

## **Survey of roadside ash trees**

Roadside ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) were surveyed between 24<sup>th</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2019 for signs of ash die-back disease.

The aims of the survey were to map the location of roadside ash trees in the Parish, to find out how many trees appeared to be showing signs of infection, and to advise the owners of affected trees to monitor their condition and take appropriate action.

Ash die-back disease is known to be spreading through our area, and is expected to kill 95% of ash trees over the next 5-15 years. Young ash trees are most susceptible and may die after one or two seasons, while mature trees may survive for years. Dead and dying wood rapidly becomes affected by heart rot which means that dead branches are liable to blow down, and dead trees rapidly become unstable and potentially dangerous.

The identification of ash die-back disease is not straightforward. Branch die-back occurs in healthy growing trees as branches become shaded out, and small branches in old ash trees often die back. Last summer was very dry, which may have caused some branch die-back, and there are other less serious tree diseases.

Detailed and up to date information about this disease and tree management can be found on the Forestry Commission and Leicestershire County Council websites which can be accessed through links on the Carlton Parish Council website.

This survey relied on a visual inspection of each tree or close group of trees. The visual criteria adopted are illustrated overleaf.

Trees with normal foliage were assessed as healthy (A); trees with small areas of branch die-back in the crown were assessed as possibly infected (B); trees with branches in the crown showing significant die-back, with new leaf growth restricted to the base of the branch were assessed as infected (C); trees with many dead branches and limited leaf growth in the core of the tree were assessed as severely infected (D).

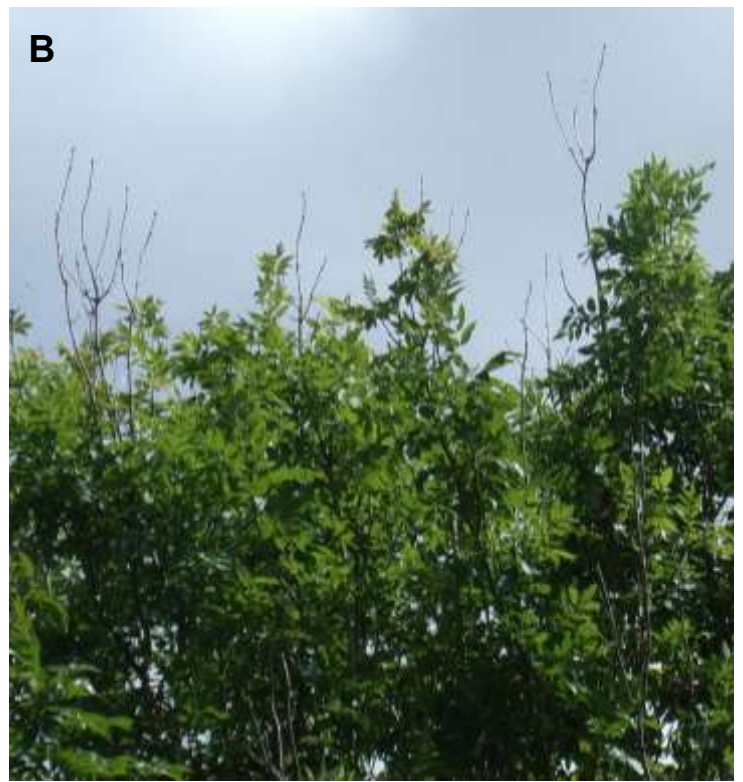
80 trees or close groups of trees were surveyed. The assessments were:

- 47 appeared to be healthy (59%);
- 20 possibly infected (25%);
- 9 infected (11%); and
- 4 severely infected (5%).

This survey will be repeated to monitor the spread of infection, the progress of the disease in infected trees, any evidence of recovery in infected trees, and any unaffected (and therefore possibly resistant) trees.



A. Healthy ash tree



B. Infection suspected

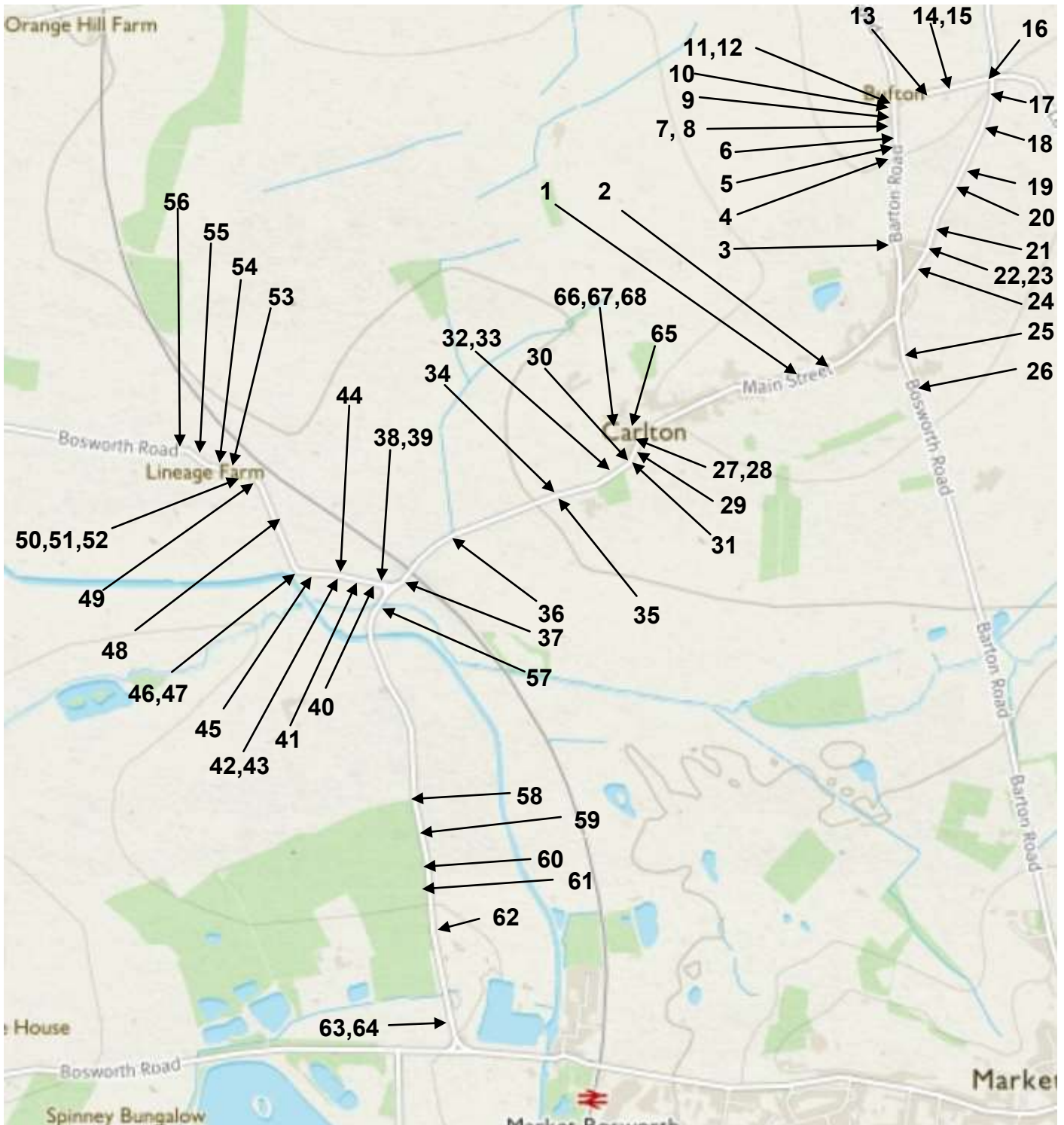


C. Infected tree



D. Severely infected tree

# Location of surveyed trees



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## **Survey of roadside ash trees**

### **Main Street**

1. Outside 65 Main St. Large mature ash subject to TPO. Appears healthy. Very small amount of branch die-back – normal for a mature tree.
2. Outside 71 Main St. Young pollarded ash tree shows early signs of infection.

### **Barton Road**

3. Pair of ash pollards in hedge to Carlton Diamond Jubilee Orchard, E side of road. Appear healthy.
4. Small ash in hedge, E side road. Healthy.
5. Young ash in hedge, E side of road. Shows first signs of infection.
6. Young ash in hedge, E side of road. Appears healthy.
7. Two partly dead sycamore, E side of road - ? squirrel damage.
8. Small ash in hedge, E side of road. Healthy.
9. Multi-stemmed ash in hedge, E side of road. Shows signs of infection.
10. Semi-mature ash adjacent gate to r/o Bufton Lodge, W side of road. Infected.
11. Mature single stem ash opposite Bufton Cottage on W side of road. Possible first signs of infection in crown.
12. Group of multi-stemmed young ash, W side of road opposite Bufton Cottage. ? first signs of infection in some crowns.

### **Bufton Lane**

13. Mature ash, S side of road. Small amount of branch die back in crown; may be healthy.
14. Mature ash adjacent drive to Willowfield. Small amount of die back in crown; may be healthy.
15. Mature Ash, opposite bungalow, S side of road. Some die back in shaded branches but this may be normal in an old tree.
16. Multi-stemmed young ash at corner with Nailstone Road. Infected.

### **Nailstone Road**

17. Spindly young ash in hedge between oaks, W side of road. Healthy.
18. Mature ash, W side of road. Small amount of die back in shaded branches; may be normal for mature tree.
19. Young ash, E side of road adjacent 30 mph sign. Healthy.
20. Multi-stemmed young ash, E side of road. Healthy.

21. Multi-stemmed young ash adjacent Carlton village nameplate. Shows first signs of infection.
22. Group of young ash trees opposite no.11 Northfields on E side of road. First signs of infection in crown.
23. Group of young ash opposite end of back garden of 1 Northfields, E side of road. First signs of infection.
24. Group of young ash opposite 5 Nailstone Rd (number 3 on door), E side of road. A few yellowed leaves; may be healthy.

### **Bosworth Road**

25. Semi-mature ash, adjacent drive to farmyard to New House Farm, E side of road. First signs of infection in crown.
26. Semi-mature ash, adjacent to road junction sign, W side of road. First signs of infection in crown.

### **Congerstone Lane**

27. Young ash, front garden of Field View, N side of road. Healthy.
28. Pair of young ash near gate to Field View, N side of road. Minor die back in crown – may be infected.
29. Semi-mature ash, S side of road. Healthy.
30. Twin stemmed ash, N side of road W of front garden to Woodmill. Die back in shaded branches near base of crown – may be healthy.
31. Multi-stemmed ash near electric pole, S side of road. Healthy.
32. Group of 6 trees at side of small enclosure adjacent drive to Carlton Grange, N side of road. Healthy.
33. Pollarded ash adjacent to public footpath, N side of road. Infected.
34. Pollarded ash, N side of road opposite Green Barn. Infected.
35. Young ash, Rectory Field on N side of road. Infected.
36. Young ash, Charity Lands hedge. Healthy.
37. Twin-stemmed ash, S side of road. Small amount of die back in crown. May be infected.

### **Congerstone Road**

38. Young ash, NE side of road. Healthy.
39. Three young ash trees either side of 14' bridge height warning sign, associated with three field maple. Minor die back at branch tips in northernmost tree; others appear healthy.
40. Semi-mature ash in verge on SW side of road. Shows first signs of infection. Young ash in hedge nearby also shows first signs of infection.

41. Semi-mature ash in hedge on S side of road. Healthy.
42. Two semi-mature ash on S side of road and to E of gate into field. Small amount of die-back in crowns. Might be infected.
43. Semi-mature ash, W side of gate into field, S side of road. Die back in shaded branches – may be healthy.
44. PC planted young ash in verge on N side of road. Healthy.
45. 3 young ash trees across road from 44. Small amount of die back at branch tips. May be infected.
46. Group of young ash in ditch on S side of road. Healthy.
47. Semi-mature ash on E side of corner and on S side of road. Crown healthy. Minor die back in shaded branches at base of crown. Probably healthy.
48. 2 young ash associated with oak on E side of road. Appear healthy.
49. Semi-mature ash on W side of road at corner. Healthy.
50. Semi-mature ash on S side of road. Infected.
51. Pair of ash trees on E side of field gate on S side of road. Die-back and thin foliage in crown. Probably infected.
52. Semi-mature ash on W side of field gate and S side of road. Healthy.
53. Group of semi-mature ash between 52 and larch tree on S side of road. Healthy.
54. Young ash tree near to corner of Lineage Farm farmhouse. Healthy.
55. Young ash, hedge in centre of front garden of Lineage Farm. Infected.
56. Young ash, S side of road. Infected.

### **Carlton Road**

57. Mature ash covered with ivy adjacent to Carlton Brook. Infected.
58. Mature ash, W side of road. 50% crown die back. Badly infected.
59. Semi-mature ash, W side of road. 50% crown die-back. Badly infected.
60. Mature ash, W side of road opposite footpath. Healthy.
61. Young ash, W side of road. Healthy.
62. Mature ash, W side of road adjacent power line. Healthy.
63. Young ash tree - N one of a pair between Marina entrance and bus stop, W side of road. 30% crown die back. Infected.
64. Yung ash tree - S one of a pair between Marina entrance and bus stop, W side of road. 30% crown die back. Infected.

### **Shackerstone Walk**

65. Coppiced ash at corner of West Green. Healthy.

### **Little Lane**

66. 2 mature ash, W side of Little Lane. Minor die back – possibly first sign of infection.

67. 3 young ash, W side of path. Healthy.

68. Mature ash near N end, on E side of path. First signs of infection.

### **Wellesborough Road**

There are no ash trees along this road within Parish of Carlton.

On S side of this road between Carlton Road and Far Coton Lane there are three mature ash trees with 50% crown die back. At the junction of the Wellesborough Road and Far Coton Lane there is a mature ash tree with 60% crown die back. This is the most severely affected tree in this area.

C J Peat  
Tree Warden  
4<sup>th</sup> July 2019