



# ARBORICULTURAL REPORT & Impact Assessment to BS 5837:2012 at:

***Land Behind  
8 Cliff Lane,  
Brierley,  
Barnsley  
S72 9HR***

Prepared for: *Steven Robinson*

Report Date: *June 2025*

Reference: *AWA6744*

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## Executive Summary

This report provides independent arboricultural advice in accordance with BS 5837:2012, regarding trees at the site in the context of a proposed development.

A total of 2 items of woody vegetation were surveyed, comprising 1 individual tree and 1 tree group. Of these: 1 tree is moderate value (Category B), and 1 tree group is low value (Category C).

No trees or tree groups will require removal to facilitate the proposed development and no tree pruning works are required to facilitate the proposed development.

No indirect impacts have been identified to the retained tree and tree group at the site, with the proposed development situated outside of the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of the retained tree and tree group at the site.

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Instructions and Brief

- 1.1.1 We were instructed by Steven Robinson to visit the site and prepare our findings in a report.
- 1.1.2 The report is required in accordance with BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, to provide detailed, independent, arboricultural advice on the trees present, in the context of potential development.

## 1.2 Survey Details

- 1.2.1 The survey took place during March 2025.
- 1.2.2 The trees were surveyed visually from the ground using “Visual Tree Assessment” techniques and in accordance with the guiding principles of British Standard 5837:2012.
- 1.2.3 Any additional off-site trees that could impact a new development design have been included in the tree survey parameters.
- 1.2.4 tree positions were plotted on an Ordnance Survey map base-layer using enhanced GPS technology (1-2m accuracy) and laser distance measurer.
- 1.2.5 This report has been prepared by Adam Winson, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, MArborA, Principal and Director of AWA Tree Consultants Ltd. The tree survey data collection was carried out by James Brown, BSc (Hons) Arboriculture, MArborA, Arboriculturist at AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.
- 1.2.6 Full qualifications and experience are included within **Appendix 1**. Explanatory details regarding the survey methodology are included within **Appendix 2**. A full explanation of the tree data can be found at **Appendix 3**. Full details of all the trees surveyed are found in **Appendix 4**. For tree locations please refer to the Tree Constraints Plan at **Appendix 5** and for detail of the impacts of the new development refer to the Tree Impacts Plan at **Appendix 6**.

## 2. The Site

### 2.1 Location and Description

- 2.1.1 The site comprises a plot of land to the west of 8 Cliff Lane, Brierley, Barnsley, South Yorkshire. A residential property is situated to the north of the site, 8 Cliff Lane is situated to the east of the site, Cliff Lane borders the site's southern boundary and fields are situated to the west of the site.

## 3. The Trees

### 3.1 Legal

- 3.1.1 The following advice is for guidance purposes only. Some trees are protected by legislation, and it is essential that the legal status of trees is established prior to carrying out works to them. Unauthorised work to protected trees could lead to prosecution, resulting in enforcement action such as fines or a criminal record. Tree Preservation Orders, Conservation Areas, Planning Conditions, Felling Licences or Restrictive Covenants legally protect many trees in the UK.
- 3.1.2 An online search was undertaken with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council on 17<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 to check whether any trees at the site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or are located within a Conservation Area. As of this date no trees at the site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or are within a Conservation Area.
- 3.1.3 Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, before authorising any tree works a further check should be made with the Local Planning Authority to confirm if any trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or are within a Conservation Area. If either applies, then statutory permission is required before any works can take place (unless such work is approved as part of full planning permission).
- 3.1.4 The Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website was used to search for areas of ancient woodlands listed on the Ancient Woodland (DEFRA 2025), and a check for catalogued Ancient and Veteran trees using the woodland trust ancient tree inventory (ATI) (Woodland Trust 2025). It was confirmed that there are no designated ancient woodlands or veteran or ancient trees within the survey area.
- 3.1.5 Trees provide a wide range of habitats for many species, some of which are legally protected such as bats, nesting birds, badgers and dormice. It

is essential that appropriate care is taken to ensure that this legislation is not contravened.

- 3.1.6 When appointing a tree surgeon, only properly qualified and experienced companies should be used, who have adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance.
- 3.1.7 All tree work should be carried out according to British Standard 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

## **3.2 Tree Survey Results**

- 3.2.1 The tree survey revealed 2 items of woody vegetation, comprised of 1 individual tree and 1 tree group.
- 3.2.2 Of the surveyed trees: 1 tree is retention category 'B', and 1 tree group is retention category 'C' (explanatory details regarding the retention categories are included at Appendix 3).
- 3.2.3 Full details of the surveyed tree and tree group are provided in the attached tree data schedule at Appendix 4. General comments are provided below:
- 3.2.4 The surveyed tree and tree group are adjacent. There are no significant trees or tree groups within the site.
- 3.2.5 The surveyed tree and tree group are situated to the south of the site, on lower ground than the site, with compacted Cliff Lane between the tree and tree group and the site.
- 3.2.6 T1 is an early mature Oak of moderate value. The tree has a moderate lean to the south west and the lower crown has been flailed.
- 3.2.7 G2 is a semi mature linear tree primarily comprised of Hawthorn with the occasional Elder. The tree group was likely historically a layered hedge and has been managed through flailing.
- 3.2.8 The tree Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree has been plotted as a polygon centred on the base of the stem. Due to the presence of roads, structures, topography (and past tree management) the RPA is likely to be a simplified representation of the tree roots actual morphology and disposition. However, detailed modifications to the shape of the RPA would largely be based on conjecture and so have been avoided.
- 3.2.9 Some lower value tree, hedge and shrub groups do not have RPAs detailed on tree plans. The detailed extent and spread of these low value groups, in conjunction with the tree schedule, is sufficient to assess the associated potential constraints.

### 3.3 Photographs



Photo 1: T1, from north, from 8 Cliff Lane

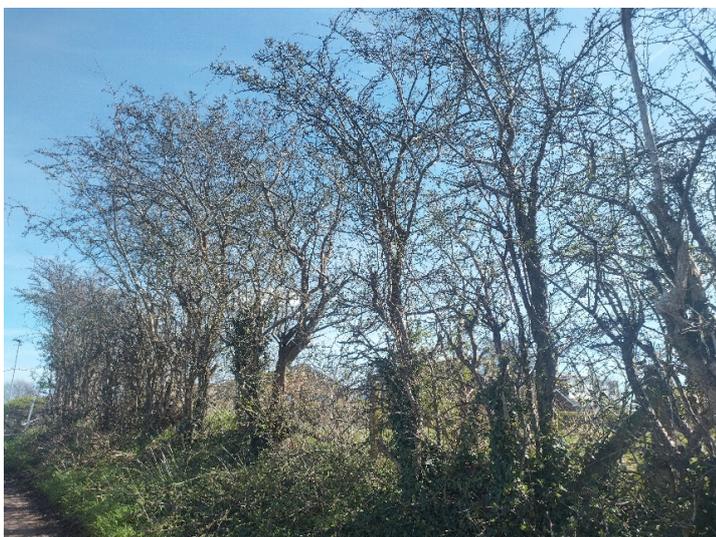


Photo 2: G2, from south west, from Cliff Lane



Photo 3: Cliff Lane, from north east, with T1 and G2 on the left, and 8 Cliff Lane on the right

## 4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

### 4.1 Proposed New Development

4.1.1 It is proposed to build a new stables building. The development proposals have been provided by my client and inform this arboricultural impact assessment and the Tree Impacts Plan at Appendix 6.

### 4.2 Direct Impacts

4.2.1 From assessing the new development proposals, no trees or tree groups will require removal to facilitate the development, with all trees and tree groups able to be retained as part of the development.

4.2.2 No tree pruning works are required to facilitate the development.

### 4.3 Indirect Impacts

4.3.1 The tree Root Protection Area (RPA) detailed on the Tree Plans at Appendices 5 and 6, has been used as a layout design tool, to inform on the area around a tree where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.

4.3.2 No indirect impacts have been identified to the retained trees and tree groups at the site.

4.3.3 The proposed new stable building is situated outside of the RPAs of T1 and G2. T1 and G2 are situated on lower ground than the site, with compacted Cliff Lane between T1 and G2 and the site, and the proposed new stable building will have no negative impact on T1 and G2.

4.3.4 The buildability of the proposed development has been assessed in terms of access, adequate working space and provision for the storage of materials, including topsoil, in relation to the trees.

## 5. Signature

I trust this report provides all the required information.

Signed



.....  
**Adam Winson**, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, ACIEEM

**19<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

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At AWA Tree Consultants, we are proud to partner with the local charity, Kids Plant Trees. This collaboration allows us to support a cause that reflects our commitment to trees and the environment while making a positive impact on local communities.

Kids Plant Trees is a grassroots charity dedicated to improving tree equity by planting trees in underserved areas with limited green spaces, often in communities facing higher levels of deprivation.

We are proud to support their mission to create greener, healthier environments for future generations.



# Appendices

**Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications and Experience**

**Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations**

**Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions**

**Appendix 4: Tree Data**

**Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan**

**Appendix 6: Tree Impacts Plan**

## Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications & Experience

**Adam Winson: Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, MArborA, ACIEEM, QTRA Registered**

Adam is the company Director and Principal Consultant. He has a mix of the highest-level academic qualifications and relevant work experience. He has worked within the tree care profession for over 20 years and was awarded an MSc in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, with distinction. Adam is a Chartered Arboriculturist and a Registered Consultant with the Institute of Chartered Foresters, a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association and he has original research published by the UK Forestry Commission. His work ranges from individual expert tree inspections to managing trees on major infrastructure projects. His work often involves trees with preservation orders or litigation, and he has appeared as a tree expert, at planning appeal hearings up to the crown court. Adam also regularly undertakes locum Tree Officer work for several Local Planning Authorities.

**James Brown: BSc (Hons) Arboriculture, MArborA, PTI (Lantra), QTRA Registered**

James is a highly experienced and qualified Arboricultural Consultant. He has a BSc (Hons) in Arboriculture, attaining first class honours, as well as being awarded the Institute of Chartered Foresters student award. He is a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association, an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Foresters, and he is working towards becoming a Chartered Arboriculturist. James joined AWA in 2016, he has many years' experience as an Arboricultural Consultant, he previously worked in Europe's largest container tree nursery and he has experience of local authority Tree Officer work.

**James Godfrey: BA (Hons), FdSc Arboriculture and Tree Management, TechArborA, PTI (Lantra), QTRA Registered**

James has had extensive arboricultural experience working as an arborist within the public and private sector. While working at AWA, James completed his FdSc in Arboriculture and Tree Management, graduating with a distinction and was also awarded for achieving the highest overall mark in his year. James has used his arboricultural knowledge to inform and carry out accurate tree surveys and produce detailed reports that aim to balance appropriate tree retention with the requirements of landowners.

**Joe Thomas: MSci Biology, Award L4 Arboriculture, TechArborA, PTI (Lantra), QTRA Registered**

Joe achieved a first class degree in Biology with an integrated Masters (MSci) from the University of Sheffield. Additionally, he has a Level 4 Award in Arboriculture. Joe joined AWA after an Urban Forestry role with the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust and Sheffield City Council, where he gained a variety of experience in different aspects of the arboriculture sector.

**Lucy Garbutt: MSc, PGCert, BSc (Hons) Biology, PTI (Lantra), TechArborA, QTRA Registered**

Lucy graduated with a masters degree in Animal Behaviour from the UK's highest rated university, St Andrews of Scotland, immediately following the completion of her BSc degree in Biology from Lancaster University. Lucy has experience in botany and plant science and moved into arboriculture after previous experience of protected species and botanical surveys with a large environmental consulting company.

**Sophie Beckerman: BA (Hons), Dip Arboriculture Level 4, PTI (Lantra), TechArborA, QTRA Registered**

Sophie has more than 10 years' experience as an arborist, working for a variety of private companies as well as undertaking tree management with Sheffield City Council Ranger Service and The Wildlife Trust. Her expertise in arboriculture is demonstrated in the practical NPTC qualifications gained, and her excellent knowledge is reflected in the L4 diploma in Arboriculture, which she completed while working. Her roles as a climbing arborist and team leader included estimating for jobs and project management, supervising tree contracting teams - ensuring that work is carried out safely and efficiently and that health and safety standards are adhered to, and risk assessments are carried out.

**Ross Lane: FdSc Environmental Conservation, Diploma Arboriculture, MArborA, PTI (Lantra), QTRA Registered**

Ross has a diverse background spanning horticulture, arboriculture, and ecology. Ross has extensive experience conducting surveys throughout the UK and has worked on projects of all sizes, including major infrastructure projects such as HS2. In his previous role as a Tree Inspector at Derbyshire County Council, projects involved managing the county wide tree stock in relation to the ash dieback response and contributing to ambitious County Council targets of planting a million trees. Possessing professional-level membership with the Arboricultural Association, coupled with a comprehensive range of qualifications from tree risk assessment to habitat management, underscores Ross' dedication in professional arboriculture.

## Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations

The survey was undertaken in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*. The trees were assessed objectively and without reference to any proposed site layout. The trees were surveyed from the ground using 'Visual Tree Assessment' (VTA) methodology. VTA is appropriate and is endorsed by industry guidance. It is used by arboriculturists to evaluate the structural integrity of a tree, relying on observation of trees biomechanical and physiological features. Measurements are obtained using a diameter tape, clinometer, laser distometer and loggers tape. Where this is not practical measurements are estimated. Tree groups have been identified in instances as defined in BS 5837:2012. Shrubs and insignificant trees may have been omitted from the survey.

This report represents a BS 5837:2012 tree survey and should not be accepted as a detailed tree safety inspection report; however, tree related hazards are recorded and commented upon where observed, yet no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree. All recommended tree work must be to BS 3998:2010 - '*Tree Work: Recommendations*'.

The findings and recommendations contained within this report are valid for a period of twelve months from the date of survey. The author shall not be responsible for events which happen after this time due to factors which were not apparent at the time, and the acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with these guidelines and terms.

## Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

**HEIGHT** of the tree is measured from the stem base in metres. Where the ground has a significant slope the higher ground is selected.

**CROWN HEIGHT** is an indication of the average height at which the crown begins.

**STEM DIAMETER** is measured at 1.5 metres above (higher) ground level. Where the tree is multi-stemmed at this point; the diameter is measured close to ground level or else a combined stem diameter is calculated.

**CROWN SPREAD** is measured from the centre of the stem base to the tips of the branches in all four cardinal points.

**AGE CLASS** of the tree is described as young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature, or over-mature.

**PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION** is classed as good, fair, poor, or dead. This is an indication of the health of the tree and takes into account vigour, presence of disease and dieback.

**STRUCTURAL CONDITION** is classed as good, fair or poor. This is an indication of the structural integrity of the tree and takes into account significant wounds, decay and quality of branch junctions.

**LIFE EXPECTANCY** is classed as; less than 10 years, 10-20 years, 20-40 years, or more than 40 years. This is an indication of the number of years before removal of the tree is likely to be required.

### Retention Categories

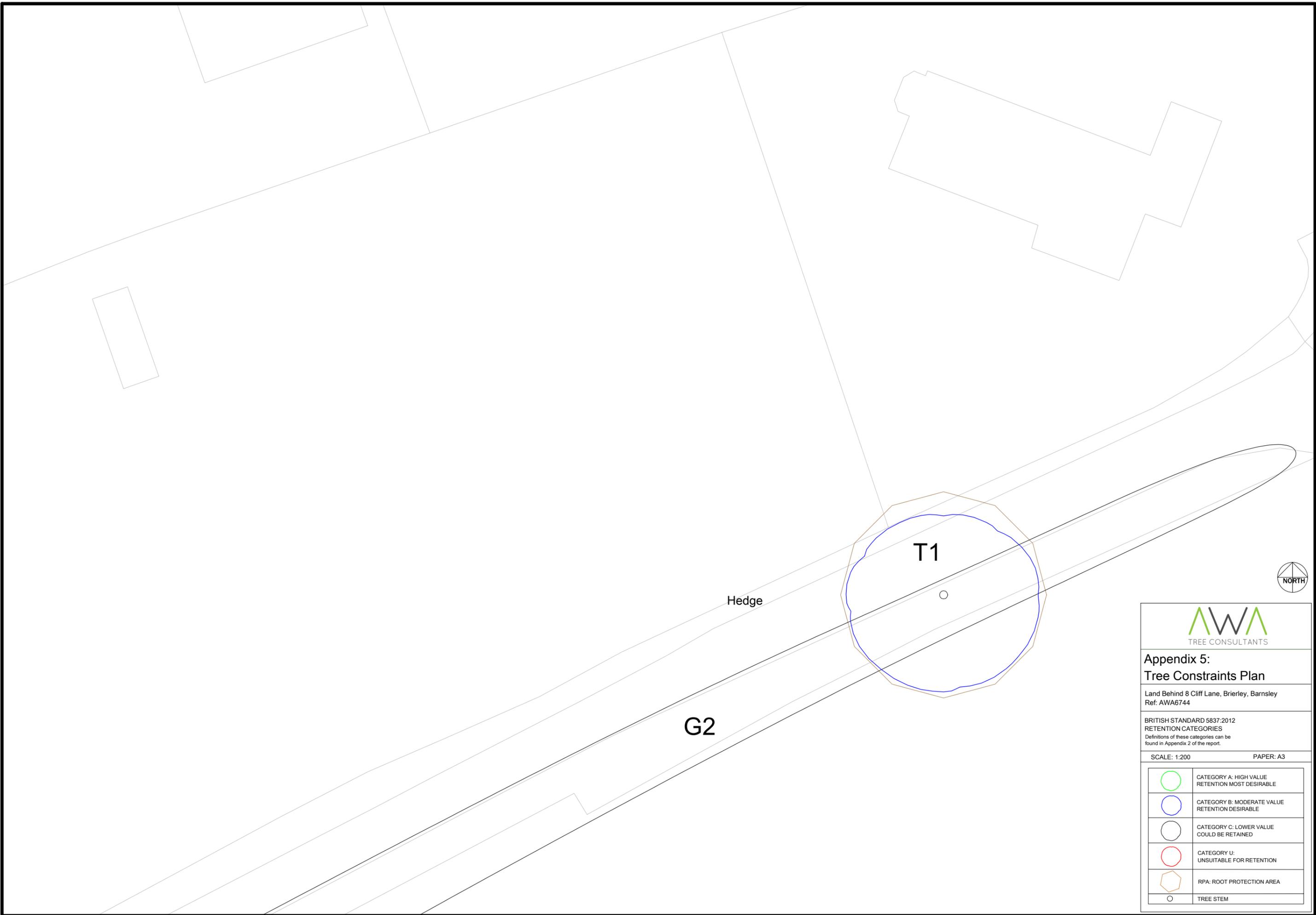
**A (marked in green on Appendix 5) = retention most desirable.** These trees are of very high quality and value with a good life expectancy.

**B (marked in blue on Appendix 5) = retention desirable.** These trees are of good quality and value with a significant life expectancy.

**C (marked in grey on Appendix 5) = trees which could be retained.** These trees are of low or average quality and value, and are in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established.

**U (marked in red on Appendix 5) = trees unsuitable for retention.** These trees are in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years.

Tree ID	Tree Species		Maturity	Measurements				Crown (m)				Tree Condition				Value		Management				
	Common Name	Latin Name		Height (m)	Stems	Stem Diameter (mm)	Estimated	Crown height	N	E	S	W	Roots	Stem	Crown	Comments	Physiological	Structural	Life Expectancy	Amenity	Category	Works
T1	Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Early-mature	11	2	440, 270	No	4	5	6	6	6	No visual defects	Twin stemmed at 1m. Moderate lean south west. Ivy covered	Minor deadwood. Ivy covered	Adjacent but accessible. Situated on lower ground than site. Compacted Cliff Lane between tree and site. Union of two main stems appears sound. Ivy prevented detailed inspection. Lower crown flailed.	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Moderate	B	No works required
G2	Hawthorn. Elder.	<i>Crataegus sp.</i> <i>Sambucus sp.</i>	Semi-mature	6	10	100	No	0	See plan				Adjacent but accessible. Linear hedge type group. Primarily Hawthorn with occasional Elder. Layered. Occasional gaps. Flailed. Minor cavities and minor decay throughout. Situated on lower ground than site. Compacted Cliff Lane between group and site. Fence within group. Ivy covered.				Good	Fair	>40 yrs	Low	C	No works required



**Appendix 5:  
Tree Constraints Plan**

Land Behind 8 Cliff Lane, Brierley, Barnsley  
Ref: AWA6744

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012  
RETENTION CATEGORIES  
Definitions of these categories can be  
found in Appendix 2 of the report.

SCALE: 1:200 PAPER: A3

	CATEGORY A: HIGH VALUE RETENTION MOST DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY B: MODERATE VALUE RETENTION DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY C: LOWER VALUE COULD BE RETAINED
	CATEGORY U: UNSUITABLE FOR RETENTION
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM



Site entrance  
from 8 Cliff Lane

Grass

Proposed stables

Hedge

T1

G2



**Appendix 6:  
Tree Impacts Plan**

Land Behind 8 Cliffe Lane, Brierley, Barnsley  
Ref: AWA6744

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012

SCALE: 1:200 PAPER: A3

	TREE/ TREE GROUP/ HEDGE TO BE RETAINED
	TREE/ TREE GROUP/ HEDGE TO BE REMOVED
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM