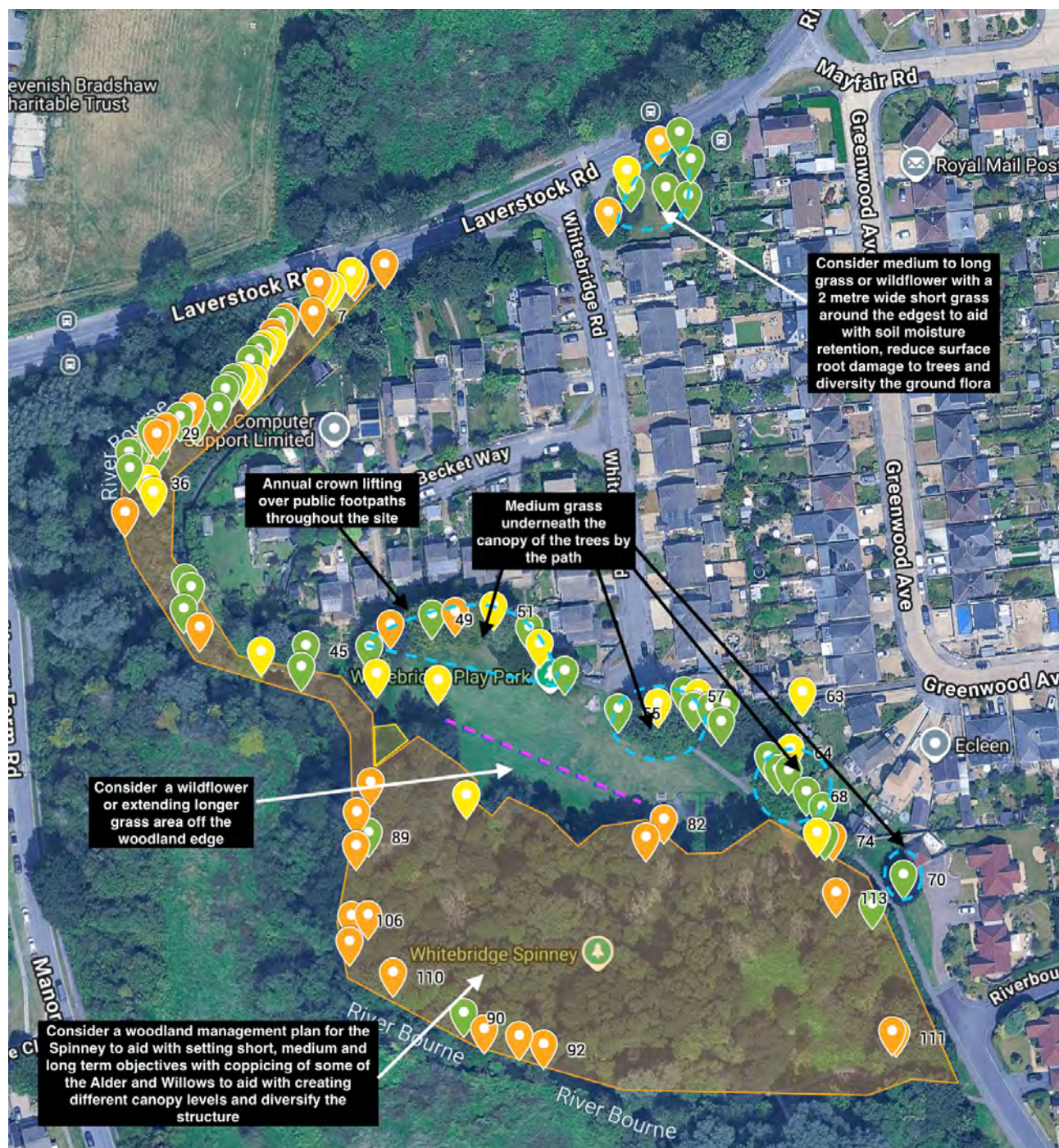
Site A and B Whitebridge Road and Spinney, Laverstock

Site A is one of the larger public open space areas containing a mixture of mature and developing tree stock and woodland, requiring the following:

- Cyclical inspections.
- A range of tree work, including crown lifting, pruning back, deadwood removal, hanging branch removal, crown reductions, pollarding, felling, coppicing, monolith creation, ivy severance, rope swing removal and young tree maintenance.
- Clearance over highways and footpaths.
- Monitoring for ash dieback
- Some felling and replacement planting.
- Monitoring of structural and physiological tree condition.
- Long-term succession planning.
- Woodland management.

Figure 2 shows the tree stock management and site management proposals that could be considered over the next 5 years.

Figure 2: Site management for the tree stock at sites Sites A and B



Site C Riverside Road, Laverstock

Site of high-amenity trees associated with small open space and residential environments.

Management priorities include the following:

- Cyclical inspections.
- Routine crown maintenance for major deadwood removal
- Ivy severance.
- Clearance from highways and footpaths in the form of crown lifting and pruning back.
- Replacement planting where removals occur in the future.
- Monitoring tree health.

Figure 3 shows the main management is around changing the grass-cutting height as well as keeping the trees pruned back from the roadside.

Figure 3: Management to aid the tree stock for site C



Site D Norton Drive, Ford

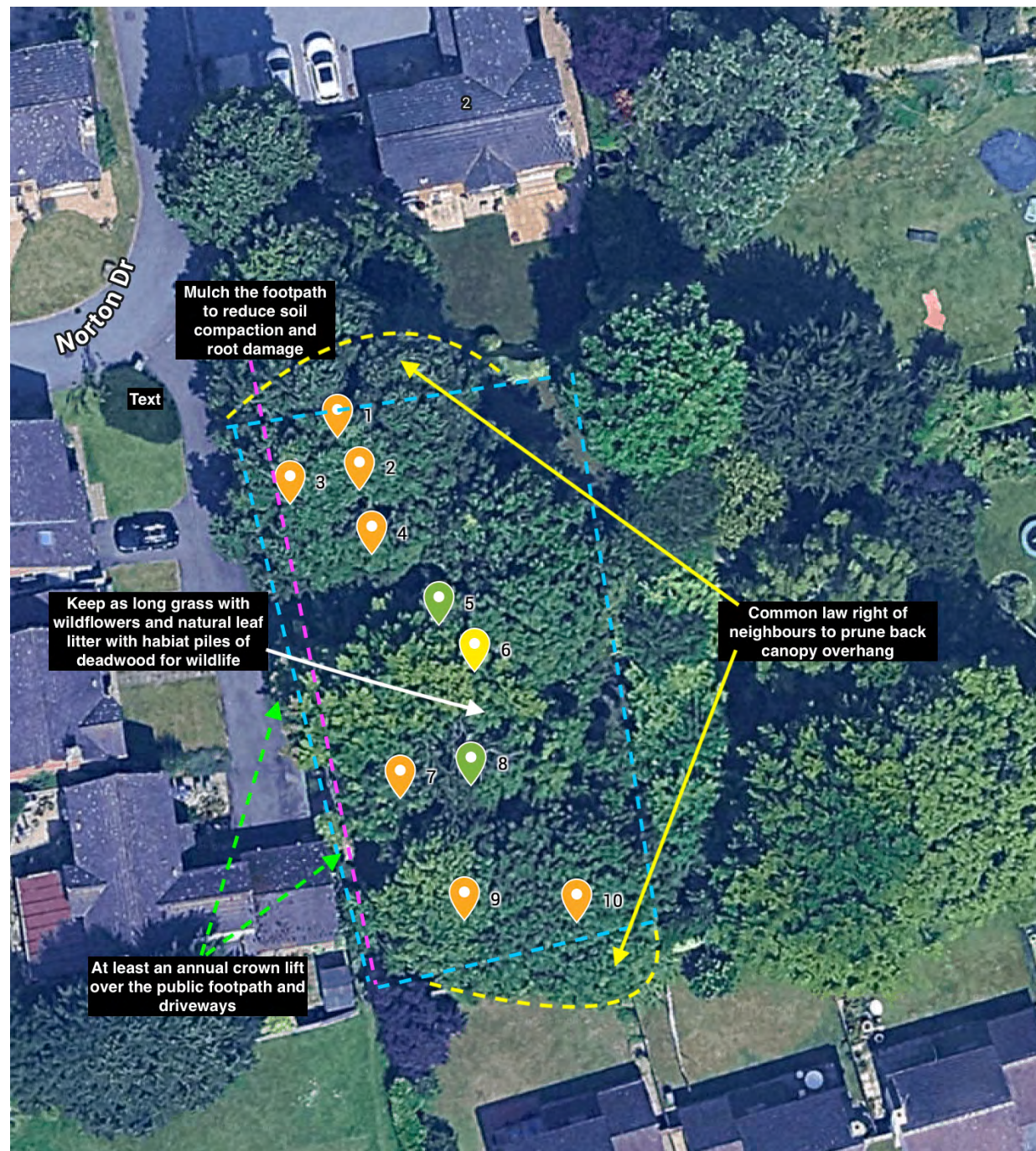
This site comprises middle-aged amenity trees set within a residential environment.

Management priorities include the following:

- Cyclical inspections.
- Routine crown maintenance for major deadwood removal.
- Ivy severance to enable inspections.
- Clearance from highways and footpaths in the form of crown lifting and pruning back.
- Replacement planting where removals occur.

Figure 4 sets out the key management proposals for the site.

Figure 4: Management to aid the tree stock for site D



Site E, The Green, Old Sarum

The larger public open space area containing a mixture of mature and developing tree stock, requiring the following (Figure 5):

- Cyclical inspections.
- Tree works, including crown lifting, pruning back, deadwood removal, and hanging branch removal.
- Establishing young tree maintenance.
- Some felling and replacement planting.
- Ivy severance and basal or epicormic growth removal.
- Monitoring of ash and mature specimens plus a veteran ash.
- Monitoring of structural condition.
- Long-term succession planning.

Figure 5: Management to aid the tree stock for site E



Site F and O Pilgrims Way, Laverstock

These are the larger public open space areas containing a mixture of mature and developing tree stock, requiring the following:

- Cyclical inspections.
- Tree works, including crown lifting, pruning back, deadwood removal, and hanging branch removal.
- Establishing young tree maintenance.
- Some felling and replacement planting.
- Ivy severance and basal or epicormic growth removal.
- Monitoring of ash for ash dieback.
- Monitoring of structural condition.
- Long-term succession planning.

Figure 6 sets out proposals for the management of the two sites to aid with long-term tree management and future biodiversity.

Figure 6: Management to aid the tree stock for site F & O



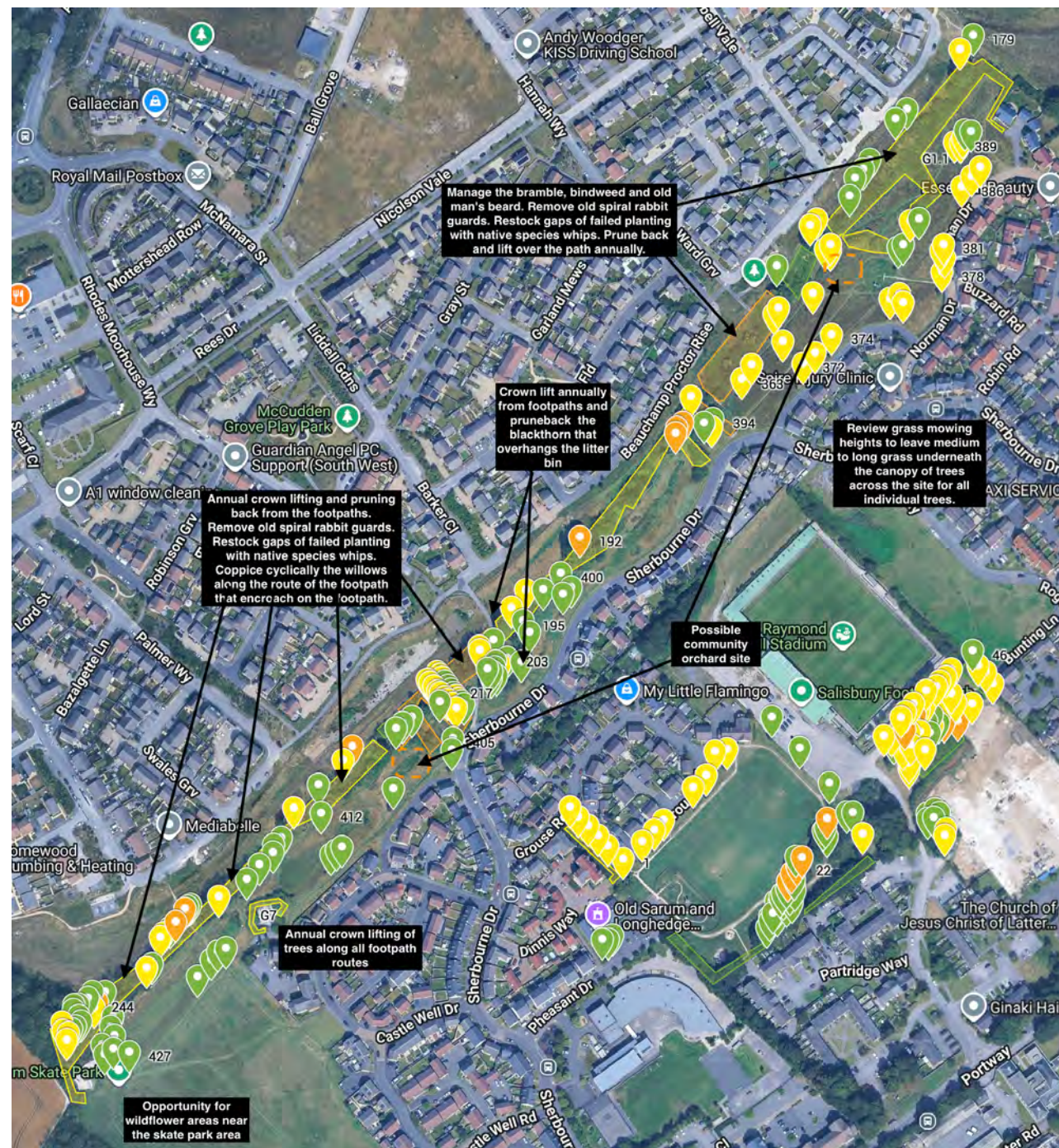
Site G The Swales, Old Sarum

Larger public open space areas containing a mixture of mature and developing tree stock, requiring the following:

- Cyclical inspections.
- Tree works, including crown lifting, pruning back, deadwood removal, and hanging branch removal.
- Coppicing willows along the footpath edges.
- Establishing a young tree maintenance programme.
- Veteran tree management.
- Reviewing grass-cutting regimes.
- Some felling and replacement planting
- Ivy severance and basal or epicormic growth removal.
- Monitoring of ash and mature specimens.
- Monitoring of structural condition.
- Long-term succession planning.

Figure 7 sets out some of the management requirements annually and over the next 5 years with the potential for biodiversity enhancements with wild flowers and community orchards.

Figure 7: Management to aid the tree stock for site G



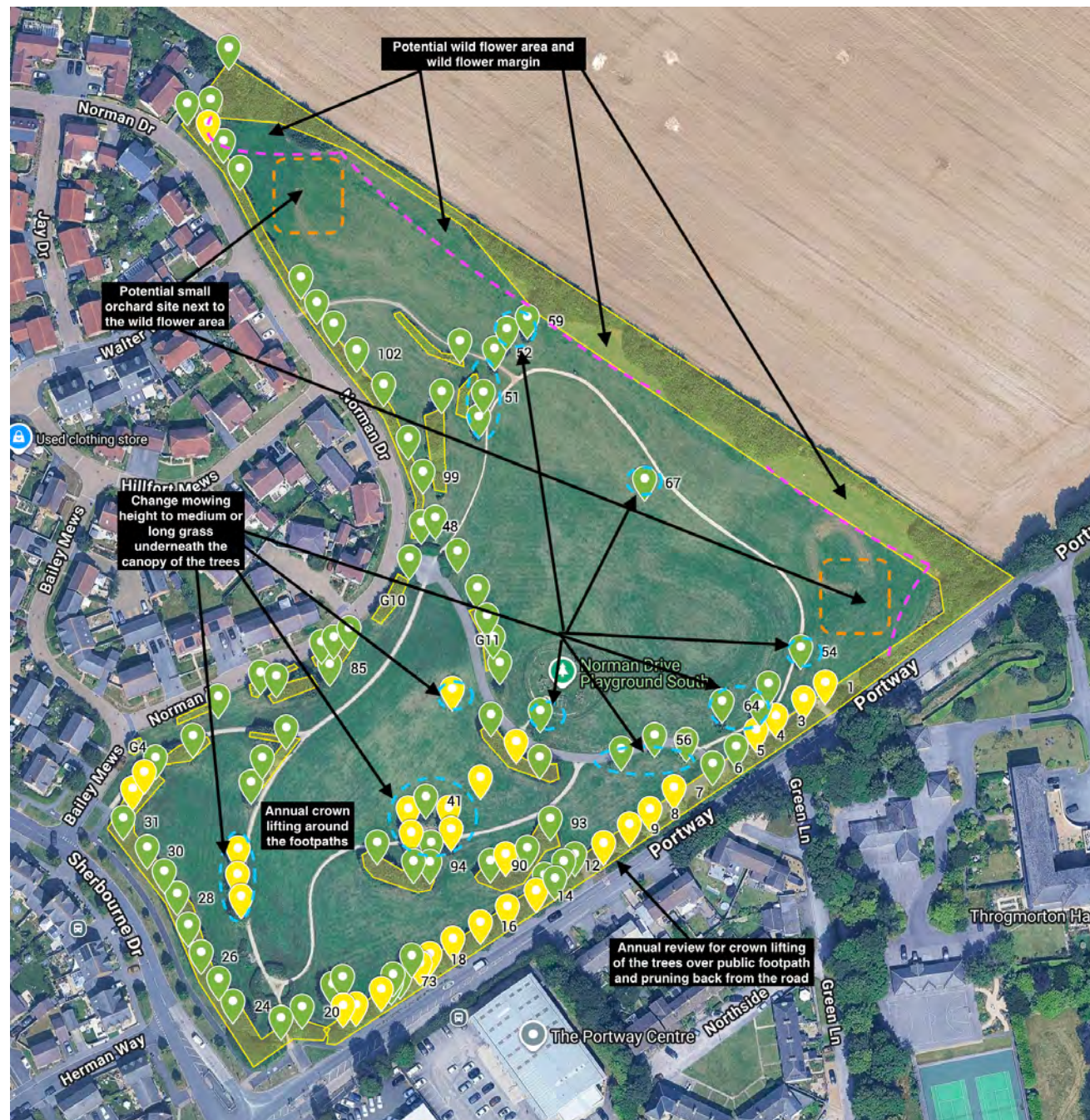
Site P Norman Drive, Old Sarum

A large new area of public open space at Old Sarum with predominantly newly planted trees that are establishing.

- Cyclical inspections.
- Crown lifting and pruning back from utilities and road signs.
- Clearance from highways and footpaths.
- Replacement planting where removals occur.
- Young tree maintenance.
- Review mowing regimes.

Figure 8 sets out the main focus, which will be aiding the establishment of the young trees and their development with the potential for biodiversity enhancements for the site, including community orchard opportunities.

Figure 8: Management to aid the tree stock for site P



Site Westside Close, Old Sarum

Management should focus upon the following:

- Cyclical inspections.
- Maintaining appropriate clearance from adjacent properties.
- Monitoring nuisance or enquiries about boundary trees for the new houses.
- Preventative maintenance to reduce neighbour complaints.
- Replacement planting where appropriate for failed planting.
- Good young tree establishment regimes.

Figure 9 sets out the key management focus for the next 5 years to establish the newly planted trees as well as potentially increase biodiversity with wild flowers.

Figure 9: Management to aid the tree stock for Westside Close, Old Sarum



Remove dead wood (>50 mm)

The removal of major deadwood aids in reducing the risk to the site users. It should be removed for reasons of health and safety within 3 months where it is over a footpath or there is a target that is fixed and cannot be moved. Where possible, retain deadwood without a target for habitat reasons. Where possible, it is recommended to stabilise the deadwood rather than remove it, shortening dead branches rather than removing them. This can be done by testing large dead branches for their holding capacity.

Crown lifting and pruning back canopies

This is advised over footpaths and roads to aid with access, and footpaths and roads should be checked at least annually for height clearances of at least 2.5 metres over footpaths and 5.2 metres over roads. Where canopies extend over footpaths at a low level, these should be pruned back to 0.5 metres behind the kerb edges, and the visibility splays of lamp columns and lamps should be kept clear and checked annually.

Crown reduction regimes

Where trees have been subject to a crown reduction, it is important to continue this management. All previously crown-reduced trees should be inspected every 3 years and scheduled for a repeat crown reduction based on the regrowth.

Management of the land around the tree

Manage desire lines to avoid excessive paths being created throughout the group. This can be done through blocking any desire lines with branches or debris to deter access. It can also be done by leaving longer grass underneath the canopies of trees to deter access.

Management of the land around the mature and veteran trees

Where mature trees are adjacent to the grass footpaths, look to relocate the desire line or footpath to outside of the edge of the canopy to avoid having to crown lift the trees and retain the lower branches to deter access from underneath them.

Avoid compacting the ground around the veteran trees by relocating or blocking off desire lines adjacent to or underneath the canopies of these trees where possible to reduce the footfall and compaction of the ground. This can be done through the placement of dead branches and logs.

Dutch Elm Disease (DED) management

Where the target is low, sites with dead and dying elm could be retained for standing deadwood habitat. Where they are adjacent to or within falling distance of official footpaths, these should be coppiced. The majority of elms are within the landscape belts and groups or hedges and pose limited risk.

Management of Beech Bark Disease

Beech bark disease (BBD) is a serious, complex disease affecting UK beech trees, caused by an interaction between the beech scale insect (*Cryptococcus fagisuga*) and the *Neonectria* fungi (*N. coccinea*/*N. faginata* and *N. galligena*). The insect creates wounds in the bark as it feeds, allowing the fungus to invade and cause cankers, eventually leading to tree decline and mortality.

Symptoms include white, waxy scale insect colonies, weeping wounds, and tarry spots on the bark, which can progress to severe cankers and heavy tree death. Some of the trees on the site have signs of BBD, including trees 185 and 192 on site G.

To treat beech bark scale, apply horticultural oil or neem oil during the crawler stage (spring or autumn) or dormant period (winter) to smother the insects. For minor infestations, physically scrub or power wash the bark with a soft brush and soapy water. For severe infestations, consult a specialist for systemic insecticide treatments.

Fly tipping

One of the main advisories is to write to residents to encourage them not to fly-tip waste or green waste on public open spaces, particularly around the site boundaries. This can lead to a build-up of debris that can cause root asphyxiation and issues with tree health. It can also create an environment that encourages rodents like rats to inhabit.

Management of ivy

It is recommended to manage the ivy on the trees as part of an ongoing programme of works. To sever ivy is to cut or sever the ivy from around the entire stem or trunk of a tree to allow the ivy to die back over a period of time. Ideally ivy should be cleared from around the first 2 metres of the trunk to enable future inspections. Care should be taken not to damage the bark of the tree whilst this is being carried out. If the ivy is just starting, it can be pulled off or cut back. This only needs to be done when it is restricting access for inspection, as ivy is an important part of the natural ecosystem for wildlife.

It is useful to retain ivy on trees but to avoid it encompassing the whole tree when they are adjacent to a target. Ivy adds additional weight to the stem and branches, can reduce adventitious bud development and can cause branches or stem failure due to extra wind loading in the winter on deciduous trees as well as the additional weight, especially when it is waterlogged.

Therefore, consider a phased ivy severance programme of a percentage of the trees with ivy over each three-year period rather than severing or removing ivy from all trees at the same time.

Habitat enhancement

Bird boxes were observed on sites, and these could be increased to provide further habitat opportunities. Retention of dead wood and dead branches can also be retained on site for habitat through the creation of habitat piles. Consider retaining tree stems at low heights for trees planned for felling, as these are great wildlife habitats as standing monoliths and to a retained height of 1.5 to 2 metres. An example of which was observed on Site A at Whitebridge Spinney.

Mulch underneath the canopy of the trees

To aid the health of the trees longer term, it is recommended, where possible, to create mulch rings out to the canopy extent of the trees in grassy areas. This provides them with organic matter for the trees' rooting area, to reduce root damage, to aid with moisture retention and to reduce the compaction and soil erosion in this area. Wood chips are to be composted and broadleaf-based and laid over existing ground to a depth no greater than 5 cm – 7 cm and evenly spread underneath the tree canopies. This should be topped up annually as needed.

Mulch young trees

There are a number of young trees planted out in the open-space grass areas, and many of these still have their original stakes and ties present. It is recommended to remove all stakes and ties and adjust the mowing and strimming regime to avoid strimming the bark off the trunks.

Also, where possible, add 3 low stakes and wire to form a protective barrier to prevent this as well as retain a mulch area which can be topped up annually to aid with providing the developing young trees with additional nutrients and improve the moisture retention of the soil. This will aid with the success rate of new planting and establishment rates, saving costs for replacement planting.

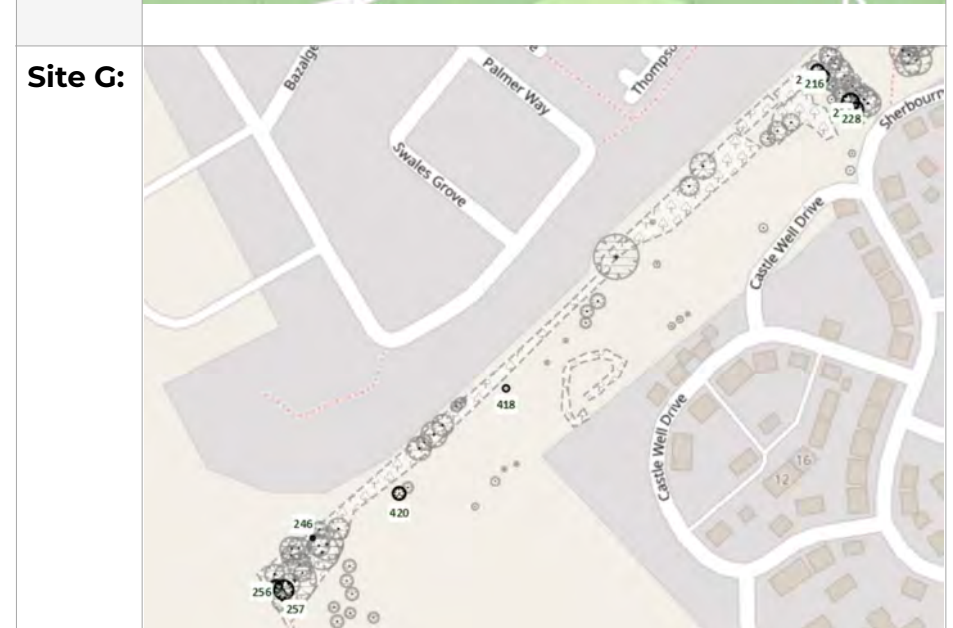
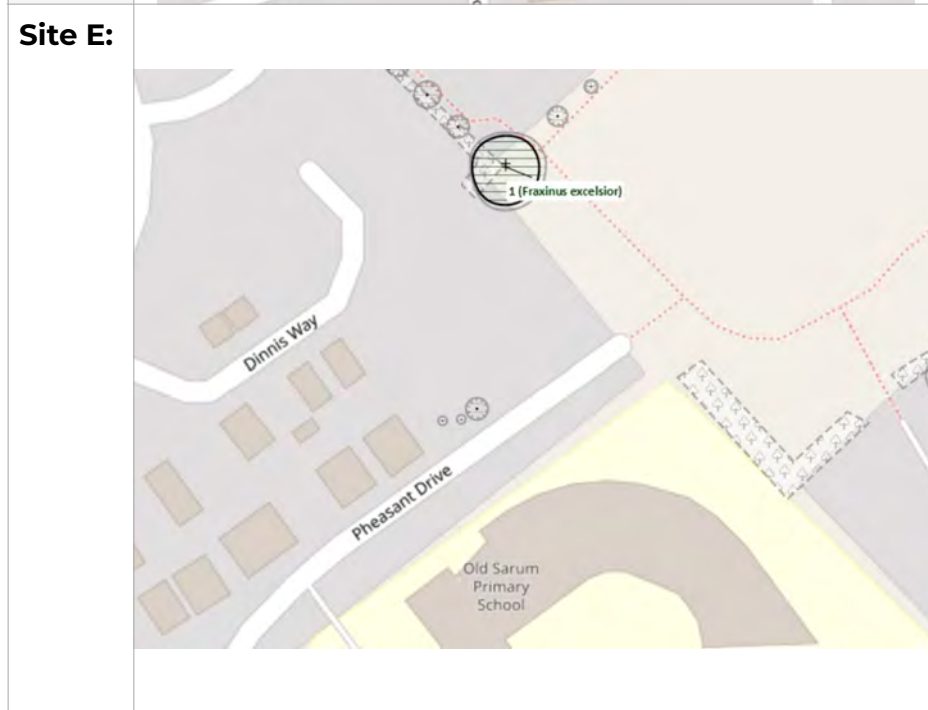
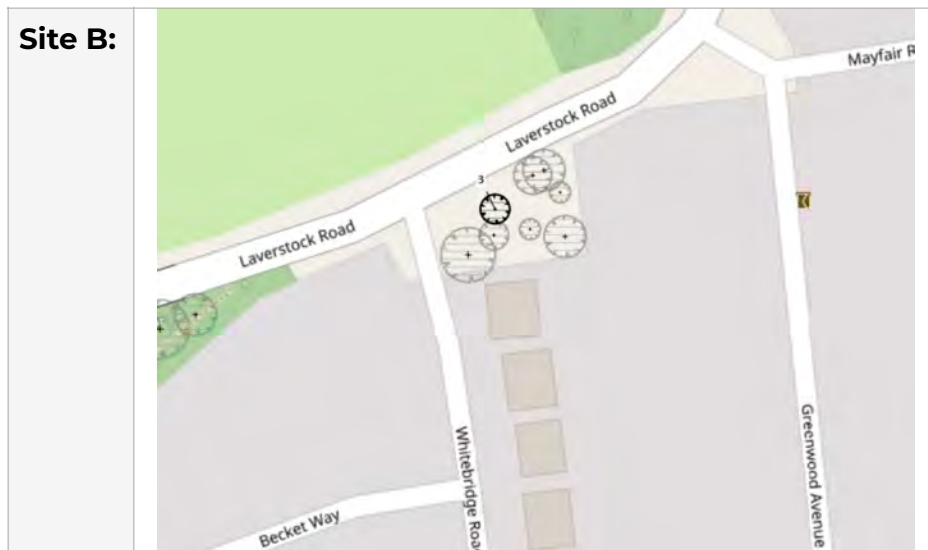
Ash dieback management and monitoring

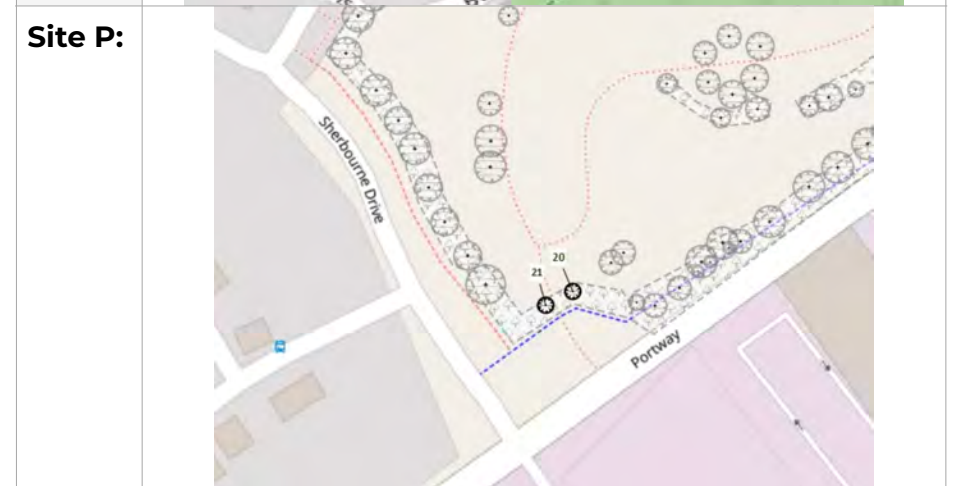
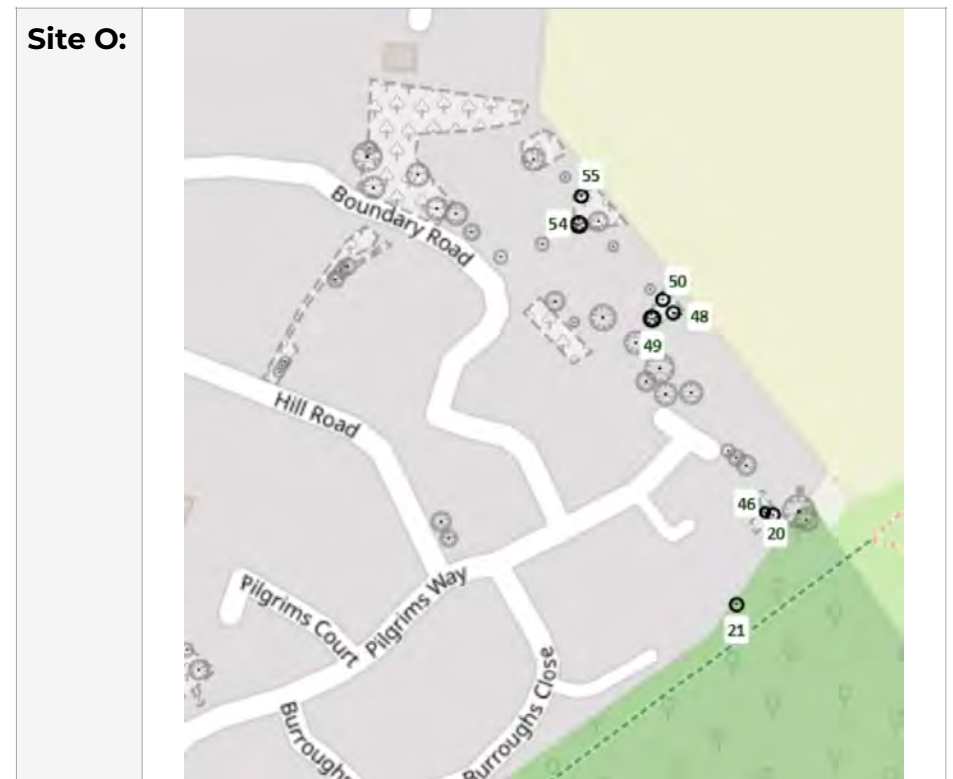
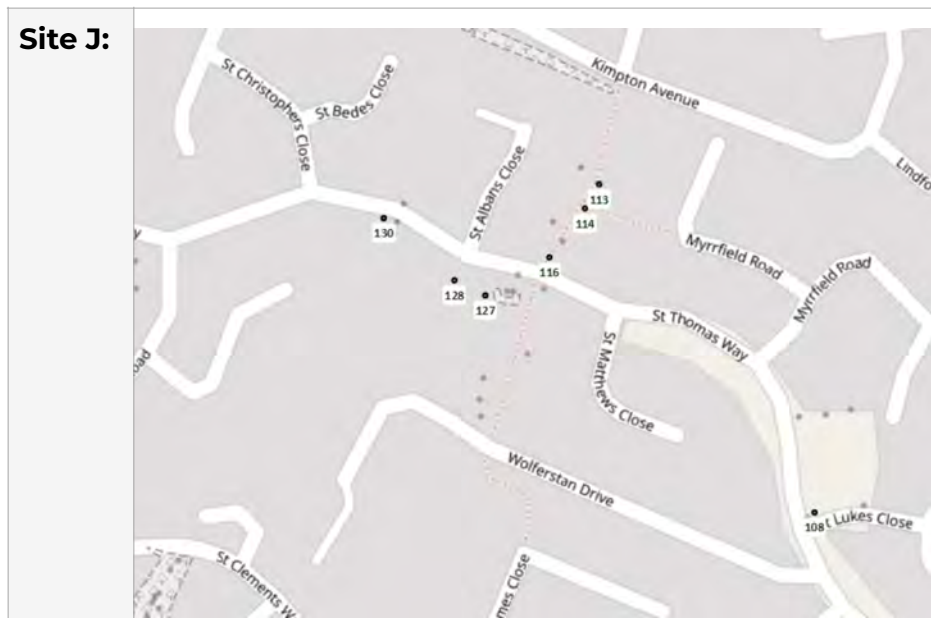
There are 47 individual ash trees and approximately 148 ash trees within groups recommended for monitoring from the current tree surveys from 2025 and 2026. They should be reviewed annually around June/July, when they are in full leaf, to assess their condition and to observe any changes in their health and any further decline.

The monitoring plan is in Table 16 and includes ash-monitoring and other tree species' health-monitoring details. Table 19 has map extracts for the individual ash monitors. For groups with ash, see the tree survey plans.

Table 19: Individual ash monitoring extracts







Monitoring for tree health

18 individual trees in sites A, C, D, G, J and O are recommended for annual monitoring for their health.

- Site A: Trees 4, 5, 13, 20, 24 and 48.
- Site C: Trees 1 and 4
- Site D: Tree 4
- Site G: Trees 185 and 192
- Site J: Tree 115
- Site O: Trees 8, 9, 16, 43, 44 and 48

This can be carried out by a competent person, and if there are any concerns following these monitoring visits, they should be raised further with a suitably qualified arboriculturist. The monitoring plan is in Table 15 and includes ash-monitoring and other tree species' health-monitoring details.

Re-surveys and inspections

All formal surveys should be carried out by a competent and suitably qualified arboriculturist as per the reinspection recommendations in table 15.

It is also recommended that an annual walkover be carried out by a competent person to address any short-term tree work requirements for crown lifting or deadwood removal as well as general monitoring visits for health checks and ash dieback.

It is also recommended that a walkover assessment be carried out post-storms by a competent person to identify any immediate health and safety issues and address them.

Timing of tree work

Ideally, the work should be carried out after nesting bird season and take into consideration other wildlife and protected species like bats to avoid any disturbance.

Standards of tree work

All tree work should be carried out following BS 3998:2010, Tree Work Recommendations, by competent, trained and fully insured arboricultural contractors.

Improving the tree asset in Laverstock and Ford

There are many ways in which to improve the tree asset for LFPC, and here are some key objectives for this:

- Recognising trees as valuable assets by recording and communicating the significant aesthetic, ecological, social, cultural and historic benefits that Laverstock and Ford Parish trees provide;
- Championing the value of our trees in improving our health by encouraging the use of open spaces for play, exercise, recreation and active lifestyles and in absorbing airborne pollutants.
- Maintaining and improving tree cover through annual tree planting within our sites, and by encouraging appropriate tree planting on new developments that are to be adopted by the Parish and land owned by other parties;
- Encouraging the conservation and positive management and the appropriate planting of trees and woodlands on our sites through the help of voluntary groups;
- Wherever possible, planting a replacement tree nearby or elsewhere when a tree under our management has to be felled.

Replacement tree planting for ash removals

As some of the ash require felling due to succumbing to ash dieback or have already been felled, there are gaps now within the sites which could be restocked either with whips within groups or single standard trees within grass areas, ideally 6-8 cm in girth or 8-10 cm in girth for ease of planting and establishment. This would aid in the continuity of tree stock for the site and provide trees for the future.

The following species would be suitable as replacements for the ash and include the following:

- Field maple (*Acer campestre*)
- Disease-resistant elm (*Ulmus* 'New Horizon')
- Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)
- Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)
- Large-leaved Lime (*Tilia platyphyllos*)
- Small-leaved Lime (*Tilia cordata*)
- Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*)
- Wild Service tree (*Sorbus torminalis*)

Where there is natural regeneration, this should be encouraged to aid with increasing the tree cover for sites. It can be selected and then protected with tree guards if necessary to aid its establishment.

Succession Planting

To ensure long-term canopy cover, tree removals should be accompanied by replacement planting where site constraints allow as well as planning for strategic planting to diversity tree stocks and build a resilient canopy cover. Table 20 provides example species replacements.

Species selection should favour:

- Native species where appropriate
- Ornamental varieties for improved amenity characteristics.
- Climate-resilient varieties.
- Increased species diversity to reduce vulnerability to future pests and diseases.
- Trees suited to future climate conditions and available rooting space.

Young tree maintenance

Young tree maintenance is the post-planting care given during the first 3 to 5 years, including watering, weeding, mulching, and formative pruning. It is vital because young trees lack established root systems and need support to prevent poor structural growth, disease, and costly replacement.

Table 21 sets out the basic requirements of young tree maintenance to aid with ensuring all newly planted young trees establish successfully.

Wild flower areas

Where possible, consider creating new wildflower areas as well as expanding the existing areas that are present on sites like site O.

Table 20: Replacement tree species list examples

Replacement tree species lists			
	Small up to 8m	Medium - 8 -18 m	Large over 18m
Native	• Common Box (<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>) • Dogwood (<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>) • Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) • Midland Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>) • Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) • Spindle (<i>Euonymus europaea</i>) • Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>) • Privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>) • Crab apple (<i>Malus sylvestris</i>) • Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>) • Purging Buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>) • Goat Willow (<i>Salix caprea</i>) • Osier Willow (<i>Salix viminalis</i>) • Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>) • Guelder rose (<i>Viburnum opulus</i>)	• Field Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>) • Common Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) • Silver Birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>) • Downy Birch (<i>Betulus pubescens</i>) • Alder Buckthorn (<i>Frangula alnus</i>) • Common Juniper (<i>Juniperus communis</i>) • Scots Pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>) • Wild Cherry (<i>Prunus avium</i>) • Bird Cherry (<i>Prunus padus</i>) • Plymouth Pear (<i>Pyrus cordata</i>) • Grey Willow (<i>Salix cinerea</i> subsp. <i>oleifolia</i>) • Crack Willow (<i>Salix fragilis</i>) • Bay Willow (<i>Salix pentandra</i>) • Whitebeam (<i>Sorbus aria</i>) • Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>) • Wild service tree (<i>Sorbus torminalis</i>) • Yew (<i>Taxus baccata</i>) • Wych Elm (<i>Ulmus glabra</i>)	• Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) • Hornbeam (<i>Carpinus betulus</i>) • Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) • Black Poplar (<i>Populus nigra</i>) • Aspen (<i>Populus tremula</i>) • English oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>) • Sessile Oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>) • White Willow (<i>Salix alba</i>) • Common Lime (<i>Tilia x europaea</i>) • Large leaved Lime (<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>) • Small leaved Lime (<i>Tilia cordata</i>)
Ornamental	• Silver Wattle (<i>Acacia dealbata</i>) • Paper Bark maple (<i>Acer griseum</i>) • Japanese maple (<i>Acer palmatum</i>) • Cut leaved Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> 'Imperialis') • Snowy Mespilus (<i>Amelanchier lamarckii</i>) • Himalayan Birch (<i>Betula utilis</i> 'Silver Shadow') • Judas tree (<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i>) • Pillar Apple (<i>Malus tschonoskii</i>) • Sargent's Cherry (<i>Prunus sargentii</i> 'Rancho') • Chanticleer Pear (<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer') • Golden Robinia (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> 'Frisia') • Fern leaved Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i> 'Asplenifolia') • Japanese Rowan (<i>Sorbus commixta</i>)	• Trident maple (<i>Acer buergerianum</i>) • Amur maple (<i>Acer ginnala</i>) • Lobel's Maple (<i>Acer lobelia</i>) • Box Elder (<i>Acer negundo</i>) • Norway maple (<i>Acer platanoides</i>) • Purple Norway Maple variety (<i>Acer platanoides</i> 'Crimson Sentry') • Red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>) • Sweet Buckeye (<i>Aesculus flava</i>) • Italian Alder (<i>Alnus cordata</i>) • White Himalayan Birch (<i>Betula utilis</i> var <i>jacquemontii</i>) • Katsura tree (<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>) • Turkish Hazel (<i>Corylus colourna</i>) • Common Walnut (<i>Juglans regia</i>) • Sweet Gum (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>) • Persian Ironwood (<i>Parrotia persica</i>) • Mitchell Whitebeam (<i>Sorbus thibetica</i> John Mitchell) • Lime cultivar (<i>Tilia</i> 'Harold Hillier') • Caucasian Lime (<i>Tilia x euchlora</i>) • Lime (<i>Tilia henryana</i>) • Mongolian Lime (<i>Tilia mongolica</i>) • Thuja (<i>Thujopsis dolabrata</i>) • Japanese Elm (<i>Zelkova serrata</i>)	• Silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>) • Sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>) • Indian Horse Chestnut (<i>Aesculus indica</i>) • Shagbark hickory (<i>Carya ovata</i>) • Sweet Chestnut (<i>Castanea sativa</i>) • Indian Bean Tree (<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i>) • Japanese Cedar (<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>) • Handkerchief tree / Dove tree (<i>Davidia involucrata</i>) • Maidenhair tree (<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>) • Black walnut (<i>Juglans nigra</i>) • Tulip tree (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>) • Dawn Redwood (<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>) • Hop-Hornbeam (<i>Ostrya carpinifolia</i>) • Fox glove tree (<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>) • London plane (<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>) • Oriental plane (<i>Platanus orientalis</i>) • Caucasian wingnut (<i>Pterocarya fraxinifolia</i>) • Holm Oak (<i>Quercus ilex</i>) • Giant Redwood (<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i>) • Coastal Redwood (<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>) • Silver Lime (<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>) • Resistant Elms (<i>Ulmus new horizon/ Ulmus lobel</i>)

Table 21: young tree maintenance guidance

Maintenance	Detail of young tree maintenance
Winter duration	Check once between October and March to check stakes, ties, mulch ring, formative pruning and overall condition of trees for first 4 years of establishment and maintain a report on any issues
Summer duration	Check once between April and September to check stakes, ties, mulch ring, formative pruning and overall condition of trees for first 4 years of establishment and maintain a report on any issues
Watering frequency	For 16 - 24 weeks weekly from April to September annually for first 4 years from date of tree planting. Increase frequency of watering to twice a week or extend water period if drought or long dry periods in Spring or Summer.
Watering volume	Each tree to be watered at least once a week with a minimum of 20l- 40l of water per watering per tree subject to the size planted.
Weeding	Mulch rings to be kept weed free and hand weeded. At no time are chemicals allowed to be used around newly planted trees. Also remove any litter from around the tree planting area at time of weeding. All resultant material should be removed from site.
Mulch ring formation	For trees sized 8-10cm girth up to 12-14cm girth create a 1m diameter mulch ring. For trees sized 14-16cm up to 18-20cm create a 2m diameter mulch ring. For all trees in excess of 20cm girth create a 3m mulch ring.
Mulch ring maintenance	Maintain a depth of 5cm or 50mm at all times and spread evenly and of consistent thickness that it is effective as a weed suppressant and moisture conserver.
Stakes	Inspect, adjust and replace if removed, damaged or missing and remove only once tree is root firm in the ground or after 3 years
Ties	Inspect, adjust and replace if removed, damaged or missing and remove only once tree is root firm in the ground or after 3 years
Formative pruning at planting	Do this at time of planting to remove any damaged branches or poor formed branches but if quality of tree is correct the form should be excellent at time of planting. Use clean and sterilised tools for pruning to avoid transfer of pests and diseases from one tree to another.
Formative pruning post planting	Inspect during first 4 years of establishment and formative prune or correct prune any damaged branches, poor form, reversions. Use clean and sterilised tools for pruning to avoid transfer of pests and diseases from one tree to another.
Tree guards and, spiral guards	Inspect, adjust and replace if removed, damaged or missing and remove only once tree is established within 3 - 5 years
Fertilizing	Apply a slow release or liquid fertiliser once a year in spring in May which should contain a greater concentration of the slow release top dressing agent at the rate of 80gm/m ² or an equivalent such as Osmacote Grotabs. This should be worked lightly into the soil, without disturbing the roots, before the bark mulch is re-spread.
Tree failure	Replace any failed trees with the same species unless species not suitable for ground conditions, site or other factor and in agreement with planning conditions and follow same process for establishment and maintenance. Replace in planting season from November to March and in the immediate planting season following recording the failure.

Grant opportunities for trees and orchards

There is an opportunity to introduce community orchards to some of the sites, and to aid with this, table 22 sets out sources of funding that may be available to the Parish Council.

Table 22: Grant opportunities

Grant provider	Link to website
People's Trust for endangered species - Orchard specific grants	https://ptes.org/campaigns/traditional-orchard-project/orchard-grants/
The Tree Council	https://treecouncil.org.uk/grants-and-guidance/our-grants/
Government grants for landowners and farmers eg TE3: Planting fruit trees CBE5: To create traditional orchards	https://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/planting-fruit-trees-te3
The Woodland Trust offers free trees for schools and communities	https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=PPC&utm_campaign=CTP24&utm_content=CTP2&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=22868369509&gbraid=0AAAAAodncPf6H28GG-MLZt_wWa-LXip8N

England's Community Forests offers free trees to landowners to help with expanding community forests	https://englandscommunityforests.org.uk/landowners/
Veolia are offering grants for orchards for communities	https://www.veolia.co.uk/veolia-orchard
International Tree Foundation UK and Ireland community tree planting grants Every year, ITF supports community groups across the UK and Ireland to bring their tree-planting ambitions to life. Whether it's a small community woodland or large scale rewilding, we want to hear your ideas.	https://www.internationaltreefoundation.org/uk-grants

11 Summary and Conclusions

This management plan will aid in the understanding of the current tree stock of Laverstock and Ford Parish Council.

This tree management plan should be reviewed every four years following the next completed round of tree surveys, which will:

- Record new inspections for the tree stock.
- Record completed works.
- Monitor tree condition.
- Record new planting.
- Incorporate new survey findings.
- Respond to emerging pests and diseases.

Table 23 provides a summary of tree and site management recommendations for the next 5 years for each site based on the current state of the tree stock and requirements.

Table 24 provides a month-by-month task approach to the overall tree management plan tasks to aid with timing and planning tree management and tree work.

Table 23: Summary of tree and site management recommendations for the next 5 years for each site

Laverstock and Ford Parish Council tree and site management recommendations for the next 5 years 2026 -2031																	
Sites	Name	Review mowing heights to create medium and long grass areas	Create wild flower areas	Plant replacement trees	Coppicing programme needed for elms, willows, alder, hazel	Create orchards	Phase out aspen and poplar through coppicing/ thinning	Fly tipping letter to residents	Thinning or selective thinning of groups	Draw up longer term work proposals and plans at next formal tree survey	Woodland management plan required	Continue crown reduction regimes on cyclical basis	Continue pollard regimes on cyclical basis	Full inventory tree survey required at next formal inspection to gather data on all trees	Removal of redundant tree shelters and stakes	On going young tree maintenence - watering, mulching, checking stakes & ties and adjusting / removing	Annual crown lifting regimes for all footpaths, highways, signs
1	Site A	Whitebridge Spinney, Laverstock	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes					Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes
2	Site B	Whitebridge Road, Laverstock	Yes	Yes	Yes												Yes
3	Site C	The Green, Laverstock	Yes														Yes
4	Site D	Norton Drive / The Steadings, Ford						Yes									Yes
5	Site E	The Green (former MOD land), Old Sarum	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes				Yes				Yes	Yes
6	Site F	Pilgrims Way/ Burrough Close, Laverstock	Yes		Yes			Yes				Yes					Yes
7	Site G	Swale Public Open Space (Areas 9A & 9B), Old Sarum	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes				Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes
8	Site H	Longhedge Site (Area B), Old Sarum															
9	Site I	Hampton Park Recreation Ground, Bishopdown											Yes	Yes			
10	Site J (Site 2) South	St Clements Way and St Thomas Way and land between St Teresa and St Ursula Close POS		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes		Yes			
11	Site J (Site 2) North	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. St. Thomas Way, Bishopdown			Yes			Yes		Yes		Yes		Yes			Yes
12	Site K	Various Public Open Space & verges nr. Pearce Way, Bishopdown			Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
12	Site L	Verges at St. Clements Way, Bishopdown												Yes			
14	Site M	Footpath verges between Apostle Way & Sycamore Drive, Bishopdown											Yes	Yes			
15	Site N	Hampton Park Trail, Bishopdown					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes			Yes
16	Site O	Various P.O.S. & verges nr. Boundary Road, Pilgrims Way, Laverstock	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes									Yes
17	Site P	Norman Drive Public Open Space, Old Sarum	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes										Yes	Yes
18		Westside Close, Old Sarum		Yes	Yes			Yes								Yes	Yes
		Totals															

Table 24: Month-by-month guide to tree management tasks and activities

Monthly tree management tasks and activities

Month by month	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
Tree work including pollarding, coppicing, crown reductions, felling, significant branch removal or reduction, deadwood removal												
Young tree maintenance - Checking stakes and ties and adjusting as necessary, mulching, weeding, formative pruning, fertilising and monitoring												
Tree planting season												
Annual monitoring site walk overs												
Annual crown lifting over footpaths, roads												
Watering young trees in first 4 years												
Making any TPO or felling licence applications - 8 week period												
Drawing up tree planting plans for the next planting season												
Making any grant applications for tree planting, orchards												
Ordering replacement trees for planting to ensure availability of the trees required												
Annual hedge cutting / pruning groups avoiding nesting bird season												
Collecting redundant tree shelters, removing stakes, picking litter												
Responding to resident enquiries												

12 Bibliography

Key legislation

- Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 (Planning Consents / Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) and Conservation Areas (CA))
- Forestry Act 1967 (Felling licences)
- Highways Act 1980
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (European Protected species / Red data lists / Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI))
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW)
- Hedgerow Regulations 1997
- Health and Safety at Work Act etc 1974 (HSAWA) and associated regulations for health and safety
- Owners and Occupiers' Liability Acts 1957 and 1984 (These Acts set out the duties owed by occupiers to visitors and non-visitors. The 1957 Act provides that an occupier of premises owes a duty of care to visitors. Under the 1984 Act, an occupier owes a lesser duty to non-visitors ("trespasser duty"). Under both Acts, the occupier is required to take reasonable steps to discharge the duty owed, especially regarding obvious potential dangers.)

Technical references and guidance

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- Strouts, R.G & Winter, T.G (2000) Diagnosis of ill-health in trees Forestry Commission

- White, J (1998) Estimating the Age of Large and Veteran Trees in Britain

Relevant standards

- British Standard 3998:2010 Tree work - Recommendations
- British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations
- British Standard 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape - Recommendations

Websites

- Wiltshire Council Planning Explorer - <https://wiltscouncil.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=74a353612a934bd48fee1f2bc564cdd8>

Appendix A Qualifications and Experience

MISS AMELIA WILLIAMS

MICFor, CEnv, MArborA, Dip Arb L6 (ABC), Cert Ed.F.E, Cert Arb L4 (ABC), BSc (Hons)

Arboricultural Consultant, Chartered Arboriculturist and Company Director

Amelia is the principal arboricultural consultant and company director of The Arboricultural Company, which she founded in February 2020. She has over 25 years of experience in arboriculture and previously ran her own tree consultancy company earlier in her career and has gained a wide range of knowledge and experience in all her previous roles. She is also an assessor for the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) as well as an active member of various strategy task and finish groups of the ICF.

She holds the following accreditations, memberships and qualifications relevant to arboriculture:

Chartered status

- Chartered Arboriculturist (MICFor)
- Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv)

Professional memberships

- Professional Member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters
- Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association

Qualifications

- BSc Degree in Geography and Environmental Management (Royal Holloway University of London)

- Veteran Tree Specialist Consulting Level
- Professional Diploma in Arboriculture (Royal Forestry Society) (Dip Arb L6)
- Technicians Certificate in Arboriculture (Arboricultural Association) (Dip Arb L4 ABC)
- Certificate in Arboriculture (Royal Forestry Society)
- Aspire To Excellence leadership and management training NCFE (Level 5) Certificate
- Safety, Health and Environmental Management (Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH))
- City and Guilds Certificate in Further Education Stage 3 (Level 4) (Cert Ed. F.E)

Before then she was the Arboricultural Officer for Test Valley Borough Council for over four years within Community and Leisure Services. She was responsible for the tree management of all trees and woodlands on council-owned land, including reactive enquiries of around 700 per annum. The tree survey programme includes visual tree assessments and health and safety monitoring with a recent focus on ash dieback, oak processionary moth and tree planting. She used Ezytreev tree management software to enable the holistic tree management of around 21,000 assets, equating to around 66,000 trees, with an annual target of 6,000 assets on a resurvey programme. She was responsible for the delivery of all the tree works, and the tree contractor management focused on the health and safety of the delivery, with an annual budget responsibility of around £400k for tree works and replacement tree planting.

Her role previously for ten years was the Pan Garrison Trees, Grounds and Gardens Manager for Aspire Defence Services Limited, managing their tree and woodland management and maintenance plus the grounds maintenance and garden service delivery across seven garrisons on behalf of the Ministry of Defence. The main focus of her role involved managing the £2.3 million evergreen contract for all three service areas and ensuring that this was delivered following the specifications and service level agreements.

Before that, she was an arboricultural consultant based in Hampshire and director of Amelia Williams Ltd alongside her role initially and director of Arborsphere Ltd since 2007. Before starting her first company, she worked as a senior consultant for CBA Trees in Twyford in Hampshire from 2004 to 2007, assessing a wide range of arboricultural issues for projects across the UK and reaching associate-level partner status. The main focus is related to carrying out tree surveys following BS5837:2005 and development sites.

Before becoming an arboricultural consultant, she was a lecturer in arboriculture at Moulton College in Northampton for two years, teaching both the theory and practical of the RFS Certificate in Arboriculture, the Higher National Diploma in Urban Forestry, the National Diploma and National Certificate in Arboriculture and the National Diploma in Horticulture.

Amelia started her arboricultural career in 2000 as a tree surveyor/tree officer for Test Valley Borough Council, where she undertook the task of reviewing the status of all Tree Preservation Orders, including converting the paper-based system to that of a computerised system on a GIS package. She also designed the Access database to manage existing and new Tree Preservation Orders.

Range of arboricultural specialisms

- Arboricultural consultancy
- Tree management for small (single tree) up to large tree collections (over 40,000 trees)
- Tree survey work (street trees, development projects, individual private sites)
- Tree Inspections and hazard risk assessments, including health and safety issues around risk management
- Tree contract management and tree work compliance monitoring
- Tree Preservation Order advice and trees in Conservation Areas
- Arboricultural constraints and implications assessments and method statements

- Arboricultural site and project management, including arboricultural supervision
- Arboricultural design, including tree planting projects on both small and large scale
- Leadership and management, including running own consultancy business
- Arboricultural Lectures and Presentations, and general training and guidance

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