ARBORICULTURAL REPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES

At:

Belle Green Lane, Cudworth, Barnsley

For:
Mr Wood

DATE:
Sept 2018

Acorn ARBORICULTURE

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1 BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Purpose & Brief

1.1.1 We have been asked to prove further arboricultural advice to assist a planning application with reference to land at **Belle Green Lane, Cudworth, Barnsley.**

1.1.2 We had already provided a Tree survey to BS: 5837 (2012), Tree Constraints Plan to BS: 3837 (2012) and Tree Protection Plan to BS: 5837 (2012). However we understand that the LPA has requested an update to these documents following re-submission of the planning application.

1.1.3 This report therefore updates the previous report and may therefore form part of planning proposals to develop the subject land.

1.2 Documents provided

1.2.1 A site layout plan was provided in hard copy form.

1.3 Background Information

1.3.1 A check was made with the Local Planning Authority on the 4 August 2014. **This check revealed that there is a TPO on the site - TPO no 12 (A1).**

1.3.2 We recommend that the client undertakes a fresh TPO check to confirm the above TPO etc is still extant and to check for any other statutory protection etc on the site.

1.3.3 Acorn advises that no work to trees on the site until the appropriate permissions are granted etc.

2 SURVEY DETAILS

2.1 Surveyor/s

2.1.1 Mark Jennings HND Arboriculture

2.2 Date of Survey

2.2.1 26 July 2014 and September 2018

2.3 Weather Conditions

2.3.1 Dry ground conditions, sunny, no wind, some cloud.

2.4 Site Description

2.4.1 This site currently comprises of one detached cottage set within a reasonable sized garden area that extends northwards of the house. The surroundings are generally residential with houses being typical to the area and the period in which they were built.

2.4.2 The southern boundaries of the subject site are defined with hedging whilst the north and east boundaries are made up of brick walling.

2.4.3 The west boundary is more open aspect due to a driveway that heads in a north/south direction up this boundary although there is some vegetation here too.

2.4.4 The garden has a well maintained lawn and conifer hedges that are cut regularly.

2.4.5 The garden is dominated by fruit trees.

2.5 Data Collection

2.5.1 Data collection was carried out in accordance with the to BS5837 (2010) methodology and details of this is provided at Appendix 1.

2.5.2 Details of all relevant vegetation was assessed and these details are presented at Appendix 2.

2.5.3 Positions of trees and vegetation are shown in the plans appended to this report.

3 TREE DATA SUMMARY

3.1 General

3.1.1 There are 28 items of vegetation on this site. This comprises of 23 trees, three groups of trees and two hedges.

3.1.2 The southern boundaries of the subject site are well defined with hedging made up of predominantly of *Ligustrum*, *Crataegus*, and *Syringia*. However the vegetation in total on the site mainly comprises of small scale fruit trees *Prunus, Malus* and *Pyrus* which tend dominate the site. These trees are in varying conditions but generally poor specimens.

3.1.3 *Chamaecyparis*, *Fagus, Philladelphus and Sambuca* are some of the other species present.

3.1.4 Of the vegetation surveyed nine items are considered to be U category. Such trees would not ordinarily be considered a constraint to development and would often be removed on arboricultural grounds.

3.1.5 The remaining items of vegetation are "C" category and would ordinarily not pose a constraint to development.

3.1.6 The age range of the trees and vegetation varies from young, semi-mature to mature.

4 DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIONS

4.1 The Site

4.1.1 The site comprises of a garden associated with a detached cottage. The garden is reasonable in size and extends to the immediate east of the cottage and up to the north.

4.1.2 Surrounding the site are dwellings typical to the area.

4.1.3 The gardens contain a number of trees, groups and hedges. These have some collective amenity value when viewed from outside the site but this is as a general mass of greenery rather than something significant though.

4.2 The Trees

4.2.1 Focussing in of the trees it is apparent that there are no significant specimens and with all the trees are either classed as “U” category or “C” Category. The trees were re-assessed in accordance with instructions and this revealed that there were no material differences in the trees from our previous report in 2014. Therefore our conclusions remain the same.

4.2.2 The majority of the trees are fruit trees which have been poorly pruned in the past, presumably to stimulate fruit production, but the pruning has not been undertaken in accordance with accepted arboricultural practice.

4.2.3 The poor pruning has unfortunately led to a number of structural defects on most of the trees such as loss of limbs, cavities, branch and entire tree failure and, in general, the population is in overall decline.

4.2.4 It is not anticipated that this decline could be realistically rectified by pruning or other arboricultural treatments.

4.2.5 Given the above, such trees would not ordinarily pose a constraint to development.

4.2.6 Presently trees designated for removal have been highlighted on the tree constraint plan due to abnormalities and/or structural problems. These trees are T2, T3, T7, T10, T11, T12, T13, T21 and T23.

4.3 Arboricultural Impact

4.3.1 It is proposed to remove the following trees, to allow the development to be carried out. H1, G1, H2, G2, T1, T4, T5, T6, T8, T9, T14, T15, T16, T17, T19, T22 and H3. Although this is a high number of trees to be removed given the above considerations and the poor

condition of the trees it is considered justified as the alternative would be the further rapid degradation of fruit trees of questionable public amenity value.

4.3.2 Some trees are proposed to be retained. Although these trees are also fairly poor specimens it is considered that their retention can provide the development with some treescape some privacy is retained and for some wildlife value. The position of proposed temporary tree protection fencing and the trees being retained is shown on the appended tree protection plan. Given the topography of the site and level of build required, tree protection measures in accordance with BS5837 (2012) appears to be relatively straightforward based on the information provided.

4.3.3 As a TPO protects the majority of the trees on site (Pyrus and Malus) consent would be required before these species are removed. There are a number of trees on this site that are not listed on the first schedule of the TPO so consent from the local planning authority is not required but Acorn recommends that this re-checked.

4.3.4 There are various issues with the TPO being placed on fruit trees and it was apparent from our previous advice the area of trees protected bears little reflection to the TPO plan dated 1993. The area (A1) has been eroded to facilitate other developments surrounding the subject site leaving the remaining trees of limited amenity value and only being visible very locally. It would therefore be strongly questioned whether or not the trees are still worthy of statutory protection and indeed there is probably a compelling argument that that they are not.

4.3.5 Nevertheless due to the number of trees proposed for removal to facilitate development of this site, replanting should be strongly considered to ensure tree cover is retained for the future. Appropriate new tree species are as follows and the LPA could condition replacement planting on approval:

- Lime – *Tilia cordata 'Rancho'*
- Silver birch – *Betula pendula*
- Pine – *Pinus sylvestris 'Fastigiata'*
- Hornbeam – *Carpinus betulus 'Fastigiata'*
- Elm – *Ulmus carpinifolia 'Wredei Aurea'*
- Rowan – *Sorbus aucuparia*

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 - SURVEY METHODOLOGY

A visual assessment of each tree was made from ground level in accordance with BS 5837:2005 Trees in relation to construction - Recommendations.

The following information has been collected for each tree and is presented in the spreadsheet at Appendix 1.

Height - measured in metres using a clinometer.

Stem Diameter - measured in millimetres at 1.5m above adjacent ground level.

Spread - the measurement of the branch spread from the stem of the tree to the extent of the canopy in the direction of north, south, east and west.

Crown Clearance - measured from the highest point of the adjacent ground level in metres.

Age Class - described as young, middle aged, mature, over-mature, veteran.

Physiological Condition - classed as good, fair, poor, or dead.

Structural Condition - details of any physical defects and the presence of any decay etc.

Preliminary Management Recommendations - detail of works required including details of further investigations recommended where suspected defects require more detailed assessment and where there is the potential for wildlife habitat.

Estimated Remaining Contribution - expressed in years as; less than 10, 10-20, 20-40 and more than 40.

Category Grading – trees are categorised, in accordance with the cascade chart for tree quality assessment, into one of the following categories;

Trees usually for Removal

Category U
Those in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management.

Trees to be Considered for Retention

Category A
Those of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested).

Category B
Those of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum

of 20 years is suggested).

Category C

Those of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm.

In addition there are three subcategories which should also be applied identifying the main type of value provided by each tree;

1. Mainly arboricultural values
2. Mainly landscape values
3. Mainly cultural values, including conservation

APPENDIX 2 – TREE SCHEDULES

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T1	Field Maple (Acer Campestre)	5	50-100	2	2	2	2	Y	/	Good	30	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Twin stemmed tree, tight branch framework, even crown, no major pruning evident.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T2	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	6m	260-280	3	4	1.5	2	M	/	Poor	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This is a mature tree of poor form, sparse crown, heavily reduced in the past, some reaction growth present, some crown die-back. This tree should be removed on Arboricultural grounds. Low safe useful life expectancy.													Action: Remove	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T3	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	8	240	2	2	2	2	M	/	Poor	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This is a mature tree with crown die back, heavily reduced in the past, very sparse crown, very poor form. Remove on Arboricultural grounds.													Action: Remove	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T4	Cercidiphyllum japonicum	1.6	/	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	Y	/	Good	20+	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Young tree newly planted, no visible signs of pruning, no abnormalities.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T5	Damson (Prunus domestica spp.)	4	100	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	/	/	Good	20	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Multi-stemmed tree, with no visible signs of pruning, tight branch framework.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T6	Apple (Malus sp.)	4+	210	5	1	4	2	Y	/	Moderate	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Single stemmed tree sparse crown, heavily reduced in the past, no long term retention value.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T7	Cherry (Prunus sp.)	2	100	1	1	2	0	Y	/	Poor	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This is a young stunted tree growing by the wall, low safe useful life expectancy due to this position, tree has grown lop sided.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T8	Cherry (Prunus sp.)	2	120-130	2	3	3	2	Y	/	Moderate	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This appears to be a young self-set tree, tight branch framework, some small branch removal in the past, deadwood present within the crown													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T9	Rowan (Sorbus aucuparia)	6	100	2	2	2	2	SM	/	Moderate	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Semi-mature of age, growing very close to wall competing for light due to its position in relation to the wall and neighbouring trees, therefore tall and slim in form. Deadwood present within the crown.													Action:	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T10	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	U		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This tree has been removed in the past; the trunk has stimulated reaction growth to 2+m in height. This tree should be felled to ground level and the stump treated. Fell on Arboricultural grounds. Tree position very close to boundary wall.													Action: Fell stump	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T11	Pear (Pyrus sp)	7	380	2	3	1	3	M	/	Poor	10	U		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This mature tree has been heavily reduced in the past, the work is not in line with approved Arboricultural/Horticultural practises. The canopy is sparse and the tree has a slight lean. Remove on Arboricultural grounds.													Action: Remove	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T12	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	6	50	3	4	3	2	M	/	Poor	10	U		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This mature tree has been heavily reduced in the past; the work is not in line with approved Arboricultural/Horticultural practises. The canopy is sparse and the majority of growth is concentrated high up. Remove on Arboricultural grounds. Close to boundary wall.													Action: Remove	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T13	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	7	310	3	2	1	2	M	/	Poor	10	U		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Heavily reduced in past, some regrowth high up in the crown but is sparse, very close to wall, limbs showing some die-back. Remove on Arboricultural grounds.													Action: Remove	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T14	Holly (Ilex sp.)	2	/	1	1	1	1	Y	/	Moderate	20	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Young tree growing very close to hedge and trees, no pruning evident, tree is growing lop-sided due to its position.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T15	Pear (Prunus sp.)	6	470	2	2	2	2	M	/	Moderate	10		C	Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This tree is covered in Ivy growing very close to boundary wall, limited retention value due to this position. The tree is top heavy and the crown hangs over the boundary wall, deadwood present within the canopy.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T16	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	6	120	2	1.5	3	3	SM	/	Moderate	20	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: No major defects canopy growing to the floor, no pruning evident evenly shaped crown.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T17	Cherry (Prunus sp.)	6	12	1	3	2	2	SM	/	Moderate	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This tree is a triple leader that has been pruned in the past, decay is present within one of the limbs due to this pruning work.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T18	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	6	550	2	5	3.5	4	M	/	Moderate	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Slight lean, lop sided crown due to buildings, dense crown, stubs throughout the crown, has been pruned in the past. One of the best conditioned Pyrus tree on this site. Deadwood present within the crown.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T19	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	7+	340	1.5	2.5	1	2	M	/	Moderate	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Single stem, ivy on the trunk, evidence of past pruning within the crown, slight lean, deadwood present within the crown.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T20	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	5+	320	3	4	2	4	M	/	Poor	10	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Triple leader, cavities present due to poor pruning techniques, pruned in the past, fruit small indicative of stress and old age. Deadwood present within the crown.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T21	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	5-6	430	3	3	2	3	M	/	Poor	10	U		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This tree is covered in ivy, reduced in the past, sparse crown, major decay, splits in a number of limbs. Deadwood present within the canopy, remove on arboricultural grounds.													Action: Remove	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T22	Beech (Fagus sylvatica)	6+	160	2	3	3	3	Y	/	Good	20+	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This is a young tree with an even crown, no major pruning works evident, growing well, some deadwood present within the canopy.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
T23	Pear (Pyrus sp.)	7	330	1.5	4	3.5	2.5	M	/	Good	20	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Twin leader, heavily reduced in the past some re growth, sparse crown, fruit present but small indicative of age, lack of proper pruning, and stress. This tree should be removed on Arboricultural grounds.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
H1	Lilac, Privet, Elder, Hawthorn, Stags Horn Sumach	3m	50 - 150	2	2	2	2	M	/	Good	20	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This hedge has been regularly pruned, although the lilac and elder has grown quicker which means there is a difference in height. Stags Horn sumach is also present, this is a young tree growing in the shade of the hedge which would suggest that it is self-set with a low life expectancy.													Action:	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
H2	Cypress (Chamaecyparis sp.)	3m	100 - 150	1	1	1	1	Y	/	Poor	20	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: This is a young hedge that has been regularly pruned. No major deformities.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
H3	Cypress (Chamaecyparis sp.)	4+	100 - 150	1	1	1	1	SM	/	Moderate	20+	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: No major defects canopy growing to the floor, no pruning evident evenly shaped crown.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
G1	Elder, Philladelphus	2m	20-100	1	1	1	1	M	/	Good	10+	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: Young trees no visible pruning evident, in the shade of the hedge.													Action: No action	

Item No.	Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Spread (m)				Age Class	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological condition	LE (years)	Category Grading	Condition	Amenity value
				N	S	E	W							
G2	Damson (Prunus domestica spp.)	6-9m	50-190	3	3	4	3	M	/	Moderate	20+	C		Low
Structural Condition/Notes: These trees are probably self-set, 11m in length, no major pruning works have been carried out to them. They are multi-stemmed and growing competitively with each other. The crowns are dense and there are lots of crossing branches present. .													Action: No action	

APPENDIX 5 – GENERAL GUIDELINES AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. All tree work should be carried out by qualified Arboricultural Contractors with at least £1 Million Public Liability Insurance cover.

2. Tree work must be carried out to BS 3998 which specifies recommendations for tree work.

3. The acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with the terms and guidelines listed within this report.

4. No liability can be accepted by the consultant in respect of the trees unless the recommendations within this report are carried out under his supervision. Nor shall the consultant be responsible for events which happen after the time of the survey due to factors which were not evident at the time.

5. Tree work is inherently dangerous and should only be undertaken by insured, qualified contractors the following contractor is suitably qualified and insured to carry out tree works.

6. An appropriately qualified contractor to undertake work to trees is Salter Tree Services (Wayne Salter) on: 01226 384854 or mobile 07967 203471

7. This report and any accompanying plans etc remains the property of Acorn Arboriculture and may not be reproduced until all fees are paid.