# TREES IN ABBEY FIELDS

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## **TREES IN ABBEY FIELDS**

As Abbey Fields has a large number of trees, many of which are veteran, the requirements to ensure that these stay within the best of condition, replaced nearing the end of their lives or are monitored for their safety is really important to maintain a green, healthy and safe Abbey Fields. In 2010 the Friends of Abbey Fields (FOAF) surveyed the trees in the Abbey Fields and produced a leaflet listing 64 different varieties of trees.

#### **Tree History**

Historically trees were planted in an adhoc basis and although Abbey Fields is classed as a designed landscape within Landscape Character terms, the planting of trees was undertaken randomly since it began its journey into the public domain from 1883. Abbey Fields historically appeared to be guite an open landscape, and once it became a publicly accessible space, trees were introduced. However, they were often moved due to objections from neighbouring residents associated with blocking the open views that they once had across the landscape. In 1902 avenues of trees were planted from Bridge Street to the swimming pool, Iron Bridge to the Church and from the Church back to Bridge Street, creating a triangle of avenues. Some of these avenues remain but others have not survived intact over the years. Trees within Abbey Fields now range from young replacement stock to veteran trees planted at this early time, providing a rich tapestry of variety, age and structure.



#### **Conservation Area**

Abbey Fields lies within the Abbey Fields Conservation Area discussed in more detail in Section 2. It references the importance and significance of the trees within the Fields. As responsible tree manager within the authority there is no need under the Regulations to give the planning department prior notification of work in a Conservation Area.

Any works within the churchyard would need to take into account the church faculty process, apart from responsive safety works.

## TREE SURVEY

In Section 4, the Service Level Agreement between WDC and Warwickshire County Council Forestry Team is outlined and ensures trees are managed effectively within the District and also within Abbey Fields. The trees are of great value to Abbey Fields and as such they are inspected annually and recorded in Arbortrack and an associated survey spreadsheet. An example of these are identified below.



Arbortrack Tree Plots for Abbey Fields

	Surveyor 👻	nspectionDate 斗 TrunkType 🛛 👻	Age 👻	Condition	Proximity	BuildingNumber 👻	Street	▼ SubArea ▼	Tag	StemDiamete	er 👻 Spread 👻	Height -	Committee	Site 👻	Count - VegetationType -	Species
139 OT6S	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin from 0.5m	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00451][]	45 - 55cm	14 - 16m	22 - 24m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
140 OT6T	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00452][]	65 - 75cm	16 - 18m	22 - 24m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
141 OT6T	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00452][]	65 - 75cm	16 - 18m	22 - 24m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
142 OT6U	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00453][]	45 - 55cm	10 - 12m	10 - 12m	District Council	Hedgerow	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
143 OT6U	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00453][]	45 - 55cm	10 - 12m	10 - 12m	District Council	Hedgerow	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
144 OT6X	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Young	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00455][]	25 - 35cm	06 - 08m	10 - 12m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
145 OT6X	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Young	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00455][]	25 - 35cm	06 - 08m	10 - 12m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
146 OT6Y	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00456][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	12 - 14m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
147 OT6Y	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00456][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	12 - 14m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
148 OT6Z	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00457][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	10 - 12m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
149 OT6Z	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00457][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	10 - 12m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
150 OT78	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00458][]	15 - 25cm	08 - 10m	10 - 12m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
151 OT78	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00458][]	15 - 25cm	08 - 10m	10 - 12m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
152 OT78	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00458][]	15 - 25cm	08 - 10m	10 - 12m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
153 OT79	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00459][]	45 - 55cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
154 OT79	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00459][]	45 - 55cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Grass	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
155 OT7A	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00460][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	08 - 10m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
156 OT7A	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00460][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	08 - 10m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
157 OT7A	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00460][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	08 - 10m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
158 OT7B	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin from 0.5m	Semi mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00466][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
159 OT7B	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin from 0.5m	Semi mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00466][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
160 OT7B	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin from 0.5m	Semi mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00466][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
161 OT7D	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00468][]	65 - 75cm	14 - 16m	18 - 20m	District Council	Soil	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
162 OT7D	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00468][]	65 - 75cm	14 - 16m	18 - 20m	District Council	Soil	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
163 OT7P	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin	Mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00485][]	35 - 45cm	14 - 16m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
164 OT7P	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin	Mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00485][]	35 - 45cm	14 - 16m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
165 OT7Q	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Multi	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00486][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
166 OT7Q	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Multi	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00486][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
167 OT7R	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00487][]	25 - 35cm	06 - 08m	12 - 14m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
168 OT7R	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00487][]	25 - 35cm	06 - 08m	12 - 14m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
169 OT7S	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00488][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
170 OT7S	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Twin	Early mature	Reasonable			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00488][]	25 - 35cm	10 - 12m	14 - 16m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
171 OT7Z	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00481][]	65 - 75cm	14 - 16m	24 - 26m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
172 OT7Z	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00481][]	65 - 75cm	14 - 16m	24 - 26m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
173 OT7Z	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00481][]	65 - 75cm	14 - 16m	24 - 26m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
174 OT7Z	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00481][]	65 - 75cm	14 - 16m	24 - 26m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
175 OT80	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00482][]	45 - 55cm	14 - 16m	20 - 22m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
176 OT80	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00482][]	45 - 55cm	14 - 16m	20 - 22m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
177 OT80	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00482][]	45 - 55cm	14 - 16m	20 - 22m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
178 OT81	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00483][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	10 - 12m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
179 OT81	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00483][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	10 - 12m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus
180 OT81	Martin Hicks	27/02/2020 Single	Early mature	Good			Abbey Fields	Kenilworth	[][KandNE-00483][]	25 - 35cm	08 - 10m	10 - 12m	District Council	Stream/River bank	1 Broadleaf	Acer pseudoplatanus

Extract from Abbey Fields Tree Survey

The information gathered from the tree inspection determines the work required to those trees within the coming year and prioritises in order of safety, categories 1 to 5, 1 being emergency and within 48 hours, 5 being beneficial/planned work and agreed when required.

Works to be carried out under the Services Level Agreement with WDC include the following:

- Cyclical Tree Inspections (carried out on an annual basis)
- Access to the above data for insurance purposes and customer enquiries
- Plant Tree
- Supply and fix stakes and ties
- Removal of stakes and ties
- Supply and fix machinery guard
- Remove machinery guard
- Supply and fix rabbit guard
- Remove rabbit guard
- Water planting station
- Planting station weed control
- Prune establishing tree
- Remove newly planted failed tree
- Remove single branch
- Crown lift tree
- Deadwood/Clean out tree
- Crown thin tree
- Crown shape tree

- Crown reduce tree
- Re-establish pollard
- Pollard tree
- Feather & sucker tree
- Root pruning
- Tree feeding
- Remove tree and establish new tree
- Treat stump to stop re growth
- Remove stump
- Removal of fallen tree inc. root plate
- Removal of fallen tree exc. root plate
- Straight Fell tree and retain high stump
- Sectional Fell tree and retain high stump
- Straight Fell tree to level stump
- Sectional Fell tree to level stump
- Fell and remove self set trees
- Soil aeration
- Timber Extraction
- Inspection and Installation of Owl boxes
- Labour / Machinery

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## TREE PLANTING

Tree planting within Abbey Fields is restricted by Historic England due to the Schedule Monument status of Abbey Fields. Trees can only be planted on a like for like basis location-wise (not necessarily species-wise), or under permission granted by Historic England. This is to prevent the disturbance of historic artifacts under the soil.

## TREE AND WOODLAND STRATEGY

WDC's Tree and Woodland Strategy was adopted in 1999 and is due to be reviewed, however it identifies a number of policies that are currently appropriate to Abbey Fields. These include:

- Policy 21, where the Council will seek to create a varied and sustainable tree population in Council Parks at the same time continuing to manage the existing trees/copses.
- Policy 22, where the Council will seek to continue and develop long term management plans for parks and open spaces to prevent decline.
- Policy 23, where the Council will continue, where appropriate, to plant ornamental trees

Further Actions include surveying all parks and open spaces to prioritise replacement planting of declining tree population and tree management to be integrated into the overall Parks Management Plans.

These are included within the SLA and also have been included within the Actions for Abbey Fields to ensure replacement tree planting is appropriate using the Plant Health and Biosecurity Toolkit for landscape practitioners to limit pests and diseases but also to ensure future planting is climate responsive.

## **RESPONSIBILITY OF TREES**

WDC is overall responsible for the trees within Abbey Fields. The process of contacting the Council in relation to a problem with a tree within a green space is provided through an online form that is directed to the Green Space Development Officer 1 who then reports this to the Contractor under the Service Level Agreement for inspection and subsequent works if required.

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