

Arboricultural Assessment
(Tree survey)

To assess the trees

On the site at

Donacarney
Bettystown
Co. Meath

September 2018

J M McCONVILLE + ASSOCIATES
Arboricultural Consultants

Grange Dunboyne Co. Meath

Phone +353 1 825 1718
www.joemcconville.com

PART ONE – ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to set out the findings following the inspection of trees along the roadside R150 at, **Donacarney, Bettystown, Co. Meath** and set out their condition. The survey work was undertaken on 15th August 2018 by the undersigned a qualified arboricultural consultant. The term of reference for the report is a proposed construction of a footpath on the site. The following categories have been used within the tree report tables and, where appropriate, the criterion used to define each category is defined.

- **Tree No.** : refers to the identification tag attached to a tree [also identified as such on the accompanying survey drawings]
- **Species** : refers to the common and scientific name given to the tree.
- **Stem diameter** : refers to the diameter of the tree stem in millimetres, as measured at 1.5 metres above ground level and above the root flare for multi-stemmed trees.
- **Height** : refers to the total height of the tree in metres. (Heights measured with a TruPluse® 200)
- **Crown spread** : refers to the width of the crown in metres, measured along the east/west axis on the compass. [Dimensions marked with # are estimates as per 4.4.2.6 c) – BS 5837:2012]
- **Condition** : refers to the physiological condition of the tree as a whole described as:
Good – Full healthy canopy but possibly including some suppressed or damaged branches
Fair – Slightly reduced leaf cover, minor dead wood or isolated major dead wood
Poor – Overall sparse leafing or extensive dead wood
- **Age** An estimation of the age of the tree described as;
V- Veteran, trees, which by recognized criteria, show features of biological, cultural or aesthetic value that are characteristic of, but not exclusive to individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species concerned.
OM – Over Mature, trees reaching the end of their life, in decline and senescent.
M – Mature, fully grown, with only small annual increments.
EM – Early Mature, one-third to two thirds of total life expired.
Y – Young, recent planting, with up to one third of total life expired.

- **Remarks:** Descriptive comments about the health (physiological) or form (structural) of the tree, its environment or external influences and may include preliminary management recommendations.

Category grade

- **U** -Those trees in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10years and which should be in the correct context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management.
 - **A** –Those trees of a high quality and value in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution.
 - **B** - Those trees of a moderate quality and value in such a condition as to be able to make a significant contribution.
 - **C**- Those trees of a low quality and value currently inadequate condition to remain until new planting could be established, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm
- **Estimated remaining contribution in years (ERC):** Expressed as less than 10, 10+, 20+, more than 40

Glossary of terms used:

Basal: The base of the tree close to the ground, (basal shoots are those emanating from the base).

Crown (canopy): The leaves and branches of a tree.

Co-dominant: Stems or branches of near equal diameter, often weakly attached.

Decay: Degradation of wood by fungi and/or bacteria.

Defect: Any feature of a tree which detracts from the uniform distribution of mechanical stress, or which makes the tree mechanically unsuited to its environment.

Dieback: The death of part of a plant, usually starting from a distal point and often progressing in stages.

Epicormic : Pertaining to shoots or roots, which are initiated on mature woody stems; shoots may form in this way from dormant buds or they may be adventitious.

Dysphotic zone : A zone within the canopy which does not have enough light to carry out photosynthesis.

Included Union: bark of adjacent parts of a tree (usually in forks, acutely angled branches or basal flutes), which is in face-to-face contact, so that there is weakness due to the lack of a woody union.

Lean: Departure of the trunk from the vertical.

Scaffold limbs: The branches, which form the main framework of the crown of a tree with a decurrent growth habit.

Shoot: A shoot derived from a dormant or adventitious bud on the main stem or branch.

Stub/peg: A short section of a branch, which may have, been left after previous pruning or storm damage.

Wound: Injuries on the surface of a trunk or branch.

Full: A canopy, which extends to the ground or nearly to the ground

Natural suppressed deadwood: Deadwood in conifers, which died as the crown height extended and the lower branch no longer have a function in the production of foliage.

Pathogens: Fungal and /or bacterial infections, which degrade the wood and render trees liable to failure

Wound wood: Wood with atypical anatomical features, formed in the vicinity of a wound or the occluding tissue around a wound

Hazard Limb: An upwardly curved part in which strong internal stresses may occur, cause wood to crack

Burr: Woody protuberances, especially those derived from the mass proliferation of adventitious buds.

Root protection area (RPA) : layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.

TREE SURVEY | SITE AT DONACARNEY, BETTYSTOWN
CO. MEATH

Survey Results

Tree no.	Species	Height (m)	Stem dia. (mm)	Spread (m)	Condition	Age	ERC	Remarks	Grade
<p><i>The tree survey starts east of the school complex (Scoil Realt na Mara) and continues east towards Bettystown on the north side of the R150.</i></p>									
1047	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	10.0	500	E 6.0 W 5.0	Fair	EM	20+	A tree with good vigour, it has a dense branch structure, it has dense foliage, basal suckers and has moderate ivy cover.	B
1048	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	7.6	300	E 3.0 W3.0	Fair	EM	20+	This tree has been pruned, has goof form, and good vigour. It has dense ivy cover and appears free from defects.	B
1049	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	11.8	400	E 4.0 W 5.0	Fair	EM	20+	A tree with a single stem, it has moderate ivy cover, it has multiple scaffolds in its upper crown. It has a dense canopy with good vigour.	B
1050	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	10.7	300	E 4.0 W 4.0	Fair	EM	20+	This tree has multiple scaffolds and some die back, it has a Sycamore at its base.	C
1051	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	8.4	300	E 5.0 W 5.0	Fair	EM	20+	A tree with a single stem, it appears to have been topped in the past, it has multiple scaffolds in its upper crown. It has moderate to dense ivy cover and has good vigour.	B
1052	Elm <i>Ulmus minor</i>	10.5- 15.0	200- 400	E 6.0 W 6.0	Poor	EM	<10	A stand of stems (9), they have contracted Dutch Elm Disease, some are dying and some are dead. Set back from the group is a Sycamore sapling.	U

TREE SURVEY | SITE AT DONACARNEY, BETTYSTOWN
CO. MEATH

Tree no.	Species	Height (m)	Stem dia. (mm)	Spread (m)	Condition	Age	ERC	Remarks	Grade
<i>The next group are after the houses.</i>									
No tag	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>			E 6.0 W 5.0	Fair	EM	20+	This tree is set back off the road side, it is at the end of an internal hedge on the pother side of a ditch. It has scattered deadwood and tip die back, it has an open canopy.	C
1053	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	14.8	600	E 4.0 W 1.0	Fair	EM	20+	A tree with a single stem, it has a one sided crown with dense ivy cover. It has one low lateral to the west, it has basal suckers and truncated branches.	C
1054	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	17.8	600	E 8.0 W 4.0	Fair	EM	20+	A tree with single stem, it has dense ivy cover and a one sided crown. It has scattered deadwood and tip die back, it has a stub at its base and basal suckers.	C
1055	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	20.2	900	E 11.0 W 7.0	Fair	M	10+	This trees main stem bifurcates, it has multiple scaffolds in its upper crown. It has dense ivy cover, tip die back, scattered deadwood and truncated branches.	C
<p>There is a low hedge along the road is beside a deep ditch anis comprised of bramble, ash, elder, hawthorn and sycamore.</p>									

TREE SURVEY | SITE AT DONACARNEY, BETTYSTOWN
CO. MEATH

Tree no.	Species	Height (m)	Stem dia. (mm)	Spread (m)	Condition	Age	ERC	Remarks	Grade
1056	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	16.5	300 400	E 6.0 W 6.0	Fair	EM	20+	This tree has two main stems, the third limb has been cut off leaving a large wound. It has minor scattered deadwood, and has tip die back.	C
No tag	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	-	-	-	Poor	M	<10	On the other side of the ditch is a mature Ash, it has major die back and has epicormic shoots. It has limited potential.	U
1057	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	19.1	1000	E 10.0 W 8.0	Fair	M	<10	This stem bifurcates at 0.5 metres, each stem bifurcates further. The road side stem leans over the road and has a weak attachment. It has pockets of decay and significant crown die back with major deadwood, it has tip die back.	U
1058	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	12.0	400 400	E 5.0 W 5.0	Poor	M	<10	Growing at the edge of the ditch it has three stems with tight unions, it has significant crown die back and scattered die back.	U
1059	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	13.5	700	E 8.0 W 8.0	Poor	M		This trees stem bifurcates, the upper crown has multiple scaffolds, it has significant crown and tip die back, it has weak foliage cover and scattered deadwood. It has moderate ivy on its lower stem.	
1060	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	13.5	500	E 4.0 W 4.0	Poor	EM	10+	A tree with a single stem, with a open crown, it has weak foliage and tip die back, it has tip die back and scattered deadwood.	C

TREE SURVEY | SITE AT DONACARNEY, BETTYSTOWN
CO. MEATH

Tree no.	Species	Height (m)	Stem dia. (mm)	Spread (m)	Condition	Age	ERC	Remarks	Grade
1061	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	13.5	800	E 8.0 W 8.0	Poor	M	<10	This tree has dense ivy, it has the main scaffolds, it has extensive crown die and scattered deadwood.	C
1062	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	13.3	700	E 8.0 W 5.0	Poor	M	<10	A tree with a single stem, it has multiple scaffolds in its upper crown. It has extensive crown die back. It has pockets of decay on truncated branches and lower branches.	C
1063	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	16.6	600	E 5.0 W 6.0	Poor	M	<10	Growing from the edge of the road side ditch, it bifurcates at 1.6 metres, with multiple scaffolds, it has tip die back and weak foliage and scattered deadwood.	C

Assumptions and Limitations

This tree survey was carried out from the ground, no invasive or destructive evaluation techniques were used; all findings observations and recommendations are based on the knowledge and experience of the undersigned a qualified Arboriculturalist. Information contained in this report covers only those items that were examined and reflects the condition of those items at the time of the inspection.

Findings are based on a visual report from ground level only and it should be borne in mind it is subject only to faults visible at the time of inspection, certain pathogens only produce seasonal fruiting bodies and consequentially may not have been noted during this assessment. All trees should be monitored on a regular basis for signs of defects and should be reported to a person qualified to diagnose them and to recommend treatment.

**TREE SURVEY | SITE AT DONACARNEY, BETTYSTOWN
CO. MEATH**

In the event of adverse weather conditions, there is the possibility of any tree, despite having a good report, falling over or suffering crown damage. In the event of a falling tree causing damage to residential or non residential buildings in their proximity, or to any person, any property public or private, or any mechanical vehicle or otherwise no liability will attach to this firm.

There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the trees in question may not arise in the future. The author takes no responsibility for any actions taken by the landowner or their agents by reasons of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made.

This report is intended solely for the benefit of the parties to whom it is addressed and no responsibility is extended to any third party for the whole or any part of its contents. All trees mentioned in this report should be subject to reassessment every two years to assess physiological and environmental changes.

Joseph McConville **B.Agr.Sc., F.Arbor.A. CEnv**
JM McCONVILLE + ASSOCIATES

September 2018