

# **ARBORICULTURAL SURVEY**

**Land at New Street** Ash Kent **CT3 2BN** 

**Document date: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022** 

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# This report has been prepared by PJC Consultancy Ltd on behalf of Classicus Estates

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Instruction

1.1.1 PJC Consultancy has been instructed by Classicus Estates to provide an initial arboricultural survey of Land at New Street, Ash. The survey is to be undertaken in accordance with BS5837: 2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations' and the planning policies of Dover District Council.

#### 1.2 Survey objectives

- 1.2.1 This survey has been undertaken with the following objectives:
  - To survey all trees within and adjacent to the site with trunk diameters of 75mm or more at a height of 1.5m.
  - To assess the quality and value of the existing tree stock in terms of arboricultural, landscape, historical/conservation, or public amenity value.
  - To provide information relating to planning constraints that may restrict works to trees at the site.
  - To provide an assessment of the material constraints posed by the existing tree stock on potential future developments at the site.
  - To aid the design process, ensuring prospective developments integrate appropriately
    with the existing tree stock, to maximise the potential of the proposed development
    site.

#### 1.3 Contents of report

- 1.3.1 This report includes the following:
  - A summary of the existing tree stock and notable arboricultural features.
  - Tree constraints plan in accordance with BS5837: 2012.
  - Tree survey schedule containing the relevant measurements and information for each tree or tree group as required in BS5837: 2012.

#### 1.4 Documents and information provided

- 1.4.1 The following documents were used to aid the preparation of this report:
  - AN Surveys Ltd Topographical Survey reference. New Street Ash Final.

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#### 2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

#### 2.1 Tree survey information

- 2.1.1 The following information was recorded in the tree survey schedule for each individual tree (average dimensions are recorded for groups):
  - Tree reference number. (T=tree, G=group, H=hedgerow, W=woodland block). Tree numbers suffixed with PA on the tree constraints plan indicate that the tree position is approximate.
  - Species (common and scientific name).
  - Overall tree height (m).
  - Stem diameter (mm) per stem or average diameter for multi-stemmed trees with six or more stems.
  - Branch spread (m) measured to the four cardinal points.
  - Existing height (m) above ground level of lowest significant branch and direction of growth (for individual trees only).
  - Existing height (m) above ground level of canopy.
  - Age class (young, semi mature, early mature, mature, over mature or veteran).
  - Physiological condition (good, fair, poor).
  - Structural condition (good, fair, poor).
  - Comments (general description of tree(s) including any notable features).
  - Preliminary management recommendations (prescriptions for tree management processes based on the current land use and not related to the prospective development).
  - Tree categorisation (see below).
  - Root protection area (m²).
  - Root protection radius (m).

#### 2.2 Tree categorisation

- 2.2.1 The condition and value of each tree was evaluated based on the current land use. Each tree or tree group has been awarded either category A, B, C or U and a subcategory of either 1,2 or 3 or a combination of the subcategories.
- 2.2.2 Tree categorisation summary:
  - A Trees of good condition and high arboricultural, landscape or conservation value. Must have a potential life span in excess of forty years.
  - B Trees of moderate condition, with minor defects or sub-optimal form but are still of modest arboricultural, landscape or conservation value. Must have a potential life span in excess of twenty years.
  - C Unremarkable trees of poor condition or form with limited arboricultural, landscape or conservation value, or trees with a stem diameter under 150mm. Must have a potential life span in excess of ten years.
  - U Trees of such impaired condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for more than ten years. These trees do not

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need to be removed if they are not dangerous and do not conflict with the proposed development, but should not be considered a constraint to development.

- 2.2.3 Tree sub categorisation summary:
  - 1 Trees have mainly arboricultural value, e.g. trees of good condition, form and vitality or rare tree species.
  - 2 Trees have mainly landscape value, e.g. trees of landscape prominence, that serve to screen unsightly views or that are required for privacy. Also trees present in groups that attain higher collective rating that they would as individuals.
  - 3 Trees with mainly cultural value including conservation, e.g. commemorative trees, trees of historical significance or veteran trees.
- 2.2.4 Each tree can only be categorised as A, B or C but may comply with more than one subcategory. A cascade chart further explaining how tree categorisation is decided is included in Appendix 3.

#### 2.3 Root protection areas

2.3.1 A root protection area represents a calculation of the minimum volume of rooting medium required to support a tree. It is a standardised calculation based on the stem diameter(s) measured at 1.5m and is not necessarily representative of the actual root spread or total rooting area of a tree. The formulas used to calculate root protection areas are shown below:

Table 1: Root protection area formulas

Number of stems	Root protection area formula						
Single stemmed trees	(stem diameter (mm) x 12) <sup>2</sup> x $\pi$ 1000						
Trees with two to five stems	$\sqrt{\text{(stem diameter 1)}^2 + \text{(stem diameter 2)}^2 \dots + \text{(stem diameter 5)}}$						
Trees with more than five stems	$\sqrt{\text{(mean stem diameter)}^2 \times \text{number of stems}}$						

- 2.3.2 The root protection areas are plotted onto the tree constraints plan in Appendix 1 and are recorded in the tree survey schedule in Appendix 2. These are represented as a circle on the plan (unless significant rooting constraints are present), and are colour coded depending on the category the tree has been awarded. Where existing site conditions/features are present that are deemed likely to have affected the root morphology, the root protection areas have been represented as a polygon of equivalent area.
- 2.3.3 The proposed layout should avoid level changes or the placement of new buildings and areas of hard standing within the root protection areas of retained trees. In certain situations, engineered solutions are available to allow construction within the root protection areas however further input from an arboriculturist should be sought regarding their site-specific viability before these methods are relied upon.
- 2.3.4 The disturbance of a tree's root system can result in crown dieback and even death of the tree. Roots are used to support the tree structurally as well as the absorption of moisture and nutrients from the soil. They also act as storage and transport for water and nutrients.

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- 2.3.5 Direct damage such as root severance can lead to ill health, as can compaction of the soil by construction traffic, heavy plant and storage of materials. Changing the nature of the surface above the growing medium, (i.e. from porous to non-porous), can alter the resources available to the tree, which in turn can lead to its decline.
- 2.3.6 The majority of root growth is usually found within the top 600mm of soil. As such, even a shallow disturbance within a root protection area can potentially have a significant impact on the tree.
- 2.3.7 The root protection areas must be left free from excavation and disturbance and protected from compaction or contamination during any proposed works. Any construction works within a root protection area required for the proposed development must be justifiable within an arboricultural impact assessment.

#### 2.4 Limitations of survey

- 2.4.1 The survey methodology was restricted to a visual tree assessment from ground level. No tree climbing or invasive ground investigation was carried out for this report. Where existing site constraints are present such as ivy covered trees, a very dense under-storey, or where trees are located on third party land to which access was not granted, tree dimensions were estimated by eye as accurately as possible.
- 2.4.2 This survey represents a preliminary overview of the condition and value of trees at the site. It is not a detailed assessment of any individual tree and although preliminary management recommendations are included, this report will not be sufficient to be used as a detailed condition and safety survey.
- 2.4.3 The information and measurements in this report are representative of the date of the site visit. The tree survey data will need to be updated to reflect tree growth and changes in the condition of the trees after prolonged periods.

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#### 3 SITE VISIT AND SURVEY FINDINGS

#### 3.1 Site visit

3.1.1 A site visit was carried out on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The weather conditions at the time were generally clear with occasional showers. The visibility was adequate for visual tree inspection from ground level. Deciduous trees were in leaf.

#### 3.2 Site layout

- 3.2.1 The site is situated between New Street and Sandwich Road to the East of Ash Village. The site comprises of disused industrial buildings and hard standing, with the remaining land made up with a mixture bramble and sporadic trees. The site is boarded by a mixture of both residential and commercial properties, including an area of land to the west that is used for equestrian purposes.
- 3.2.2 A review of historic aerial imagery from between the mid 1980's up to around 2010, suggests the site was once used for the production of some form of linear crop, possibly a fruit orchard or plant nursery. The site appears to have not been in active management since 2008, becoming heavily overgrown. Previous to 1980, the site appears to be of commercial/arable use.

#### 3.3 Statutory tree protection

- 3.3.1 Dover District Council placed a temporary tree preservation order (TPO) reference TPO/22/00016 upon hedge H1 on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022. The client intends to appeal the TPO, however until this process has been resolved, no works can be undertaken to H1 without first obtaining permission from the local planning authority by use of a tree works application. The site is not in a Conservation Area.
- 3.3.2 The protection status of trees at the site can change at any time. Therefore, prior to undertaking tree works, a check of the trees protection status with the local planning authority should be completed. Failure to adhere to the TPO legislation could lead to prosecution and if convicted a fine and criminal record. The crown of a tree and its roots are protected. The person carrying out the works, the person instructing the works and the Directors of that company are potentially liable. Failure to check whether tree/s are the subject of TPO/s could not be used as mitigation.

#### 3.4 Findings

- 3.4.1 A total of 36 individual trees, six tree groups and two hedgerows were surveyed. Their locations are shown on the tree constraints plan at Appendix 1 and details and measurements are sown in the tree survey schedule at Appendix 2.
- 3.4.2 The majority of trees at the site are considered of limited quality, subsequently receiving C categorisations. This is predominantly due to their maturity, form and life expectancies of less than 20 years. No tree at the site was worthy of an A categorisation, with only nine individuals manging to achieve a category B status.
- 3.4.3 A summary of their British Standard categorisation is shown at Table 2 below.

Table 2: Tree categorisation summary

Table 2: Tree categorisation summary

Tree category	Individual tree	Tree group	Hedgerow
Α	-	-	-
В	9	-	-

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U	2	2	-
Total	36	7	2



# Appendix 1: Tree Constraints Plan

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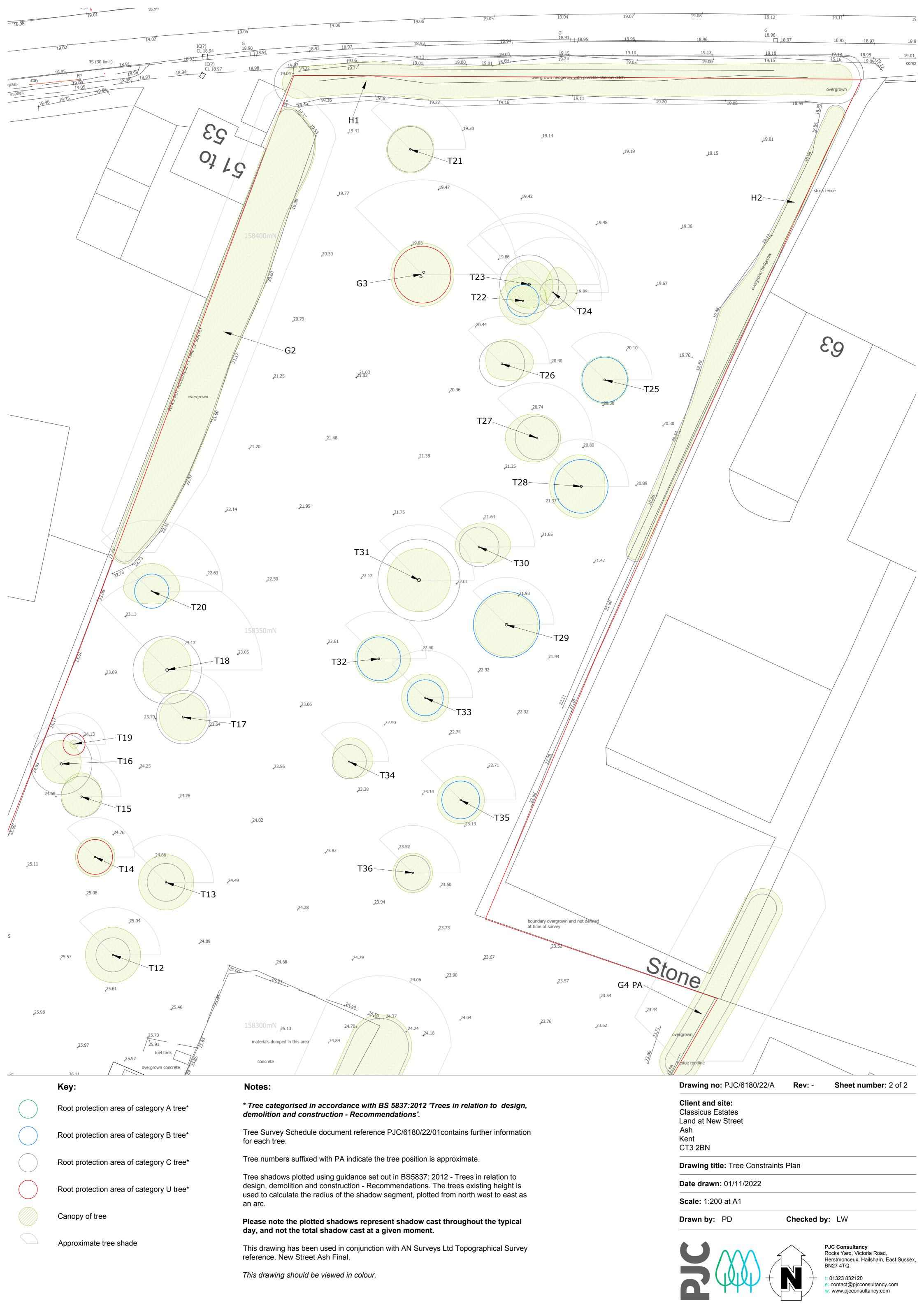


reference. New Street Ash Final.

This drawing should be viewed in colour.

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# Appendix 2: Tree Survey Schedule

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## **Tree Survey Schedule**

**Site:** Land at New Street, Ash, Kent, CT3 2BN.

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**Survey date:** 27th October 2022

**Surveyor:** Luke White FdSc Arboriculture M.Arbor.A



Tree ref.	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Crown clearance (m)	Height to first branch (m)	Life stage	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Landscape value	Estimated remaining contribution	Comments	Category grading	Root Protection Radius (m)	Root Protection area (m2)
T1. PA	Norway spruce (Picea abies)	5m	120mm	1.5m	2m	2m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Crown dominated by Wisteria spp; Access restricted due to dense understorey; figures estimated.	C (1)	1.4m	6.5m²
T2. PA	Bay (Laurus nobilis)	4.5m	140mm	1.5m	1m	1m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Form not untypical for species.	C (1)	1.7m	8.9m²
Т3	Silver birch (Betula pendula)	6m	150mm	2m	3.5m	3m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Form not untypical for species; lesions on stem up to 2m.	C (1)	1.8m	10.2m²
T4	Common walnut (Juglans regia)	5m	280mm	N2m E4m S4m W4m	3m	1.5m	М	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Unbalanced crown as suppressed; minor folia dieback observed.	C (1)	3.4m	35.5m <sup>2</sup>
T5	Common walnut (Juglans regia)	6m	390mm	N7m E7.5m S6m W6m	N3m E1m S2m W3m	2m	М	Good	Fair	Low	20+	Of good form; significant lower limb has failed leaving fracture wound; prune fractured limb back to branch collar.	B (1)	4.7m	68.8m²
T6. PA	Common Hazel (Corylus avellana)	5m	6 stems @ 110mm	N5m E5m S2m W2m	1m	1m	М	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Multi-stemmed coppice; unbalanced crown as suppressed.	C (1)	3.2m	32.8m²
<b>T</b> 7	Norway spruce (Picea abies)	6m	130mm	N2m E2m S2m W1m	1m	1m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Unbalanced crown as suppressed; dominated by ivy.	C (1)	1.6m	7.6m²
Т8	Norway spruce (Picea abies)	8m	270mm	N2m E2m S2m W2m	1m	1m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Unbalanced crown as suppressed; dominated by ivy.	C (1)	3.2m	33.0m <sup>2</sup>
T9. PA	Goat willow (Salix caprea)	5m	3 stems @ 180mm	N4m E3m S4m W3m	2m	2m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Growing between buildings; likely naturally regenerated; considered unsuitable for location.	C (1)	3.7m	44.0m²
T10	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	4.5m	85mm	1m	2m	2m	SM	Poor	Good	Low	10+	Minor folia die back observed; form not untypical for species.	C (1)	1.0m	3.3m <sup>2</sup>
T11	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	5m	140mm	2m	2.5m	2m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Minor folia die back observed; form not untypical for species.	C (1)	1.7m	8.9m²
T12	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	6m	180mm	3.5m	N2m E1m S2m W2m	1.5m E	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Significant basal lesion; bark delamination observed.	C (1)	2.2m	14.7m²
T13	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	6m	200mm	3.5m	N2m E2m S2m W2m	2m E	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Significant basal lesion; bark delamination observed.	C (1)	2.4m	18.1m²
T14	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	5m	130mm 130mm	2.5m	2m	2m	EM	Good	Poor	Low	Less than 10	Basal decay; poor basal union.	U	2.2m	15.3m²
T15	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	5m	120mm 180mm	N3m E2.5m S2.5m W2.5m	2m	2m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Twin stemmed from base; lesions throughout stem.	C (1)	2.6m	21.2m²
T16	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	5m	200mm 110mm 110mm 200mm	N3m E2.5m S2.5m W2.5m	2m	2m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Lesions throughout stem; four stemmed from base.	C (1)	3.9m	47.1m²
T17	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	6m	200mm 200mm	3m	2m	1.5m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Twin stemmed from base; form not untypical for species.	C (1)	3.4m	36.2m <sup>2</sup>
T18	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	12m	180mm 180mm 180mm 180mm	N4m E3m S3m W3m	3m	2.5m	М	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Four stemmed from base; basal lesions.	C (1)	4.3m	58.6m²
T19	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	4m	80mm. 80mm.	0.5m	1m	1m	SM	Fair	Fair	Low	Less than 10	Twin stemmed from base; poor form.	U	1.4m	5.8m²
T20	Silver birch (Betula pendula)	9m	180mm	N3.5m E3.5m S1.5m W3.5m	4m	4m	М	Good	Good	Low	20+	Unbalanced crown biased to the North; no obvious defects.	B (1)	2.2m	14.7m²
T21	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	7m	180mm 160mm	3m	2.5m	2.5m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Form not untypical for species; co-dominant leaders at 5m arising from compressed union.	C (1)	2.9m	26.2m <sup>2</sup>

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Tree ref.	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Crown clearance (m)	Height to first branch (m)	Life stage	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Landscape value	Estimated remaining contribution	Comments	Category grading	Root Protection Radius (m)	Root Protection area (m2)
T22	Silver birch (Betula pendula)	10m	170mm	3m	3m	2m	M	Good	Good	Low	20+	No obvious defects; of good form.	B (1)	2.0m	13.1m²
T23	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	9m	180mm 180mm 180mm	3m	1m	0.5m	М	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Three stemmed from base; weak basal union.	C (1)	3.7m	44.0m²
T24	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	7m	140mm	N3m E3m S2m W1m	2m	2m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Unbalanced crown biased to the East.	C (1)	1.7m	8.9m²
T25	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	6m	240mm	3m	1m	1m	М	Good	Fair	Low	20+	Of good form; no obvious defects.	B (1)	2.9m	26.1m²
T26	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	6m	240mm	N3m E4m S2m W2m	0.5m	0.5m	М	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Poor stem and crown form; form not untypical for species.	C (1)	2.9m	26.1m <sup>2</sup>
T27	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	7m	230mm	N3m E3m S3m W4m	0.5m	1m	EM	Fair	Good	Low	10+	Wounds and lesions throughout stem and crown scaffold.	C (1)	2.8m	23.9m²
T28	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	6m	150mm 240mm	N4m E3m S4m W4m	2m	2m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	20+	Of good form; no obvious defects; twin stemmed from base.	B (1)	3.4m	36.2m²
T29	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	6m	350mm	4m	0m	1m	М	Good	Good	Low	20+	Form not untypical for species; no obvious defects.	B (1)	4.2m	55.4m²
T30	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	7m	210mm	N3m E4m S2m W3m	2m	3m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Unbalanced crown due to previous suppression.	C (1)	2.5m	20.0m²
T31	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	7m	250mm 250mm 250mm	4m	2m	2m	М	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Three stemmed from base; one stem has previously failed leaving basal union.	C (1)	5.2m	84.8m²
T32	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	6m	230mm	N3m E4m S3m W3m	2.5m	2m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	20+	Of good form; no obvious defects.	B (1)	2.8m	23.9m²
T33	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	6m	190mm	3m	2m	2.5m	EM	Fair	Good	Low	20+	Of good form; no obvious defects; good future potential.	B (1)	2.3m	16.3m²
T34	Holm oak (Quercus ilex)	5m	180mm	N3m E3m S2m W2m	1m	1m	EM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Unbalanced crown; minor folia dieback.	C (1)	2.2m	14.7m²
T35	Common Oak (Quercus robur)	7m	0mm 200mm	3m	3m	3m	EM	Good	Good	Low	20+	Of good form; no obvious defects; good future potential.	B (1)	2.4m	18.1m²
T36	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	6m	130mm 130mm	2.5m	2m	2m	SM	Fair	Fair	Low	10+	Twin stemmed from base; form not untypical for species.	C (1)	2.2m	15.3m²
G1	Norway spruce (Picea abies)	9m	Avg 300mm	4m	0.5m	0.5m	М	Fair	Fair	Moderate	10+	Linear group; folia dieback throughout crowns observed.	C (12)	3.6m	40.7m²
G2	Apple Dogwood Sycamore	4m	Avg 110mm	1.5m	0.5m	0.5m	EM	Fair	Fair	Moderate	10+	Linear group along boundary; appears to have been once planted as screening; dominated by dense bramble.	C (12)	1.3m	5.5m <sup>2</sup>
G3	Holm oak Silver birch	12m	Avg 300mm	4m	N2m S2.5m	1.5m	М	Good	Hazardous	Low	Less than 10	Significant root damage; significant basal decay; recommend removal on safety grounds.	U	3.6m	40.7m²
G4. PA	Common Hawthorn	8m	Avg 150mm	2.5m	1m	1m	EM	Fair	Fair	Moderate	10+	Dense linear group along boundary; dominant ivy.	C (2)	1.8m	10.2m²
G5. PA	Common Hawthorn	8m	Avg 200mm	3m	0m	0m	М	Good	Fair	Moderate	10+	Dense linear group on boundary; provides screening.	C (12)	2.4m	18.1m²
G6. PA	Common Hazel Bay Lawson cypress	6m	Avg 150mm	2m	1m	1m	EM	Good	Fair	Low	10+	Two hazel stools on site; bay and Lawson off site.	C (1)	1.8m	10.2m²
H1	Common Hawthorn Dogwood	4m	Avg 250mm	2m	0.5m	0.3m	М	Fair	Fair Sheet 2	Moderate	10+	Lapsed hedge; once maintained at approx. 3m; not subject of recent management; power line directly above. Consider crown reduction to 3m to improve density.	C (2)	3.0m	28.3m²

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Tree ref.	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Crown clearance (m)	Height to first branch (m)	Life stage	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Landscape value	Estimated remaining contribution	Comments	Category grading	Root Protection Radius (m)	Root Protection area (m2)
H2	Common Hawthorn Dogwood	2m	Avg 100mm	1m	0m	0m	EM	Poor	Fair	Low	10+	Does not appear to have managed in some time; dominated with ivy.	C (12)	1.2m	4.5m²

## **Appendix 3: Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment**

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan					
Trees unsuitable for retention									
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of their current land use for longer than 10 years.	will become unviable after the removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot realistically etained as living trees in context of their current use for longer than 10 will become unviable after the removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning).  • Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline.  • Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality.								
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation						
Trees to be considered for rete	ntion								
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue).	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features.	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or woodpasture).	Green					
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remedial defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation.	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality.	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.	Blue					
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits.	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value.	Grey					



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