Arboricultural Tree Survey©

Site: Liberty House, Earley, Reading RG6 4EA

Client: Reading Almshouse Charity Date: May 2019 Surveyor: Hugo Loudon

Heritage Tree Services Ltd
The Beeches
Stoke Row
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2.0 CONTACT DETAILS

Role	Name	Contact Details
Client	c/o Kate Bessant Reading Alms Houses Charity Clerk to the Trustees	kate@pentonhouse.org.uk
Architect		
Developer		
Local Authority	Wokingham BC	Shute End, Wokingham RG40 1BN 0118 974 6000
Arboriculturist	Hugo Loudon *Cert Arb RFS* *Lantra PTI*	The Beeches Stoke Row Henley on Thames RG9 5RB T: 01491 681185 E: admin@heritagetreeservices.co.uk

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4.0 INTRODUCTION

The owners of Liberty House have instructed us to compile a tree survey at the above site. The Arboriculturist, Hugo Loudon, visited the premises in April 2019 to assess trees on site in order to compile an Arboricultural Method Statement to meet the British Standard 5837 (2012) 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction'. The document herein, must be available for all relevant site personnel and operatives to consult in order to understand that all essential tree protection constraints and safety measures are installed and upheld correctly during the duration of this project. Also, a copy of the Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) outlining trees for retention, their location and their essential protection methods will accompany this document and must be retained on site for reference. Implementation and adherence of the guidelines set out in this document are integral to achieve a successful final result.

5.0 TREES AND THEIR CONSIDERATIONS

- Trees may possibly outlive construction so it is vital to ensure the proposed development is suitably integrated in harmony with existing trees;
- Any conflicting or adverse effects the structural development may impose upon each trees long term healthy existence;
- Healthy trees can be retained for visual screening, wind breaks, defining boundaries, complimenting buildings, future amenity value, and overall benefit to the sites character and enhancement;
- Retention of large, mature, veteran trees may suffer trauma or detrimental growth restrictions following developmental construction;
- Competition for solar gain and space for physical growth in more densely wooded sites;
- Certain healthy arboricultural specimens may be considered worthy of relocating within a design in an attempt to save and prolong life expectancy; the Arboriculturist can advise;
- Autumn leaves falling from deciduous species causing problems with guttering, or fruit making pathway surfaces slippery;
- The root area of each tree and its proximity to planned developmental foundations, boundaries, borders, roads and driveways, and future growth towards, or even into, drainage, services or water supplies;
- Impaction of soil, encroaching upon healthy root areas, by installation of permanent new surfacing on drives and pathways, e.g. paving slabs or tarmac areas;
- The canopy spread of each tree and limb movement throughout high winds; it's future growth potential, taking into consideration any light restriction through windows and glass panels; overhead cabling or lighting schemes and the ease of future pruning;
- The effect the development would have on each specimen's ability to gain light or create shade, depending on the individual species and it's ideal growing habitat;
- Ground level areas to be raised or lowered near to, or within, the protected zones;
- Existing relevant features like streams, trenches, boundary fencing and the location of adjacent trees that may have some impact upon the development;
- Construction activity, paying attention to site access and nearby trees en route;
- Phasing of works;
- Future planting schemes to be incorporated;
- Wildlife living in existing trees.

6.0 THE ARBORICULTURAL TREE SURVEY

TREE or GROUP or HEDGE	**Species Common Name** If tree offsite, record estimated measurements using '#'	**DBH at 1.5m** recorded in mm	Canopy **HEIGHT** in metres + **FIRST BRANCH** in metres from ground level with cardinal direction	**Branch Spread** **N E S W** metres	**Age** **Y SM EM M LM OM Vet**	**SULE** **<10 10+ 20+ 40+**	**General Observations**	**Structural form** **Poor Fair Good Dead**	**Physiological form** **Poor Fair Good Dead**	**BS 5837 RC** **A B C U**	**BS 5837 RPA Radius in metres**	**Recommended works**
T1	Walnut	330	H 9.0m FB 2/W	N 4 E 3 S 5 W 6	EM	40+	General canopy development to west. Beginning to share communal canopy with T2.	G	G	A2	3.9m 48m^2	---
T2	Wild Cherry	370	H 7.5m -	N 5 E 5 S 5 W 4	M	20 - 40	Historic pruning of western laterals due to proximity to T1.	G	G	A2	4.5m 64m^2	---
T3	Cherry	280	H 4.5m FB 2/S	N 2 E 2.5 S 3 W 3	EM	<10	Anaemic and sparse canopy. 40% foliage decline. Considered terminal.	F	P	U	n/a	Fell and replant. Recommended species *Acer campestre.*
T4	Cherry	320	H 6.5m FB 3.5/N	N 3 E 4 S 4 W 4	M	20 - 40	Low lateral over car parking area (damaged) on southern aspect.	G	G	A2	3.9m 48m^2	Remove damaged lateral back to secondary growth.
G5	Sumac	120 160	H 2.5m FB 1.5/E	N 2 E 2 S 2 W 1	SM	20+	Group in shrub form, lacking apical leader. Canopy bias to south.	F	F	C3	Max. 1.8m 10m^2	---
G6	Himalayan Birch	90 - 180	H 6-8.0m FB 3/W	N 3 E 3 S 3 W 3	SM	20+	Attractive group at entrance. Minor defects and bark wounds.	G	G	A2	Max. 2.1m 14m^2	---

G7	Wild Cherry	300 320	H 7.0m FB 3/S	N 4 E 4 S 4 W 4	M	20 - 40	Linear group. Important street scene amenity value.	G	G	A2	Max. 3.9m 48m^2	---
T8	Walnut	170	H 8.0m FB 3/S	N 4 E 1 S 3 W 4	SM	40+	Canopy bias to west.	F	G	B2	2.1m 14m^2	---
T9	Cherry	320	H 10.0m FB 4/W	N 4 E 4 S 4 W 4	M	20 - 40	Sub stem to east. Previous pruning stubs remain in canopy.	F	F	C1	3.9m 48m^2	---
G10	Field Maple	30 90	H 3-6.0m FB 3/W	N 1-3 E 1-3 S 1-3 W 1-3	EM - SM	40+	Tightly planted group, perhaps lapsed hedge. Various pruning works mainly to the west.	F	F	B2	Max. 1.2m 5m^2	---
G11	Mountain Ash	30 - 130	H 4.5m FB 2.5m	N 1-3 E 1-3 S 1-2.5 W 1-2	SM	20+	Slightly sparse canopy possibly caused by lack of root volume and reflecting heat from car park.	F	F	C1	Max. 1.5m 7m^2	---
T12	Amelanchier	30 80 60	H 5.0m FB 2/E	N 3 E 3 S 3 W 3	SM	20+	Multi stem shrub form.	G	G	C2	1.2m 5m^2	---
T13A + T13B	Ornamental Cherry	100 170	H 4.5m FB 2/E	N 2-4 E 2-4 S 2-4 W 2-4	SM	20 - 40	T13A showing some upper canopy decline. Radial root damage.	F	F	B3	1.2m 5m^2 2.1m 14m^2	Treat T13A with Biochar and install mulch circle.

		
T1 Walnut (right) with Wild Cherry (T2) to centre. T3 can be just seen to the left.	G7 – a linear group of Wild Cherries with important amenity value.	G6. Note supressed tree to right (most likely lacking in rooting volume), which can be sacrificed for new parking.
		
G6. Red line indicates further parking beyond towards doorway.	G6. Red line indicates further parking beyond towards doorway.	

	
In order to safeguard more superior trees (and their root protection areas), it is suggested that the Rowans be removed (G11). This will allow more parking in a broadly similar footprint.	Rowan with some defects and breakages associated with vehicular activity.

7.0 ARBORICULTURAL SURVEY KEY

The survey, unless otherwise stipulated, is based on the qualified Arboriculturist making trained observations from ground level.

KEY to SURVEY	Explanation and Units
T or GR or H	Tree/Group numbers on enclosed plan – (T=tree; Gr=group; H=hedge)
Species	Defined in Latin and/or Common names. Estimated dimensions (e.g. for off-site or otherwise inaccessible trees where accurate data cannot be recovered) are suffixed with a # symbol.
DBH	The **Diameter at Breast Height** measures the girth of the stem in millimeters at 1.5metres above ground level in accordance with Forestry Commission specifications.
Height	Approximate **height** of tree canopy recorded in metres. Also first significant branch height and its cardinal direction.
Canopy Spread	Approximate **Canopy Spread** recorded in metres with cardinal growth direction given where appropriate; N, E, S, W.
Age	**Y:** **Young** tree less than fifteen years old and <1/3 fully grown. **SM:** **Semi-mature** tree having attained 1/3 to 2/3 full stature and 1/3 to ½ estimated lifespan. **EM:** **Early mature** tree at 2/3 to virtually full size, and halfway through its safe life. **M:** **Mature** fully-grown tree with safe useful life expectancy. **LM:** **Late Mature** fully grown tree, possibly declining in vigor yet many years of safe life expected. **OM:** **Over-mature** tree fully grown, possibly declining in vigor with possible historic or ecological value. **Vet:** **Veteran** usually very old and of significant historic, habitat or cultural value.
SULE	Remaining **Safe Useful Life Expectancy** recorded using the following statistics: <10 years, 10+, 20+ or 40+ years.
Observations	**Root Condition:** The visual assessment of the rooting area, taking into consideration any evidence or physical damage, soil compaction or heave, excavation work and/or drainage problems. **Stem Condition:** The visual assessment of the stem and main scaffold branches observing any visible faults and wounds, and other exterior signs which may suggest possibility of internal compromise. If decay is suspected, a sounding hammer will be used. **Leaf & Bud:** The visual assessment of the amount and condition of foliage cover, and/or bud development, when compared against the foliage of the surrounding trees of the same species.
Structural and Physiological Form	**Poor / Fair / Good / Dead**
BS5837 RC	**Retention Category** **Category A** = High quality or value and a life expectancy of 40+ years **Category B** = Moderate quality or value and a life expectancy of 20+ years. **Category C** = Low quality or value with a life expectancy of at least 10 year or a stem diameter below 150mm. **Category U** = Trees that are dead or dying, or infected with pathogens, or where loss is anticipated, or if suppressing adjacent trees of superior quality. **Sub division:** **Category 1** = Aboriculturally significant, rare and good examples of specific species. **Category 2** = Considered visually valuable to the landscape, either individually or in groups. **Category 3** = Significant habitat conservation value with possible historical or commemorative importance.
BS5837 RPA	The **Root Protection Area** is measured in meters, and meters squared, specifically calculated to ascertain the placement of specialist protective fencing with an allowance of plus or minus 20% in any one direction.
Recommended Works	The Arboriculturists recommendations for any tree surgery work and requirements for re-inspection or testing.

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Specific - Trees
All tree inspections, unless specified, have been undertaken from ground level and using non-invasive techniques. Comments contained within the report on the condition and risk associated with any tree relate to the condition of the tree at the date and time of survey. Please note that the condition of trees is subject to change. This change may occur, but is not limited to biological and non-biological factors as well as mechanical/ physical changes to conditions in the proximity of the tree. Trees should be inspected at intervals relative to identified site risks and in accordance with relevant HSE and Central Government guidance. Heritage Tree Services Ltd can provide further information on this matter if required.

Please note, no statutory control checks have been undertaken (unless specified). Where tree surgery works have been identified these works are based on the assumption that planning is approved. No tree works should be undertaken prior to determination of this application without up to date confirmation of the Tree Preservation Order / Conservation Area Status of the vegetation. All works should be undertaken in accordance with the appropriate Duty of Care. This should include, for example, site specific risk assessments and due diligence inspections for the presence of protected species.

Any comment relating to 3rd party trees has been made without full access to the tree(s). Should these trees have any impact on the proposed development we would advise you to instruct us to contact the 3rd party and undertake further inspection work.

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