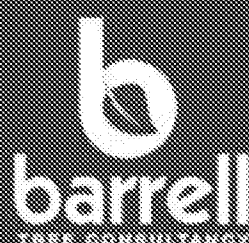




Arboricultural assessment & method statement

Land adjacent to Orchard Business Park, North End Road, Yapton

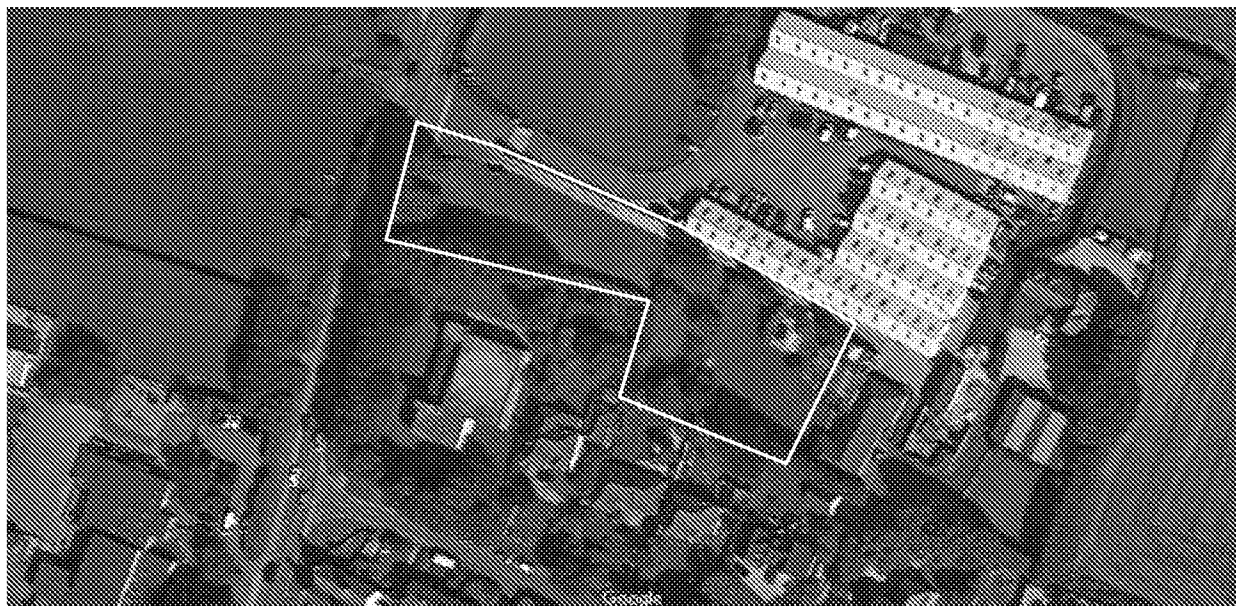


Alex Needs BA(Hons) MICFor MArborA

6th March 2018 18063-AA-AN

Site location and report purpose

Site location



This aerial image is provided courtesy of Google. The yellow line indicates the approximate site boundary and is illustrative only.

Report purpose

This arboricultural assessment report provides sufficient information for the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to consider the effect of the proposed development on local character from a tree perspective. It is fully compliant with the BS 5837 advice relating to the planning application stage of the process and it meets national standard planning application validation requirements.

More specifically, the development proposal is to construct six dwellings on land severed from an existing garden at land adjacent to Orchard Business Park, North End Road, Yapton.

This report includes:

- A **Tree protection plan** illustrating tree locations, categories, the location of the proposed development, and the proposed tree protection measures.
- An **Arboricultural assessment** (section 1 of the report) providing an analysis of the tree issues to assist the LPA in assessing the impact on local character.
- An **Arboricultural method statement** (section 2 of the report) describing how retained trees will be protected and managed during the development activity.
- **Appendices** (**Appendix 1** –Background administrative information, and data collection; **Appendix 2** – Tree schedule and explanatory notes; and, **Appendix 3** – QR Codes for SGNs).
- A companion document to supplement the main report titled ***Manual for managing trees on development sites (Version 1)***, which provides explanations of how retained trees will be managed on site in the form of Site Guidance Notes (SGNs) covering the relevant issues.

1: Arboricultural assessment

1.1 Table 1: Summary of trees affected and protected by the proposal

From my review of the constraints and the proposed layout, my assessment of the impact on trees, both during and after development, and those that need protection using special precautions, is summarised in Table 1:

	British Standard 5837 Category		
	A (High quality)	B (Moderate quality)	C (Low quality)
Remove	None	T14	T4, T5, T6, G7, T9, G10, T11, T15, T16, G17, G21, G23
Prune	None	None	G22
Protect using special precautions See Notes below	None	None	T19, G22
Post development considerations	None	None	G22

T = Tree; G = Group

Note on types of protection: All retained trees will be protected during development by using fencing, and only those requiring special precautions to limit the impact of encroachment are listed in Table 1.

Note on category U trees: one tree categorised as U (**T8**) is in such poor condition that it has been assessed as needing removal for management reasons irrespective of any development proposals. Removal of any category U trees will be a management decision and is not caused by this proposal, so should not be considered a direct impact.

1.2 The impact of tree removals on local character

Category B tree T14: This is a relatively young self-set tree growing on a small raised area of made up ground (photo 1). The tree is located well into the site and visible only in glimpses from outside and is not individually prominent. It has been given a B category rating due to its potential to grow into a larger and more prominent tree, however due to its species it is very likely to succumb to ash dieback disease in the next 5 years. In my opinion the future value of this tree as a large landscape feature could easily be mitigated through the planting of a semi-mature tree of a more resilient species within the site where it is more visible to the general public. As such, I do not consider that the removal of T14 should be considered a significant loss to the local character.



Photo 1: Showing relatively young tree T14 growing on top of a raised mound.

1: Arboricultural assessment

Category C trees (T4, T5, T6, G7, T9, G10, T11, T15, T16, G17, and G21): These trees are well within the site and are not prominent as a skyline feature from any public viewpoints. These are low quality trees with very little potential to contribute to local character because of their size or poor condition.

Category C group G23: These low quality trees are located on the western boundary of the site (photo 2). They are relatively incongruous within the surrounding rural landscape and their removal will arguably enhance the local character and offer the opportunity for further improvement through new planting.

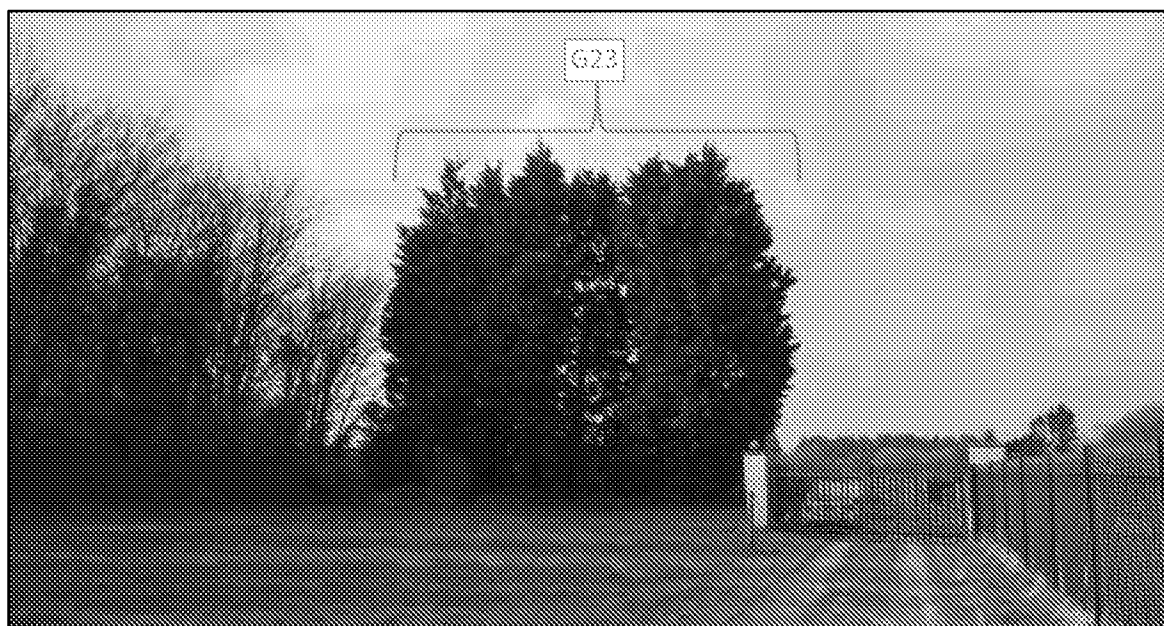


Photo 2: Showing low quality group G23 on the western boundary.

1.3 The impact of tree pruning on local character

Category C group G22: This outgrown hedgerow group of low quality trees has previously been topped at approximately 12m. In my view, to ensure the long-term retention of this tree group, further cyclical pruning works are required to maintain the size of the trees at a height proportionate to their relatively narrow stem diameter (photo 3). These works fall within the bounds of normal garden management and are justified irrespective of any development. Such pruning would have no long term detrimental impact on tree health will have no significant impact on local character.

1: Arboricultural assessment

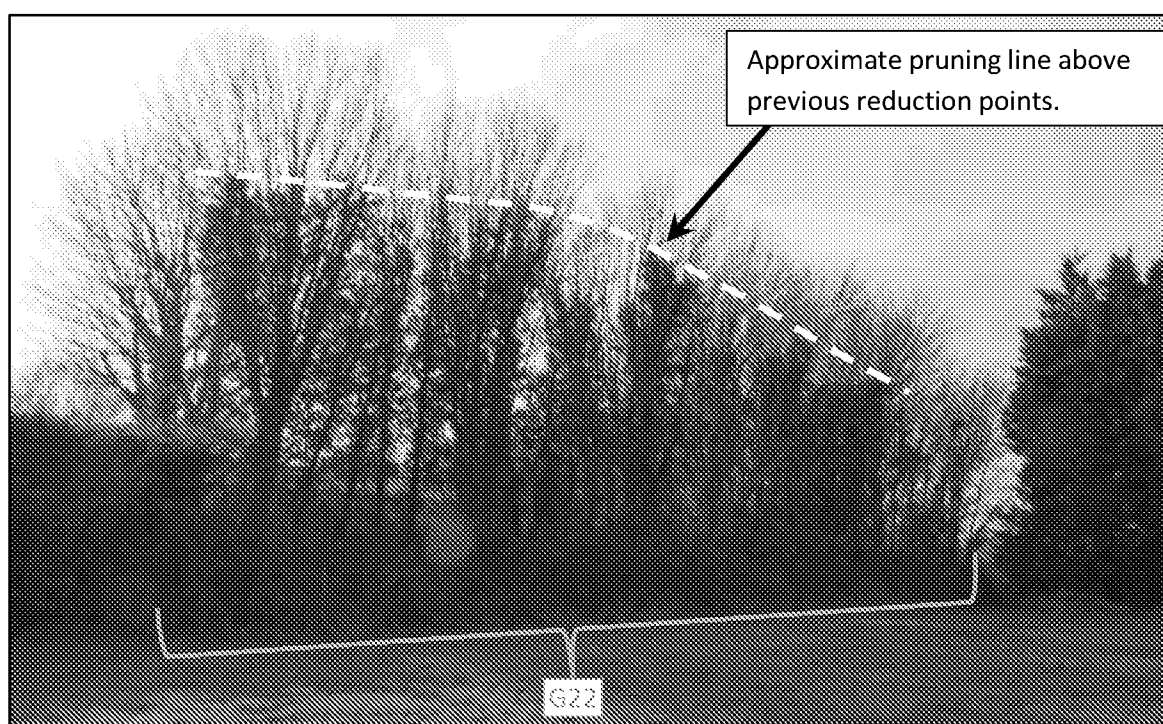


Photo 3: Showing group G22 and approximate proposed pruning line located above previous pruning points at 12m, to re-instate a cyclical management regime.

1.4 Special precautions to limit RPA encroachment impact

Category C trees (T19 and G22): For these trees, there is minor encroachment into their initial circular RPAs. However, they are low quality trees and the limited encroachment is unlikely to further compromise their retention. Furthermore, the encroachment is on the outer extent of the RPAs and relatively small compared to the area that will be left undisturbed. For this reason, my view is that these trees will be able to tolerate this level of disturbance and the proposal falls within the BS 5837 guidance. In summary, if the guidance set out in SGN7 *Excavating in RPAs* is observed, I believe that the proposed works can be implemented without any significant adverse impact on the trees, and therefore local character.

1.5 Post development considerations

If trees are retained too close to occupied buildings and/or garden amenity space, it is sometimes claimed that they can cause excessive shade or anxiety, which interferes with the normal use of the property. In extreme cases, this can result in pressure from future owners to fell or severely prune, thus reducing the long-term contribution of the trees to local character. However, in our experience, these problems are extremely rare and there is very little evidence that such pressures ever result in any significant harm to the wider setting. Indeed, there is an increasing body of evidence that the benefits from trees close to occupied areas significantly outweigh any disadvantages caused by shade or anxiety. Furthermore, important trees can be protected using tree preservation orders, which come with an overarching presumption to retain protected trees unless the normal use of the property is harmed to a significant extent. To our knowledge, there is no published evidence to support that trees are being lost to the detriment of local character for these reasons.

1: Arboricultural assessment

In this instance, group **G22** is an outgrown hedgerow growing south of two plots within the scheme (photo 3). It has been managed in the past through reduction and I have proposed above, that further cyclical management is undertaken to maintain the tree at around 12m in height. If the group is managed responsibly I consider that the spatial relationship between the trees and the house is reasonable and its size and location will provide a good screen for the future occupiers from the adjacent telephone exchange building.

1.6 New tree planting to enhance local character

New tree planting is feasible as a means of supplementing retained trees and enhancing local character, which could include heavy-standard or semi-mature specimens. The final selection of species, size, and location, would be matters to be agreed with the LPA through a planning condition. All new trees will be specified and planted in accordance with the recommendations in BS 8545 (2014) *Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape –Recommendations*. My preliminary assessment is that there is sufficient space for new trees to be planted in locations where they will have the potential to reach a significant height without excessive inconvenience and be sustainable into the long term, significantly improving the potential of the site to contribute to local character.

1.7 Summary of impact on local character

Most of the trees to be lost because of this proposal are low category because of their poor condition or small size. One moderate category tree will also be lost but it is well within the site and its loss will have no long term detrimental impact on the present character of the area. The matter of adverse impacts on retained trees due to post-development pressures to fell or prune has been considered and I concluded that no further trees will be affected. There is space for a new tree planting scheme using significant stock, which can significantly enhance the contribution of this site to local character and more than compensate for the loss of existing trees. The construction activity and proposed changes may affect further trees if appropriate protective measures are not taken. However, if adequate precautions to protect the retained trees are specified and implemented through the arboricultural method statement included in this report, the overall impact of the proposal on local character will be low and limited to the short term only.

For these reasons, I conclude that the proposed development would not cause an unacceptable or adverse impact on the long-term vitality of the retained trees, and therefore the character and appearance of the area. Furthermore, it fully aligns with the broad guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

2.1 Site Guidance Notes (SGNs)

This section of the report identifies which trees on this site will be protected and managed, and by what means. This site-specific summary is supplemented by more detailed explanations and descriptions of specific operations set out in the accompanying *Manual for managing trees on development sites*. That document is a compilation of 12 individual SGNs addressing the following tree protection and management issues that regularly arise in the construction phase of development:

- SGN1 *Monitoring tree protection* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn01?stage=Stage>)
- SGN2 *Fencing protected trees* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn02?stage=Stage>)
- SGN3 *Ground protection* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn03?stage=Stage>)
- SGN4 *Pollution control* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn04?stage=Stage>)
- SGN5 *Site cranes & piling rigs* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn05?stage=Stage>)
- SGN6 *Height restrictions* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn06?stage=Stage>)
- SGN7 *Excavating in RPAs* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn07?stage=Stage>)
- SGN8 *Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn08?stage=Stage>)
- SGN9 *Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn09?stage=Stage>)
- SGN10 *Installing structures in RPAs* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn10?stage=Stage>)
- SGN11 *Installing services in RPAs* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn11?stage=Stage>)
- SGN12 *Landscaping in RPAs* (<https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn12?stage=Stage>)

NOTE: Each individual SGN can be downloaded by using the links above and the QR Code links in Appendix 3.

2.2 Identification of areas to be protected

The tree protection plan shows the areas where protective measures are necessary. The fencing location is shown by the heavy black dashed lines, with the construction exclusion zone behind as the lighter black diagonal hatch. Precautionary areas are shown by a yellow fill.

2.3 Arboricultural supervision

An arboricultural consultant will be appointed to advise on the tree management for the site and to attend:

- a pre-commencement meeting before any work starts;
- regular supervision visits to oversee the agreed tree protection, as agreed at the pre-commencement meeting; and
- further supervision visits, as necessary, to oversee any unexpected works that could affect trees.

Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

The detail of how the arboricultural supervision will be carried out is explained in *SGN1 Monitoring tree protection* in the accompanying Manual.

2.4 Table 2: Summary of the site operations requiring arboricultural input

For this site, arboricultural input will be needed for the following operations:

Brief operation summary	Trees affected	Location of detailed explanations
Pre-commencement meeting: Meeting on site with all parties to agree protective measures, as described in SGN1. <u>Will be carried out before any significant site works begin.</u>	All trees	<i>SGN1 Monitoring tree protection</i>
Tree felling and pruning: Contractor will carry out agreed works as described in Appendix 2. <u>Will be completed before any significant site works begin.</u>	Fell trees T4, T5, T6, G7, T8, T9, G10, T11, T14, T15, T16, G17, G21, G23 Prune trees G22	Appendix 2
Installing fencing: Agreed tree protection measures will be installed and checked, as described in SGN2. <u>Will be completed before any significant site works begin.</u>	Fencing all trees	Tree protection plan, <i>SGN2 Fencing protected trees</i>
Pollution control near retained trees: Any pollution control measures identified during risk assessment will be installed as described in SGN4. <u>Will be completed before any potential pollutants arrive on site.</u>	All trees	<i>SGN4 Pollution control</i>
Regular arboricultural supervision: Provision will be made to carry out and record agreed arboricultural supervision, as described in SGN1.	All trees	<i>SGN1 Monitoring tree protection</i>
Excavating in RPAs: These operations will be carried out as described in SGN7.	Trees T19 and G22	<i>SGN 7 Excavating in RPAs</i>
Landscaping in RPAs: These operations will be carried out with care, as described in SGN12.	All trees	<i>SGN12 Landscaping in RPAs</i>
Removing tree protection: <u>Protection can only be removed when there is no risk of damage to retained trees, as described in SGN1.</u>	All trees	<i>SGN1 Monitoring tree protection</i>

The operations summarised in this table, and supplemented by the more detailed explanations set out in the SGNs and the rest of this document, form the arboricultural method statement for this site. The Site Manager will ensure that its details and any agreed amendments are known and understood by all site personnel. Copies of the agreed documents will be available on site. All personnel who could have an impact on trees will be briefed on the specific tree protection requirements as part of the site induction procedures. This requirement will be written into the site management documentation.

If unanticipated issues arise on site not referenced in the above explanations, further guidance on how to manage them can be found in the accompanying Manual.

Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

A1.1 Table 3: Background administrative information

Background administrative information	
Report date & reference	6 th March 2018; 18063-AA-AN
Tree protection plan reference	BT1
Instructing client	Crayfern Homes
Instructions	Visit the site, assess the relevant trees, prepare a schedule of their details, describe the impact of the proposal on those trees and identify the tree protection issues in an arboricultural method statement confined to the heads of terms
Provided documents	Topographical survey, drawing number ENC/120218/3BB1-Top, received by email on 21 st February 2018, and layout drawing number SK5 Rev P, received by email on 13 th February 2018
Report author and credentials	Alex Needs is a Chartered Forester (www.charteredforesters.org) and fully qualified to undertake the assessments in this report. Further details of his credentials can be found at https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/who-we-are/
Report limitations	• We have not checked if there is any statutory protection on the trees because this can delay the production of the report. If any tree works are proposed before a planning consent is given, then the possible existence of any statutory protection must be checked with the LPA. • This report does not consider ecological or archaeological issues, or any other matter beyond the assessment of the trees.
Technical references	In preparing the analysis in this report, we considered the guidance and advice in the following technical references: • Climate Change Act (2008) www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents • Town and Country Planning Act 1990 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents • National Planning Policy Framework, published by the DCLG www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2 • BS 5837 (2012) <i>Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations</i>, BSI www.shop.bsigroup.com/ • BS 8545 (2014) <i>Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations</i>, www.shop.bsigroup.com/ • BS 3998 (2010) <i>Tree work – Recommendations</i>, BSI www.shop.bsigroup.com/ • <i>Trees in the Townscape: A Guide for Decision Makers</i>, published by the Trees & Design Action Group http://www.tdag.org.uk/ • <i>Trees in Hard Landscapes: A Guide for Delivery</i>, published by the Trees & Design Action Group www.tdag.org.uk/ • National Joint Utilities Group (2007) Volume 4, Issue 2: <i>Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees</i> www.njug.org.uk/publications/

Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

A1.2 Table 4: Data collection

	Data collection
Date of site visit	21 st February 2018
People present during site visit	Alex Needs, accompanied by Mark Wadey
Weather & visibility	Still and dry, with good visibility
Limitations to observations	- The inspection of the trees for the purposes of assessing their condition and work requirements was made on the basis that they will be annually inspected in the future to identify any changes in condition and review the original recommendations. For these reasons, the tree assessment advice only remains valid for one year from the date that the trees were last inspected. - All observations were of a preliminary nature and did not involve any climbing or detailed investigation beyond what was visible from accessible points at ground level. - Observations of trees outside the site boundaries are confined to what was visible from within the site. - All dimensions were estimated unless otherwise indicated.
Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), Conservation Areas, and tree categorisation	TPOs cannot always be reliably interpreted from the documentation to identify which trees are protected, especially as time passes and site conditions change from when they were originally made. It is common for TPO plans to be inaccurate and schedules often become out of date as trees die or are removed. Frequently, trees deteriorate and, although they may be technically protected by the TPO, are in such poor condition or causing such unreasonable inconvenience that their suitability for retention becomes questionable. In a planning context, if poor trees are assessed as unsuitable for retention, then it would be inappropriate to show them as a material constraint in development planning. For these reasons, although TPOs do need to be considered, they do not form the primary basis for tree categorisation. Poor quality trees assessed as not worthy of retention will be shown as such, irrespective of whether they are protected or not. Similarly, good quality trees that are not protected will still be shown as material constraints. The same rationale will be applied to Conservation Areas.
Tree location and numbering	Each tree and group, was inspected, and the numbering scheme is indicated on the tree protection plan. Where important trees were found on site that were not included on the provided plan, their approximate positions and canopy extents are indicated on the plan.
Recording of tree data	For each identified tree and group, the information collected was recorded on the tree schedule in Appendix 2 and the tree protection plan.
Compliance of data collection with BS 5837	The data collection is fully compliant with the advice in subsection 4.4.2 of BS 5837. When collecting this information, specific consideration was given to any low branches that may influence future use, age class, physiological condition, structural condition, and remaining contribution. Where appropriate, crown spreads were also noted where they differed from those shown on the provided land survey.
Calculation of RPAs	Following the recommendations in Table D1 of BS 5837, the diameter of each tree was rounded up to the next 2.5cm increment, with the radius of a nominal circle and the resultant RPA taken directly from that table. This information is listed for each tree in the tree schedule in Appendix 2.

Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

NOTE: Colour annotation is A & B trees with green background; C & U trees with blue background; trees to be removed in red text.

Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Diameter (cm) @ 1.5m	Maturity	Low Branches	Category	Notes	Tree Works	RPA radius (m)	RPA area (m2)
H1	Leyland cypress	9	25	Maturing	-	C	-	-	3.0	28
T2	Beech	15	65	Maturing	-	B	-	-	7.8	191
T3	Bay laurel	9	30	Maturing	-	C	-	-	3.6	41
T4	Sycamore	8	25	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	3.0	28
T5	Sycamore	11	45	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	5.4	92
T6	Cherry	8	20	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	2.4	18
G7	Cherry, hawthorn	5	12.5	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	1.5	7
T8	Sycamore	9	25	Maturing	-	U	Partially collapsed	Fell for management	3.0	28
T9	Birch	10	35*	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	4.2	55
G10	Palm	5	20	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	2.4	18
T11	Palm	5	20	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	2.4	18
T12	Hornbeam	6	30	Maturing	-	C	-	-	3.6	41
T13	Palm	5	30	Maturing	-	C	-	-	3.6	41
T14	Ash	14	35	Maturing	-	B	Growing on a small area of raised ground	Fell for development	4.2	55
T15	Fruit	3	12.5	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	1.5	7
T16	Apple	5	42.5	Over-mature	-	C	Ivy clad trunk and crown	Fell for development	5.1	82
G17	Cypress	2	12.5	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	1.5	7
T18	Birch	8	45	Maturing	-	C	Previously topped off-site tree	-	5.4	92
T19	Larch	8	30	Maturing	-	C	Previously topped off-site tree	-	3.6	41
T20	Sycamore	5	25	Maturing	-	C	-	-	3.0	28
G21	Cypress	2	25	Maturing	-	C	-	Fell for development	3.0	28

Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Diameter (cm) @ 1.5m	Maturity	Low Branches	Category	Notes	Tree Works	RPA radius (m)	RPA area (m2)
G22	Beech, hornbeam	17	25	Maturing	-	C	Outgrown hedgerow with ivy clad trunk and crowns, previously topped at 12m	Reduce height to just above previous pruning points at 12m to re-instate cyclical management regime.	3.0	28
G23	Cypress	30	45	Maturing	-	C	Outgrown hedgerow	Fell for development	5.4	92

Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

Explanatory Notes

- **Abbreviations:**

G : Group
T : Tree

- **Botanical tree names:**

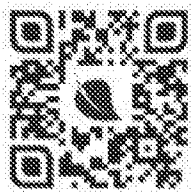
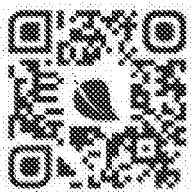
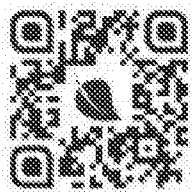
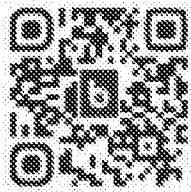
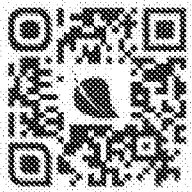
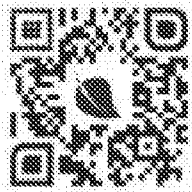
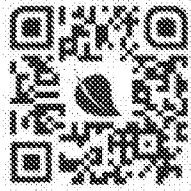
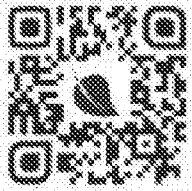
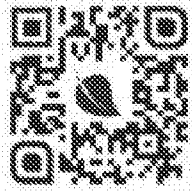
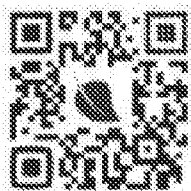
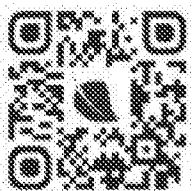
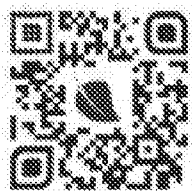
Apple : *Malus* sp
Ash : *Fraxinus excelsior*
Bay Laurel : *Laurus nobilis*
Beech : *Fagus sylvatica*
Birch : *Betula pendula*
Cherry : *Prunus* sp
Cypress : *Cupressus* sp
Fruit : *Malus* sp, *Prunus* sp or *Pyrus* sp
Hawthorn : *Crataegus monogyna*
Hornbeam : *Carpinus betulus*
Larch : *Larix decidua*
Leyland cypress : *X Cuprocypris leylandii*
Palm : *Arecaceae* sp
Sycamore : *Acer pseudoplatanus*

- **BS 5837 (2012) compliance:** All data has been collected based on the recommendations set out in subsection 4.4 of BS 5837.
- **Tree inspections and site limitations:** Each tree was subjected to a quick visual check level of inspection. Where there is restricted access to the base of a tree, its attributes are assessed from the nearest point of access. Climbing inspections are not carried out during this level of inspection and, if heavy ivy is present, tree condition is assessed from what can be seen from the ground. A separate note is recorded if further investigation may be required to clarify its status.
- **Crown spreads:** Crown spread dimensions are not listed in the tree schedule because they are illustrated on the land survey base to all the plans in this document. Where crown spreads of significant trees on site are found to deviate from those shown on the provided land survey, we have noted it in the text of the report and annotated it on our plans.
- **Dimensions:** All dimensions are estimated unless annotated with a '*’.
- **Species:** Species identification is based on visual observations. Where there is some doubt over tree identity, sp is noted after the genus name to indicate that the species cannot be reliably identified at the time of the survey. Where there is more than one species in a group, only the most frequent are noted and not all the species present may be listed.
- **Height:** Height is estimated to provide a broad indication of the size of the tree.
- **Trunk diameter:** Trunk diameter is estimated or measured and recorded in 2.5cm increments as advised in BS 5837 Table D1. It is measured with a diameter tape unless access is restricted, direct measurement is not possible because of ivy on the trunk or the tree is assessed as low quality. The point of measurement and the adjustments for stem variations are as advised in Figure C1 of BS 5837.
- **Maturity:** In planning context, maturity provides a simplistic indication of a tree’s ability to cope with change and its potential for further growth. For the purposes of this report, young indicates a potential to significantly increase in size and a high ability to cope with change, maturing indicates some potential to increase in size and a medium ability to cope with change, and mature indicates little potential to increase in size and limited ability to cope with change.
- **Low branches:** Any low branches that would not be feasible for removal during normal management and should be considered as a design constraint are noted here and explained in the notes.
- **Category:** Our assessment automatically considered tree physiological/structural condition (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5h), and so these are not listed separately in the schedule. Additionally, the category accounts for the remaining contribution (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5i) as greater than 40 years for A trees, greater than 20 years for B trees, at least 10 years for C trees and less than 10 years for U trees, so this is also not listed separately in the schedule. Category A, B and C trees are automatically listed as sub-category 1 unless otherwise stated.

Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

- **Notes:** Only relevant features relating to physiological or structural condition and low branches that may help clarify the categorisation are recorded. If there are no notes, then the presumption should be that no relevant features were observed.
- **Tree works:** The recommended tree works are based on the quick visual check level of inspection and only intended to address significant hazards identified during that inspection. The following points should also be considered before carrying out any works:
 1. **Reporting during work operations:** In the context of the preliminary nature of the tree inspection, any defects that may affect tree safety discovered by the contractor when carrying out the work recommendations should be reported to the supervising officer. Modification to the schedule of works may be required because of these reports. The contractor should be specifically instructed on this point.
 2. **Implementation of works:** All tree works should be carried out to BS 3998 *Recommendations for Tree Work* as modified by more recent research. It is advisable to select a contractor from the local authority list and preferably one approved by the Arboricultural Association. Their Register of Contractors is available free from The Malthouse, Stroud Green, Standish, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 3DL; phone 01242 522152; website www.trees.org.uk.
 3. **Statutory wildlife obligations:** The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 provides statutory protection to birds, bats and other species that inhabit trees. All tree work operations are covered by these provisions and advice from an ecologist must be obtained before undertaking any works that might constitute an offence.
 4. **Stumps:** Stumps to be removed within the RPAs of retained trees should be ground out with a stump grinder to minimise any disturbance unless otherwise authorised by the supervising officer.
- **Future tree safety inspections:** Due to the time that may elapse between the original survey and the start of development, all trees should be re-inspected as part of the standard risk management process before any works start on site. Our assessment of the trees was carried out on the basis that a re-inspection would be carried out within a year of the assessment visit and our advice on tree condition must be reviewed annually from the date of that visit.

Appendix 3: QR Codes for SGNs (Scan with reader to download)

		
<i>SGN1 Monitoring tree protection</i>	<i>SGN2 Fencing protected trees</i>	<i>SGN3 Ground protection</i>
		
<i>SGN4 Pollution control</i>	<i>SGN5 Site cranes & piling rigs</i>	<i>SGN6 Height restrictions</i>
		
<i>SGN7 Excavating in RPAs</i>	<i>SGN8 Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs</i>	<i>SGN9 Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs</i>
		
<i>SGN10 Installing structures in RPAs</i>	<i>SGN11 Installing services in RPAs</i>	<i>SGN12 Landscaping in RPAs</i>

