

## **Condition Report on Oak Tree** **Wood Road, Hindhead, Surrey**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. This report has been carried out to assess the condition of a red oak tree and possible infection by *Armillaria* (honey fungus). It is situated in the front garden of Woodside and is within falling distance of the property and highway.

### **2. The Inspection**

- 2.1. The inspection was carried out by Neil Smith of PBA Consulting on October 4<sup>th</sup> 2006.
- 2.2. The weather was dry and visibility was good throughout. The tree inspection was visual with no tests undertaken to either soil or root area.

### **3. Inspection Details**

- 3.1. The red oak (*Quercus rubra*) is mature and stands approximately 18m tall. The tree appears to have good vitality and the crown appears well developed with no die-back that may be associated with root or basal problems. There is some minor deadwood present within the crown (which is typical of this species and age of tree).
- 3.2. On the garage side of the tree from ground level to approximately 2m up the stem there is a large wound with minor decay, which appears localised. The extent of the decay is not known but it is not considered significant.
- 3.3. The root area of the tree appears in good condition and there is no evidence of dead roots or bark. There were no signs of honey fungus fructifications (toadstools), rhizomorph or mycelial sheets under the tree's outer bark.

#### **4. Comments and Recommendation**

- 4.1. This red oak appears structurally sound and is in good condition and there is no clear evidence to suggest that the tree is infected with the pathogenic form of *Armillaria*.
- 4.2. Although the tree could be a significant hazard due to its size and location at the time of inspection it is considered of low risk.
- 4.3. No work is recommended due to the assessment of low risk.
- 4.4. The tree should be regularly inspected and it is recommended that the next inspection is carried out in two years by a competent arborist.