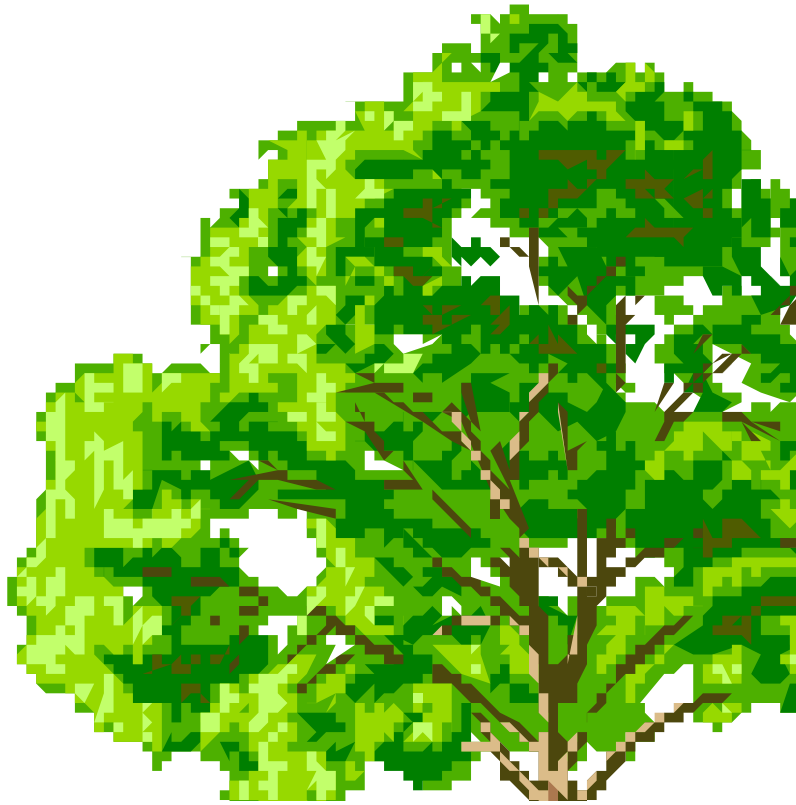


# Tree and Woodland Audit



Emerald Green

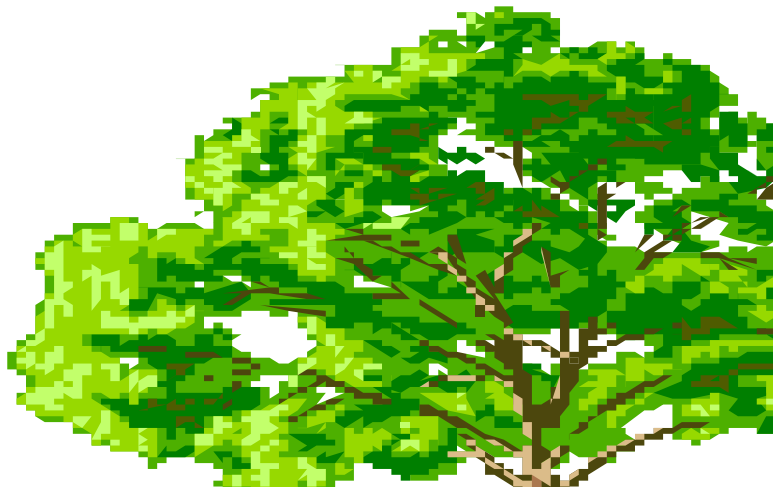
Site ref: 1909

16<sup>th</sup> May 2016

G. Gillespie – Professional Tree Inspector

# CONTENTS

- 1.0 INTRODUCTION
- 2.0 LIMITATIONS
- 3.0 METHODOLOGY
- 4.0 SITE DESCRIPTION
- 5.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS
- 6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS
- 7.0 REFERENCES



## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

In endeavour to sustain and maintain sound management of the tree and woodland asset associated with the title site a general condition survey has been carried out  
The primary aims of the task are

- To assess the current condition of the existing woodland and individual trees to meet the audit requirements for the site
- Identify any and all arboricultural and tree management related matters that need address to ensure safe use for users

## **2.0 LIMITATIONS**

The details and conditions of the trees and general condition of other assets/aspects around the site are recorded as found during the period of the survey (16<sup>th</sup> May 2016).

Changes to existing site conditions may influence the condition of individual tree specimens or groups of trees that, where as a result of common crown establishment, have a common interaction.

While every effort has been made to detect defects no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree or groups of trees where their crowns have an influencing factor. Trees are living organisms and are subject to influence by sudden changes in climatic conditions.

It is recommended that trees continue to be inspected regularly.

The findings of this survey are valid for twelve months (i.e. May 2017).

The information contained within this report is for the sole use of Greenbelt Group Ltd, its officers and any agents approved by them, relative to the site in question. Any reference to the details of the survey by any third party is done so at their own risk.

## **3.0 METHODOLOGY**

All individual trees have been inspected from ground level employing Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) techniques.

Woodland areas inspected/assessed by pedestrian traverses around, across and through the compartments

No decay detection equipment was used

## **4.0 SITE DESCRIPTION**

The tree cover lies to the east side of the title development and is in the form of a woodland belt running north – south with a small westward returning section to its southern end, a central meandering path route affords pedestrian access from the development to join the Trans Pennine Trail part of which runs parallel to the woodlands east side. The woodland also provides screening between this and the development and nearby industrial units. In the west extending tail amenity grass plots and shrub beds with trees dotted through provide the more formal parts of the development's landscaping.

## 5.0 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The woodland is predominantly a birch / Goat willow mix, very typical of disused railway routes; some occasional cotoneaster is present in places. It is apparent that some thinning has been done in past years particularly more so in the southern half.

In the northern sector the older trees again G willow and birch are to the east with vigorous and fairly dense young birch in the west half nearer the path.

Overall the general health and condition of the trees ranges fair to good. While there remain occasional dead specimens these are still so positioned that they pose minimum hazard to users of the associated path network. At the north end on the east edge where the very amateur lopping & topping had been done – assumed in endeavour by abutting residents to achieve more light to garden and also assumed as unauthorised has not been repeated or extended. Between the pond and the north end of the path the G willow with a snapped out limb that is hung up remains – this will need grounded. Some of the G willow are displaying typical ageing symptoms for their type and will need coppiced in the medium term.

Other trees present on the site – birch, rowan and crab apple are situated at the more formal setting and while the trees are generally good a couple of trees have had their leader nipped out – this may be some attempt at early restriction of height - monitor

## 6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Bring to ground the hung up G willow limb at the north end – at earliest opportunity**
- **Coppice one third of the ageing G willow at the north and south ends each year over a three year period commencing 2015**
- **Thin the young birch to east side of path in north sector by 30% within next five years**

**Location plan as attached**

## 7.0 REFERENCES

*The body language of trees*  
*A hand book for failure analysis*

Claus Mattheck and Helge Breloer  
(Department of Environment  
Research for Amenity Trees  
No. 4)

*Trees of Great Britain*  
*And Northern Europe*

Alan Mitchell  
(Collins)

BS 3998: 2010 – *Recommendations*  
*For tree Work*

British Standards

BS 5837 2012 – *Trees in relation to*  
*Design Demolition and Construction*

British Standards

22/08/13 - 1909

Care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of all of the information in this brochure at the time of going to press. The contents are not, however, intended to form any part, or constitute any representation of any warranty or contract. Please note that architectural details, specifications and plot and amenity layouts shown are for guidance only and may be subject to variations.

© Greenbelt Group Ltd 2013

Property Factor Registered No: PF000191



greenbelt

