

MRN 6509 – SYMPATHETICALLY PRUNED

MRN 6509 is on the pavement outside 259 Nine Mile Road, in Finchampstead. It's an English oak (*Quercus robur*) with a girth of 3.9m (at 1.5m) when measured in August 2012, making it about 230 years old when pruned (germinating in the 1790s).

When extensive decay was detected within the trunk, the recommendation of the external inspector was to fell it to ground level. The tree officers at WBC, recognising the amenity and environmental value of the tree, examined it and decided public safety could be achieved by effective pruning. This involved:

- height reduction by 5.0m
- lateral reduction (east/west/south) back to previous pruning points
- lateral reduction of the northern canopy (property side) by 1.5m/2.0m (back to suitable growth points)

and climbing inspection during the tree work to establish the structural integrity of the unions.

It was pruned on 1st February 2024, and as the photo below shows, has resulted in a very attractive framework of branches.

Further decay analysis of the stem will be carried out in 2025 to monitor the extent of the decay and it's hoped it will survive for many years.



MRN 6509 – August 2012



MRN 6509 – February 2024