

ARBORICULTURAL TECHNICAL NOTE

Condition 21 – Aged and Veteran Tree Strategy

LAND AT BRIDGE FARM, TWYFORD

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This Technical Note has been prepared by Barton Hyett Associates on behalf of Croudace Homes Ltd in relation to land at Bridge Farm, Twyford (hereafter referred to as 'the Site').

Condition 21 – Aged and Veteran Tree Strategy

Condition 21 of planning consent 212720 relates specifically to Veteran Trees and in particular T38 of the Arboricultural survey.

T38 is a mature poplar tree (also reference as T7 of the Ecological assessment that supported the application). The tree is most likely to be a hybrid black poplar. Irrespective of precise species, this tree has a large stem diameter (as per Fig. 1.3 in Lonsdale, 2013¹) and has been historically managed as a pollard.

At the time of the original survey, T38 tree also displayed numerous characteristics, such as branch tear out scars, stem wounds, deadwood etc, (e.g. characteristic features found on veteran trees as described in para. 2.1.1 in Read, 2000²). These features resulted in the tree being assigned 'Veteran' status. Since the original survey was undertaken it is unfortunate that the stem of T38 has suffered catastrophic failure in a storm event. The stem snapped at circa 7m leaving a single pole with some small regrowth. Irrespective of this damage, the veteran status of the tree was maintained for planning and layout design purposes.

T38 is the only veteran trees on site and is therefore the only tree on site identified as falling within the scope of 'Condition 21 – Aged and Veteran Tree Strategy'.

As mentioned the tree has been subject to storm damage resulting in structural failure at approximately 7 metres in height. Whilst the tree retains its classification as a veteran specimen its significantly reduced form and stature limit the scope for any active management. Given its current condition and location within the site, the tree can be appropriately retained and left to natural processes and approach of 'non-intervention' to management will be adopted.

¹ Lonsdale, D. (ed.) (2013). Ancient and other veteran trees: further guidance on management. London: The Tree Council

² Read, H. 2000. Veteran Trees: A guide to good management. London: English Nature.