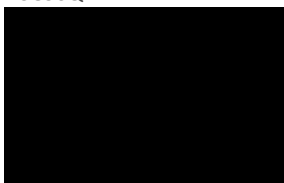


TREE REPORT

Cumberlow green Farm
Rushden
SG90QD



Jim Caddy.

Report on trees

For:

Mr L Feneley



56 High Street
Baldock, SG7 6BL

Report No: 459

Date: 13/01/2026



Arboricultural Report & Recommendation

Proposed Removal of Two Trees within a Conservation Area

Client: Mr L Fenley

Site Address: 56 High Street, Baldock

Site Context

The property at 56 High Street, Baldock, lies within a designated Conservation Area. The rear of the property borders a private road and a public pedestrian walkway which forms a heavily used thoroughfare providing access to the Tesco supermarket, health centre, and care home. The constant pedestrian and vehicular traffic significantly increases the level of risk associated with any tree failure in this location.

Tree 1

Species: *Quercus ilex* (Holm Oak)

Location: Rear of property, left-hand boundary adjacent to private road and public walkway Height: Approx. 17 metres

Trunk Diameter: Approx. 3 feet

Observations & Condition:

This is a mature Holm Oak exhibiting a pronounced lean of approximately 25 degrees towards the adjacent road and pedestrian pathway. The base of the trunk is lifting the surrounding surface, indicating movement within the root plate. Ground conditions in this area are typically shallow soil over chalk, which provides limited anchorage for large mature trees.

Risk Assessment:

Due to the significant lean, evidence of root movement, and poor underlying ground conditions, the tree presents a high risk of structural failure. The proximity to a very busy public route, used daily by pedestrians and vehicles accessing nearby facilities, greatly increases the potential consequences of failure.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this tree be removed in its entirety on the grounds of public safety. Given the size, lean, and site constraints, retention or reduction works would not adequately mitigate the level of risk.

Tree 2

Species: *Taxus baccata* (Yew)

Form: Multi-stemmed with three main stems

Stem Diameters: Approx. 10–20 inches Location: Close proximity to the property

Observations & Condition:

The tree comprises three co-dominant stems with tight unions. There is a deep pocket of retained moisture and organic detritus within the central trunk unions, creating conditions favourable for decay. The overall vigour of the crown appears poor. The tree is situated very close to the dwelling and conflicts with proposed landscaping improvements.

Risk & Suitability:

The structural form and internal moisture retention increase the likelihood of progressive decay and future structural weakness. Its proximity to the property also limits long-term suitability and safe management.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this tree be removed due to its poor structural form, declining vigour, and incompatibility with the future use and layout of the site.



Replacement Planting

Description

In consideration of the Conservation Area designation, suitable replacement planting is proposed. A range of native or wildlife friendly tree species can be selected that support biodiversity and pollination while remaining appropriate in scale and form for the site.