



**IAIN TAVENDALE F.Arbor.A.**

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ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANT

**Woolley Colliery Road, Woolley.**

**Site 2 – South.**

**Arboricultural Walkover Assessment – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022.**

Introduction.

Instructions were received from Rouse Homes to undertake a walkover inspection of the above site to provide an introduction to the tree material present and identify any areas of particular interest.

Observations.

The main body of the site appears to contain a mix of primary inhabitants of waste ground, the majority of which were Silver Birch varying in height between 2 & 4m. All material was at tight spacings as would be expected with self-set material and were constant across any areas of open soils.

Health and vitality was considered as reasonable although self-thinning would be expected to cause degeneration of the weaker material within the foreseeable future.

The site has clearly been utilised for various industrial purposes in the past and once abandoned, appears to have been lightly remodelled to restrict access and possibly control water runoff.

The various mounds / bunds were frequently supporting the self-set trees and it is inevitable that all such material would be lost by any site remediation works.

Some areas of hard standing had also been retained none of which had any significant tree material present.

To the approx. south / south west boundary of the site the land falls away quite quickly extending down to the rail track. This banking contained more mature / established trees again, generally in reasonable health.

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Due to their age they were of a reasonable size – possibly approaching some 15m in height but, due to their location on the slope impacts upon the site were relatively minimal.

Good light penetration was observed over the canopies and towards the more western areas, good long distance views were noted across towards the M1 motorway and beyond.

In respect of the northern boundary abutting the sports ground, although access was severely restricted, the land appeared to fall from the main body of the site before rising again up to the sports ground boundary.

Vegetation adjacent to the southern boundary of the sports field appeared relatively simple and comparatively young but, where the boundary turned to the north adjacent to the sports field trees appeared to be of a more mature category and provided a more defined “woodland” feature.

The western / north western section of the site climbed relatively steeply to the off-site sections and again, contained young self-set material. The eastern section of the site abutted Woolley Colliery Road.

Conclusions.

The main body of the site contained mainly young self-set primary inhabitants, the majority of which would be expected to be lost by any reasonable remediation works.

Northern and southern boundaries were more complex however and due to land forms and various grades, the land appears to have been undisturbed for much longer periods resulting in the establishment of more mature trees which, could possibly be retained for amenity, screening and shelter.

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