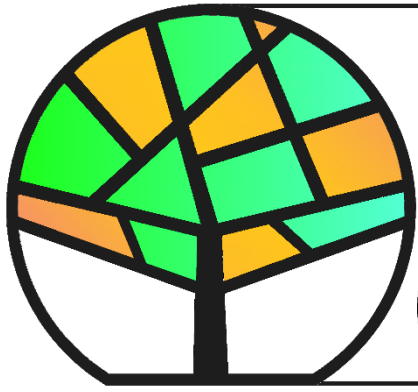




TGB TREE CONSULTING

TREE PLANTING REVIEW

SITE ADDRESS:

Bismillah House, Brookers Hill, Shinfield, Reading, RG2 9BX

CLIENT:

Mrs Q Rukhsar

REF NO:

TGB432.V1.0-Tree Planting Review

SURVEY DATE:

14th of January 2026

PREPARED BY:

Tom Butterfield BSc(Hons), DipArb L4, TechArbor A
19th of January 2026



Arboricultural
ASSOCIATION

Technician Member

Technician Member

ASSOCIATION
Arboricultural



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INTRODUCTION

1.0 BRIEF AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 Mrs. Q. Rukhsar commissioned this Arboricultural Report on 12 January 2026.
- 1.2 I have been instructed to review the previously approved tree works, as well as the subsequent tree planting at the front of the property.
- 1.3 Following the assessment of the current status of the works, I have been asked to prepare a new specification to obtain consent for their completion.
- 1.4 A BS5837 Tree Survey was conducted on 14 January 2026. Relevant findings from this survey have been incorporated into this report where appropriate.
- 1.5 The purpose of the original tree works application was to highlight and remove any dead or declining trees along the front of the property and replace them with better specimens.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The previous Arboricultural Report, prepared by Sarah Duckworth, assessed the condition and quality of the trees at the front of the property following groundworks carried out by the previous owner.
- 2.2 A tree works planning application was previously submitted and approved under reference number 223088. The application detailed the trees to be removed and their proposed replacements.
- 2.3 One of the planning conditions (Condition 1) requires the works to be completed by 30 November 2024. If the works were not completed by this date, further consent would be required.

3.0 PLANNING INFORMATION

- 3.1 The site falls under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Borough Council, the LPA for this area.
- 3.2 A planning application was submitted to Wokingham Borough Council and was permitted on the 30th of November 2022, Reference No. 223088.

4.0 THE SCOPE OF THE SURVEY & METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The trees were surveyed on the 14th of January 2026.
- 4.2 The trees were assessed from ground level using Visual Tree Assessment (Mattheck, et al. 1993) with binoculars and a sonic resonance device (mallet) where deemed necessary.
- 4.3 Only the trees along the front boundary are included within this report.
- 4.4 All trees, including newly planted trees were included in the survey.
- 4.5 No invasive techniques were employed to assess the structural integrity of the trees, and no soil samples were taken.
- 4.6 A comprehensive assessment of tree hazards (including decay, defects, and their consequences) and their ecological implications has not been conducted, as it is considered beyond the scope of this report.
- 4.7 Findings, including any identified hazards, have been recorded and detailed in the Tree Survey Schedule along with recommendations (see Appendix 1).
- 4.8 Dimensions are approximate but give a fair reflection of the size of trees and stem diameter.
- 4.9 Trees that share a canopy may have been referred to as groups in the context of this report.
- 4.10 The approximate position of the trees has been plotted on the TLP. The trees were mapped using a laser measure, rolling wheel, tape measure, and reference points like buildings to provide approximate measurements for their locations both on-site and on the map. For more accurate tree positioning, it's advisable to engage a certified surveyor to conduct a comprehensive topographical survey of the site.

5.0 SITE DETAIL & SOIL ASSESSMENT



- 5.1 The site is located off Brookers Hill.
- 5.2 The site consists of a large detached dwelling, various outbuildings, hard standings, and a garden.
- 5.3 The site is triangular in shape and bordered by the M4 motorway to the North West, private residential dwellings to the East and Brookers Hill road to the South.
- 5.4 Only the trees along the Southern boundary have been included in the report.

6.0 CURRENT TREE PROTECTION STATUS

Protection type	Constraints/details
Tree Preservation Order (TPO)	✓
Conservation Area (CA)	✗

- 6.1 Details were checked with Wokingham Borough Council (LPA) via their interactive website on the 19th of January 2026.
- 6.2 No further communication was initiated to confirm these findings.
- 6.3 The search revealed that the site is within an area TPO that protects all trees of all species present at the time the order was made and subsequently confirmed in 2019, TPO reference No. *TPO-1682-2019*.

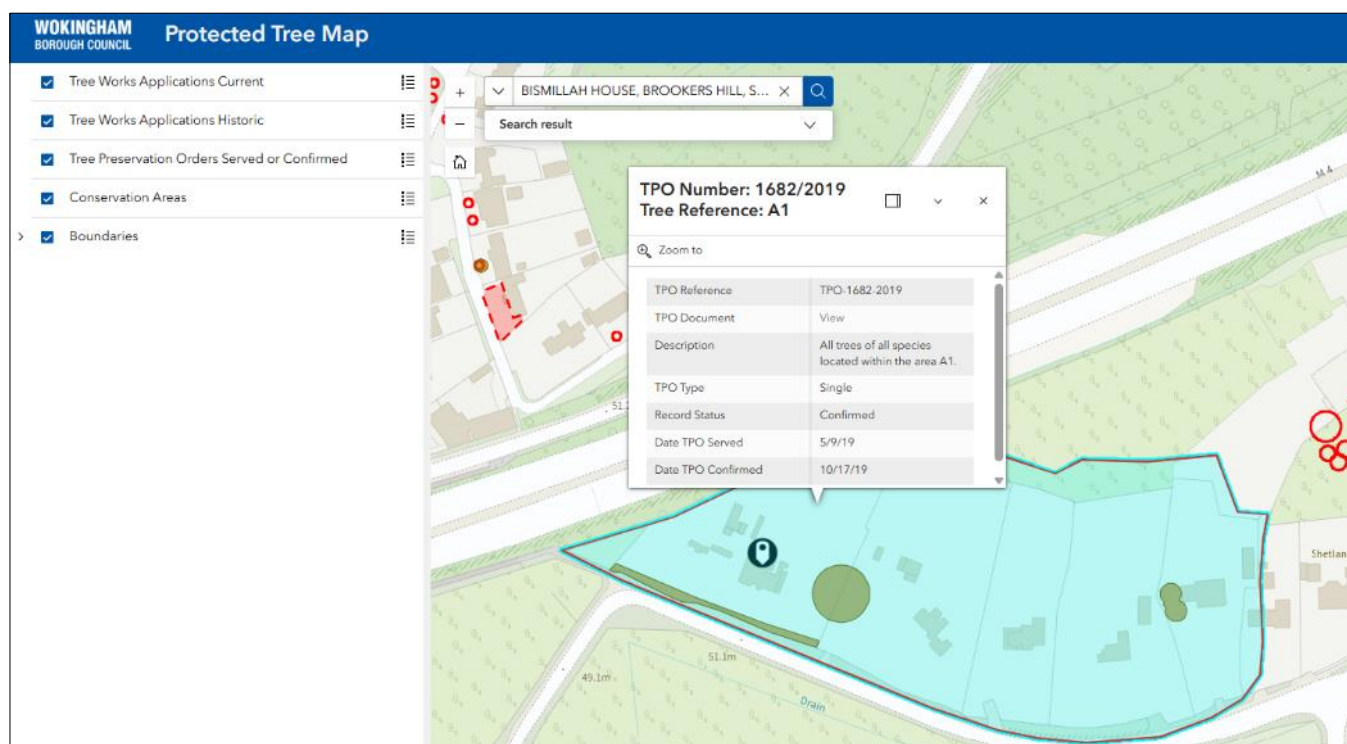


Figure 2 – Wokingham Council website 2026

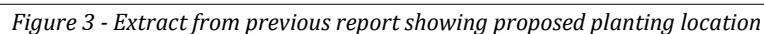
7.0 PREVIOUS TREE WORKS COMPLETED TO DATE

Tree Works Completed

- 7.1 Below is the table summarising the recommended works as per the previous Arboricultural Report and previous planning consent.
- 7.2 All of the tree works has been completed except for the T3, the small dead Holly.

Ref.	Species	Previous Work Recommendations	Completed?
T003	Common Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>)	Fell to ground level.	No
T005	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Remove deadwood to 1m stumps; Cut back over extended branch on west side of canopy 5m to reduce weight; Sever ivy and inspect base and lower trunk.	YES
T007	Horse Chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	No H&S works identified; Low-grade tree; Fell to create room for improved planting scheme.	YES
T008	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Fell to ground level; Relocate trunk elsewhere on site and retain for habitat value.	YES
T009	Monterey Cypress (<i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>)	Fell to enable construction of new access point.	YES
T010	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Fell to ground level; Relocate trunk elsewhere on site and retain for habitat value.	YES
T011	Common Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	No H&S works identified; Low-grade tree; Fell to create room for improved planting scheme.	YES
T012	Common Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	No H&S works identified; Low-grade tree; Fell to create room for improved planting scheme.	YES
T013	Field Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>)	Fell dying tree and replace.	YES
T014	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Pollard to 6-7m height and 3m radial growth.	YES
T016	Weeping Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'</i>)	Fell dead tree and replace.	YES
T018	Jaspidea Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior 'Jaspidea'</i>)	Remove Stump - optional.	YES
T019	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Check ownership - Remove deadwood to 1m stumps.	YES
T020	English Elm (<i>Ulmus procera</i>)	Fell dead tree and replace.	YES
T021	Common Ash (<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>)	Pollard at 2m (top of trunk) and retain as pollard.	YES

8.1 Below is an extract from the previous planting report showing the proposed location for the tree.



8.2 Tree planting working from right to left, looking at Figure 3 above.

www.tgbtrees.co.uk

SAP9	Silver Birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>)	NO	SAP14 (Alder) has been planted in this location. The specimen has a 14cm girth at 1.2m above ground level.	This is seen as an acceptable replacement tree, not the approved tree specimen, but in the correct location and suitable size. (See SAP14 below). No Further Action Required.
SAP10	Field Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>)	NO	NA	Plant 1 x Field Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>)
SAP11	Holm Oak (<i>Quercus ilex</i>)	NO	SAP15 (London Plane) has been planted in this location. The specimen has a 22cm girth at 1.2m above ground level.	This is seen as an acceptable replacement tree, not the approved tree specimen, but in the correct location and suitable size. (See SAP15 below). No Further Action Required.
HEDGE12	Mixed native broadleaf	NO	Parts of the hedge at the front have grown to form a hedge consisting of a mixture of species. Within the hedge, there are still various patches that require supplementary planting.	Carry out supplementary planting of whips in gaps to bolster the hedge.
Below is a list of trees that have been planted on site, but don't fully conform with the planting plan.				
SAP12	Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>)	YES	Planted in the location of SAP6. The specimen has a 12cm girth at 1.2m above ground level. In good condition.	Suitable Replacement No Further Action Required.
SAP13	Norway Maple (<i>Acer Platanoides</i>)	YES	Planted in the location of SAP7. The specimen has a 20cm girth at 1.2m above ground level. The tree is in good condition. The tree has been planted slightly too deep.	Suitable Replacement Reduce the surrounding soil level within 2m of the stem by approximately 50mm.
SAP14	Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>)	YES	Planted in the location of SAP9. The specimen has a 14cm girth at 1.2m above ground level. The tree is in fair condition. The tree has been planted slightly too deep. Minor bleeds on the stem.	Suitable Replacement Reduce the surrounding soil level within 2m of the stem by approximately 50mm. Monitor in the future.
SAP15	London Plane (<i>Platanus X hispanica</i>)	YES	Planted in the location of SAP11. The specimen has a 22cm girth at 1.2m above ground level. The tree is in good condition. The tree has been planted slightly too deep.	Suitable Replacement Reduce the surrounding soil level within 2m of the stem by approximately 50mm.

9.0 SUMMARY OF THE COMPLETED WORKS:

- 9.1 Having reviewed this site, I can confirm that all the necessary tree work (Planning Application No. 223088) has been completed except for the removal of the small Holly (T3).
- 9.2 The replacement planting has not been carried out in full or to the correct specification; however, it is clear that some attempt has been made to carry it out.
- 9.3 Of the eleven trees that were scheduled to be planted, none of the actual correct trees have been successfully planted.
- 9.4 Instead, I can confirm several new trees have been planted, in roughly the correct location, but of the wrong species, as follows:
- One Beech (SAP12) has been planted instead of a Norway Maple (SAP6).
 - One Norway Maple (SAP13) has been planted instead of a Field Maple (SAP7).
 - Common Alder (SAP14) has been planted instead of a Silver Birch (SAP9).
 - One London Plane (SAP15) has been planted instead of a Holm Oak (SAP11).
- 9.5 A total of four replacement trees have been planted (Above). Although the trees are the wrong species, they have been planted in approximately the positions shown in the tree planting plan and have a minimum girth of 12cm, ranging up to 22cm (London Plane).
- 9.6 Though the planting thus far is not following the schedule, the planted trees are significant trees that should count toward replacement planting.
- 9.7 A new planting plan has been created and incorporates these trees (shown in blue) along with trees still to be planted (shown in green).
- 9.8 The hedge at the front of the property still has frequent gaps. The gaps in the hedge require supplementary planting of mixed native whips.
- 9.9 It is advised that an application be submitted to the LPA to vary the condition to align with these recommendations.

10.0 PROPOSAL

- 10.1 Accept the four new trees (SAP12, SAP13, SAP14 and SAP15) as acceptable replacement trees, to be counted towards the replacement planting requirement.
- 10.2 Plant the remaining replacement planting in accordance with the approved schedule, comprising 7 trees and 1 hedge planting.

11.0 OUTSTANDING PLANT SPECIFICATION (TO ACTION)

11.1 Below is a list of trees and whips to be sourced and planted in accordance with the updated planting plan.

Planting Recommendations						
Name	Qty	Planting Location	Height (cm)	Girth (cm)	Form	Root System
Holm Oak <i>Quercus ilex</i>	x5	A	300-350 (Max)	10-12	Std	Rootball / Container
Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	x1	B	300-350 (Max)	10-12	Std	Rootball / Container
Field Maple, <i>Acer campestre</i>	x1	C	300-350 (Max)	10-12	Std	Rootball / Container
Mixed Broadleaf Hedge: (x 80 total) - Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) - Dog Rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>) - Field Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>) - Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>) - Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>) - Wild Privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>) - Hornbeam (<i>Carpinus betulus</i>) - Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)	x10 x10 x10 x10 x10 x10 x10 x10	D	120-150	/	Whip	Bareroot

12.0 TREE PLANTING METHOD RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 Planting of Trees shall be in accordance with BS8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape-Recommendations.
- 12.2 **Tree Stock:**
- 12.3 All stock must comply in all respects with the current edition of the British Standard (as outlined above).
- 12.4 Trees shall be healthy, true-to-type nursery stock of the specified size, with well-formed stems, balanced crowns, a straight central leader, subordinated lateral branches, and fully fibrous root systems showing evidence of pruning or transplanting as per the plant schedule.
- 12.5 **Protection of Planting Material:**
- 12.6 All trees shall be adequately and carefully packed and protected to survive transportation to the site without damage.
- 12.7 Roots must be kept moist and protected with damp straw, moss, or sacking.
- 12.8 **Tree Pits:**
- 12.9 Tree pits shall be twice the root-ball diameter and no deeper than the root-ball or container. The base should remain undisturbed unless drainage or soil issues exist. Geotextiles or root barriers should not be used unless required, and topsoil and subsoil must be separated during excavation.
- 12.10 **Planting:**
- 12.11 Once a root-balled tree has been positioned in the planting pit, hessian, twine and the wire cage shall be loosened. If wire encircles the stem diameter as part of the wire cage of the rootball, this shall be cut and removed. The tree's root system shall be wetted prior to planting. The tree shall be planted at the correct depth, taking into account the position of the root flare. Allowances shall be made for the settling of the soil after planting. The rootball or root-stem transition shall be level with the host soil or surface.
- 12.12 **Backfill of tree pit:**
- 12.13 300mm depth topsoil in line with BS3882:2015 Specification for topsoil (multi-purpose topsoil), with 600mm subsoil for trees within soft landscape
- 12.14 All backfill applied shall, as far as possible, replicate the horizons within the original soil profile. Topsoil shall not be used below the depth of the original topsoil layer. Backfill shall be added gradually in layers of 150mm depth, ensuring the tree is held upright. At each stage, the fill shall be firmed in to eliminate all air pockets under and around the root system, but with care being taken not to excessively compact the soil.
- 12.15 **Planting Season:**
- 12.16 Unless otherwise specified, all transplanting shall be carried out between the end of October and the end of March. Container-grown trees may be transplanted at times other than these at the discretion of the Landscape Architect.
- 12.17 **Planting Depth:**
- 12.18 This is critical to transplanting success. The root flare of the newly planted tree shall be clearly visible at the soil surface. It should not be buried by excess soil or mulch. Where rootballed trees have been supplied with the root flare too deep, any excess soil shall be removed from the top of the rootball to reveal the root flare. Where containerised trees have been planted too deep in the container during the production process, there is often a matting of fibrous roots above the root flare and across the container surface. These roots shall be removed and the root flare exposed prior to planting.
- 12.19 **Transplanting in Frosty Conditions:**
- 12.20 Planting of trees in frosty conditions will only be permitted if adequate precautions are taken. The prepared root balls must have additional wrapping. The bottom and sides of the tree pits, and the piles of topsoil, must be protected from freezing by the use of boards, tarpaulins or other approved materials.
- 12.21 **Watering:**
- 12.22 At the time of planting the tree pit shall be saturated to the point of field capacity. If there is a risk of frost within 24 hours the watering shall be delayed until such risk has passed.

13.0 TREE PIT ACCESSORIES (TREES WITHIN SOFT LANDSCAPE)

13.1 Tree Supports:

13.2 Standard trees or larger will be staked with 2 stakes.

13.3 Stakes to be requisite length, pressure impregnated (with preservative non injurious to plants) de-barked softwood. Stakes shall allow for canopy and stem movement as low down the tree as possible, whilst supporting the structural function of the root system. Tree stakes shall be driven into the ground before the tree is planted, to a sufficient depth to provide full support for the tree.

13.4 Tree Ties:

13.5 To be expandable rubber tree ties with spacer blocks between the tree and stake, to be fixed with heavy-duty galvanised nails.

13.6 The ties are to be located approximately one third of the way up the clear stem from ground level.

13.7 Irrigation tubing:

13.8 A pit-based irrigation system will be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines, using an equivalent system from an approved supplier.

13.9 Mulch:

13.10 Apply 75mm depth of mulch over the whole of the planting bed (Minimum 1m radius from stem) immediately after watering in.

13.11 Mulch shall be organic, disease- and contaminant-free (e.g., shredded bark, wood chips, or compost), with appropriate particle size for the planting type, and compliant with BS 8601:2013 and Forestry Commission best practice."

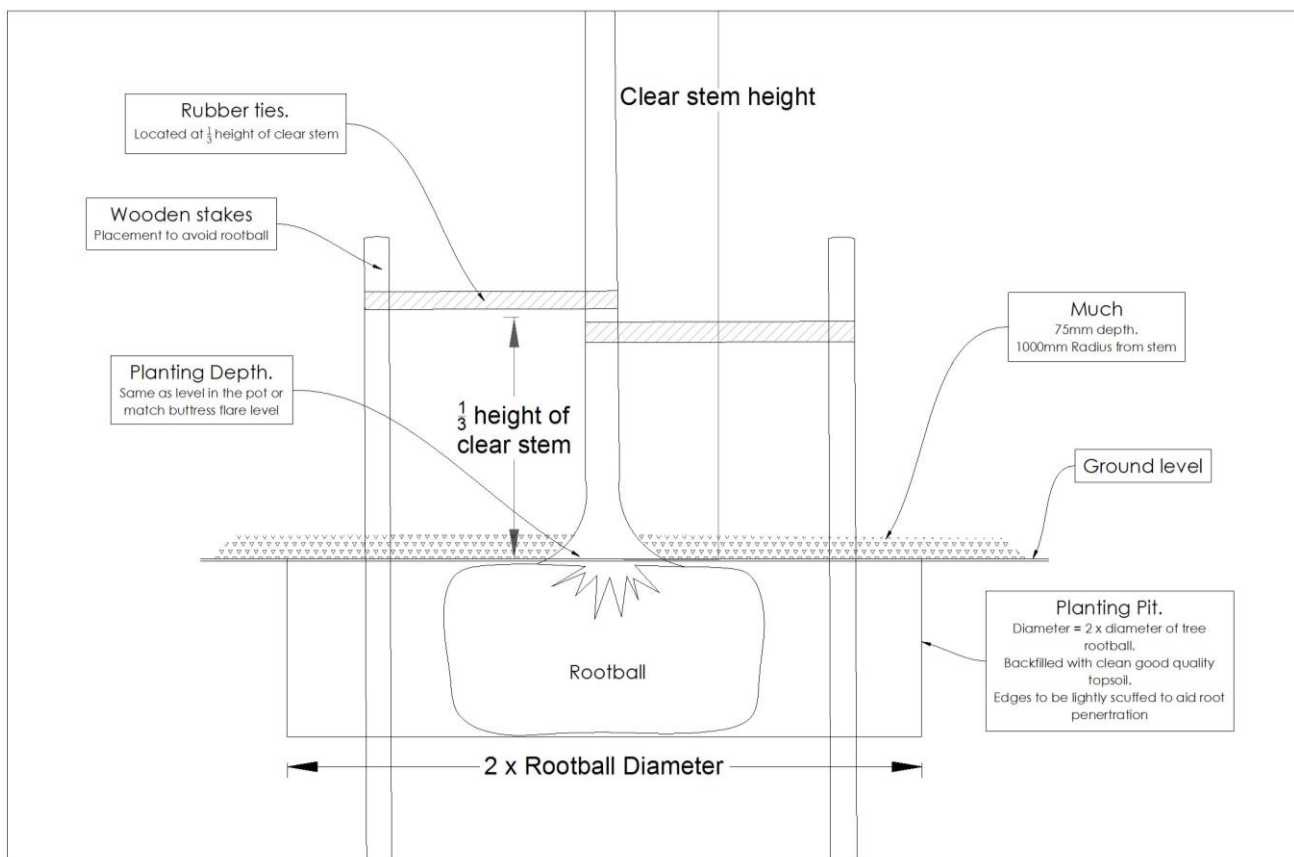


Figure 4 – Magnified Planting Pit

14.0 NATIVE HEDGE PLANTING

- 14.1 Supplementary native deciduous hedgerow planting will be undertaken along the front boundary hedge to infill gaps between existing shrubs and strengthen the continuity of the boundary hedge.
- 14.2 Total length of gaps in the hedge are estimated at 30m total.
- 14.3 Planting will be carried out in a double-staggered arrangement at approximately 75cm spacing between whips, where space allows, improving screening of the property and softening views from the adjacent public highway.
- 14.4 Planting areas should be cleared of brambles and any dead or dying shrubs before planting begins.
- 14.5 The supplementary planting will comprise a varied mix of native species, including:

Species	Suggested Percentage	Plants (Approx)
Hawthorn x 10.	12.5%	10
Dog Rose x 10.	12.5%	10
Field Maple x 10.	12.5%	10
Blackthorn x 10.	12.5%	10
Hazel x 10.	12.5%	10
Wild Privet x 10.	12.5%	10
Hornbeam x 10.	12.5%	10
Elder x 10.	12.5%	10

- 14.6 Total number of whips: 80 based on 30m of planting length.
- 14.7 Formative pruning will be carried out during the establishment period to encourage healthy growth and promote a dense, interlinked structure.
- 14.8 As the hedge develops and reaches approximately 2 metres in height, it will be maintained at this level through annual trimming to retain a neat, well-managed appearance.
- 14.9 Following frost events, plants will be checked and re-firmed as necessary to ensure stability and correct soil levels consistent with nursery-grown specimens. All pruning and thinning works will be undertaken outside the bird nesting season, typically during late autumn or winter.
- 14.10 Where necessary, newly planted sections will be protected with stakes and mesh guards to prevent damage from deer and rabbits. Any failures within the first two years following planting will be replaced to ensure the successful establishment and long-term integrity of the hedgerow.

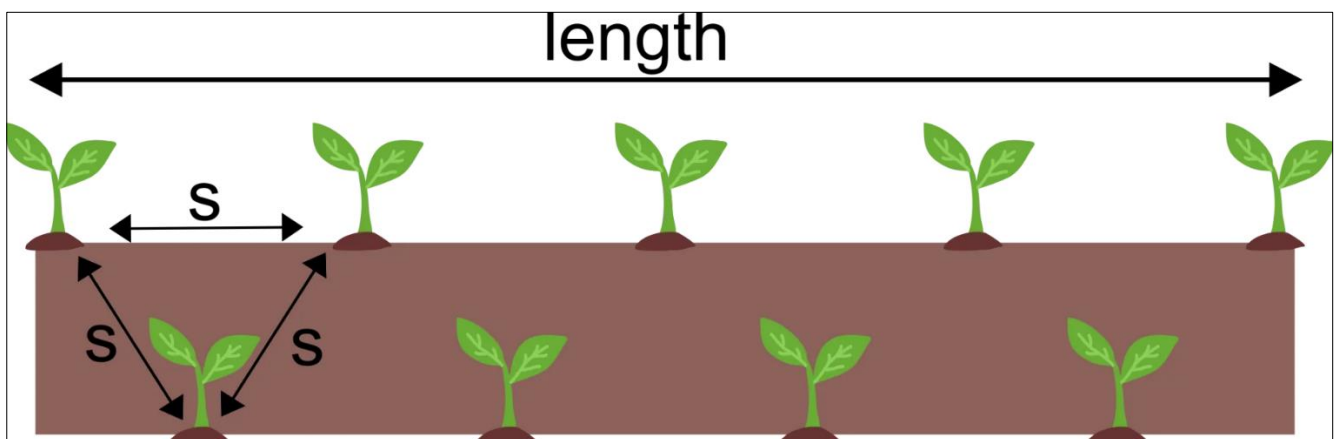


Figure 5 – Double staggered planting arrangement with 75cm (S) gaps between whips.

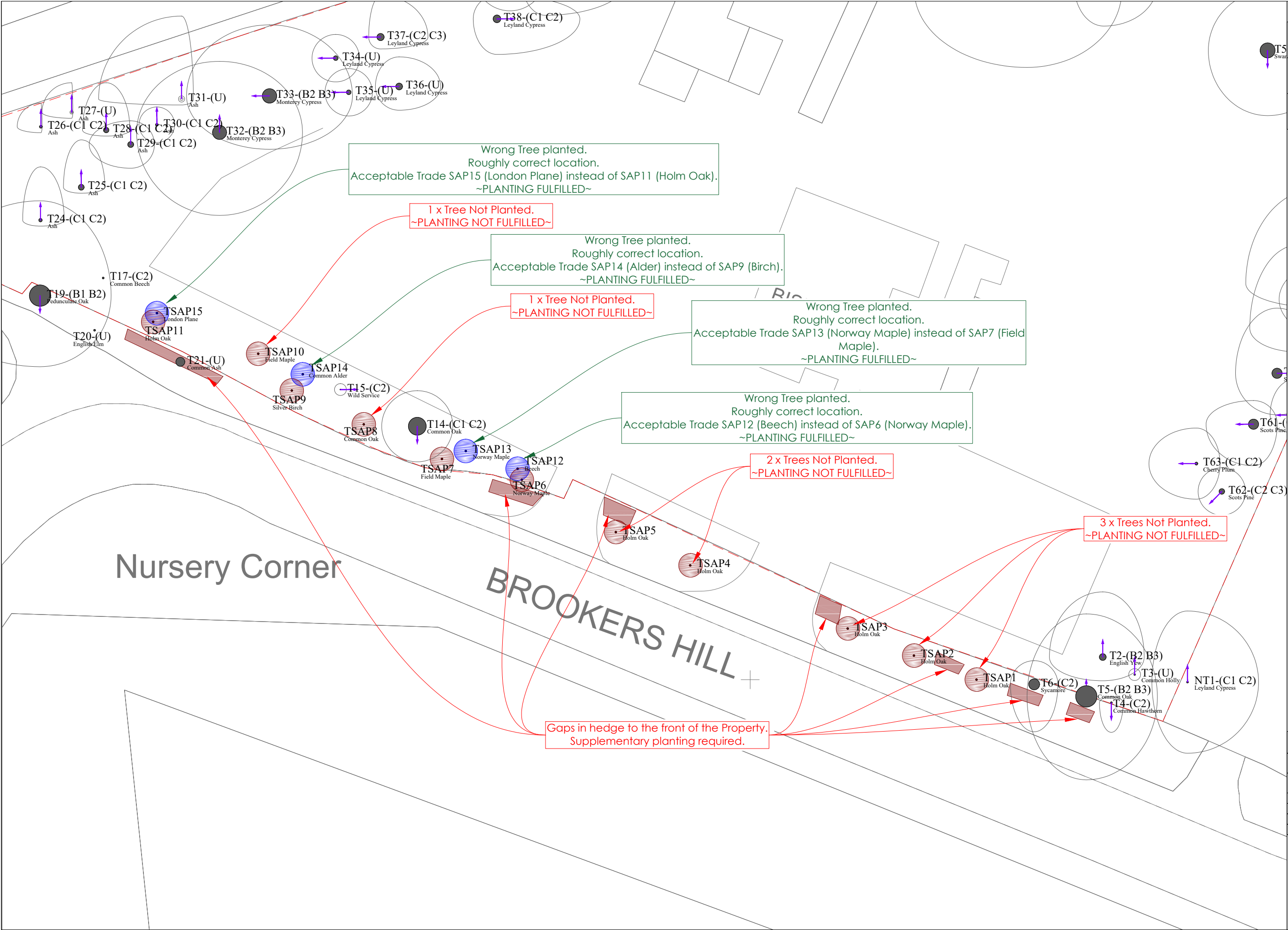
15.0 POST PLANTING WATERING

- 15.1 To support the successful establishment of newly planted trees and hedgerows, a regular watering regime will be implemented during the first two growing seasons after planting, typically from April to October.
- 15.2 Watering will be carried out up to twice weekly, with frequency increased during extended periods of dry or hot weather where required.
- 15.3 The quantity of water applied will be assessed on a plant-by-plant basis at each visit, taking account of weather conditions and soil moisture levels. Reliance on rainfall alone will not be sufficient to sustain container-grown or recently planted stock, and supplementary irrigation will therefore be necessary except during prolonged wet periods.
- 15.4 All watering will be undertaken thoroughly to ensure moisture penetrates the full depth of the root zone.
- 15.5 In the third year following planting, new vegetation will continue to be monitored, with additional watering provided during periods of drought or where signs of water stress are observed, such as leaf wilting or premature leaf loss. Prior to irrigation, soil conditions will be checked to confirm that symptoms are not attributable to excessive moisture or poor drainage.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Tree Planting Plan Review

TGB432.V1.0.A3-Tree Planting Review



Notes:

BS5837 Tree Retention Categories

	ORIGINAL TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION NOT PLANTED
	NEWLY PLANTED TREE
	SURROUNDING TREES

Title: Tree Planting Plan Review	
Site: Bismillah House, Brookers Hill, Shinfield, Reading, RG29BX	
Client: Mrs Q Rukhsar	
Project No:	TGB432.V1.0
Drawing No:	TGB432.V1.0-A3- Tree Planting Plan Review
Scale @ A3:	1:300
Date:	20/01/2026
Drawn By:	Tom B
Revision:	1.0

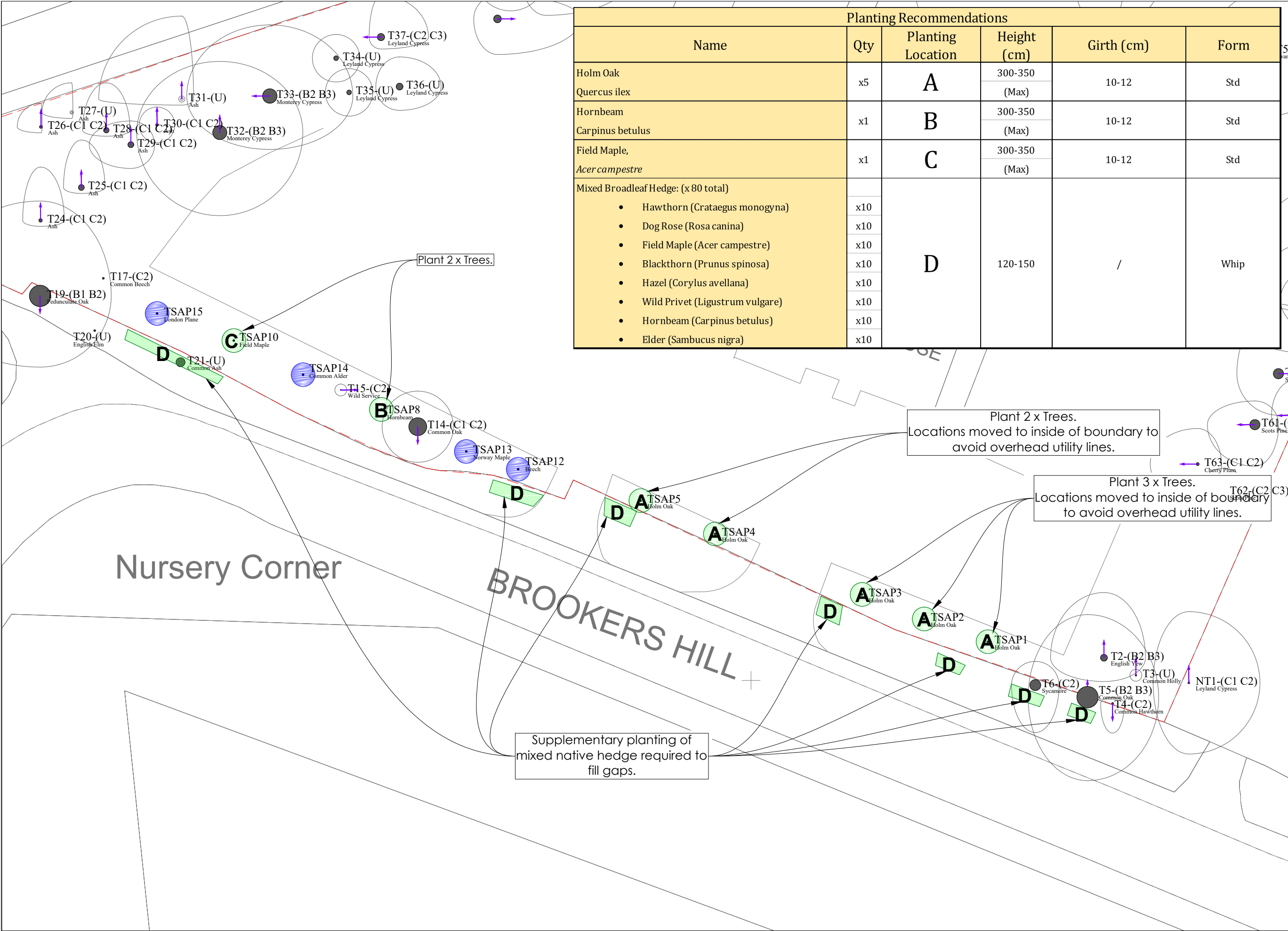


TGB Tree Consulting

Tom Butterfield
TGB Tree Consulting
Dunsfold,
Surrey,
GU8
07459906047
www.tgbtrees.co.uk
info@tgbtrees.co.uk

Appendix 2 – Tree Planting Plan

TGB432.V1.0.A3-Tree Planting Plan



Planting Recommendations					
Name	Qty	Planting Location	Height (cm)	Girth (cm)	Form
Holm Oak <i>Quercus ilex</i>	x5	A	300-350	10-12	Std
			(Max)		
Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	x1	B	300-350	10-12	Std
			(Max)		
Field Maple, <i>Acer campestre</i>	x1	C	300-350	10-12	Std
			(Max)		
Mixed Broadleaf Hedge: (x 80 total)		D	120-150	/	Whip
• Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>)	x10				
• Dog Rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>)	x10				
• Field Maple (<i>Acer campestre</i>)	x10				
• Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)	x10				
• Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>)	x10				
• Wild Privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>)	x10				
• Hornbeam (<i>Carpinus betulus</i>)	x10				
• Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>)	x10				

Notes:

BS5837 Tree Retention Categories

TREE TO PLANT

NEWLY PLANTED TREE

SURROUNDING TREES

Title: Tree Planting Plan (Action)

Site: Bismillah House, Brookers Hill, Shinfield, Reading, RG29BX

Client: Mrs Q Rukhsar

Project No: TGB432.V1.0

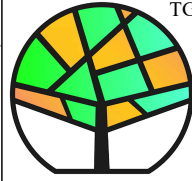
Drawing No: TGB432.V1.0-A3-Tree Planting Plan

Scale @ A3: 1:300

Date: 20/01/2026

Drawn By: Tom B

Revision: 1.0



TGB Tree Consulting

Tom Butterfield

TGB Tree Consulting

Dunsfold,

Surrey,

GU8

07459906047

www.tgbtrees.co.uk

info@tgbtrees.co.uk

Appendix 3 – Images



Figure 6 – Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 7 – Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 8 – Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 9 – Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 10 – Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 11 – Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 12– Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 13– Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 14– Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 15– Gaps in boundary hedge



Figure 16 - SAP12



Figure 17 - SAP13



Figure 18 - SAP14



Figure 19 - SAP15