

## The great Great Witley oak

Mike Averill

There were fears that the Autumn storms had finished off Worcestershire's largest (in girth) oak tree at Great Witley when it was reported that the main branch had crashed to the ground. Fortunately the branch has broken off at about chest level so the integrity of the trunk itself still stands. There is a much smaller branch which is attached to sound wood and it is likely that the tree will carry on but in a much reduced form. When a tree becomes hollow like this one, branches can become too heavy to support and this was the situation with this tree. Last measured the girth was in excess of 12.5 metres and the tree is obviously in the last third of its life now. Hopefully the fallen branches will be allowed to stay with the tree and this will form an important habitat for invertebrates as well as keep the footprint of the tree free from poaching by animals or cultivation.



01. The great Great Witley oak 2020. Mike Averill.



02 & 03. The great Great Witley oak 2020. Mike Averill.

### Images

- 01. The great Great Witley oak 2020. Mike Averill.
- 02. The great Great Witley oak 2020. Mike Averill
- 03. The great Great Witley oak 2020. Mike Averill