

Horse Chestnut on the Pound, East Budleigh

From: John Wilding <john.wilding@clintondevon.com>

To: clerk@eastbudleigh-pc.gov.uk

Cc: Clare James <clare.james@clintondevon.com>, kate.ponting@clintondevon.com

Judith,

I write to inform the Parish Council of the failing condition and need to remove one of the two remaining large Horse chestnuts on the Pound.

The tree is the mature one nearest the road which, since 2009 we have monitored for the advance of Phytophthora bleeding canker. This is now well advanced on the main trunk with necrotic decay extending to over 60% of the tree's basal circumference. "Boot laces" of Honey Fungus are now present, indicating a secondary infection on the deadwood. The upper crown of the tree, which has been dying back for a couple of years, shows a marked thinning of foliage this year as the tree is unable to support its mature crown.

The prognosis for this tree is now terminal and I have applied to EDDC for permission to remove within the next 6 months (the tree is covered by a Tree Preservation Order).

As with the tree removed in 2009 we will plant an English oak as a replacement.

The remaining mature chestnut and the half dozen younger ones planted in the mid 90's all have bleeding canker which we continue to monitor and plan for their removal as they decline and become unsafe.

I will revert when I have a date for this work.

Kind regards

John

John Wilding MBE

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Attachments:

Photo 1.jpg (910 KB) Photo 2.jpg (577 KB)