



DORCHESTER TOWN COUNCIL

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By hand

To the resident

Tree Felling in Mellstock Play Area – 19th and 20th March 2026

The large ash tree located in corner of the Play area at Mellstock Avenue will sadly have to be felled. The Town Council regrets having to take this decision. We are very aware this will have a significant effect on the treescape in the play area and are writing to you to give you the reasons why.

The tree is infected with Ash dieback disease which is significantly affecting ash trees across country. We have been monitoring the tree for the last few years as the disease takes a varying amount of time to be evident and it has varying levels of impact on individual trees.

The tree is to be felled on the grounds of safety as branches of an increasingly large size are at risk of falling from the tree and ultimately the tree trunk itself may topple. Given that the tree is located in a play area and adjacent to water company infrastructure and private gardens, this poses an unacceptable level of risk to people and property.

The tree will be felled by a fully insured, trained and experienced team. The work is expected to take up to three days weather permitting and with the exception of the necessary closure of the play area, it should cause minimal disruption as most work can be done from the play area itself

Please be aware if you are in this area, that the work, which includes vehicles moving to and from the tree will be taking place. Tree work can be dangerous so please observe any exclusion zones for pedestrians and vehicles and follow any instructions given by the team on site, they will be for your and their safety.

During the duration of the work the play area will be closed to users.

Yours sincerely

Carl Dallison

Assistant Town Clerk, Outdoor Services

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