

BS5837:2012 Tree Survey Land west of Leconfield Road Loughborough Leicestershire NGR SK50951 17549

Survey by Christopher Barker CEnv dipHort ACIEEM

worksafe consultant	Report prepared by: C Barker	Date Issued: 17 August 2021 Report Version: Final v3			
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SSIP SAFETY SCHEMES IN PROCUREMENT	Report ref: P2164 /0521 /02	Highbank, 5 Grantham Road, Navenby Lincoln. LN5 0JJ. Telephone (01522) 810086. www.cbeconsulting.co.uk			

BS5837 Tree Survey, Land west of Leconfield Road

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1 Introduction

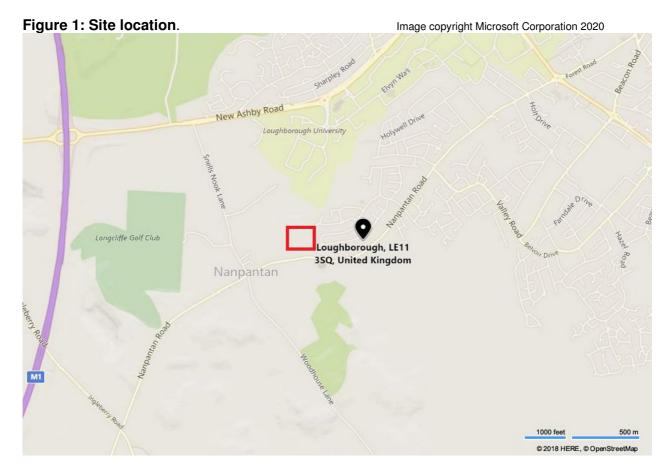
1.1 Site Description and Location

The site is a roughly rectangular parcel of grassland situated on the western end of Leconfield Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire centred on grid reference SK50951 17549. The site is situated between residential development to the north, east and south and a block of deciduous woodland identified as Burleigh Wood to the west.

The location of the site is shown on the plan within **Figure 1** and an aerial photograph has been provided within **Figure 2** to place the site in context.

The site lies within the Borough of Charnwood and is not within a designated Conservation Area. Telephone consultation with Charnwood Borough Council originally did not identified any Tree Preservation Orders associated with this parcel of land but it should be taken into consideration that Burleigh Wood is a designated Ancient Woodland Site. Since the original survey was completed the Local Council have served notice for two TPOs May, namely those referenced 'Burleigh Wood, Loughborough University, Loughborough' for the entirety of Burleigh Wood to the west of the survey area and land 'West of Leconfield Road, Loughborough' for various trees in and around this site.

In order to prepare a development plan for the site the Client has requested a BS5837 (2012) Tree Survey should be completed to assess the quality of the trees within and close to the boundary of the field and the impact any development may have on these. An initial inspection of the site was completed on 23rd October 2020 but to update the report and add additional boundary trees the site was reinspected on 04 May 2021. A photographic record of the trees at the site is included within the report.



1.2 Neighbouring Land Uses

The survey area is a field of grassland situated on the margin of Loughborough and Nanpantan with housing to the north, east and south side and a large area of broadleaved woodland to the west. There are a number of specimen trees within the adjacent gardens close to the boundary of the field. An aerial photograph has been provided below to place the site in context.

Figure 2: Site Contextual Aerial Photograph Image copyright Microsoft Corporation 2020



In undertaking the tree survey the assessment has been carried out in accordance with the specifications contained within BS 5837 Trees in Relation to Design, Development and Construction (2012). An inspection of the site and the immediate surrounding areas was completed by Christopher Barker, dipHort, CEnv, an experienced arboricultural consultant and licensed bat worker.

2. Tree Survey Appraisal Methodology

2.1 Survey Objectives

This tree survey has been carried out with the objective of:

- Identifying the individual tree species present at the site by means of visual inspection;
- To define the approximate age, condition and canopy spread of all individual mature and semi-mature trees identified and the value of these within the development context;
- To identify any trees that present a risk to existing or proposed foundations or other structures that may be constructed on the site and recommend action to remove this risk; and
- Recommend tree management / mitigation measures where appropriate.

The survey broadly assessed the condition and arboricultural value of the trees lying in or adjacent to the site area, paying attention to any mature individual trees present within or adjacent to the site area in order to prepare an assessment in accordance with BS 5837 Trees in Relation to Design, Development and Construction (2012).

2.2 Survey Methodology

The methodology set out below is a summary of the suggested approach to tree assessment as described in British Standard 5837:2012.

Trees have been broadly assessed based on guidance set out within the British Standard BS 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Development and Construction'. This standard provides recommendations and guidance on the principles to be applied to achieve successful integration of development with trees, shrubs and hedgerows.

Trees on the site have been divided into one of four categories (based on the cascade chart for tree quality assessment). These are classed as A, B, C or U (Section 4 of BS 5837) within the table in Appendix 1. This gives an indication as to the tree's importance in relation to the site, the local landscape and, also, the value and quality of the existing trees on site.

Category (A): Trees whose retention is most desirable and are of high quality and value. These trees are considered to be in such a condition as to be able to make a lasting contribution (a minimum of 40 years).

Category (B): Trees whose retention is considered desirable and are of moderate quality and value. These trees are considered to be in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years).

Category (C): Trees that could be retained and are considered to be of low quality and value. These trees are in an adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of ten years) or are young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm.

Category (U): Trees that are considered to have no significant landscape value but it is not presumed that there is any overriding need to remove these unless stated otherwise in the description and recommendations. They are for this reason not considered as being significant within the planning process.

Species have been recorded by common and scientific name. Height has been estimated in metres and stem diameter measured in centimetres unless impractical, taken at a height of 1.5 m from the base of the tree.

The overall condition of any individual tree, or group of trees, has been referred to using one of the definitions listed below. A more detailed description of condition has been noted in the Tree Schedule.

G Good: A sound tree or trees needing little, if any, attention

- F **Fair:** A tree or trees with minor but rectifiable defects or in the early stages of stress, from which it may recover
- P **Poor:** A tree or trees with major structural and physiological defects or stressed such that it would be very expensive and inappropriate to retain
- D **Dead:** A tree or trees no longer alive. However, this could also apply to those trees that are dying and will be unlikely to recover, or are becoming or have become dangerous

The survey was completed from ground level only. Aerial inspections were not undertaken. Evaluations of tree conditions given within this assessment apply to the date of survey and cannot be assumed to remain unchanged, and it may be necessary to review these within 24 months, in accordance with good arboricultural practice.

2.3 Site Plans & Tree schedules

The position of significant individual trees or groups of trees on the site is shown on the Tree Location Plan **Figure 3**. Within the summary table (**Appendix 1**) a calculated corresponding radius of the circle for each RPA has been calculated. The Root Protection Areas are formulated to assist when designing layouts in relation to trees and the calculated RPAs in Appendix 1 should be used to inform the design layout of this site. A root Protection Area plan has been prepared as **Figure 4** and a Constraints Plan showing RPA's and protection areas has been prepared using the development plan as a base is provided as **Figure 5**.

3. Tree Survey Findings

3.1 Survey Details

The tree inspection took the form of a walkover inspection completed by Christopher Barker dipHort, CEnv. Each individual semi-mature or mature tree of significance that could be impacted by any proposed new development within the survey area was identified, visually inspected and classified. The character of the trees at the site is shown in photographs contained within this section.

3.2 Mature and Semi-Mature Trees

A total of sixteen individual trees and two tree groups have been identified and assessed as part of the tree survey. The majority of the trees form a line along the western boundary of the site area but there are a number of individual mature and semi-mature trees within gardens along the other boundaries.

Trees T1 – T3 comprise two Birch trees of Category B and one Oak of Category A positioned within a garden approximately 1m to the south of the field boundary outside of the site area. These trees provided canopy cover and partial screening to the garden supported by a trimmed Hawthorn hedge. These are trees of good quality and the canopies extend across the field boundary at height. It is unlikely any facilitation pruning will be required but the RPA's will need to be protected.



Trees T4 and T5 are situated close to the south-western corner of the site within the survey area and site boundary. Ash T4 is a large mature tree of significant stature placed within Category B. The RPA and canopy of this tree extend across the field boundary and will require protection measures. Willow T5 is a small tree of little landscape significance that present no constrain to development and it is placed within Category C.



Ash T4

Trees T6 and Group G7 comprise mature Oak along the boundary of Burleigh Wood outside of the site area. These are trees of significant stature with many other mature trees further to the west forming a large woodland area. These trees are highly visible from within the site and adjacent residential houses and are placed within Category A. The crown extents and RPA extend across the site boundary and protection measures will be required.



Group G8 comprise a linear group of closely planted Leylandii trimmed along the sides to form a vertical screen along the southern boundary of a residential garden outside of the site area. These trees are placed within Category B. They are not of large stature but do provide excellent screening to the adjacent garden.



Trees T9 – T11 are small Holly and Leylandii positioned within adjacent gardens close to the boundary of the field but outside of the site boundary. None are specimens of significant stature but all are visible from within the field interior and provide some screening to the adjacent gardens supported by trimmed hedgerows. Leylandii T10 is placed within Category B and Holly T9 and T11 are placed within Category C. The RPAs of these trees extend across the site boundary and will require protection measures.

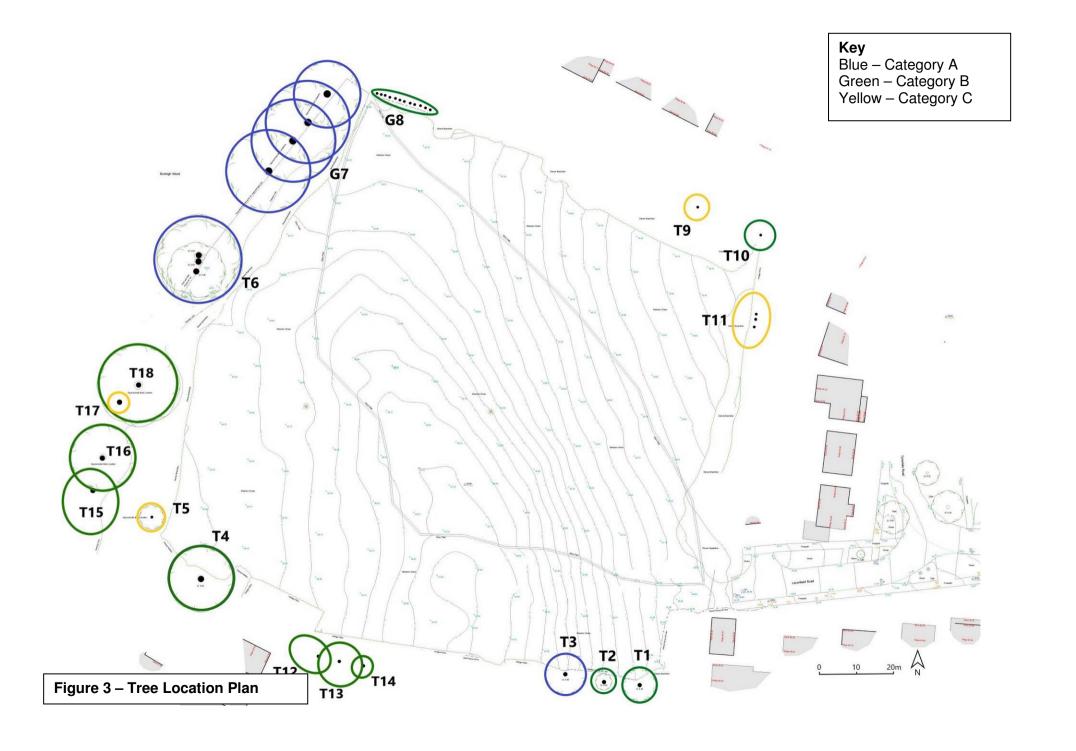


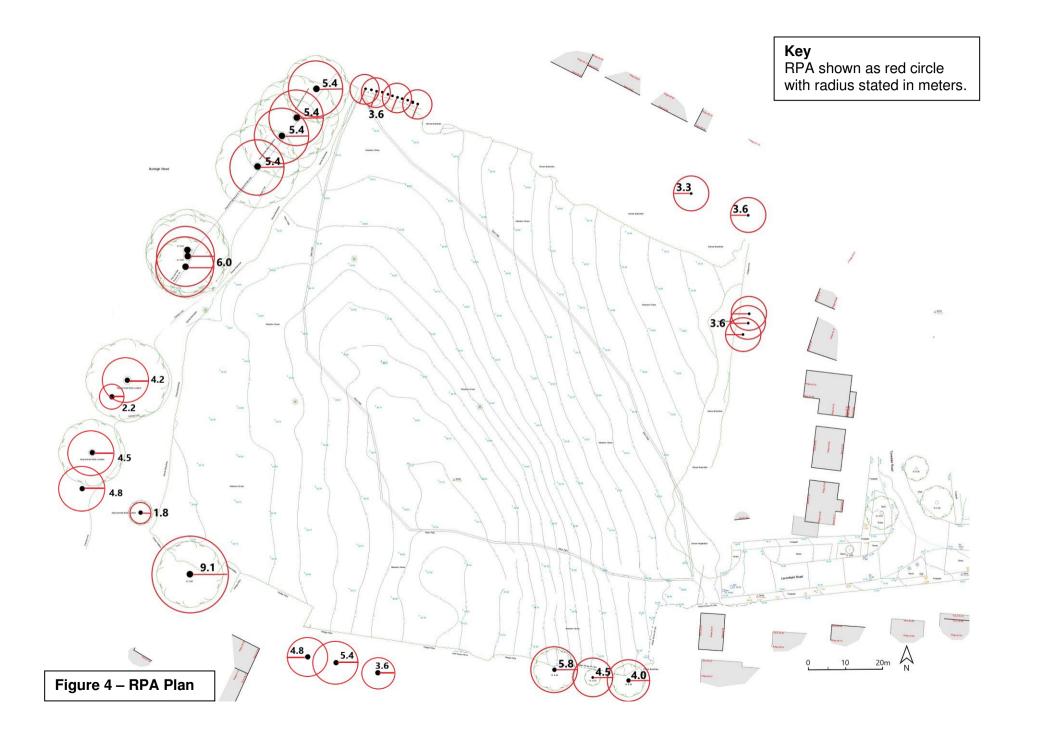
Trees T12 - T14 are situated in the garden of a property to the south of the site area outside of the site boundary. These trees are Birch, Oak and Spruce of significant stature. The canopies do not extend across the site boundary and the trees are between 7m and 8m from the boundary. All three trees have been placed into Category B.



Trees T15 – T18 comprise Oak and Ash situated on the south-western boundary of the site on the margin of the adjacent woodland area Group G7. These trees are set some distance back from the site boundary which is screened by dense suckering Blackthorn but could be assessed from the public footpath within the woodland. These trees are predominantly Category B but with one category C specimen.









4. Tree Management

4.1 Initial Arboricultural Assessment

In the context of this site the proposed development will comprise residential houses situated within the eastern and central areas of the field with an access from Leconfield Road. It is unlikely that any of the houses or roads will impact existing trees within the survey. The table below summarises the potential impact of the proposed development based on these assumptions and the recommendations within this tree survey on the trees present within the area surveyed.

Tree	Category	Impact of development
T1 Birch	B2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy are protected close to the field boundary and the proposed road is outside of the RPA.
T2 Birch	B2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy are protected close to the field boundary and the proposed road is outside of the RPA.
T3 Oak	A2	Negligible. The nearest structure is outside of the calculated RPA and canopy extents of this tree.
T4 Ash	B2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T5 Willow	C2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T6 Oak	A2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
G7 Oak	A2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
G8 Leylandii	B2	The RPA extends into a garden area but is sufficiently far from any structures to be protected effectively by fencing.
T9 Holly	C2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T10 Leylandii	B2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T11 Holly	C2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T12 Birch	B2	Crown and RPA of this tree do not extend across the garden boundary and the tree is sufficiently far from the site to pose no significant risk from shading or leaf drop.
T13 Oak	B2	Crown and RPA of this tree do not extend across the garden boundary and the tree is sufficiently far from the site to pose no significant risk from shading or leaf drop.
T14 Spruce	B2	Crown and RPA of this tree do not extend across the garden boundary and the tree is sufficiently far from the site to pose no significant risk from shading or leaf drop.
T15 Ash	B2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T16 Ash	B2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T17 Oak	C2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.
T18 Oak	B2	Negligible. The RPA and canopy extend into a landscaped area with no structures.

It is a reasonable assumption that the trees along the southern and eastern boundaries of the field may cast some shadow across any properties nearby during the morning and early afternoon periods. However, there are no properties near to trees T1-T3 to be impacted and Plot 21 is sufficiently far from Ash T4 to avoid impact during the morning and afternoon periods but receive shading during the middle of the day into the rear garden area. Overall, the layout proposed will provide plenty of direct sun during the early morning and late afternoon periods within any properties that have gardens near to these trees. Shading is therefore unlikely to be an issue.

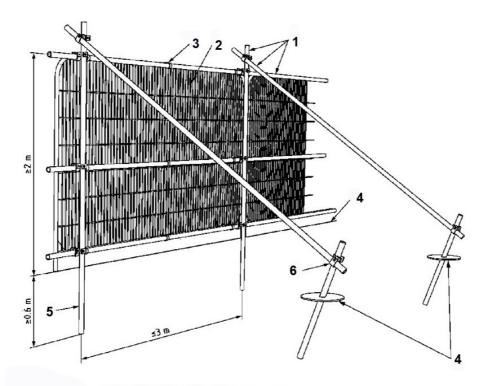
Perceived risk of branch fall and leaf drop is unlikely to be an issue for any of the proposed new houses as none of the gardens will be dominated by the adjacent trees and a reasonable stand-off distance has been provided from any mature trees to mitigate against any such risk and reduce the impact of autumn leaf-drop on gardens.

4.2 General Recommendations

The trees along the eastern and northern field boundaries or within the adjacent rear garden areas will need to be adequately protected during any approved development works where the canopies or calculated root protection areas extend across the field boundary. As a general rule at this site, measures to protect trees should follow the best practice principles set out in BS5837: Trees in Relation to Design, Development and Construction (2012). Prior to any construction or development work proceeding, the RPAs of individual trees to be retained should be marked out using the distances provided in the table within Appendix 1.

Marking out should be completed by a person with arboricultural or horticultural expertise as individual trees will have root zones that may be affected by local conditions and allowances will need to be made to accommodate this. The best practice principles have been broadly summarised below.

- All trees retained adjacent to the site should be protected by barriers or ground protection around the calculated Root Protection Area (RPA) and as indicated on any Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) that may be produced in association with the assessment.
- Any fencing required should be erected prior to commencement of construction and before demolition including erection of any temporary structures. Once set up fences should not be removed or altered without prior consultation with the arboricultural advisor.
- Arrangements should be made for an arboriculturalist to supervise works and tree protection where trees are particularly vulnerable or sited close to access points.
- Pre-development works may be undertaken prior to the installation of fencing with the agreement of the local planning authority.
- All tree works should follow best practice procedures as set out in BS 3998 (2010). All
 trees should be maintained in good condition on site and be inspected annually (where
 overall condition requires) or every 2 years and after any major storm events, with safety
 a priority.
- Fencing should be clearly visible and suitable for the location, type and proximity of construction activity.
- It may be appropriate on some sites to use temporary site offices as components of the protection barriers.



- 1. Standard scaffold poles
- 2. Heavy Guage 2m tall galvanised tube and weld mesh infill panels
- 3. Panels secured to uprights and cross members with wire ties
- 4. Ground Level
- 5. Uprights driven into ground until secure (up to 0.6m)
- 6. Standard scaffold clamps
- Where it has been agreed and shown on a Tree Protection Plan, construction access may take place within the RPA if suitable ground protection measures are in place (e.g. existing surfaced car park areas). In other areas this may comprise single scaffold boards over a compressible layer laid onto geo-textile materials for pedestrian movements. Vehicular movements over the RPA will require the calculation of expected loading and may require the use of proprietary protection systems.
- Once areas around trees have been protected by fencing, any works on the remaining site area may be commenced providing activities do not impinge on protected areas.
 Notices should be placed on fencing to indicate that operations are not permitted within the fenced area.
- Wide or tall loads etc. should not come into contact with retained trees. Banksman should supervise transit of vehicles, jibs, booms etc. where this is in close proximity to retained trees.
- Oil, bitumen, cement or other material that is potentially injurious to trees should not be stacked or discharged within 10m of a tree bole. No concrete mixing should be done within 10m of a tree. Allowance should be made for the slope of ground to prevent materials running towards the tree.
- No fires will be lit where flames are anticipated to extend to within 5m of tree foliage, branches or trunk, taking into consideration wind direction and size of fire.
- Notice boards, telephone cables or other services should not be attached to any part of a retained tree.
- Where it is deemed necessary to operate a wide or tall load, plant bearing booms, jibs and counterweights or other such equipment, as part of construction works, and such

equipment would have potential to cause injurious contact with crown material i.e. low branches and limbs, of retained trees within the RPA fencing, it is best advised that appropriate, but limited tree surgery, be carried out beforehand to remove any obvious problem branches. This is classed as 'Facilitation Pruning' within BS 5837 (2012). Any such pruning should be undertaken in accordance with a specification prepared by an arboriculturalist.

- It is advised that a Pre-Commencement Site Meeting is held with contractors who are
 responsible for operating machinery, as described above. To firstly highlight the potential
 for damage occurring to tree crowns and to ensure that extra care is applied when
 manoeuvring machinery during such operations within close proximity to retained trees to
 avoid any contact.
- In the event of having caused any such branch or limb damage to retained trees it is strongly recommended that suitable tree surgery be carried out, in accordance with BS 3998 (2010) Recommendations for Tree Work, to correct the damage, upon completion of development.

Christopher Barker CEnv dipHort

Key:	<u>Measurements</u>	Age – Class	Overall Condition	BS 5837 2012: Cascade Chart for Quality Assessment/Retention Category	Symbols:		
	MS – Multi-stemmed	YNG-MAT-Young Mature	G – Good	A – High	< = less than		
	Ht - Height in metres	SM – Semi-mature	F – Fair	B – Moderate	~ = approximately		
	Stem – Stem Diameter at 1.5m in mm	Mat – Mature	P – Poor	C – Low	> = greater than		
	Crown – Crown spread in metres	OM – Over mature	D – Dead	U – Trees of negligible significance			
	TD - Trunk division (height in metres)	Est Yrs – estimate of years		Sub-categories:			
		remaining (>40 years; 20 -40		1 = mainly arboricultural values			
		years; <20 years)		2 = mainly landscape values			
				3 = mainly cultural values.			

RPA = Root protection area (equivalent to a circle with a radius 12 x the stem diameter for single stem trees and 10 x the basal diameter for trees with more than one stem arising below 1.5m above ground level).

Tree No	Species	Ht (m)	Stem Diam mm@ 1.5m	Canopy Spread (m)	Height of Crown Clearance	Age Class	Est yrs	Overall Condition	Structural condition	Recommendations	BS 5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
T1	Birch Betula pendula	18	340 est	5m on north side	4	М	20+	G	Single trunk situated in adjacent garden. Upright pendulous crown extends across the field boundary. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retained. Protect the canopy and RPA on the north side with fencing. No canopy work required.	B2	4.0
T2	Birch Betula pendula	17	380 est	6m on north side	2	М	20+	G	Single trunk situated in adjacent garden. More broadly upright pendulous crown extends across the field boundary. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retained. Protect the canopy and RPA on the north side with fencing. No canopy work required.	B2	4.5
Т3	Oak Quercus petraea	15	485	6m on north side	4	М	40	G	Single trunk positioned in adjacent garden supporting a broad balanced crown of good shape extending over the field boundary. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retained. Protect the canopy and RPA on the north side with fencing. No canopy work required.	A2	5.8
T4	Ash Fraxinus excelsior	18	765	8m on north side	5	М	20	F	Single trunk within an adjacent garden supporting a very broad irregular spreading canopy. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retained. Protect the canopy and RPA on the north side with fencing. No canopy work required.	B2	9.1

Tree No	Species	Ht (m)	Stem Diam mm@ 1.5m	Canopy Spread (m)	Height of Crown Clearance	Age Class	Est yrs	Overall Condition	Structural condition	Recommendations	BS 5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
T5	Willow Salix alba	8	<100	2m on east side	0	Y	10+	G	Single trunk supporting an upright lightly branching canopy situated on the woodland boundary. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retain. Protect the RPA on the eastern side.	C2	1.8
Т6	3 X Oak Quercus petraea	18	<500	8m on east side	0	М	40	G	Three single trunk trees situated 1m behind the boundary fence along the edge of Burleigh Wood. Crowns merge into one large canopy extending across the site boundary to ground level within the site. Low roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retain. Canopy and RPA extending across the site boundary will require protection measures.	A2	6.0
Т7	5 x Oak Quercus petraea	16- 19	<450	7m on east side	0	М	40	G	Group of Oak within the edge of Burleigh Wood. Crowns merge into one large canopy extending across the site boundary to ground level within the site. Low roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retain. Canopy and RPA extending across the site boundary will require protection measures.	A2	5.4
G8	Leylandii XCupressocyparis Leylandii	16	<300	2m on south side	0	М	20	F	Line of closely planted upright leylandii merging into a vertical screen. Trimmed on both side. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retain. RPA will require protection within the field.	B2	3.6
Т9	Holly llex aquifolium	6	275	2m on south side	0	SM	10	F	Single trunk supporting as fairly upright ascending canopy within an adjacent garden. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retain. RPA will require protection within the field. No canopy work is required.	C2	3.3
T10	Leylandii XCupressocyparis Leylandii	10	300	2m on south side	0	SM	20+	G	Single trunk supporting an upright columnar canopy within the adjacent garden. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	Retain. RPA will require protection within the field. No canopy work is required.	B2	3.6

Tree No	Species	Ht (m)	Stem Diam mm@ 1.5m	Canopy Spread (m)	Height of Crown Clearance	Age Class	Est yrs	Overall Condition	Structural condition	Recommendations	BS 5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
T11	3 x Holly Ilex aquifolium	6-8	300 est	3m on west side	2	SM	10	F	Merging irregular canopy extending over the boundary from the adjacent garden. Negligible roost potential. No structural faults visible from ground level	RPA will require protection. Some trimming of the lower canopy may be required where it extends over the edge of the field.	C2	3.6
T12	Birch Betula pendula	18	400est	5m on north side	4	М	20+	G	Single trunk supporting upright balanced crown within adjacent garden. Negligible roost potential No structural faults noted.	RPA and canopy do not extend past the site boundary and no protection measures are required.	B2	4.8
T13	Oak Quercus petraea	17	450est	5m on the north side	5	M	20+	G	Single trunk supporting upright balanced crown within adjacent garden. Negligible roost potential No structural faults noted.	RPA and canopy do not extend past the site boundary and no protection measures are required.	B2	5.4
T14	Spruce Picea sp	15	300est	3m on north side	1	SM	20+	G	Single trunk supporting upright pyramidal crown in adjacent garden Negligible roost potential No structural faults noted.	RPA and canopy do not extend past the site boundary and no protection measures are required.	B2	3.6
T15	Ash Fraxinus excelsior	16	240 210 190 170	5m on the east side	5	M	20	F	Broad mature coppice merging with adjacent trees within woodland margin. Negligible roost potential No structural faults noted.	Retain. Canopy and RPA extending across the site boundary will require protection measures.	B2	4.8
T16	Ash Fraxinus excelsior	18	375	3m on the east side	5	M	20	F	Broad mature canopy merging with adjacent trees within woodland margin. Negligible roost potential No structural faults noted.	Retain. Canopy and RPA extending across the site boundary will require protection measures.	B2	4.5
T17	Oak Quercus petraea	18	185	2m on the east side	5	Y	10+	F	Leggy specimen with very limited space for development suppressed by larger trees either side. Negligible roost potential No structural faults noted.	Retain. Canopy and RPA extending across the site boundary will require protection measures.	C2	2.2

Tree No	Species	Ht (m)	Stem Diam mm@ 1.5m	Canopy Spread (m)	Height of Crown Clearance	Age Class	Est yrs	Overall Condition	Structural condition	Recommendations	BS 5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
T18	Oak Quercus petraea	16	355	5m on east side	4	SM	20+	G		Retain. Canopy and RPA extending across the site boundary will require protection measures.	B2	4.2