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**Arboricultural Impact Assessment:
Hammonds Way, Hinckley, LE10 3EJ**

Prepared for:
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Northfield Road
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1. Introduction and background

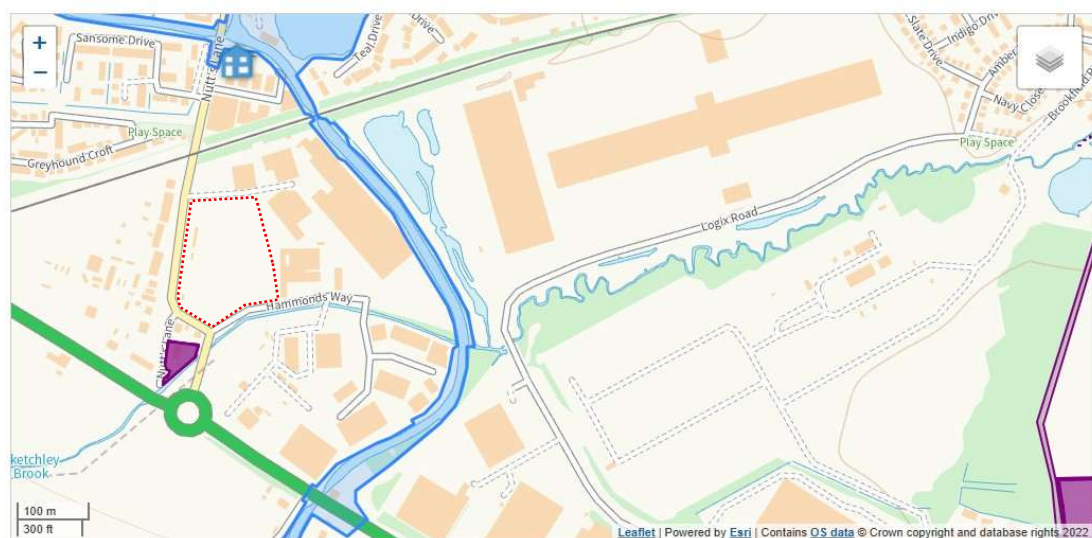
- 1.1 I received instruction from Project Landscape Architects BCA Design Ltd to prepare an Arboricultural Impact Assessment for the development known as Hammonds Way on behalf of Graftongate and the applicant Hinckley Investment LLP. The site concerns the proposed redevelopment of former undeveloped sports pitch land associated with the Hammonds Furniture factory.
- 1.2 National recommendations for the consideration of existing trees in a development context are set out within BS5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*. The process of an Arboricultural Impact Assessment is detailed within section 5.4 of that Standard and, where applicable, this document has been structured to accord with these recommendations.
- 1.3 I prepared a Pre-Development Tree Survey of the site in October 2025, having been provided with a Topographical Survey. This assessment consisted of an objective, tree-focused survey without reference to any development layout and has provided the baseline arboricultural information that has been built upon within this Assessment.
- 1.4 Having regard to the arboricultural constraints identified during the initial survey, I have assessed a proposed development layout and construction operations so far as detailed at this stage. As is the nature of development of this scale, certain elements of the final design are yet to be completed and therefore the methodology for these elements and the construction is addressed in principle and will require further review.
- 1.5 This Assessment is to be read in conjunction with the following drawings prepared by Project Landscape Architects BCA Design Ltd under contract number 2445/25:
 - Drawing 03: Tree Constraints Plan
 - Drawing 04: Tree Retention, Protection and Removal Plan
 - Drawing 05: Landscape Concept Plan
- 1.6 The site consists of an existing undeveloped former sports pitch and/or recreation ground associated with the Hammonds Furniture factory. Part of the site is sublet to Eon for use as a Highway Lighting Department consisting of areas of hardstanding and storage, both open and within modular buildings/shipping containers etc. The total application area extends to 2 hectares with the majority being the undeveloped former sports pitch. It is evident that this had become heavily overgrown. However, ahead of my site survey areas of overgrown vegetation had been flailed and mulched.

- 1.7 To the boundaries of the sports field, there are existing soil bunds and existing boundary fencing. The bunds have clearly been in place for many years, likely coming about during the formation of the sports pitch, with some of the more opportunistic components of the tree cover having self-seeded near the base or within the toe of the bund itself. A further fence line divides the remaining sports pitch area from the Eon compound.
- 1.8 The local planning authority is Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and reference to their online Tree Preservation Order information confirms that the Council does not currently administer any Tree Preservation Orders with any direct bearing upon the application area. The nearest Tree Preservation Order relates to the private property known as Roman Way, off Nutts Lane dating to 2001.
- 1.9 The Ashby Canal Conservation Area corridor lies to the east of the main Hammonds Furniture factory and, whilst this affords initial protection to trees within, this has no bearing upon the application area.

Figure 1: Extract of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's protected trees mapping information with the maroon polygon showing the nearest Tree Preservation Order at Roman Way, Nutts Lane, Hinckley and the blue line showing the Ashby Canal Conservation Area. The approximate extent of the application area is edged in a dashed red line.

Tree preservation order - online map

[Home](#) > Tree preservation order - online map



- 1.10 As the former sports field does not appear to have been a public registered park then due to the location of the application area, the provisions of the Forestry Act 1967 (as amended) apply in regard to the potential requirement for a Forestry Commission felling licence should a significant volume of tree removal be proposed ahead of the granting of full detailed planning permission. Limited tree removal and/or clearance may be appropriate. However, further arboricultural advice must be sought ahead of receiving full detailed planning permission.
- 1.11 In terms of the general growth context for trees at the site, referring to British Geological Survey's Geology of Britain Viewer, the site has a recorded bedrock of Mercia mudstone with superficial deposits of alluvium including clay, silt, sand and gravel. The superficial deposit range is variable. However, due to the potential for clay, soils at the site should be considered as potentially vulnerable pending further more detailed soil analysis. Further arboricultural advice should be sought in terms of the moisture demand for retained trees in relation to proposed nearby structures and their foundations. However, this is beyond the scope of this report.
- 1.12 This report is presented in the following format:
- Section 2: Review of the tree cover
 - Section 3: The development and impact upon trees
 - Section 4: Construction phase protection
 - Section 5: Conclusions
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 - Appendix 1: Preliminary Arboricultural Method Statement
 - Appendix 2: Pre-Development Tree Survey of October 2025

2. Review of the tree cover

- 2.1 My arboricultural survey took account of 21 features at the site which can be broken down into a single hedge (located just beyond the application area), eight small groups of trees and 12 individual trees.
- 2.2 Features tree 6, tree 8, group G14 and group G21 were assessed as Retention Category U, meaning that they are unsuitable for longer term retention in their current setting and thus are not a material planning consideration. Of the remainder of the trees, lime trees 10 to 13 inclusive were of the highest Category A rating and collectively form the principal arboricultural feature at the site.
- 2.3 Lime tree 9 was partially obscured, resulting in only a limited assessment. However, initially the tree was assessed as having a Retention Category B value. All of the remaining features, with the exception of unclassified hedge H15, were of Retention Category C value.
- 2.4 The surveyed tree cover is illustrated within the photographs below.

Photograph 1: Showing tree 1, the purple leafed plum, growing to the internal site boundary of the former sports pitch.



Photograph 2: Showing group G2 consisting of two Lawson cypress. The trees are of only mediocre arboricultural value with some conflict evident of the internal footway surface which was cracked due to the action of surface roots.



Photograph 3: Showing tree 3 growing from the base of the existing bund.



Photograph 4: Looking towards group G4, group G5, tree 6 and tree 7. Note the existing bund adjacent to the boundary on the left hand side of the image and the internal fencing segregating the open former playing field from the adjacent Eon compound.



Photograph 5: View along the roadside frontage with mature lime trees 9 to 13 inclusive with hedge H15 on the road side.



Photograph 6: Showing the same lime trees from within the compound, noting the existing hardstanding and storage in proximity.



Photograph 7: Noting the narrow width soft verge in which the lime trees grow with existing parking within the root protection areas.



Photograph 8: Showing trees within group G16, trees 17 and 18 and group G19. Trees in group G19 grow from the base of the bund.



- 2.5 Upon assessment, the principal arboricultural feature at the site is the lime trees adjacent to Nutts Lane. Although assessed individually within the survey, when viewed from the public frontage they form a collective, high value feature and, although they are mature, they still have considerable longevity.
- 2.6 Hedge H15, just beyond the application area, also provides connectivity to the group of lime trees as well as linking them together in terms of a landscape corridor.
- 2.7 The remainder of the trees are either of more recent, opportunistic self-set form and of modest to low arboricultural value or are ornamental modest trees with limited longevity.

3. The development and impact upon trees

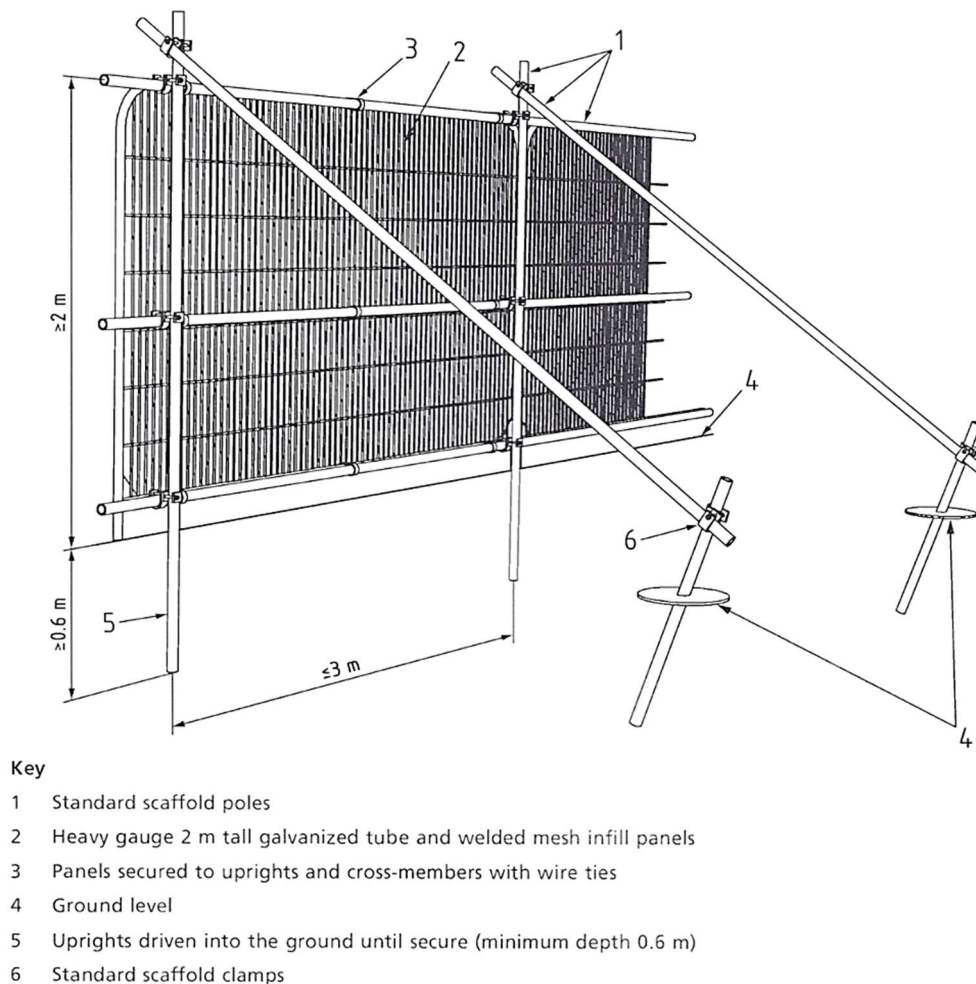
- 3.1 The proposed development will provide an industrial/logistics unit within flexible B2/B8 use class (general industrial/storage and distribution) alongside associated landscaping, yard parking, access and other supporting infrastructure. There will be a new vehicular access off Hammonds Way providing access into the HGV service yard but also the internal car park. The existing landscape bund will be removed with the exception of where within the root protection area of any retained trees.
- 3.2 The extent of the tree removal to facilitate the proposed development is clearly shown on the associated Tree Retention, Protection and Removal Plan. The retained trees are trees 1, 3, 10, 11, 12 and 13, hedge H15 and tree 17 with all others being removed to facilitate the proposed layout.
- 3.3 Trees 1 and 3 are only of mediocre value but are retained within dedicated landscape zones where locally they will add to the age diversity and structure of the new landscaping that will be invested around them, ensuring the long term continuity of tree cover.
- 3.4 The only significant tree to be removed is lime tree 9 that was provisionally assessed only and awarded a Category B retention value. This proposed removal is due to the car parking formation, and no arboricultural justification is provided.
- 3.5 Category A lime trees 10 to 13 inclusive are all retained within a dedicated landscape zone that fully encompasses their root protection areas. Noting that much of the root protection area on the eastern side is subject to existing hardstanding, storage containers etc then given that the wider landscaping zone will be remediated to remove any existing hardstanding and return to soft landscaped ground conditions, this is betterment in the long term.

- 3.6 New trees will be established in amongst to substantiate this boundary, both by way of thicket mix planting and extra heavy standard trees. This will ensure long term betterment to the sensitive boundary with the residential properties to the far side of Nutts Lane.
- 3.7 Referring to the Landscape Concept Plan, a significant number of new trees are invested in a more visually conspicuous boundary zone such that in the long term the proposed landscaping will clearly surpass the visual amenity value of the current limited tree cover, more than mitigating the loss of the limited number of existing trees required to facilitate the proposal.
- 3.8 It will be necessary to retain some of the bunded area where within the root protection area of retained goat willow tree 3. However, this appears appropriate given that the surrounding area will be subject to thicket mix plantation in any event. Otherwise, all retained trees fall within dedicated landscaping zones, meaning that post-construction they will have every opportunity to reach their full potential in terms of size , stature and longevity.

4. Construction phase protection

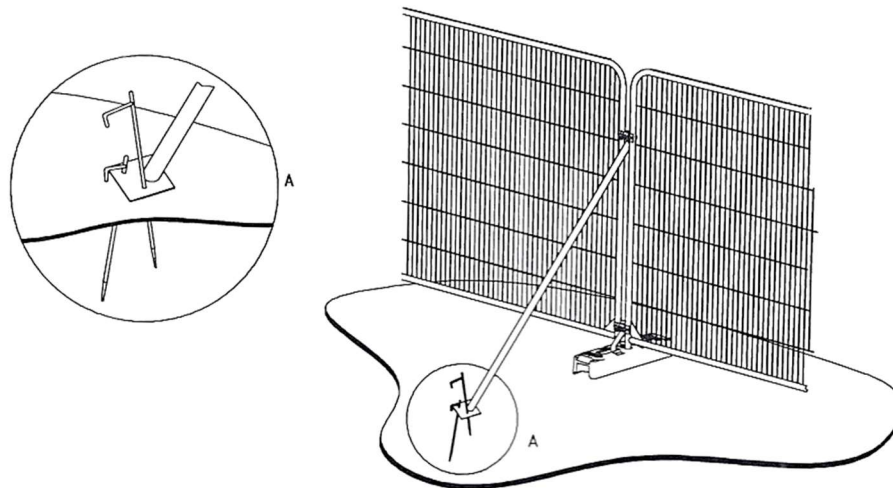
- 4.1 Following the granting of all necessary permissions and prior to the commencement of all construction related work on site, it is necessary to first undertake the removal of the identified trees and remedial pruning works specified for remaining trees. The timing of tree works in relation to ecological restrictions will need to be further considered and the methodology for the works will be confirmed within a finalised Arboricultural Method Statement.
- 4.2 Immediately following tree works and ahead of any other construction related activity on site, a robust tree protection scheme shall be implemented to protect all remaining trees and their secured root protection areas and/or structural landscaping zones from construction related activity. The alignment of the tree protection barrier is to accord with the Tree Retention, Protection and Removal Plan.
- 4.3 Where working access is required that encroaches into protected areas, appropriate ground protection measures may be necessary and will be reviewed within the finalised Arboricultural Method Statement.
- 4.4 Where possible and where space allows, the default protection barrier erected to the alignment shown on the Tree Retention, Protection and Removal Plan is to accord with Figure 2 of BS5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*.

Extract from BS5837: 2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, Figure 2 Default specification of protective barrier

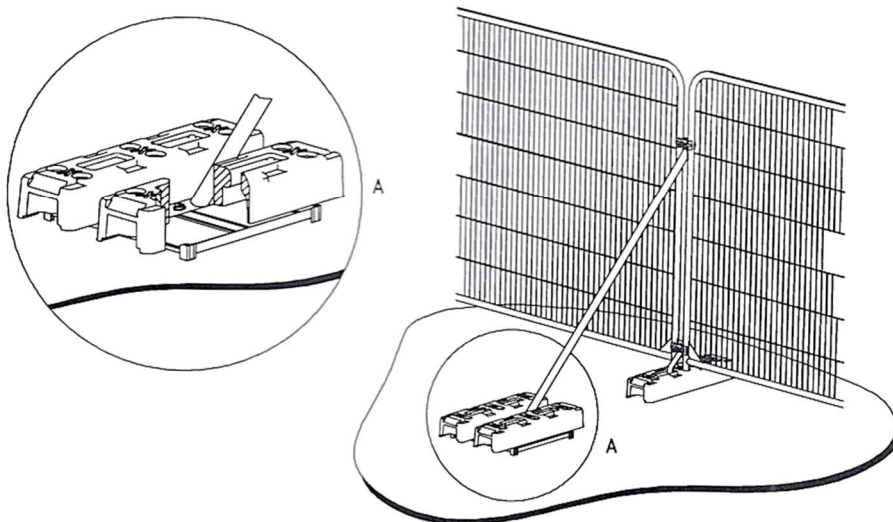


- 4.5 However, given the changes in ground level and/or the need for construction access within identified sections of root protection areas, in places the tree protection barrier will be a combination of Figure 2 and the slightly more flexible construction based upon Heras weldmesh panels as detailed within Figure 3 a and b.

Extract from BS5837: 2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins



b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

- 4.6 Where possible, preference is to be given to vertical scaffold poles to provide rigidity. However, where changes in ground level or existing embankments prohibit this, other forms of anchorage are appropriate. However, suitable reinforcing with cross bracing is essential to ensure that the barriers remain fit-for-purpose and not subject to premature dismantling or easy alteration during the works.
- 4.7 Once erected, the barrier must be considered sacrosanct and protected areas must not be subject to any form of development related activity, in particular excavation or any ground alterations.

- 4.8 The protection barrier shall not be removed, or the alignment altered or temporarily dismantled, without the agreement of the Project Arboriculturalist and, where necessary, the consent of the local planning authority.
- 4.9 At around 20m linear intervals, waterproof signs are to be fixed to the hoarding or protective barriers with wording facing the side of main construction activity stating: Construction Exclusion Zone – Keep Out.
- 4.10 Sheet material and/or wooden hoarding shall not be attached to the barriers where this would hinder monitoring of protected areas behind.
- 4.11 The responsibility for monitoring the protection measures and maintaining them in an appropriate fit-for-purpose condition throughout the full course of development must be clearly assigned to site management personnel.
- 4.12 No fires should be lit within 10m of the outside of any tree protection measures.
- 4.13 If appropriate, dampening down measures should be employed during demolition to avoid excessive dust affecting the trees, which is particularly pertinent if the demolition is undertaken during the active growth season.
- 4.14 When working beyond the tree protection areas, careful consideration must be given to activities that could indirectly affect the protected soil beneath or beyond. In particular, this includes the spillage of phytotoxic fluids including chemicals such as oils, fuels and alkaline leachate and non-cured concrete or mortar slurry.
- 4.15 The location of any temporary welfare buildings or facilities are to avoid the tree protection areas and there must be no temporary service connections encroaching into the protected soil zones.
- 4.16 Static internal combustion engines such as those associated with generators should not be positioned so that exhaust emissions are directed towards remaining trees.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 To implement the scheme, it is only necessary to remove a modest number of low value trees along with one single Category B lime tree. All of the highest Category A features are retained.
- 5.2 In respect of the Category A limes trees, these will be retained within an area of dedicated landscaping zone whereas currently they are subject to areas of existing car parking/hardstanding, storage containers and infrastructure with which there is often a modest level of current conflict.

- 5.3 The removal of these structures, including existing hardstanding, and the remediation of the soil in close proximity can be effected in accordance with controlled arboricultural methodology which is necessary to ensure that there is no unintended negative impact. Following this process, the long term change in regime of the ground use in close proximity to these high quality retained trees will result in significant betterment, noting that the trees still have considerable potential longevity.
- 5.4 The proposed landscaping concept will deliver significant new tree planting around the boundaries of the site where more conspicuous, and this will deliver a long term improvement to the visual amenities of the site.
- 5.5 It is demonstrated that the trees may be protected in accordance with best practice with such safeguarding being entirely plausible to be addressed by way of a suitably worded planning condition attached to any future grant of consent. There will be a requirement for on-site arboricultural monitoring to ensure adequate tree protection.
- 5.6 On the basis that the site is appropriate for commercial redevelopment on policy grounds and given that the high value trees and arboricultural features are retained, the scheme is acceptable on arboricultural grounds.

Signed:



Ben Bennett BSc (Hons) For, Cert Arb (RFS), MArborA
Director, BB Trees Ltd

Appendix 1: Preliminary Arboricultural Method Statement

Pre-commencement tree works

- A1.1 Tree removal is strictly to be in accordance with the finalised Tree Retention, Protection and Removal Plan.
- A1.2 The need for any access facilitation pruning is to be further considered in light of detailed design and is to be specified in a finalised Arboricultural Method Statement. There are a number of boundary trees that feature crowns which overhang beyond the extent of any root protection areas. The risk posed to these trees due to tall construction plant and machinery must be fully considered, with appropriate pruning being prescribed where necessary.
- A1.3 In general terms, all tree works are to comply with BS3998:2010 *Tree work – Recommendations* wherever applicable and are to be undertaken by a specialist and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor.
- A1.4 Wherever possible, tree works, in particular the removal of dense tree groups with overgrown ground vegetation, are to be undertaken outside of the closed bird nesting season, typically extending from March until July. Should any tree works be required within this period then further specialist ecological advice shall be sought. It is also appropriate to consider any other ecological restrictions due to protected species which may apply to the site.
- A1.5 Tree works are to be subject to future arboricultural advice to ensure that any necessary consents are in hand, which is particularly pertinent to tree works to be undertaken ahead of the granting of full detailed planning permission.
- A1.6 Should stump removal be required within the root protection area of any remaining trees, such stumps will be removed in accordance with future arboricultural advice, typically using a specialist arboricultural stump grinder to ensure roots for nearby remaining trees are not unacceptably damaged.

Ground protection

- A1.7 It is intended to safeguard the full extent of the identified protected zones by virtue of a robust protection barrier, avoiding the requirement for ground protection. Should temporary construction access be required into these areas then the need for ground protection is to be further considered by an Arboriculturalist.

- A1.8 In order to be acceptable, ground protection measures are to be designed specifically for the weight they require to bear, without contributing to compaction of the underlying soil. Generally, permeability is preferable but is to be reviewed in relation to the risk of soil pollution, taking into account the duration for which protection is required and the extent of surfacing in relation to the root protection areas of retained trees.

New service connections

- A1.9 All associated excavation and trenching associated with new services are to occur beyond the root protection area of any remaining tree or group as identified on the Tree Constraints Plan.

Landscaping within root protection areas

- A1.10 Substantial planting pits associated with larger new trees are to be avoided within the root protection area of any remaining trees or vegetation. Landscaping proposed within protected zones is to be undertaken without deep mechanical cultivation, typically being restricted to notch planting of only small whips or cell grown trees or shrubs.

Arboricultural monitoring

- A1.11 Arboricultural monitoring and future input is envisaged. This shall include providing a detailed specification for any necessary tree works including the identification of trees on site if necessary. The appointed project Arboriculturalist should also confirm the correct installation of the tree protection scheme prior to the commencement of the main construction activity and will also undertake monitoring visits. In particular, additional arboricultural input is required in relation to:

- Fence installation.
- The identification of a sustainable, retained tree edge where groups are subject to part clearance, along with any associated remedial tree works ahead of new planting.
- Any changes in ground levels near retained trees.

- A1.12 Should at any stage of construction activity it appear that to proceed with the approved development will result in conflict with retained trees then further arboricultural advice must be sought by contacting Ben Bennett at ben@bbtrees.co.uk or 07949 797656.

Appendix 2: Pre-Development Tree Survey of October 2025

A2. Tree survey assessment notes

A2.1 This tree survey has been structured to accord with the requirements of Sections 4.4 and 4.5 of British Standard 5837 of 2012: *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations*. The columns in the tree survey assessment refer to the following items:

Tree/Group number: Tree reference number as shown on drawing.

Common name *Botanical name*: Identifies individual species by common name. For avoidance of doubt the botanical name is shown *in italics*.

Tree height: Estimated height of the tree in metres.

Stem diameter: Diameter of the trunk(s) measured in accordance with Annex C of the Standard and expressed in millimetres.

Branch spread: Measured radial spread of the crown broken down into the four main compass points and expressed in metres.

Height above ground level of: Estimated measurement (in metres) to inform on ground clearance, crown/stem ratio and shading presented in two sub-categories:

- First significant branch (at point of attachment with parent stem) and direction of growth (eg 2.4 N).
- Canopy ie assessment of clearance above ground of lowest branch tips. Where irregular, and potentially significant towards development proposal, direction of assessed crown height has been added.

NB: For tree height, stem diameter and branch spread, the measurement conventions are as follows:

- Height and crown spread are recorded to the nearest half metre (crown spread being rounded up) for dimensions up to 10m and the nearest whole metre for dimensions over 10m.
- Stem diameter is recorded in millimetres (using a calibrated girth tape), rounded up to the nearest 10mm (0.01m).
- Estimated dimensions (eg for off-site or otherwise inaccessible trees where accurate data cannot be recovered) are identified by being suffixed with a #.

Life stage: The estimated age: young, semi mature, early mature, mature or over mature, shown as Y, SM, EM, M or OM respectively.

Physiological condition: Physiological condition being good, fair, poor or dead, shown as A, B, C or D respectively.

Structural condition: Structural condition being good, fair, poor or dangerous (eg collapsing, the presence of decay and physical defects), shown as A, B, C or D respectively.

General observations, including preliminary management recommendations: Particularly of structural and/or physiological condition, including further investigations of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment and potential for wildlife habitat.

Estimated remaining contribution in years (RC): <10, 10–20, 20–40 or >40.

Retention category (RC): Categorisation of survey trees in accordance with Section 4.5 and Table 1 of the Standard.

- **U (dark red):** 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 (eg 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.

NOTE: Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value that it might be desirable to preserve.

- **A (light green):** Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.

Mainly arboricultural qualities: Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or those that are essential components of groups or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (eg the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue). Indicated by 1 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

Mainly landscape qualities: Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features. Indicated by 2 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

Mainly cultural values, including conservation: Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (eg veteran trees or wood-pasture). Indicated by 3 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

- **B (mid blue):** Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.

Mainly arboricultural qualities: Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (eg 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. Indicated by 1 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

Mainly landscape qualities: 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. Indicated by 2 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

Mainly cultural values, including conservation: Trees with material conservation or other cultural value. Indicated by 3 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

- **C (grey):** Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.

Mainly arboricultural qualities: Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories. Indicated by 1 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

Mainly landscape qualities: 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. Indicated by 2 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

Mainly cultural values, including conservation: Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value. Indicated by 3 in brackets after the appropriate category classification.

Trees were inspected by Ben Bennett from ground level only on Friday 24 October 2025. Weather conditions were dry, bright and sunny with good visibility from ground level. Trees within the lighting compound often featured restricted access. However, where pertinent, this has been noted in the survey assessment.

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
1	Pissard's plum <i>Prunus pissardii</i>	7.5	310	N 4.5 E 4.5 S 3.5 W 3.5	1.7 E	1.5–2	M	B	B/C	Planted at around 1m to rear of footway and previously crown lifted to give necessary clearance. Of basal graft origin but with multiple suckers growing around the base; some of which emanate from beneath the graft line and are of plain green leafed form. Minor patches of necrotic bark between root buttresses. Typical dense congested crown with many watershoots. Carefully cut back basal suckers and remove any low epicormic growth so that there is a clear trunk height of at least 1.5m. Further crown lift to give 2.7m clearance over the footway to provide long term clearance, including when in fruit.	20–40	C (2+3)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
G2	2no Lawson cypress <i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	7	270 Northern tree 260 Southern tree	Up to 2.5 in all directions	1	0.3–2.5	SM	B/C	B	Trees planted adjacent to section of footway that is surfaced in cast-in-situ concrete that has become cracked opposite the southernmost tree in the group. Trees grow at an offset of 0.3m to the rear of the footway. The southernmost tree has an electricity feed and a downlighter attached to the trunk at 2.6m, likely defunct. Both trees show slightly reduced vigour with less than optimum foliage density. Monitor displacement of footway, which will be ongoing. Monitor vigour.	20–40	(C) (2)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
3	Goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i>	3	90 (mean) X 6	Up to 2.5 in all directions	N/A	0	SM	A	C	Tree of self-seeded origin growing with bund that raises to approximately 1.8m higher than the level of the field. Of coppice regeneration, having previously been removed to near ground level but having regenerated. Multiple crossing and chafing branches; some with clear acute main forks. No works required at present. Unsuitable for growth into full maturation adjacent to roadside boundary.	20–40	C (3)
G4	Silver birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	Up to 10	Up to 230	Up to 4 2 (average)	0.3	0 NW	Y/SM	B	B	Self-seeded trees dominated by single taller specimen. Of average form but free from significant defect. If group be retained, keep easternmost young tree and central largest stemmed specimen only such that they would have room for long term development.	>40	(C) (2+3)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
G5	2no goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i>	5	Up to 75 (mean) X 7	Up to 3	N/A	0.3	SM	B	B/C	Two self-seeded trees that have previously been cut down but have regenerated as coppice stools with multiple stems emerging from ground level. Both trees grow to the lower toe of the soil bund that runs around the perimeter of the site. No works required at present.	>40	(C) (3)
6	Goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i>	4.5	80 (mean) X 7	Up to 3 in all directions	N/A	0.4	SM	C	C	Growing at base of bund. Festooned by bramble with low growth having been flailed back on the internal site side resulting in many torn branches. Remove.	<10	U
7	Goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i>	8	320# 270# 180# 170# 160#	N 6.5 E 6# S 5.5# W 6.5#	N/A	0.6	EM	A/B	B/C	A larger goat willow that has self-sown within the corner of the site at the base of the bund. Indications of previously having been cut down and regenerated. Low branches grow through palisade fence surrounding adjacent lighting compound. Dense bramble growth extending through lower crown. Numerous secondary branches have been snapped during windy weather and remain part cleft. No works required at present.	20–40	C (3+2)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
8	Goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i>	6.5	90 (mean) X 8	Up to 4	N/A	1.5 near base	EM	B	C	Self-seeded multi-stemmed coppice regeneration between containers with crown growth resting on roof of adjacent containers and conflict with palisade fence. Remove.	<10	U
9	Broad leaved lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> 'RUBRA'	11	470#	N 3.5# E 4# S 5.5# W 3.5	3.8	0	EM	B	B#	No access to base of tree. Surrounded by dense basal suckers of up to 65mm in diameter. Low growth cut back previously to give clearance to containers and to maintain CCTV lines of sight. Internodal pruning but minimal branch dieback. Clear around base of tree. Carefully cut back basal suckers and remove ivy and strip from lowest 1.5m of trunk. Reinspect. RC provisional only.	>40	B (2+3)
10	Broad leaved lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> 'RUBRA'	14	450	N 4# E 4.5 S 5# W 5.5	1.8 S	2.5 N	EM	A	B	Stoned down hardstanding tight to base. Dense basal suckers. Crudely crown lifted previously on northern side but no branch dieback. Indications of good vigour. Cut back basal suckers and sever establishing ivy.	>40	A (2+3)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
11	Broad leaved lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> 'RUBRA'	13	460	N 6 E 5 S 4.5 W 5.5#	2.6 W	3	EM	A	B	Dense basal suckers that have been cut back to short stalks surround base, obscuring lower trunk/root crown from inspection. Existing tarmac hardstanding within 1m due east of trunk base. Previously crown lifted but unoccluded wounds. Further internodal crown lifting of secondary growth at above 2.6m from ground level but no branch dieback. Cut back basal suckers and clear vegetation from around base. Sever establishing ivy. Remove epicormic growth from lower trunk to give clean trunk height of 2.2m.	>40	A (2+3)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
12	Broad leafed lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> 'RUBRA'	14	480#	N 5.5# E 5# S 5.5 W 6#	2.5 W	3	EM	A	B#	Limited access close to tree due to adjacent containers and stockpiled materials. Extensive basal suckers extending to around 3.5m above ground level. No access to trunk at all. Previous crude crown lifting on eastern side over containers. As best as practicable, cut back basal suckers but avoid, at this stage, creating any potential pruning wounds greater than 80mm adjacent to the trunk. Reinspect. RC provisional only.	>40	A (2+3)
13	Broad leafed lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i> 'RUBRA'	12	590 over light ivy	N 5 E 4.5 S 4.5 W 5.5#	1.8 NW	2.6 E	EM	A	B	Dense basal sucker stalks within 1.5m of trunk base. Cut long and still obscuring much of root crown from inspection. Low epicormic growth and a light cladding of ivy that extends to 4.5m above ground level. Crudely pruned back lower branches on northern and eastern sides over parking area. Some torn branch ends but no significant dieback. Upper crown maintains good vigour. Cut back basal suckers. Remove low epicormic growth of less than 80mm in diameter to provide a clean trunk height of 2.5m above ground level.	>40	A (2+3)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
G14	Wild cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	4.5	Up to 100	Up to 1.5 in all directions	N/A	1.6	Y	B	C	Self-seeded wild cherry suckers from old stumps growing in amongst stockpiled materials. Remove while modest in size.	<10	(U)
H15	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> English elm <i>Ulmus procera</i> Dog rose <i>Rosa canina</i> Blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> Midland thorn <i>Crataegus laevigata</i> Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Up to 6.5 3–4 (average)	Up to 200	W Up to 2 E 1	N/A	0	M	B–D	B–D	Overgrown boundary hedge. Ditch to highway side (holding water at time of assessment). Single multi-stemmed ash nearest BT distribution pole, which is of coppice origin and only modest. For the majority of the length of the hedge, elm is the prominent species but with the majority of the individual trees having died back following the onset of Dutch elm disease. Some taller dead elm stems are at risk of falling onto the highway. Remove dead elm stems where a safety concern. If desired, hedge could be systematically reduced to around 2.3m (above palisade fence) and managed in a more consolidated state.	>40	N/A

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
G16	Pissard's plum <i>Prunus pissardii</i> English elm <i>Ulmus procera</i> Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> Damson <i>Prunus domestica</i> Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Up to 9	Up to 260#	Up to 3.5	N/A	1.0	SM– EM	B–D	B–D	Closest to individual tree 17 is a further Pissard's plum. However, becoming festooned in ivy with most of its structure obscured from inspection. Remainder of the group consists of self-seeded trees beyond the palisade fence dominated by a coppice of predominantly twin stemmed ash, at best of mediocre form. Hawthorn within at a low level plus occasional elm. Ash component only suitable for retention in the short term. Ivy should be carefully severed and removed from the plum and basal suckers cut back, allowing a further inspection.	20–40	(C) (2+3)
17	Pissard's plum <i>Prunus pissardii</i>	5	270	N 3 E 3.5 S 1.5 W 3.5	1.7	1.5 N	EM	B	B/C	Growing adjacent to BT service chamber. Low sucker growth has been previously clipped back where overhanging road but now encroaches. Heavily suppressed on south eastern side by larger multi-stemmed plum. Crown lift over access road.	20–40	C (2+3)

Tree/ Group number	Common name <i>Botanical name</i>	Tree height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Height above ground level (m) of:		Life stage	General observations, including preliminary management recommendations			RC (years)	Category
					First branch	Canopy		Physiological condition	Structural condition			
18	Damson <i>Prunus domestica</i>	6.5	170 (mean) X 6	Up to 5 in all directions	N/A	0	M	B/C	C	Multi-stemmed plum. Partially clad in ivy limiting access and views for inspection. Minor defects upon old stems. Suspected weak main forks. Some minor previous wind damage. Suitable for short to medium term retention only.	10–20	C (2+3)
G19	Damson <i>Prunus domestica</i> Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>		Damson: Up to 170 over ivy Ash: Up to 190 over ivy	Up to 3.5 in all directions	N/A	0.5	SM/ EM	B (average)	B/C	Ivy clad multi-stemmed damson with further suckers in close proximity and self-seeded ash tree growing in amongst. Suitable for short to medium term retention only.	20–40	(C) (2+3)
G20	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Up to 5.5	Up to 160	Up to 2	N/A	2.5 N	SM	B/C	C	Self-seeded trees growing amongst chainmesh fence to rear of adjacent lighting compound. Central tree is of better form but ultimately will outgrow location. Future conflict with fence line inevitable.	10–20	(C) (3)
G21	Blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Up to 3	Up to 80	Up to 1.5	N/A	0.5	SM	B	C	Small clump of blackthorn stems surrounded by dense bramble which appears indifferent to the mulched area of scrub in close proximity. Remove.	<10	(U)