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Report type: **Aboricultural Implication Assessment**

Client: **Maton Homes Ltd**

Site address: **Needlewood
Keresforth Hill Road
Birchwood
Barnsley**

Date: **Tree inspection undertaken: 10 October 2015
Report completed: 10 November 2015**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1

This report has been prepared to consider the arboricultural implications of a proposed residential development at Needlewood, Keresforth Hill Road, Barnsley. I am requested to make specific recommendations on the influence of development proposals, arboricultural work and methods of tree protection. Only trees considered relevant to the proposed development footprint have been included in the report. In this regard the peripheral wooded areas of the site can become subject of future woodland management proposals. The nature and scale of such proposals may require the prior agreement of the Forestry Commission and will be dependent on a future use and management of the grounds.

1.2

Accompanying this report is a tree survey schedule at Section 5, a Tree Constraints Plan at appendix 1 and a proposed Site Layout Plan at appendix 2.

2. SITE

2.1

Refer to the Planning Statement prepared by Peter Dimberline Limited.

2.2

This vacant property which was formerly within Local Authority ownership is set within a broadly triangular plot on a south facing slope. The abundant tree cover present gives the impression of woodland effectively masking the previously developed interior when viewed from the public highway. Elsewhere overgrown grassed areas, ornamental and senescent fruit trees that once surrounded the former building remain on site.

2.3

The area surrounding the site is open in character. Tree cover within this area is moderate in terms of tree numbers and species mix, being defined by prevailing land uses. Such tree cover is weighted towards the mature age range.

2.4

Due to previous site management it would be considered the majority of open soils will be free draining and reasonably fertile.

3. NAME OF INSPECTOR

3.1

Stephen Waterson

4. STATUS OF TREES

4.1

It is understood that none of the sites tree cover is the subject to Tree Preservation Order or Conservation Area controls. In the case of trees that are subject of planning application procedures it is essential the Local Authority's advice is sought and where necessary consent obtained before undertaking any tree removal or pruning operations. Similarly any wider woodland management operations that involve the removal of a licensable volume of tree material should first be agreed with the Forestry Commission.

5.0. SURVEY CONDITIONS, METHODS AND BASIS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1

The survey details were prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 - Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction, providing an assessment as to the condition of each tree and desirability for retention within the development context. The details of the tree report should be self-explanatory; however it may help to explain the following;

Unless otherwise stated all measurements are taken in metres (m).

Stem diameter - is measured at 1.5m above ground level.

Certain measurements such as crown spreads and tree height are not listed where they do not add value to the process.

Age of tree - is expressed as young (Y), semi mature (SM), early mature (EM), mature (M), and over mature (OM) and veteran (V).

Estimated remaining contribution – relates to a trees useful life expectancy.

BS 5837 category grading – is a methodology for evaluating existing tree stock and is summarized as follows;

U = Seriously defective having little value that would most probably be lost within 10 years in the current context (red on plan).

A = Trees of high quality, with a life expectancy in excess of 40 years (green on plan).

B = Trees of moderate quality, with a life expectancy in excess of 20 years (blue on plan).

C = Trees of low quality, with a life expectancy in excess of 10 years (grey on plan).

1 = Trees with arboricultural values

2 = Trees with mainly landscape values

3 = Trees with mainly cultural values

RPA (radii) - Is the normal minimum distance specified in BS5837:2012, Annex D and which ordinarily influences the siting of protective fencing, which in turn helps define the "Construction Exclusion Zone". In this particular instance the individual/group RPA radii is denoted on plan by the colour coding used in BS5837 category grading.

Preliminary management recommendations – Where tree removal is recommended solely to facilitate the proposed development a statement is made to this effect.

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1318	Sycamore	0.3	12	N-0 E-7 S-6 W-5	EM	Poor suppressed form with bias towards highway. Minor dead wood & snags.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	10+	C2	3.6
1319	Birch	0.4	15	N-4 E-5 S-7 W-4	M	Elliptical crown due to competition otherwise reasonable condition.	Retain	10+	C2	4.8
1320	Birch	0.3	13	N-7 E-2 S-0 W-2	M	Very poor suppressed form. Removal will aid 1319.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	3.6
1321	Yew	0.3	8	N-3 E-3 S-3 W-2	EM	Somewhat suppressed though otherwise reasonable condition. Minor dead wood & snags. Conflict with existing access/deliveries.	Development loss.	10+	C2	3.6
1322	Red Horse Chestnut	0.45	15	N-0 E-6 S-8 W-6	OM	One sided crown due to competition from 1323. Heavily cankered bole. Major basal decay evident. Removal will aid 1323.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	5.4
1323	Horse Chestnut	0.9	17	N-10 E-10 S-10 W-10	M	Specimen tree, minor dead wood/snags. Signs of potential Horse Chestnut Bleeding Canker evident.	Retain, crown lift, crown clean & monitor progressive Bleeding Canker.	20+	B2	10.8
1324	Oak	<0.5 m/s	17	N-7 E-7 S-7 W-7	SM	Forks at 0.5m. Minor wound to lower north west facing stem.	Development loss	10+	C2	5
1327	Yew	0.45	12	N-5 E-5 S-4 W-3	M	Outgrown hedgerow feature of reasonable form. Minor dead wood & snags. Fire scorched lower crown.	Development Loss	20+	C2	5.4
1328	Yew	<0.4 m/s	6	N-4 E-4 S-4 W-4	M	Denotes the most westerly extent of an over grown Yew hedge. Long neglected & in need of major reduction/corrective pruning.	Reduce initially to 1m with a view to achieving a finished height of 1.5m	10+	C2	4

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1329	Copper Beech	0.6	12	N-6 E-6 S-5 W-7	OM	Has been cut back and left as a 12ft monolith.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	7.2
1336	Pine	0.4	13	N-3 E-3 S-7 W-5	M	Major basal wounds at 1.5m to either side of stem. Elevated crown increases leverage on seriously weakened bole. Concern is that the defects could be linked in turn compromising the structural integrity of the tree.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	4.8
1337	Beech	0.3	9	N-3 E-3 S-5 W-5	SM	Major decay from 1m-6m on main stem.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	3.6
1338	Copper Beech	0.4	14	N-7 E-7 S-7 W-7	SM	Attractive tree with minor snags & dead wood. Will achieve greater visual impact with reduction of adjacent Yew hedge (1328).	Retain, crown lift & crown clean	20+	B2	4.8
1339	Oak	0.35	14	N-6 E-4 S-6 W-6	SM	Attractive tree with minor snags & dead wood. Will achieve greater visual impact with reduction of adjacent Yew hedge (1328).	Retain, crown lift & crown clean	20+	B2	4.2
1340	Sycamore	0.3	13	N-5 E-5 S-5 W-5	SM	Reasonable tree though competing with 1339.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	10+	C2	3.6
1341	Oak	0.35	13	N-5 E-5 S-5 W-5	SM	Attractive tree with minor snags & dead wood. Will achieve greater visual impact with reduction of adjacent Yew hedge (1328).	Retain, crown lift & crown clean	20+	B2	4.2
1342	Oak	0.15	11	N-4 E-2 S-5 W-5	SM	Suppressed pole type material, competing with 1341.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	10+	C2	1.8

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1343	Ash	0.1	9	N-0 E-2 S-5 W-4	SM	Heavily suppressed/distorted bole & crown.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	1.8
1344	Hawthorn	0.5	8	N-4 E-4 S-4 W-4	M	Outgrown hedgerow feature in acceptable condition.	No work required	10+	C2	6
1345	Ash	<0.5 m/s x 4	14	N-8 E-8 S-8 W-8	M	Ivy covered to 6m limited close inspection. Poor multi stemmed form, minor snags & dead wood.	Retain, crown lift & crown clean	10+	C2	5
1346	Ash	<0.3 m/s x 4	13	N-7 E-5 S-7 W-7	M	Poor multi stemmed form. Historic fire damage to 3 of 4 stems.	Remove for arboricultural management reasons.	10+	U	3
1347	Ash	<0.3 m/s x 2	16	N-7 E-7 S-7 W-7	M	Twin stems from ground level with acceptable u shaped union.	Development loss	10+	C2	3
1348	Ash	<0.4 m/s x 2	16	N-3 E-5 S-5 W-3	M	Twin stems from ground level & of poor suppressed form.	Development loss	10+	C2	4
1349	Sycamore	<0.35 m/s x 2	14	N-5 E-7 S-8 W-6	EM	Twin stems from ground level with acceptable u shaped union.	Development loss	10+	C2	3.5
1350-1357	8 No. Beech	<0.6	<13	N-<5 E-<7 S-<5 W-<7	M	Collectively an attractive and visually significant boundary feature. However 1350 has major wound present on stem at 1.5m high that has partially occluded though significant decay present. 1351 has been removed. 1354 is heavily decayed with hollow present in stem at 4 -7m high. 1356 has been removed. 1357 is dead. Remaining trees contain minor snags & dead wood.	Remove 1354 & 1357 for arboricultural management reasons. Monitor 1350.	20+	B2	7.2

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1358-1366, 1366i & 1366ii	11 No. Hybrid Poplar	<0.9	<18	N-<9 E-<9 S-<9 W-<9	OM	Short lived trees of poor form. Larger of group 1366B heavily cankered. 1358-1366A show relatively low vitality. All trees contain dead wood & snags. Some useful natural regeneration arising under tree canopies if given space to develop. Removal of this group would provide opportunity to supplement existing boundary planting with more sustainable species.	Remove trees for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	10.8
1367	Plum	0.3	7	N-6 E-5 S-3 W-3	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	3.6
1368	Apple	0.4	7	N-5 E-5 S-5 W-5	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	4.8
1369	Apple	0.2	6	N-3 E-3 S-3 W-3	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value. Basal wound present.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	2.4
1373	Apple	0.15	4	N-1 E-2 S-5 W-4	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	1.8
1374	Holly	0.2 m/s	5	N-4 E-4 S-4 W-4	M	Multi stemmed & of poor form.	Development loss	10+	C2	2
1375	Pear	0.4	11	N-2 E-4 S-6 W-6	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	C2	4
1376	Pear	0.3	9	N-2 E-4 S-2 W-3	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	C2	3.6

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1377	Pear	0.4 m/s	7	N-0 E-1 S-6 W-4	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	4
1378	Pear	0.25	7	N-0 E-1 S-6 W-4	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	C2	3
1379	Apple	0.15	5	N-1 E-0 S-4 W-4	OM	Over mature remnant of long neglected orchard. Now of poor form with low vitality & multiple defects. No longer managed for fruiting value.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	10+	C2	1.8
1380	Beech	0.3	13	N-6 E-6 S-0 W-6	EM	Growing tight to 1381 & of poor repeatedly lopped form, creating a congested crown structure with multiple defects.	Development loss	10+	C2	3.6
1381	Beech	0.45	13	N-0 E-6 S-6 W-6	EM	Growing tight to 1380 & of poor repeatedly lopped form, which has created a congested crown structure with multiple defects.	Development loss	10+	C2	3.6
1383	Blue Atlantic Cedar	0.65	18	N-7 E-7 S-7 W-7	M	Attractive specimen tree. Bole divides at 5m to form co dominant leaders with noticeable reaction growth around the included union. This growth characteristic is repeated in several places within the upper crown. In the case of the western most leader this stem has previously failed at approx 10m height leaving a major concave wound. Further failure can be anticipated as decay develops around the wound together with the potential failure of other problematic forks within the crown.	Remove for arboricultural management reasons & development loss.	10+	C2	7.8
1384	Red Horse Chestnut	0.65	15	N-5 E-5 S-5 W-5	OM	Over mature extensively cankered typical of age & species. Minor snags & deadwood.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	7.8

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1385	Ash	0.3	16	N-5 E-5 S-5 W-5	SM	Reasonable tree with minor snags & dead wood.	Retain, crown lift & crown clean	10+	C2	3.6
1391	Cypress	0.1	9	N-1 E-2 S-3 W-0	M	Inconsequential tree of very poor suppressed form.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	1.2
1393	Yew	<0.35 m/s x x 2	8	N-6 E-4 S-5 W-5	M	Reasonable twin stemmed tree with minor suppression, snags & dead wood. Conflict with light standard & existing access/deliveries. Replaceable within development context by more desirable planting.	Development loss	10+	C2	4.2
1394	Damson	<0.3 m/s x 3	8	N-4 E-4 S-4 W-3	M	Inconsequential triple stemmed tree of poor form. Adversely impacting on 1393. Replaceable within development context by more desirable planting.	Development loss	0-10	U	3
1395	Goat Willow	<0.05 m/s x many	9	N-6 E-6 S-6 W-6	Y	Inconsequential multi stemmed tree of poor form, replaceable within development context by more desirable planting.	None at present	10+	C2	1.2
1396	Ash	0.05	9	N-2 E-2 S-2 W-2	Y	Inconsequential newly established tree, shows promise if retained however replaceable within development context by more desirable planting.	None at present	10+	C2	0.6
1397	Goat Willow	0.15	9	N-4 E-4 S-4 W-4	SM	Inconsequential tree, replaceable within development context by more desirable planting.	None at present	10+	C2	1.8

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1399	Birch	<0.3 m/s x 2	12	N-4 E-4 S-4 W-4	M	Dual co-dominant stems from 0.5m that are tightly included & will be prone to failure.	Remove tree for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	3
1400	Ash	0.1	9	N-3 E-3 S-3 W-3	Y	Inconsequential newly established tree, shows promise if retained however replaceable within development context by desirable planting.	None at present	10+	C2	1.2
1401	Sycamore	0.1	12	N-5 E-5 S-5 W-5	Y	Inconsequential newly established tree, just about retainable within development context, though replacement by more desirable planting is favoured.	None at present	10+	C2	1.2
1402	Norway Maple	<0.2 m/s x 3	12	N-6 E-2 S-6 W-6	SM	Triple stemmed from ground level with tightly included unions that will be prone to failure.	None at present	10+	C2	2
1403	Sycamore	0.15	12	N-1 E-2 S-4 W-1	SM	Overcrowded & inconsequential suppressed pole type material.	None at present	10+	C2	2
1404	Ash	0.1	13	N-3 E-3 S-3 W-3	Y	Inconsequential newly established tree, shows promise if retained however replaceable within development context by desirable planting.	None at present	10+	C2	1.2
1405	Norway Maple	<0.4 m/s x 2	13	N-6 E-6 S-6 W-6	SM	Dual stems from 0.3m that are tightly included & will be prone to failure.	None at present	10+	C2	3
1406	Birch	0.1	13	N-4 E-4 S-4 W-4	SM	Overcrowded & inconsequential suppressed pole type material.	None at present	10+	C2	2
1407	Laurel	<0.5 m/s	12	N-7 E-7 S-7 W-7	M	Heavily lopped specimen.	None at present	10+	C2	5

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1409	Norway Maple	0.4	14	N-6 E-6 S-6 W-6	EM	Reasonable tree though of somewhat cluttered appearance. Appears to have overcome a partial root plate failure in its infancy. Minor snags, dead wood & crossing branches.	None at present	10+	C2	4.8
1410	Sycamore	0.45	12	N/A	EM	Specimen with poor structure and physiology. Also possesses extensive crown dieback.	Remove for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	5.4
1411	Oak	0.4	13	N/A	EM	Has reformed a clearly defined leader with south facing bow. Minor snags and dead wood present. Tree of reasonable quality.	Remove lower bow and crown clean	20+	B2	4.8
1412	Ash	0.4	14	N/A	EM	Specimen with a thinning crown although is showing some signs of recovery. Possesses a basal wound at 30cm to 2m high that has largely occluded. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	4.8
1413	Ash	0.35	12	N/A	EM	Poor quality tree with extensive dieback although is regenerating from 3m high.	Remove for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	4.2
1414	Ash	0.5	14	N/A	M	A well-formed specimen of reasonable quality. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	6
1415	Ash	0.35	14	N/A	EM	A reasonable specimen with low limb constrained by rope. Elliptical crown and minor snags and dead wood. Could remove to favour 1416.	None at present	20+	B2	4.2
1416	Oak	0.42	13	N/A	EM	A well-formed specimen with no visible defects. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	5
1417	Oak	0.62	13	N/A	M	Possesses a contorted lower bole; however is a well-formed tree overall. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	7.4
1418	Oak	0.45	13	N/A	M	Possesses a contorted lower bole; however is a well-formed tree overall. Minor snags and dead wood. Cambial layer constrained by rope at 4m.	None at present	20+	B2	5.4
1419	Sycamore	0.25	12	N/A	EM	Possesses a basal wound from ground to 1.5m. An unbalanced, declining specimen.	Remove for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	3
1420	Ash	0.35	14	N/A	EM	A well-formed specimen with elliptical crown. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	4.2

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1421	Sycamore	0.25	8	N/A	EM	Poor quality specimen in severe decline with necrotic bark and major wound from ground to 4m high.	Remove for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	3
1422	Ash	0.35	14	N/A	EM	Poor quality specimen with major root collar and buttress roots	Remove for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	4.2
1423	Ash	0.75	14	N/A	M	Specimen with elongated limb. Possesses an ivy covered stem and becomes co-dominant from 3m.	None at present	10+	C2	9
1424	Ash	0.35	14	N/A	EM	A well-formed tree with no visible defects. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	4.2
1425	Ash	0.40	14	N/A	EM	A well-formed tree with no visible defects. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	4.8
1426	Oak	0.40	11	N/A	EM	Specimen with major wound from 0.5 m to 2.5m and heavily suppressed crown.	None at present	10+	C2	4.8
1427	Oak	0.43	11	N/A	EM	Poor quality specimen with extensive decay from ground level to 2m. Pronounced crown bole and biased to south.	Remove for arboricultural management reasons.	0-10	U	5.2
1428	Ash	0.41	15	N/A	EM	Specimen with reasonable form and no visible defects. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	B2	4.9
1429	Ash	0.4	15	N/A	EM	Specimen with pronounced crown biased to south. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	10+	C2	4.8
1430	Ash	0.30	11	N/A	EM	Specimen that has lost its leader at 8m and has developed irregular regrowth.	None at present	10+	C2	3.6
1431	Ash	0.40	10	N/A	EM	Major basal wound from ground to 2.5m with extensive decay. Pronounced crown bole biased to south east. Extensive crown dieback.	Remove for arboriculture management reasons.	0-10	U	4.8
1432	Oak	0.70	16	N/A	M	Major basal wound from ground to 1.5m with extensive decay. Minor snags and dead wood.	None at present	20+	C2	8.4

Tree Ref.	Species	Stem Diameter (m)	Height (m)	Branch Spread (m)	Age class	Structural, physiological condition & comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	BS 5837 category	RPA (radii)
1433	Oak	0.30	10	N/A	EM	A poor quality heavily suppressed specimen that is unlikely to establish into a significant tree.	None at present	20+	C2	3.6

6.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1

The findings of the tree survey schedule at section 5 indicate that of the 96 No. trees surveyed 18No. merit a moderate quality (B) category, 42No. a low (C2) category and 36No. fall within the seriously defective (U) category. In terms of the proposed development it is possible to retain the vast majority of peripheral tree cover. However it is recommended that a total of 52No. trees be removed. Of these 36 No. (U graded) trees are to be removed because they are seriously defective and 22No. low quality (C category) are to be removed in view of their short term value. A further 10No. low quality (C category) trees are to be removed for development reasons alone. The loss of these trees will not overly compromise visual amenity due to the wealth of woodland trees that are to remain around the periphery of the site. This tree cover will effectively screen the development from the Kersforth Hill Road and the wider landscape.

6.2

The survey findings also indicate that many of the retained trees are in need of management. This mainly comprises of routine crown lifting and crown cleaning exercises.

6.3

With regard to potential for tree and shrub planting an opportunity presents itself in the form of the planning application to provide additional plant material in selected locations where existing material is to be removed. In this regard space is available in which to plant several larger growing tree species adjacent to the proposed site access, the extensive rear garden of plot 1 and the rear garden to plot 3 where defective Poplar trees are to be removed. The prescribed planting will clearly help vary the age and species of tree present, providing for continuity of tree cover, to the benefit of nature conservation and visual amenity. The cumulative effect of desirable planting will mitigate for the loss of defective trees, whilst enhancing the future character of the area. I would presume this is a matter the Local Planning Authority would be agreeable to conditioning as part of a planning permission.

6.4

The possibility of root damage upon foundations will need to be addressed. In this regard structures will need to take account of roots, either past, present or future that could impact upon soil moisture levels and possibly contribute to subsidence if the structure of the soil was of a suitable nature.

6.5

The recommendations are therefore in accordance with good management principles and will ensure that a desirable and secure treescape can be achieved.

7.0 TREE PROTECTION DURING CONSTRUCTION

7.1

The final column of the tree survey schedule at Section 5 and the Tree Constraints Plan indicates the Root Protection Area (RPA radii) for all trees. In order to ensure retained trees as shown on the Proposed Site Plan are protected from unnecessary damage or disturbance, protective fencing and ground protection can be erected prior to commencement of any construction operations. Again I would presume this is a matter the Local Planning Authority would be agreeable to conditioning as part of a planning permission.

7.2

Provided satisfactory tree protection is provided development need not compromise the health of retained trees.

8.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

8.1

From the foregoing tree survey findings, comments and observations, it will be seen the development proposal itself requires the removal of 10 No. low (C category) trees. In addition numerous trees are recommended for removal on arboricultural management grounds alone. Trees that are recommended for removal are done so on the basis of their undesirable condition, poor siting, low amenity value and practicalities associated with the building process. Equally important the proposal provides an opportunity to carry out additional landscaping that would enhance visual amenity, biodiversity and the setting of the conservation area for the enjoyment of future generations.

8.2

It is hoped that this report and recommendations provides all necessary information. However should there be any queries or should clarification of any points be required, please contact myself.

Stephen Waterson
Arboricultural Consultant

