TREE CONSULTANTS

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HD8 8QJ

10th October 2016
Ref: AWA1678

Arboricultural Report
at:
'Plot 2', Delf Garth, High Street, Dodworth, Barnsley

Introduction

As instructed, I have visited the above site and inspected, from ground level, the trees growing within the site. The trees were assessed with regard to health and safety, good arboricultural management and the structural integrity of the adjacent retaining wall structure.

The site forms part of a wider development site area known as Delf Garth. The site is at a higher level than the adjacent public footpath and road. A boundary wall drops down to the footpath along High Street. The site contains seven significant trees, numbered **T1** to **T7** on the attached plan. The tree data collected at the site visit is detailed on the attached Tree Data Schedule and the tree locations are plotted on the attached Tree Plan.

Discussion

The trees T1 to T7 are situated on land that is at a higher level than the adjacent footpath and road of High Street. A stone retaining wall drops down at the edge of the site to High Street.

An associated site report from Design It Structural Solutions Ltd, Ref: NYP/15/188 Rev B, detailed that the wall had a clear outward lean, towards the road, with evidence of disturbance to the stone coursing and bonding of the wall. The report comments that it is clear that the root and trunk of the trees in the area directly behind the wall has caused and continues to cause the wall to be potentially unstable. The report recommends that the trees are removed and the sections of damaged wall are removed and rebuilt.

I am of the opinion that it is very likely that roots from the tree T1 to T2 will be growing up to and along the boundary wall. It is also probable that roots from the trees T3 to T5 will be growing up to the boundary wall. I am of the opinion that the roots of T1 to T5 will have contributed to the damaged the boundary wall, from the result of the direct pressure of the tree roots pressing against the retaining wall. In the future, as the tree roots continue to grow, it is foreseeable that the damage to the wall will increase. Trees T6 and T7 are situated further away from the damaged wall and so will be less likely to have impacted upon the walls poor condition.

The recommended removal and repair of the defective boundary wall sections would require excavation into the soil between the tree stems and the wall, and this will result in subsequent severing of roots. The required installation of footings and masonry at the lower section of wall will involve severing of the trees roots, and this is likely to be extensive and require roots being severed very close to the main stem of the trees T1 and T2, while some root severance and disturbance will be likely to occur to T3, T4 and T5.

I am of the opinion that the extent of root severance would lead to a significant loss of tree vigour, of T1 and T2, with major crown and branch dieback likely to follow in subsequent years. In addition, it is foreseeable that the stability of the trees will be compromised. The ability of trees to withstand wind forces is provided by the main structural roots close to the base of the tree. The structural root system has little redundancy, meaning that there is a danger that root cutting can compromise the support function of roots and increase the risk of the tree blowing over during periods of strong wind, resulting in the tree posing an unacceptable danger to people and property. As such, it does not appear feasible to both retain the trees T1 and T2, and repair the damaged wall. Furthermore, while the root severance of T3, T4 and T5 will be likely to be less severe it is likely that some crown and branch dieback is likely to follow in subsequent years.

In general arboricultural terms, the Oak trees T6 and T7 are better value trees with good visual amenity and good long term prospects. Trees T1 to T5 are lower value trees in with more limited visual amenity and long term prospects. The retention of the Oak trees T5 and T6 will maintain a similar level of visual amenity at the site and the negative visual impact of the recommended tree removals could be further mitigated for by replacement plantings, in suitable locations and of suitable species, after the wall repair.

Recommended Tree Works

It is understood trees at this site are protected by virtue of a Tree Preservation Order. Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, before authorising any tree works, you should contact your Local Planning Authority to gain written statutory permission before any works can take place.

When appointing a tree surgeon, please use only properly qualified and experienced companies and check that they carry adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance. All tree work should be carried out according to British Standard 3998: 2010 – *tree work - recommendations*.

Conclusion

Following my inspection, I am of the opinion that the trees T1 to T5 are contributing to the current damage to the boundary wall, and it is foreseeable this will increase over time. The excavations required to repair the wall will result in the severing of tree roots. I am of the opinion that this will lead to a loss of tree vigour of trees T1 to T5 and make the trees T1 and T2 unstable. As such, it is recommended to remove the trees prior to repairing the wall and to undertake suitable replacement planting.

If I can be of further assistance in arranging the recommended works, or should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A. Winson

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

	Tree Species		Measurements					Crown (m)					Tree Condition							Management
Tree ID	Common Name	Latin Name	Maturity	Height (m)	Stems	Stem Dia (mm)	Estimated	Ave Height	N	E	S	W	Roots	Stem	Crown	Comments	Physiology	Structural	Life Expectancy	Works
T1	Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	Early Mature	8	4	230, 260, 190, 180	No	2	2.5	8	5	1	Likely to be growing out to the damaged boundary retaining wall	Multiple stemmed at base. Significant lean.	Unbalanced. Overhanging adjacent land.	Overhanging road. No long term value	Fair	Poor	10 to 20 yrs	Remove
T2	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Mature	17	1	490	No	7	3.5	6	5	3.5	Likely to be growing out to the damaged boundary retaining wall	Single stemmed. Slight lean. Bark damage.	Unbalanced. Overhanging adjacent land.	Overhanging road. Limited value.	Fair	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Remove
T3	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Mature	15	1	480	No	10	4	4	5	5	Likely to be growing out to the damaged boundary retaining wall	Single stemmed. Vertical. Bark damage.	Small/ sparse. High crown	Limited long term value.	Fair	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Remove
T4	Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*	Early-mature	15	1	390	No	8	2	4	3	3.5	Likely to be growing out to the damaged boundary retaining wall	Single stemmed. Bark damage.	Small/ sparse. Moderate deadwood. Slightly unbalanced.	Suppressed by larger trees. No long term value.	Fair	Fair	>40 yrs	Remove
T5	Horse Chestnut	*Aesculus hippocastanum*	Mature	15	1	520	No	7	4	4	3	4	No visual defects	Single stemmed. Bark damage. Minor cavities. Minor decay. Slight lean.	Small/ sparse. Discolouration of leaves from leaf miner.	Nails in stem. Probable bleeding canker.	Fair	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Remove
T6	Oak	*Quercus robur*	Mature	19	1	840	No	9	8	8	6	8	Decay. Damage to buttress roots.	Single stemmed. Bark damage. Vertical.	Normal. Slightly unbalanced.	Unbalanced due to previous adjacent trees which have since been removed.	Good	Good	>40 yrs	No action

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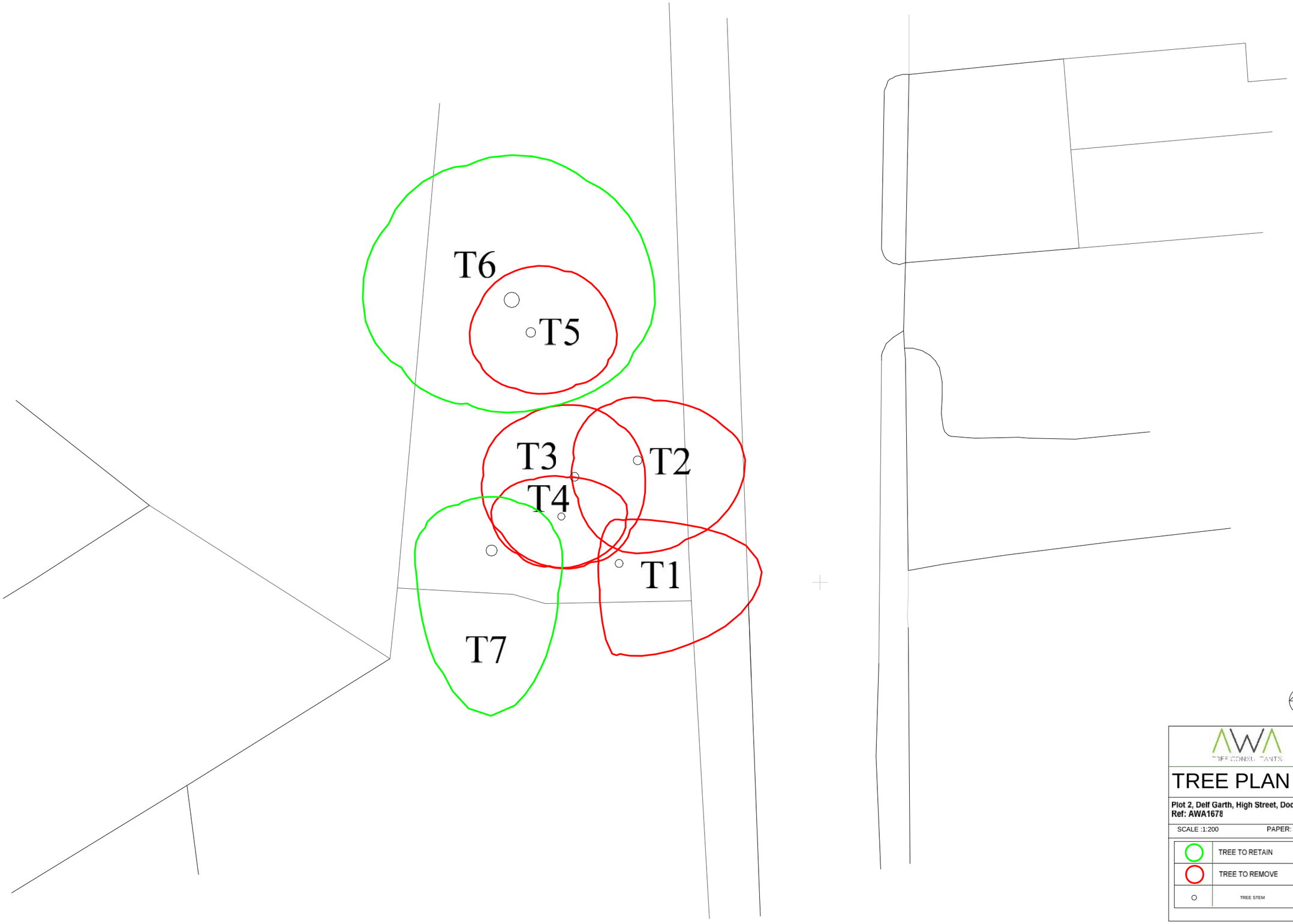
	Tree Species		Measurements					Crown (m)					Tree Condition							Management
Tree ID	*Common Name*	*Latin Name*	*Maturity*	*Height (m)*	*Stems*	*Stem Dia (mm)*	*Estimated*	*Ave Height*	*N*	*E*	*S*	*W*	*Roots*	*Stem*	*Crown*	*Comments*	*Physiology*	*Structural*	*Life Expectancy*	*Works*
T7	Oak	*Quercus robur*	Mature	17	1	600	No	8	3	4	9	4	No visual defects	Single stemmed. Slight lean. Bark damage.	Normal. Minor deadwood. Overhanging adjacent land.	Historic stem damage with reaction growth.	Good	Good	>40 yrs	No action



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TREE PLAN

Plot 2, Delf Garth, High Street, Dodworth
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SCALE :1:200 PAPER: A3

	TREE TO RETAIN
	TREE TO REMOVE
	TREE STEM