

Dear Councillor,

I have been through the woodland and would comment on the following observations:

- From the access next to Pinnaclehill Lodge, the trees on the mount are mixture of semi mature Douglas Fir, young Cherry, semi mature Spruce and Sycamore. In the past approximately 10 years ago height was taken off a Fir.
- **Recommend: This time severing a 1m strip of ivy on the trees main stem, in particular those at the rear of 22/23 Pinnaclehill Park will when it dies back, reduce weight and sail affect within the trees crown.**
- The trees in the Linn (burn running to the river) are a mixture of mature Beech and Sycamore. There is the odd dead Elm and stumps were noted on the opposite bank which wasn't work I was previously aware of.
- **Recommend: Sever ivy clearing 1m strip on mature trees adjacent the burn.**
- Rear of 23 Pinnaclehill and top of steps, to the left just before the steps going down is a group of hazel, four Sycamore and a Hazel. In the past these have been laterally reduced over the fence line.
- **Recommend: Coppice hazel group, laterally reduce by 2m the Sycamore and Laurel.**
- The bank behind 22 to 32 Pinnaclehill Park is particularly steep, there are a number of 22m+ Beech, Lime and Sycamore. Storm Arwen caused the loss of a number of trees most noticeable was a Beech which did have Kretschmaria deusta which affected the structural strength of the main stem. The trees remains where they fell across the banking.
- **Recommend: Ivy severance on all large trees including those at the top of the bank, here Maple and Lime may be pruned back and crown lifted 5 over the fenceline.**
- The riverside footway between the two benches has a number of low growing Sycamore and Elm.
- **Recommend: Crown raise to 4m over footway.**
- At the bottom of the second set of steps a mature Sycamore is leaning towards the river.
- **Recommend: Severing ivy to reduce weight.**
- Rear of 52 Pinnaclehill Park, the Horse Chestnut was pruning over 10 years now, that along with Holly and Sycamore may be pruned back to clear fenceline.
- **Recommend: Lateral crown reduction to fence line at 5m.**

Ash die was noted only on smaller stems under 100mm diameter, the semi mature Ash trees showed at the time of visit no symptoms. The overwhelming factor is the extent of and in most case size of ivy on tree stems. Professionally it prevents close assessment of main stems, adds weight and once in the branch framework is extensive in adding to the sail affect. A programme of relatively light pruning and ivy severance will benefit the woodland, adjacent properties and locals enjoying the footway.

If after the meeting you would like me to approach competent tree surgeons for a works quotation, just let me know.

Regards,
Simon Wilkinson (Tree Officer)

