

Report for Coed bach a'r cwm woodland off Longford rd, Neath Abbey
prepared by Rhidian Waldron of Ein Cwmni Coed Ltd.

The site is a steep valley woodland with lots of mature trees the edge trees at the top of the banks have grown towards the light which happens to be towards the row of houses on Lon Glynfelin, Neath Abbey. The homeowners have shown concerns to the Dyffryn woods Community Council over a number of overhanging branches which are encroaching on the properties, dead/dying branches over the gardens.

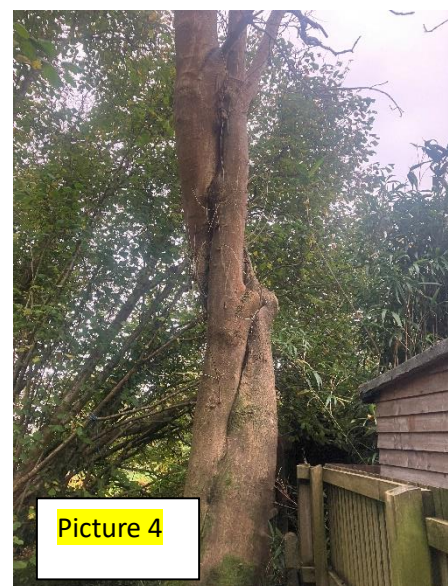
Also two Ash trees (G1) which have early signs of Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) though not heavily infected at present, this will inevitably progress over the coming years causing the trees to become unsafe and a danger to those below/nearby. I would recommend they are removed. I have added some notes regarding these ash trees below with some images. I wouldn't recommend pruning the trees as they won't respond well to being pruned as the trees are already under stress. Any new growth would get infected by ADB, causing further stress to the trees. Currently the trees are in a condition where they are able to be worked on using rope and harness techniques. There is no access for a MEWP (Mobile Elevated Work Platform) so should they be allowed to decline in health they would become a danger for any arborist to climb. And with no space to straight fell the trees safely they would be very difficult to remove in the future.

Rear of number 36 Ion glynfelin, Neath Abbey, SA10 7HU

G1 Ash -2x Ash fell to ground level Pictures 1-5



I recommend the removal of these 2 Ash trees. The homeowner is concerned about the trees which are showing early signs of Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*). Both trees have large wounds at the base which are on the tension side of the trees with all the weight over the garden/property. One of the trees has a very tight compression fork with a twisting growth pattern which isn't ideal as dysfunction and decay could arise from this union. Any pruning works will result in extra stress to the trees which are already under ADB stress and would also require us to revisit the trees in 2-5 years to inevitably remove them as is the nature of ADB the trees would decline in that time. The nature of ADB would cause these trees to start dropping dead branches into the garden of the homeowner which is also a concern for them.





Picture 5

Rear of number 40 Lon glynfelin, Neath Abbey

T1 Oak Reduce canopy over gardens 1.5-

T2 Beech Remove 2 limbs on 1x beech tree

SA10 7HU

2m Picture 6

Picture 7



Picture 6



Picture7

Rear of number 50 Lon Glynfelin, SA10 7HU

T3 oak reduce canopy overhanging boundary by 1.5-2m Picture 8



Picture 8

Rear of number 52 lon glynfelin

T4 oak growing toward conservatory - reduce overhang by 1.5m Picture 9. Picture 9 also shows limb of T8

overhang by 1.5m Picture 9. Picture 9 also Oak with hazard beam fracture.



Picture 9

T5 shorter oak with previously failed main leader now only 1 limb remains containing hazard beam approx. 1m in length - remove limb back to growth point beyond fracture to retain as habitat. Picture 10



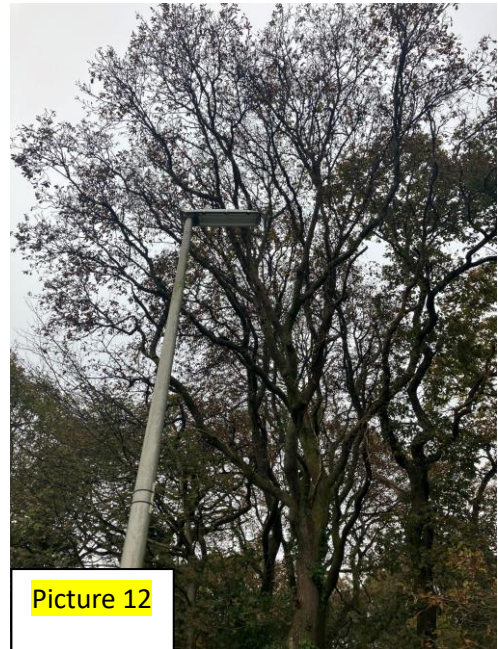
Picture 10



Picture 11

T6 Large leggy oak above footpath/street light at rear of number 52 lon glynfelin/172 Longford road

Remove 1 secondary and 2 tertiary branches, reduce remaining branches growing towards 172 Longford road by approx 1-1.5m Picture 11/12



Picture 12

T7 Oak over Longford road, Neath Abbey

Reduce canopy over the road by approx. 2-2.5m to line up with centre line of the road. Picture 13/14.



Picture 13



Picture 14