



ASPLEY GUISE PARISH COUNCIL

Tree Survey Report

Introduction:

The risk management schedule includes the following: Ensure Trees on PC property are kept in a safe and healthy condition and states that trees must be inspected on a regular basis by a competent person.

Budget:

The budget for this is within Grass Cutting.

Tender:

A tender was issued for the Tree report (see Appendix 1) that covered the 3 areas owned and managed by Aspley Guise Parish Council: The Common play area, Browns Way and Townlands.

Three contractors were sent the tender.

Contractor 1 - MacIntyre Trees Ltd:

Option 1: Tree Risk Assessment survey – by exception: All trees assessed but only those requiring work are recorded and tagged with numbered discs for identification and ordered in priority of work required.

Option 2: Tree Risk Assessment survey – Audit: All trees with stems >200mm diameter at 1.5m from the ground will be surveyed and recorded. Trees are either plotted as individuals or groups of trees where they form a cohesive mass. Trees requiring work will be tagged and identified and ordered in priority of work required.

Contractor 2 - Turney Landscapes Tree Care:

Option 1: Risk Assessment only: All trees assessed but only those requiring work are recorded and tagged.

Option 2: In depth survey: All significant trees would be tagged, recorded and mapped.

Contractor 3 - Dycol:

Option 1: Inspect and report: Guidance will be given on the health of the trees and recommendation for works required. (If subsequent work is carried out with this contractor, the cost of the inspection and report will be deducted from the cost of the work.)

Option 2: Contractor was asked to provide a subsequent quote but this was not received.



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Quotes: (Appendix 2 for details)

The following quotes have been submitted (all exclud. VAT):

Supplier	EL Ins	PL Ins	Option 1	Option 2
MacIntyre Trees	£10m	£5m	£680.00	£1,050.00
TL Tree Care	£10m	£5m	£1,100.00	£1,625.00
Dycol	TBC	TBC	£500.00	n/a

Under the AGPC Financials regulation policy the Council should strive to obtain 3 quotes where the spend is between £1,001 and £5,000, and minimum requirement for Contractors for Employers and Public Liability Insurance is £5m.

Conclusion:

The Parish Council have not conducted a detailed tree survey for at least the last 3 years, so my recommendation would be to select Option 2 which provides a more detailed survey and mapping of all significant trees.

MacIntyre Trees provided the most comprehensive response to the tender, with a detailed description of the work to be carried out and reported. Additionally, they also provided qualifications as follows: My professional qualifications include Arboricultural Association Technical Certificate and Level 3 National Certificate in Arboriculture. I also hold the International Society of Arboriculture Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) and am a Lantra Certified Professional Tree Inspector with over 15 years of industry experience. My professional memberships include the Arboricultural Association, Institute of Chartered Foresters, International Society of Arboriculture and Small Woods Association.

My recommendation therefore is to select Contractor 1 MacIntyre Trees, Option 2 at a cost of £1,050.00

Lynne Simons
AG Parish Clerk & RFO
26th January 2021



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Appendix 1

Good Morning,

Please can you provide a quote for inspecting and submitting a report on the trees within two areas of land owned by Aspley Guise Parish Council, listed below and shown on the attached maps:

1. Browns Way – area enclosed by red line (can be found off Salford Road)
2. The Common Play Area – area shaded in yellow (can be found by the Golf course off West Hill)
3. Townlands - area enclosed by red line

The report should include the health of the trees, and any recommended management of or action needed, along with a quote for the works.

Please can you submit the quote by Friday 15th January 2021.



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Appendix 2 – Quotes:

Contractor 1 – MacIntyre Trees

The first option is termed a 'survey by exception', whereby all trees are assessed but only trees that pose a risk, and need works or investigation to make them safe, are recorded.

The second option is an 'audit' style survey where all trees, groups and woodlands are recorded and plotted on a plan regardless of whether they need any work or further investigation. This gives a full picture of all trees on site and can be of use from a long-term management perspective.

Both options demonstrate that the parish, as a tree owners, have considered and acted appropriately from a duty of care viewpoint, but the second (audit) option takes longer and so attracts a slightly higher fee. Once you have let me know which option you would like to go ahead with I can re-issue the quote with only that one showing. My costs are all in so to speak and I do not charge VAT.

In terms of the scope of survey and report; this will cover the following aspects:

- Site visits to survey trees at the area shown on the plan you provided, those that require remedial works or further investigation will be tagged with numbered discs to aid identification;
- Record basic tree data such as height, stem diameter and crown spread;
- Assessment of the structural, physiological condition and safety of trees following the Visual Tree Assessment approach (a recognised stepwise procedure for tree assessment);
- Assessment and implications of any defects or disease found on trees;
- Assessment of the risk of direct damage (through contact) to built structures, (excluding underground services);
- Comment on any statutory designations the trees are subject to and their implications to the tree owner; and
- Provide recommendations on the immediate and near future management (24 months) of trees on site to reduce risks.

Limitations

- Please note that assessments are preliminary in nature and some findings may request that further, more detailed, investigations are undertaken to assess the extent of hidden defects or decay or to undertake aerial inspections for example.
- Tree assessment will be undertaken from ground level only. In the event that trees require aerial inspections it will be specified as a requirement within the tree works schedule.
- Assessment of the potential influence of trees upon buildings or other structures or drains resulting from the effects of trees abstracting water from shrinkable load-bearing soils is outside the scope of this type of survey.



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TRA Option 1: Tree Risk Assessment survey, by exception, for trees at Browns Way, Townlands and The Common Play area.

All trees are assessed but only those requiring works are recorded. Trees will be tagged with numbered discs to aid identification and plotted with aid of GPS unit so that their position is shown on a plan with a degree of accuracy. A report will be produced summarising the findings and show tree works required and prioritised to aid financial planning.

1 TRA Option 2: Tree Risk Assessment Survey - Audit, at Parish land on Browns Way, Townlands and The Common Play area. All trees (with stem diameters >200mm at 1.5m from the ground) will be surveyed and recorded to give an overview of tree cover. Younger or smaller trees and hedgerows are not recorded as a rule but I would be happy to do so if you wish for an additional fee.

Trees are either plotted as individuals or groups of trees where they form a cohesive mass such as an avenue,

woodland, dense group or where they would all be subject to a similar management regime.

A report is produced summarising findings and data tables provided given all tree data recorded and another table showing works specified by priority. Trees requiring works will either be tagged with numbered disc or marked with paint to aid identification. A Google earth interactive plan can also be produced using the data which can be of use for larger tree inventories as an office based tool - please let me know if this would be of use and I can provide further detail.

Contractor 2: TL Tree Care

To supply an in-depth survey to both areas (Browns way and Common Play Area) which would include tagging, recording & mapping all significant trees for your future management plan. @ £750.00 + vat

Alternatively, a second option would be a risk assessment only, whereby only trees requiring remedial action would be tagged & recorded, but everything inspected. @ £550.00 + vat

Plus

We thank you for your e-mail regarding the additional area named Townlands.

To supply an in-depth survey for this area which would include tagging, recording & mapping all significant trees for your future management plan. @ £875.00 + vat

Alternately a second option would be a risk assessment only, whereby only trees requiring remedial action would be tagged & recorded, but everything inspected. @ £550.00 + vat

Contractor 3: Dycol

To inspect and report on the trees within the three areas above. To give guidance on the health of the trees and any recommendations of works to be carried out Also provide a quote for these works.

****Please note This will not be an internal inspection/survey. Just a guidance and recommendation.**

To view and recommend with a quotation included For the sum of 500.00 plus vat (If you would like to go ahead. This £500.00 will be taken off of the further quotation, If further quotation accepted).