

Tree Survey

Land at Little Lane, Desford, Leicester, LE9 9GP

Produced for:
Spinney Homes Ltd

Issue Date: November 2022

Ref: TS-LittleLane_Desford/01

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Written instructions were received from Mr Jonathan Weekes of Aitchison Raffety (the agent) on behalf of Spinney Homes (The client) to appraise the trees at Little Lane, Desford in Leicester (the site) in respect of a potential development.

1.2 Qualifications of the Surveyor & Indemnity

- 1.2.1 Richard Jones carried out the survey. He is the sole Director at RJ Tree Services Ltd. Richard is a Chartered Arboriculturist (MICFor) and Environmentalist (CEnv), and Fellow of the Arboricultural Association (F Arbor A). Richard is an Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) Registered Consultant. Richard holds the International Society of Arboriculture Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ), a Higher National Diploma (HND) in Arboriculture, a National Certificate (NC) in Horticulture and a City and Guilds Certificate in Amenity Horticulture.
- 1.2.2 RJ Tree Services Ltd holds professional indemnity and public liability insurance which is limited to £1m and £5m respectively. Please contact us should you require any more information relating to this matter.

2. Brief & Background

2.1 Planning permission was granted to build a house at the site in 2018. The foundations for that house are now installed. A scheme is proposed to acquire planning permission to construct a new house on the same footprint. The purpose of this survey is therefore:

- To provide a new objective assessment of the trees in direct proximity to the development area to the BS5837 (2012) 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction-Recommendations'. The survey is based on current site conditions and is intended to inform and guide the layout.
- To provide enough data to calculate tree Root Protection Areas.
- To Produce a Tree Survey and Constraints Plan.

3. Survey Data Collection Information

3.1 Richard Jones carried out a brief visual check of the trees on the 11 November 2022 in accordance with the guidelines in the BS5837 (2012) Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction-Recommendations. He was unaccompanied while carrying out the survey work. The trees are given a Retention Classification in line with the guidelines in the BS5837 (2012) Table 1 (see appendix 1). Shrubs and hedgerows are not classified but are recorded as landscape features as recommended in the BS5837.

3.2 The trees, groups, hedgerows, and woodlands are described on the Tree Survey and Constraints Plan as T1, H2 and so on. The survey is based on a topographical and layout survey plan provided by the client. Additional trees are not plotted to scale.

3.3 The survey was carried out from ground level. The survey is for planning purposes only and is not a detailed individual tree risk assessment or management plan. Obvious defects or diseases are, however, highlighted, and mitigating recommendations submitted where appropriate. In the case of groups of trees, only a very general assessment has been made and the recorded retention categories awarded are based on what is typical of the group. Hedges are identified as landscape features. No digging or drilling was carried out. The weather conditions were sufficiently clear for carrying out tree surveys for planning purposes.

3.4 The survey was carried out from within the site which had been cleared. Sub-section C of Section 4.4.2.5 of the BS5837 suggests that stem diameters may be estimated e.g. for off-site or otherwise inaccessible trees where accurate data cannot be recorded. The estimated diameters are clearly identified in the survey schedule. The trees growing outside the site are the responsibility of the adjacent landowners. They must not be pruned or worked on in any way without the express written consent of the owners.

4. Conditions & Limitations

- 4.1 Trees are dynamic organisms whose health and condition can be subject to changes. Thus, it is recommended that they should be assessed by a competent and qualified person on a regular basis. It is proposed that the trees discussed in this survey be assessed every two years or more often where stated and/or immediately following stormy/extreme weather conditions. This survey is valid for a maximum of two years.
- 4.2 While every effort has been made to identify defects within the trees inspected, no absolute guarantee can be given or is intended to the safety or otherwise of any tree or trees discussed in this survey or report. Extreme climatic conditions can on occasions cause damage to what appear to be healthy trees.

5. Legal Considerations

- 5.1 **Tree Preservation Orders & Conservation Areas:** It appears from the Hinckley and Bosworth online map that there is a Tree Preservation Order at the site which protects the ash tree T7. We do not know if there are other Tree Preservation Orders at the site or if it is in a conservation area. Local authority online plans are not always up to date. You should check again the status of the trees at the site with the local authority before working on them. Unauthorised work to protected trees or those in a conservation area could result in prosecution and a substantial fine.
- 5.2 **Felling Licenses:** A felling licence is required for certain tree felling operations. They are administered by the Forestry Commission. If you are felling more than five cubic metres of timber in one calendar quarter, then a license may be required. There are exceptions, which are in the Forestry Act that include trees in cemeteries, gardens, and public open spaces, felling trees to prevent an immediate danger and to facilitate full planning permission issued by a local planning authority.
- 5.3 **Hedgerows:** Under the Hedgerow Regulations you must submit a notice to the local authority to remove a countryside hedgerow. A countryside hedgerow is a boundary line of bushes which can include trees. The unauthorised removal of hedgerows could result in prosecution.
- 5.4 **Trees and Wildlife:** Trees are hosts to nesting birds, many of which are protected by law. Investigations should be carried out by professionally trained operatives for signs of bats (all of which are protected by law) and nesting birds and advice sought from appropriate agencies such as Natural England, the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) or the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) following any positive sightings. Tree works should be planned carefully to avoid disturbing nesting birds and roosting bats. The disturbance of protected species is an offence and could result in prosecution, a criminal record and a substantial fine.

6. The Site

- 6.1 ***The Site -Description:*** The site is situated on the north-eastern edge of Desford. There are trees primarily on the edges (photographs 1). Foundations for a house (photograph 2) with planning permission are installed at the centre of the site. Access is available via an existing hard surfaced driveway (photograph 3).



Photograph 1



Photograph 2



Photograph 3

- 6.2 There are open fields to the north of the site, with houses to the northeast and southwest.
- 6.3 Three trees are given a High A and five a Moderate B in the terms of guidelines in BS5837 Table 1. Two trees are given a Low C seven are classified as Unsuitable for Retention U. Three hedgerows are identified as landscape features.

Layout Advice

- 6.4 **Root Protection Areas:** An RPA is an area described on the Tree Survey and Constraints Plan 01 as a yellow circle inside which development should only take place with special measures or justification. It describes the minimum root area around a tree required to maintain its vitality. An RPA is calculated according to the guidelines in the BS5837 and is capped at 15m radius.
- 6.5 The BS5837 allows for limited development to take place inside the RPA of a tree with special measures such as pile and beam foundations or no-dig hard surfacing.
- 6.6 There is no formal calculation for RPAs in respect of hedgerows. Notwithstanding that, we would suggest that you maintain a safe distance from the canopy edge of roughly 1-2m.
- 6.7 **Dead Wood:** Dead wood is important to the biodiversity of the area and can be a habitat. However, dead wood is sometimes fragile which can fall from canopies and cause damage or injury. Hence, it is recommended in the survey that loose dead branches be removed from the crowns of trees particularly over the road, structures and parking areas even when the size and amount is relatively small. Dead wood may be retained in piles within woodlands or groups to provide habitats for small mammals, insects etc.

- 6.8 ***Ivy Growth:*** Ivy has conservation and wildlife habitat benefits. If left unchecked, however, it can overgrow a trees canopy and ground flora. Ivy also hampers inspections as it can prevent an adequate view of the stem and crown. While we would not suggest that ivy be eradicated from the site, we would recommend that it be controlled and prevented from growing very densely in the canopies of the trees and on the ground.
- 6.9 ***Ash Dieback Disease & Biosecurity:*** There is ash die back disease at the site which, according to Leicestershire County Council website, is likely to kill 90% of ash trees. Ash trees become fragile very quickly after dying from the disease. In this regard, we have suggested that the diseased ash trees be removed from the site. We would recommend that biosecurity measures be put in place when felling or pruning trees and disposing of brash and timber. Contractors can help to restrict the spread diseases like Chalara ash dieback. They can do this by clearing soil, mud, twigs, leaves and other plant debris off their footwear, clothing, tools, and vehicles. They should then wash/disinfect these items before visiting other similar sites. Ideally, work to ash trees should be done outside the summer months as the disease can spread via microscopic fungal spores. Further information is available at www.forestresearch.gov.uk.
- 6.10 ***Future Appraisals:*** It is recommended that any retained trees are re-assessed immediately post construction prior to occupation.

7. Tree Work Standards

- 7.1 Where appropriate and possible, any bough agreed to be removed or shortened should be cut back to a suitable point such as the branch collar or suitably positioned secondary branch. The branch collar shall be left intact. Climbing irons or 'spikes' shall not be used.
- 7.2 The safety of operatives and the public should be paramount. The integrity of the remaining trees is also important. Machinery should be used in a proper and safe manner and must always be fit for purpose. Power saws, wood chipping machines etc should be maintained and fuelled outside the site to prevent damage by spillages.
- 7.3 The appropriate signage should be used and footpaths, roads etc closed and or managed in line with current guidelines for best practice and the law. It is our advice that contracting companies employed to carry out the recommended works be appropriately trained, insured, and qualified. All tree pruning works should be carried out to the BS3998 (2010) Tree Works-Recommendations guidelines for best practice. Works should be carried out as soon as possible subject to statutory constraints.
- 7.4 On undertaking the recommended works, the arborist/tree surgeon must without delay report any defects that become apparent while climbing or working on the tree/s in question. Those defects must be reported immediately to the project manager, landowner and/or the author of this report to enable the appropriate remedial action.
- 7.5 **Power Cables:** There are power cables at the site. Working on trees near to power cables is dangerous. We would recommend that you obtain expert advice in respect to this matter.

References:

BS5837 (2012) Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition & Construction-Recommendations

BS3998 (2010) Tree Works-Recommendations

Plans:

Tree Survey & Constraints Plan 01

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T1	Cherry (<i>Prunus sp.</i> 'Cherry')	Tree	Height (m): 4 Stem Diam (mm): 400 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Life Stage: Dead	Dead tree	U	None - due to Retention Category of U.	Other Reference: Vigour: Dead Amenity value: Very low/none	Remove tree
T2	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam (mm): 350 Spread (m): 3N, 3E, 3S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 5 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Profound asymmetric leaning form Located off site Stem diameter estimated as a result of dense ivy growth	C1	Radius: 4.2m. Area: 55 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Amenity value: Low	None
T3	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 14 Stem Diam (mm): 450 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Exhibiting symptoms of infection by Chalara ash die back disease Access & assessment restricted by dense ivy growth Stem diameter estimated as a result of dense ivy growth	U	None - due to Retention Category of U.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Amenity value: Low	Remove and replace tree
G4	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus sp.</i>) Holly (<i>Ilex sp.</i>) Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Hedge	Height (m): 2 Stem Diam (mm): 100 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Recently unmanaged hedgerow	NotRecorded	Area: 78 sq m, plus a 1m buffer.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: Low	Maintain by regular trimming
G5	Holly (<i>Ilex sp.</i>) Privet (<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>)	Hedge	Height (m): 2 Stem Diam (mm): 100 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Recently unmanaged hedgerow of mainly privet Some probably self-seeded holly on edge of hedgerow	NotRecorded	Area: 65 sq m, plus a 1m buffer.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: Low	Maintain all species in hedgerow by regular trimming

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T6	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 16 Stem Diam (mm): 450 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Exhibiting symptoms of infection by Chalara ash die back disease	U	None - due to Retention Category of U.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Amenity value: Moderate	Remove & replace tree
T7	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 16 Stem Diam (mm): 1000 Spread (m): 6N, 6E, 6S, 6W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Life Stage: Over Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Access & assessment restricted by dense undergrowth Access & assessment restricted by dense ivy growth Stem diameter estimated as a result of dense ivy growth Extensive decay evident in lower branch framework Overhanging power cables	U	None - due to Retention Category of U.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Amenity value: Moderate	Reduce crown to 4-5m standing stem & retain as habitat Carry out regular (every 2 years) inspections Alternatively, remove tree completely & replace
T8	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 16 Stem Diam (mm): 1000 Spread (m): 6N, 6E, 6S, 6W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Life Stage: Over Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Access & assessment restricted by dense undergrowth Stem diameter estimated as a result of dense undergrowth & difficult access Wall recently built over & around base Exhibiting symptoms of infection by Chalara ash die back disease	U	None - due to Retention Category of U.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Amenity value: Moderate	Reduce crown to 4-5m standing stem & retain as habitat Carry out regular (every 2 years) inspections Alternatively, remove tree completely & replace

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
G9	Yew (<i>Taxus sp.</i>) Pine (<i>Pinus sp.</i>) Elm (<i>Ulmus sp.</i>) Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>) Larch (<i>Larix sp.</i>) Lawson Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>)	Group	Height (m): 10 Stem Diam (mm): 350 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Life Stage: Early Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Group of primarily yew & cypress with suppressed larch & pine growing internally Not plotted on topographical survey plan - position estimated Access & assessment restricted by dense undergrowth Access & assessment restricted by dense ivy growth	B2	Area: 208 sq m, plus a 1m buffer.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: High	Thin group by removing larch & pine & thicken up by planting new yew, holly or similar
T10	Yew (<i>Taxus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 7 Stem Diam (mm): 470 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Located off site	A1	Radius: 5.6m. Area: 99 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: Moderate	None
T11	Yew (<i>Taxus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam (mm): 320 Spread (m): 3N, 3E, 3S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Located off site Not plotted on topographical survey plan - position estimated	A1	Radius: 3.8m. Area: 45 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: Moderate	None

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T12	Oak (<i>Quercus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 8 Stem Diam (mm): 250 Spread (m): 3N, 3E, 3S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Access & assessment restricted by dense undergrowth Access & assessment restricted by dense ivy growth Limited growth potential in proximity to T13	B1	Radius: 3.0m. Area: 28 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: Moderate	None
T13	Wellingtonia (<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam (mm): 840 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 0.5 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Access & assessment restricted by dense undergrowth	A1	Radius: 10.1m. Area: 320 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: High	None
T14	Walnut (<i>Juglans sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 14 Stem Diam (mm): 500 Spread (m): 6N, 6E, 6S, 6W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Access & assessment restricted by dense ivy growth Located off site	B1	Radius: 6.0m. Area: 113 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: High	None
T15	Silver Maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam (mm): 430 Spread (m): 5N, 5E, 5S, 5W Crown Clearance (m): 3 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Extensive damage & decay to stem & branch framework	C1,2	Radius: 5.2m. Area: 85 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Amenity value: Moderate	Reduce crown to 4-5m from ground level & maintain by regular pruning Alternatively, remove tree & replace
T16	Blue Cedar (<i>Cedrus atlantica glauca</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam (mm): 300 Spread (m): 3N, 3E, 3S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: <10 years	Low vitality Sparse crown Extensive stem damage	U	None - due to Retention Category of U.	Other Reference: Vigour: Poor Amenity value: Low	Remove tree & replace

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T18	Norway Spruce (<i>Picea abies</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 16 Stem Diam (mm): 580 Spread (m): 5N, 5E, 5S, 5W Crown Clearance (m): 1.5 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Access & assessment restricted by dense ivy growth Stem diameter estimated as a result of dense ivy growth Not plotted on topographical survey plan - position estimated	B1	Radius: 7.0m. Area: 154 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: High	Clear ivy & re-assess
G19	Leyland Cypress (<i>Cupressocypariss leylandii</i> X) Scots Pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>) Blue Cedar (<i>Cedrus atlantica glauca</i>) Spruce (<i>Picea sp.</i>) Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>) Thuja (<i>Thuja sp.</i>) Lime (<i>Tilia sp.</i>) Lawson Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>)	Group	Height (m): 16 Stem Diam (mm): 380 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	Mixed species group of varying quality trees Exhibiting symptoms of infection by Chalara ash die back disease	B2	Area: 334 sq m, plus a 1m buffer.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Amenity value: Moderate	Thin group by removing ash & dying cedar

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
G20	Leyland Cypress (<i>Cupressocypariss leylandii</i> X) Thuja (<i>Thuja</i> sp.)	Hedge	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam (mm): 200 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Partially maintained/trimmed hedegrow	NotRecorded	Area: 114 sq m, plus a 1m buffer.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Amenity value: Low	Maintain by regular trimming

The trees are identified by their common and botanical names. The identification is based on visual observations and the common name is listed first, with the botanical name in brackets. In some instances, it may be difficult to identify a particular tree without further detailed investigations. Where there is some doubt of the precise species of tree, a sp is shown after the genus. The species shown for groups represents the main constituent and there may be other minor species not listed. Common names are sometimes regional and may therefore vary in terms of the locality.

BS5837 (2012) suggests the following **age classifications** which have been supplemented to assist the reader:

Yng- *Young tree/s of less than 1/3 life expectancy*

SM- *Semi-mature tree/s between young & middle aged*

EM- *Early-mature tree/s of 1/3-2/3 life expectancy*

Mat- *Mature tree/s of more or less full height, but with potential to increase in girth*

O/M- *Over Mature tree/s declining in health & stature*

Vet- *Veteran tree/s of significant & identifiable historical, ecological & conservation value*

A **retention category** (Ret Cat) is given as follows to correspond with table 1 of BS5837 (2012):

Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

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

Hedgerows are not given a retention classification.

The trees are given a supplementary **Vigour Category** is given thus: Good, Fair, Poor, Very-poor/Dead.

Trunk diameters are recorded in millimetres at 1.5m from ground level and at the narrowest point below any out of the ordinary swelling as recommended in BS5837 (2012). They are measured on the up-slope side of the tree base on sloping-ground as recommended in BS5837 (2012). Trees with irregular bulging stems are measured at the narrowest point below the bulge. Trees with low branching are measured at the narrowest point below the fork. A current maximum stem diameter is given to trees considered as a group. Stem diameters for multi-stemmed trees with up to 5 trunks are taken individually. The stem diameters for trees with more than 5 stems is recorded with a single average measurement.

Tree heights are estimated in metres. As recommended in BS5837 (2012) **Crown radii** (Spread) are measured at the four cardinal points in meters: *N-North, E-East, S-South, W-West* and a lowest crown clearance from ground level is given at the lowest of the four cardinal points or all four when the crown clearance is roughly level. The crown radius and level measurements are as accurate as possible, but in some instances, are estimated (est) due to difficult ground conditions or restricted access. In the case of tree groups, the maximum peripheral spread is given.

Brief observations are made on the overall health and condition of the trees, obvious defects identified, and recommendations are given for any management works considered appropriate on the date of inspection in relation to the current site conditions.



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