



BS-5837 – Arboricultural Report

Wargrave Tennis Club

Prepared for

Micheal Simpson & Richard Vertigan

Wargrave Tennis Club

Recreation Road

Wargrave

Reading

RG10 8BG

Chairman@wargravetennis.com

Prepared By:

David Randall BA (Hons), Dip Arb L4 (ABC), TechArborA

David Randall Tree Consultancy

07941 794 154

info@davidrandalltreeconsultaancy.com

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References

- British Standards Institution (2012). *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*.
- British Standards Institution (2010). *BS 3998:2010 – Tree Work: Recommendations*.

1.0 Instruction

This BS5837 Arboricultural Report has been instructed by Micheal Simpson and Richard Vertigan, Wargrave Tennis Club, Recreation Road, Wargrave, Reading, RG10 8BG

The site visit was carried out Tuesday 10th February 2026.

All trees with a stem diameter over 75mm (measured at 1.5m above ground level) located on the proposed development site, or within influencing distance have been mapped, and measurements of height (estimated) and DBH (Dimeter at Breast Height – 1.5m above ground) have been taken along with crown spread. OTTIS Pear Technology has been used to calculate Root Protection Areas (RPA).

The trees were surveyed visually, externally and from ground level only. No samples or internal decay detection readings were taken for further analysis. Non-invasive inspection equipment was used (probe and mallet) to assess the trees structural integrity of the base and stem. Lazer tape measure has been used to take other relevant measurements.

This survey was undertaken during the winter season when trees were not in leaf. Assessment of physiological condition was therefore based on observable structural characteristics, bud development, bark condition and overall form.

Topographical surveys were not available for the purposes of this report. Therefore, exact tree positions may vary slightly; the report is intended for planning and tree management guidance, not for detailed engineering design. All Trees have been mapped using geo referenced site plans in conjunction with OTTIS Pear Technology.

2.0 Limitations

- The contents are intended for the sole use of the client and the property owner. No liability is accepted for their use by any other parties to advance an argument or claim (including legal or financial) without prior consent.
- No liability is accepted for defects hidden from view by soil, vegetation or other obstacles to access.
- Formal assessment of topography, drainage, service conduits, & soil conditions will not be made and are beyond the scope of this report.
- Specific laboratory investigations of soil properties (plasticity index, moisture content, soil suction pressure) will not be made and are beyond the scope of this report.
- This report has been prepared for the purposes of BS5837:2012 (Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction) and is not intended to provide a comprehensive assessment of tree safety. Any references to defects, structural conditions, or potential safety concerns are preliminary observations only and should not be considered exhaustive.
- The management of tree health and safety remains the responsibility of the landowner or those in control of the land. It is recommended that a separate and detailed Tree Condition Survey be commissioned and undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced arboricultural consultant to assess structural integrity and risk, and to

enable the discharge of the landowner's 'Duty of Care' under the Occupiers' Liability Act 1984.

- Reports consider risk mitigation measures, as opposed to risk elimination. Thus, if the tree is retained, a level of risk will remain.
- Plants are biological organisms & change with time. Assessment remains valid for 12 months from the date of inspection, or until a major storm (Wind Force 6 +) and or significant snow fall is experienced.
- It is understood that any risks associated with these limitations are accepted by the clients.

3.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1 Tree Constraints

Tree constraints searches have been conducted as part of this report –

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c0ad4ce95f8e46cfb28bb8cb126eae0>

Tree Preservation Order 1709-2020 – Single TPO, Lime (*Tilia spp.*)

This order applies to a third-party tree situated to the south of the site and is understood to be on land under the ownership of the Parish Council, although this has not been formally verified.

An Individual Tree Preservation Order (TPO) is a legal protection placed by a Local Planning Authority on a specific tree. It protects the identified tree due to its amenity value, visibility, or contribution to the character of the area.

Under an Individual TPO, written consent must be obtained from the Local Planning Authority before carrying out works such as felling, lopping, topping, uprooting, wilful damage, or destruction of the protected tree. The purpose of the Order is to safeguard the tree's public amenity value and ensure its long-term retention. Carrying out unauthorised works to a protected tree is a criminal offence and may result in prosecution and financial penalties.

3.2 The Site

The application site comprises the established grounds of Wargrave Tennis Club, located within the settlement of Wargrave, Berkshire. The site is situated on the edge of the village and benefits from a semi-rural setting, with a mix of recreational land and open countryside surrounding it.

To the north and east of the site are local amenity playing fields, forming part of the wider recreational provision within the village. Open agricultural farmland lies to the south and east, reinforcing the site's edge-of-settlement character.

The western part of the site is given over to a grassed parking area incorporating cellular matting, providing informal car parking for members and visitors. The tennis courts themselves

are enclosed by ball-stop fencing and hardstanding surfaces, with associated access paths linking to the clubhouse pavilion.

Along the southern boundary, a grassed track approximately 6 metres in width provides access to the adjoining amenity playing fields for grounds maintenance machinery, the track is showing signs of historic compaction. Beyond this access track lies an unmaintained hedgerow interspersed with trees, which forms a soft boundary and contributes to the rural character of the site.

The western boundary is defined by an approximately 2-metre-high hawthorn hedge, which provides established screening. This hedge line is interrupted by the existing tennis pavilion building, which is positioned along the western edge of the site and serves as the main built form within the club grounds.

3.3 Trees

A tree category table is available in the appendices.

12 trees and 3 hedges were surveyed in total.

All trees and hedgerows within and immediately adjacent to the site have been assessed and judged to be of moderate to low public amenity value. This assessment is based on a combination of factors including limited visibility from public vantage points, relatively small stature, lack of distinctive form, and the predominantly utilitarian nature of the vegetation within a recreational setting. While the trees and hedges contribute to the containment of the site and provide some screening, their overall visual and landscape contribution to the wider area is limited. Consequently, they are considered to have low to moderate significance in terms of public amenity.

H001 and T001 to T008 These are trees and vegetation making up a hedge line situated on third party land understood to be on under the ownership of the Parish Council, although this has not been formally verified.

T005 (TPO Tree): This tree has been assigned Category A status in accordance with BS5837:2012. This is due to its prominence and protection under a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). However, hammer tapping has indicated abnormal sounds and potential structural disfunction at the base on the southern aspect, unidentified fungal fruiting bodies are present, possibly linked to historical buttress and root damage from maintenance vehicle access.

Decay detection is recommended at the base, and any defects should be reported, as findings could result in a downgrade of the tree's category and may necessitate mitigation or remedial works to ensure structural stability and safety.

T009 has been assigned Category A status in accordance with BS5837:2012. due to its good physiological condition, the tree exhibits sound structural form and healthy vigour, with no notable defects observed at the time of survey.

T002,003,006,007 have been categorised as Category B in accordance with BS5837:2012. with an estimated remaining contribution of at least 20 years. These trees are structurally and physiologically sound, Provide some screening and biodiversity value.

T004, 010,011,012 have been assigned Category C status under BS 5837:2012. These trees are of low quality and value, typically due to limited life expectancy, poor form, minor structural defects, or small size. They provide only limited visual or ecological benefits and are considered to have low significance in terms of public amenity.

T001 is dead and has been assigned a Category U rating under BS 5837:2012. While epicormic growth is present, it is unlikely to persist, and the tree is structurally compromised. However, it can be retained for ecological reasons, as it provides habitat value, and does not present a significant risk to people or property.

3.4 Data tables

U Trees unsuitable for retention
A Trees of high quality
B Trees of moderate quality
C Trees of low quality

A tree category table is available in the appendices.

Data Tables

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Survey Notes	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
H001	Not identified (Not identified)	Hedge	Height (m): 4 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Hedge containing a mixture of bramble, privet hawthorn and ivy. Unmaintained	C2	Area: 590 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain – No other recommendations currently
H002	Not identified (Not identified)	Hedge	Height (m): 2 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Hawthorn hedge, ivy throughout.	C2	Area: 160 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Approximately 4 m of the northern end of hedgerow is proposed for removal to facilitate the construction of the proposed development
H003	Not identified (Not identified)	Hedge	Height (m): 2 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 0 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Hawthorn hedge, ivy throughout.	C2	Area: 128 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Up to 0.5m of southern end of hedge to be removed to facilitate the construction of the proposed development.

T001	Lime (<i>Tilia sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 7 Stem Diam(mm): 900 Spread (m): 4N, 5.5E, 5.5S, 5.5W Crown Clearance (m): 1.5 Lowest Branch (m): 1.5(W) Life Stage: Dead Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	DBH estimated due to access and epicormic growth. Main stem has been historically reduced to approximately 5 m. Hammer taps indicate abnormal sounds around entire circumference from base to at least 2 m. Fruiting bodies similar in appearance to <i>Ganoderma austral</i> on Southern aspect at approximately 0.5 m. Overextended epicormic growth around entire circumference of base attached to base. As tree fails so will epicormic growth.	U	Radius: 10.8m. Area: 366 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Dead Structural Condition: Poor/collapsing	Retain – No other recommendations currently.
T002	Horse chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 4 2 stems (mm): 100, 100 Spread (m): 3N, 2E, 2S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Lowest Branch (m): 1.5(NE) Life Stage: Young Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	DBH estimated due to access.	B2	Radius: 1.7m. Area: 9 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain – No other recommendations currently

T003	Lime (<i>Tilia sp.</i>)	Tree 5 stems	Height (m): 6 5 stems (mm): 120, 120, 120, 120, 120 Spread (m): 2.5N, 3E, 2S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 2.5 Lowest Branch (m): 2(E) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species.	B2	Radius: 3.2m. Area: 32 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain – No other recommendations currently
T004	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 4 Stem Diam(mm): 180 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Lowest Branch (m): 1(M) Life Stage: Over Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Over mature hawthorn cloaked in ivy.	C2	Radius: 2.2m. Area: 15 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain – No other recommendations currently

T005	Lime (<i>Tilia sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam(mm): 940 Spread (m): 4N, 6E, 6S, 4.5W Crown Clearance (m): 6 Lowest Branch (m): 5(S) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	This tree is under TPO protection. Southern aspect at base bark damaged and removed from roots (probably) caused by maintenance vehicle access. Hammer taps to the base on the southern aspect indicate abnormal sounds to approximately 1 m, evidence of unidentified fruiting bodies at 0.5 and 0.75 m. Tree has been historically reduced on Northern aspect to stop overhang of tennis courts. Strong epicormic growth throughout Northern aspect. Three sits in the middle of access route to construction area.	A2	Radius: 11.3m. Area: 401 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Decay detect and report any significant defects. Tree has been categorised as “A” due to prominence and TPO, however decay detection results may justify this tree to be downgraded. Risk mitigation works may be necessary.
T006	Horse chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 8 Stem Diam(mm): 530 Spread (m): 4.5N, 5E, 4S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 2(N) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Socket cavity Northern aspect at 2m. Evidence of some decay not considered an issue at this stage. Tree leans in a northerly direction at approximately 15° towards tennis courts.	B2	Radius: 6.4m. Area: 129 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain – No other recommendations currently

T007	Horse chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 8 Stem Diam(mm): 530 Spread (m): 4.5N, 2E, 4S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 4 Lowest Branch (m): 2.5(N) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species	B2	Radius: 6.4m. Area: 129 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain – No other recommendations currently
T008	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 4 Stem Diam(mm): 230 Spread (m): 0N, 3E, 4S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 3(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 30+ Years	DBH and Crown radius estimated due to access.	A2	Radius: 2.8m. Area: 25 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain – No other recommendations currently
T009	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam(mm): 550 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 6.5S, 5.5W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Lowest Branch (m): 4(SE) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Typical for age and species.	A2	Radius: 6.6m. Area: 137 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Moderate	Retain – No other recommendations currently

T010	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 7 Stem Diam(mm): 500 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Lowest Branch (m): 3(SE) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Tree has been historically reduced to its current height and crown spread. Ivy covered.	C2	Radius: 6.0m. Area: 113 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain – No other recommendations currently
T011	Horse chestnut (<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>)	Tree 2 stems	Height (m): 5 2 stems (mm): 260, 420 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Lowest Branch (m): 2(SE) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Tree has historically been reduced to current height and crown spread. Ivy covered, epicormic growth throughout. Evidence of bleeding canker on Southern stem from base to approximately 2m on Southern aspect.	C2	Radius: 5.9m. Area: 109 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain – No other recommendations currently
T012	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam(mm): 480 Spread (m): 4N, 2E, 3S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Lowest Branch (m): 3(E) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Tree has historically been reduced to current height and crown spread, vigorous epicormic growth from reduction points.	C2	Radius: 5.8m. Area: 106 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	Retain – No other recommendations currently

3.5 Definitions of terms

Tree Identification Individual trees are identified with the prefix ‘T’. Groups of trees forming cohesive features, whether aerodynamic (shelter), visual (screening) or cultural (parkland), are identified with the prefix ‘G’. Hedgerows and woodlands are referenced as ‘H’ and ‘W’ respectively.	Age Classification Trees are categorised by age class as follows: • Young (Y): First quarter of life expectancy • Semi-mature (SM): Second quarter • Early Mature (EM): Third quarter • Mature (M): Fourth quarter • Over Mature (OM): Exceeding typical life expectancy • Veteran (V): Exhibiting recognised veteran characteristics
Species Species are recorded by both their common and Latin names within the schedule contained in Appendix C. Within the main body of the report, species are referred to by their common names.	Physiological and Structural Condition The physiological and structural condition of each tree, group, hedgerow and woodland is assessed from ground level. Structural condition is described as Good, Fair or Poor, and physiological condition as Good, Fair, Poor, Moribund or Dead. Where relevant, observations are made regarding form, taper, forking habit, storm damage, decay, fungal fruiting bodies, pests and other defects. Where access is restricted, condition assessments are based on visible external indicators.
Height Tree heights are estimated on site and recorded in metres. All measurements are approximate.	Estimated Remaining Contribution (ERC) The Estimated Remaining Contribution (ERC) is expressed in years and reflects species characteristics alongside the observed physiological and structural condition. Trees with longer anticipated contributions are generally of greater significance in informing development layout and retention decisions.
Stem Diameter Stem diameter for single-stemmed trees is measured at 1.5 metres above ground level and recorded in millimetres. For multi-stemmed trees, each principal stem is measured separately. Where stems fork or exhibit swelling, measurements are taken at the narrowest point below the irregularity. Where access to the trunk is restricted, stem diameter is estimated they are identified within the survey schedule.	Category Grading Each tree has been assigned a category grading in accordance with BS5837:2012, reflecting its overall arboricultural value. Further details of the categorisation methodology are provided in the appendices of this report.
Crown Spread Radial crown spread is measured in metres to the nearest 0.5 metre (rounded up) and recorded for the four cardinal points where access permits. Where access is restricted, measurements are estimated and identified in the survey schedule. The canopy spreads shown on the accompanying plans reflect site measurements.	Preliminary Management Recommendations Any management recommendations provided are advisory and do not constitute a detailed specification for works. Where tree works are recommended, they should be undertaken by a suitably qualified arboricultural contractor in accordance with recognised best practice, including BS3998:2010 – Tree Work: Recommendations. In some cases, further investigation may be recommended to determine the extent or significance of observed defects, or to confirm the assigned category grading. Where management works are advised, an indicative timeframe for implementation is provided.
First Significant Branch and Canopy Height The height and direction of the first significant branch are recorded, together with the average canopy height above ground level.	

4.0 Tree Protection Plan - Recommended Tree Works

Tree Constraints and Protection Plans can be found in the appendices.

Construction of 4m extension to paddle courts.

No mitigation works to existing trees are proposed as part of this phase of the project.

No RPA extends into the proposed area for the construction of hard surfaces.

Appropriate tree protection measures will be required to safeguard retained vegetation. The Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of H001 and T001 to T008 extend into the grassed access track along the southern boundary, which will be used to facilitate construction for the proposed extension of the paddle courts. T005 is in the middle of the track; however, historic modifications to H001 provide sufficient clearance to allow safe access without impacting retained trees. In accordance with BS 5837:2012, suitable ground/floor protection will be installed along the full length of the track (as shown on Tree Protection Plan) to prevent compaction or damage to roots during construction activities.



View of access track from west



View of access track from east

Extensions to Tennis Pavillion

This phase of the works will require the removal of approximately 4m of Hawthorn hedge from the northern end of H002. The proposed works do not extend into the Root Protection Area (RPA) of T012. Protective fencing will be installed at the edge of the existing hardstanding on the northern boundary of T012's RPA, and along approximately 6 m of the western side of the remaining hedge (in accordance with Tree Protection Plan). This is to ensure that construction activities and site access do not encroach into the RPA and afford the remainder of the hedge protection.

The western portion of the site comprises a grassed parking area incorporating cellular matting, which already provides a degree of ground protection for underlying tree roots. Construction activities are not expected to take place within the areas covered by RPAs, and

as such, no additional impact to retained trees is anticipated. To avoid unnecessary disruption to the use of the car park, RPAs within this area are not proposed to be fenced.



Hawthorn hedge to be removed between current storage unit and edge of hard standing, Protective fencing to be installed during construction to protect RPA T012 and retained hedge.

Up to 0.5 m of the southern end of hedge H003 will need to be removed to facilitate construction. To safeguard the retained section of the hedge during works, protective fencing will be installed along approximately 6m of both the western and eastern sides of H003 (in line with Tree Protection Plan). This fencing will prevent encroachment into the Root Protection Area and minimise the risk of root or stem damage during construction activities in accordance with BS 5837:2012.



Upto 0.5m of hedge removed to allow construction, protective fencing to be installed during construction to protect retained hedge.

5.0 Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS).

This method statement has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. It sets out the measures required to protect retained trees and their Root Protection Areas (RPAs) during the proposed development.

Tree Protection

All retained trees and RPAs will be protected in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan (TPP). Protective matting and fencing will be installed as shown on the TPP and maintained for the duration of construction. No materials, plant, spoil, or chemicals shall be stored within RPAs.

Ground Protection

Where temporary access is required within or adjacent to RPAs, protective ground matting will be installed to prevent soil compaction and root damage in line with Tree Protection Plan. The matting will be laid directly on the existing ground surface without excavation and will remain in place for the duration of works in those areas.

Storage of Materials and Equipment

All materials, plant, equipment, spoil, fuel, and chemicals will be stored outside RPAs. Designated storage areas will be clearly communicated to all contractors.

Mixing of Materials

No cement, concrete, mortar, or other materials will be mixed within RPAs. Mixing will take place on a suitable, impermeable surface located outside RPAs to prevent contamination of soil.

Fires

No fires will be lit on site, and burning of waste materials is strictly prohibited to avoid heat damage to trees or roots.

Protection of Tree Stems and Canopies

No plant, machinery, tools, equipment, or materials shall be leaned against or attached to retained trees or hedges. Tree and hedge stems and branches must not be used to support cables, signage, or temporary fixings. Care will be taken to avoid mechanical damage to stems and low branches during all construction activities.

Unexpected Root Encounters

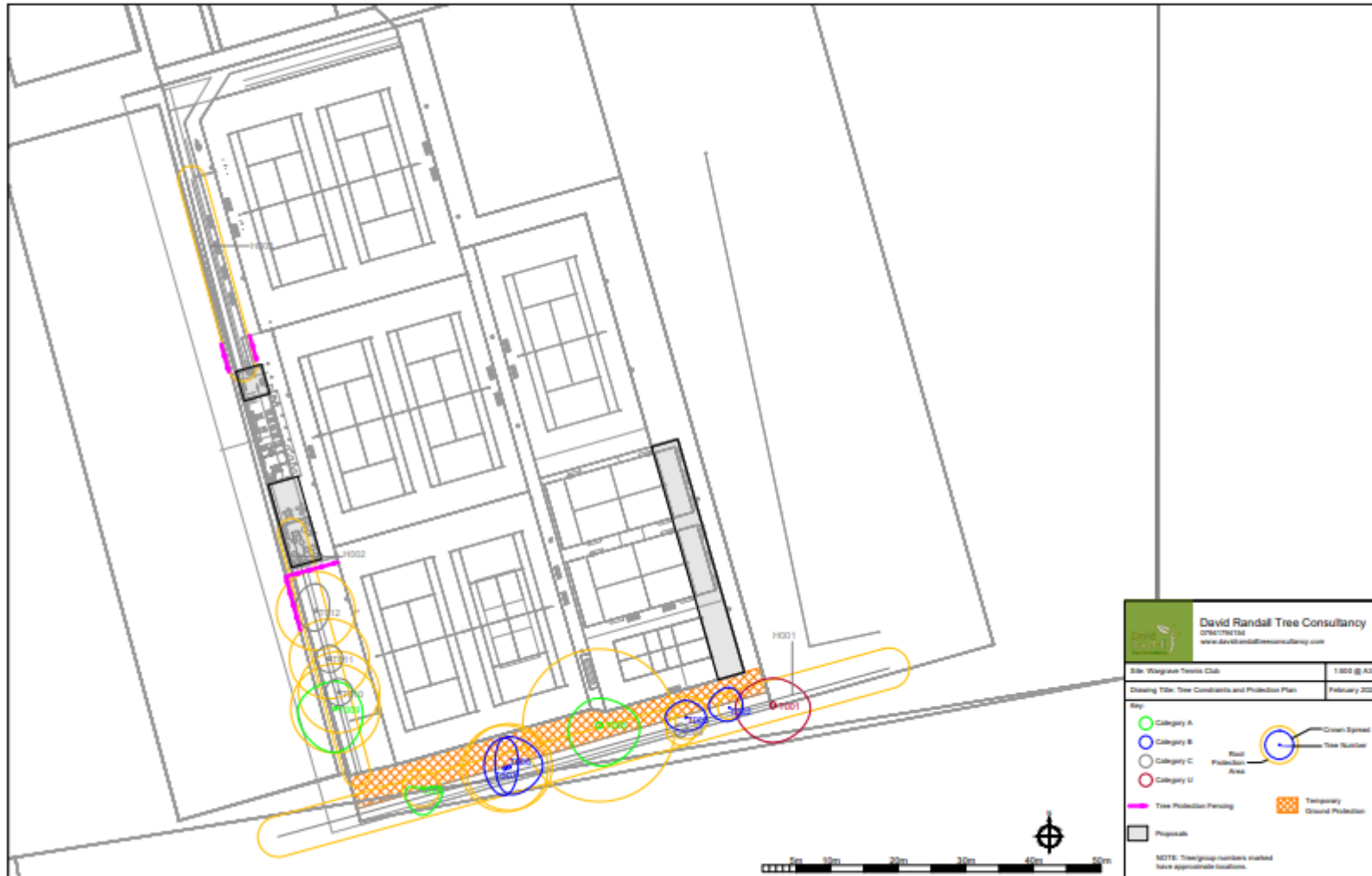
If any roots are unexpectedly exposed during works near RPAs, all works will cease immediately, and the project arboricultural consultant will be notified. Exposed roots will be kept moist and covered until appropriate action is agreed.

Site Supervision and Compliance

All contractors will be briefed on tree protection measures prior to commencing works. Protective ground matting, and other tree protection measures must not be removed, altered, or breached without written approval from the project arboricultural consultant.

6.0 Appendices

6.1 Tree Constraints and Protection Plan (A separate PDF copy will be made available with the Arboricultural report)



6.2 Cascade Chart for Tree Quality (Table 1 BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction)

Category and definition	Criteria (Including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	- Trees that have a serious, Irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after 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 <i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>			See Table 2
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Trees to be considered for retention				
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 wood-pasture)	See Table 2
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 remediable 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	See Table 2
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 150 mm	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	See Table 2

6.3 Tree Protection Methods

Extracts from *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*,
showing best practice for protecting RPA with matting and fencing.

6.2.3.3 New temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.

NOTE The ground protection might comprise one of the following:

- a) for pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- b) for pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
- c) for wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2 t gross weight, an alternative system (e.g. proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier

