BIRCHWOOD FORESTRY

7 BIRKWOOD TERRACE, HOLYWELL LANE,
BRAITHWELL, ROTHERHAM
S66 7AE
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MR M ANDERSON
BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLANNING SERVICES
PO BOX 604
BARNSLEY
S70 9FE

9th July 2008

Application number; 2008/0933
Location; The Paddock, High Street , Thurnscoe

Dear Mr Anderson,

We visited the site on Friday 4th July 2008 on the instruction of Mr Fred Braddock to examine the trees noted on the plan. The weather conditions were very sunny and very warm. The road into the site was hardstanding made up of limestone and rubble scalpings.
The site consists of Ox Eye Daisy,Japanese Knotweed, Rosebay Willowherb, Foxgloves, Creeping Speedwell, Poppies, Nettles, Dandelions,Thistle and grass.The area had been recently strimmed leaving the Knotweed alone.(see note 1)

Where there are no obvious numbers on trees we examined ,we have numbered trees as we walked around in numerical order, and have used the numbers already on trunks as they were. All trees we recommend removing to ground level we have highlighted in red on the plan.

Tree numbered 01427
Horse Chestnut (aesculus hippocastanum) height approximately 50feet,canopy spread 43feet, girth 8feet 6 inches.Woolly aphids were seen on leaves. There are also nails in this tree.

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Tree numbered 01427
Horse Chestnut (aesculus hippocastanum) height approximately 50feet,canopy spread 43feet, girth 8feet 6 inches.Woolly aphids were seen on leaves. There are also nails in this tree.

This tree has two spots of bleeding canker.(see note 2). One spot starts 8 and a half inches from tree base and 8 inches in depth. The second starts 1 foot 6 inches from base and is 8 inches in depth . There is decay on the inside of the tree.
A branch has snapped out in winds and is caught up in the tree. This needs to be removed.

We recommend this tree to come down due to the onset of canker.

Tree number 1
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus) height approximately 50 feet, canopy spread 45feet, girth 7feet 10 inches. Woolly aphids on leaves.Ivy is growing up the tree.
There are small amounts of deadwood and a few snags where branches have snapped out. Approximately 18 feet from the base is a larger snag and a larger dead branch.
There are two cavities, one at the base of the tree 1 foot 4 inches in length and 7 inches wide. The other is 2 feet 2 inches in length and 6 inches wide.
This tree is unbalanced and unshaped and is decaying.

We recommend this tree to come down due to its poor state of health.

Tree number 2
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus) height approximately 50 feet, canopy spread 33 feet 8 inch, girth 5 feet 4 inches.Woolly aphids on leaves.There is a small stump at the side of the tree, which has a small amount of coppicing (suckers).
This tree is leaning and overhanging the road and path.
There is heart rot and decay in this tree. The decay starts from 2 feet 2 inches from base and is 2 feet in length and 8 inches wide.. There is also decay on the inside and signs of dry rot.

We recommend this tree to come out due to the amount of decay.

Tree number 3
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus)height approximately 50feet,girth 7 feet. Large number of aphids. Pigeon nest in tree.
The tree is leaning to the east and is unbalanced.
There is some deadwood

We recommend this tree to come out due to the lean of the tree and the way it is unbalanced. By removing this tree it will encourage growth of other trees remaining.

Tree number 4
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus) height approximately 50feet, girth 7 feet. Woolly aphids observed. Nests observed at very top of tree,possibly Rooks nests.
There is scarring of the tree 3feet 7 inches from the base up.One is 4 inches x 3 inches and the other is 3inches x 5 inches.There is alot of deadwood.There is a small elderberry at base.
The crown starts approximately 20 feet up.

We recommend this tree to stay but be crown lifted and thinned and then re examined every 12 months for further works as needed.

Tree number 5
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus)height approximately 50 feet, canopy 31feet 3 inches, girth 7 feet 4 inches. Woolly aphids observed. Some coppicing (suckers) at base of tree. Some deadwood in tree. There are 'Jews`Ears' (auricularia auricula- judae)on dead branch. There is a dead branch approximately 10 feet from base with a cavity leaking down to where there is decay 5 feet 3 inches from base. The decay is 2 feet 2 inches x 3 inches in size. The wound has started to callus. There is also a cavity at the base. The tree is leaning west and has most growth on north side, therefore is unbalanced.

We recommend this tree to come out due to the decay, the way it is unbalanced and the way it is leaning. By removing this tree it will encourage better growth on remaining trees.

Tree number 6
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus) height approximately 55 feet, girth 11 feet 6 inches, canopy 42 feet 2 inches. Woolly aphids observed. Pigeons and wrens nests observed. There is some coppicing at base of tree.
A branch has snapped off the east side but has callused. There are a few branches crossing over eachother and some deadwood. This tree is slightly unbalanced, needing to grow more on east side.

We recommend this tree to stay but to crown thin and remove deadwood and remove branches that are crossing over to promote healthier growth of remaining branches.

Tree number 7
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus)height approximately 45 feet, canopy 50 feet 10 inches. This has coppiced at the base 6 times. One has snapped off at 5 feet high. The remaining are overhanging the footpath, road and street light. The three nearest the wall are causing the wall to be pushed towards the road(northeasterly).There is deadwood in the tree.Woolly aphids were observed in high numbers.There is some scarring of the coppices snd crossing over of branches.

We recommend all 6 to be taken down. The 3 nearest the wall are causing potential risk to public and property due to the pressure on the wall which will increase as the coppice grows.However by just removing those 3 nearest the wall it will leave the others exposed to the elements and ,in high winds, will have potential to fall over, particularly in full leaf. By removing the 6 it will encourage tree number 8 to fill out and reach its full potential.

Tree number 8
Sycamore (acer pseudoplatanus) height approximately 50 feet ,canopy 41 feet 7 inches, girth 6 feet 7 inches. Woolly aphids observed. There is some deadwood and a scar 5 feet from base. It is leaning in a northweserly direction. It is unbalanced on the east side but the canopy evens out apprroximately 25 feet up.

We would recommend this tree to stay. We would remove dead wood and thin on west side by approximately one third.

We would recommend this tree to stay and have works done on it to promote better growth. We would crown lift up to 10 metres and also crown thin by 15-20%. The ivy at the base of the tree would be severed again and possibly be poisoned to discourage further growth. The crown is unbalanced but with the removal of the Horse Chestnut tree numbered 01427, it will encourage the sycamore to grow to its full potential.

We would not recommend any works be carried out before the end of the nesting season,and no pruningg, crown lifting/thinning works etc be carried out before the trees natural dormant stage(i.e during winter months).

We would recommend underplanting with beech (fagus sylvatica) ash, (fraxinus excelsior), oak (quercus rober), copper beech (fagus sylvatica 'purpurea'). If the aphid problem persists we would recommend planting with buddlea and lilac as these should encourage butterflies to the area which will keep aphid at bay.
During building works there may be a problem with remaining trees where heavy machinery compresses the root systems and soil surrounding them. This would be detrimental to the remaining trees and would therefore advise the soil and roots be aeriated after works are completed to boost them back up. We would also recommend remaining trees be protected from building works and machinery by suitable fencing.

Note 1 Japanese Knotweed (Fallopia Japonica)
This is an invasive plant. It can thrive in a variety of habitats and causes problems for owners of land it has invaded. It will spread quickly in areas where land is disturbed or plant material is moved. It causes a range of problems including a root syatm that will find its way into the tiniest of cracks and seeks out weaknesses causing damage to structures and land. Due to its nature, Japanese Knotweed is named in the Wildlife & countryside Act 1981, schedule 9; it is an offence'to knowingly introduce Japanese Knotweed into the wild or to cause the spreadeither intetionally or accidently.
It must be disposed of by companies licensed to deal with it and be disposed of by normal means.

Note 2 Bleeding Canker
Symptoms on heavily infected trees include areas of bleeding on their stems and sometimes in branches.Trees of all ages and sizes can be affected. Larger trees can be severely disfigured and even killed if the disease is severe. Smaller trees succomb to the disease quicker as their girth is considerably smaller and can be girdled quickly. There is ,currently, nothing that can be administered to the canker to treat or stop the disease spreading. Occasionally some trees can manage the disease but branches may be susceptible to sudden drop due to dieback, thus would need to be very carefully observed and managed. It is not advisable to cut out infected ares as this may encourage disease to spread into new wounds. It is advised to disinfect all tools after contact with infected trees. All felled timber from infected trees needs to be disposed of by burning or buried (Forestry Commission recommnedations). It is not recommended for firewood use and should be stored awayfrom other timber if not disposed of immediately

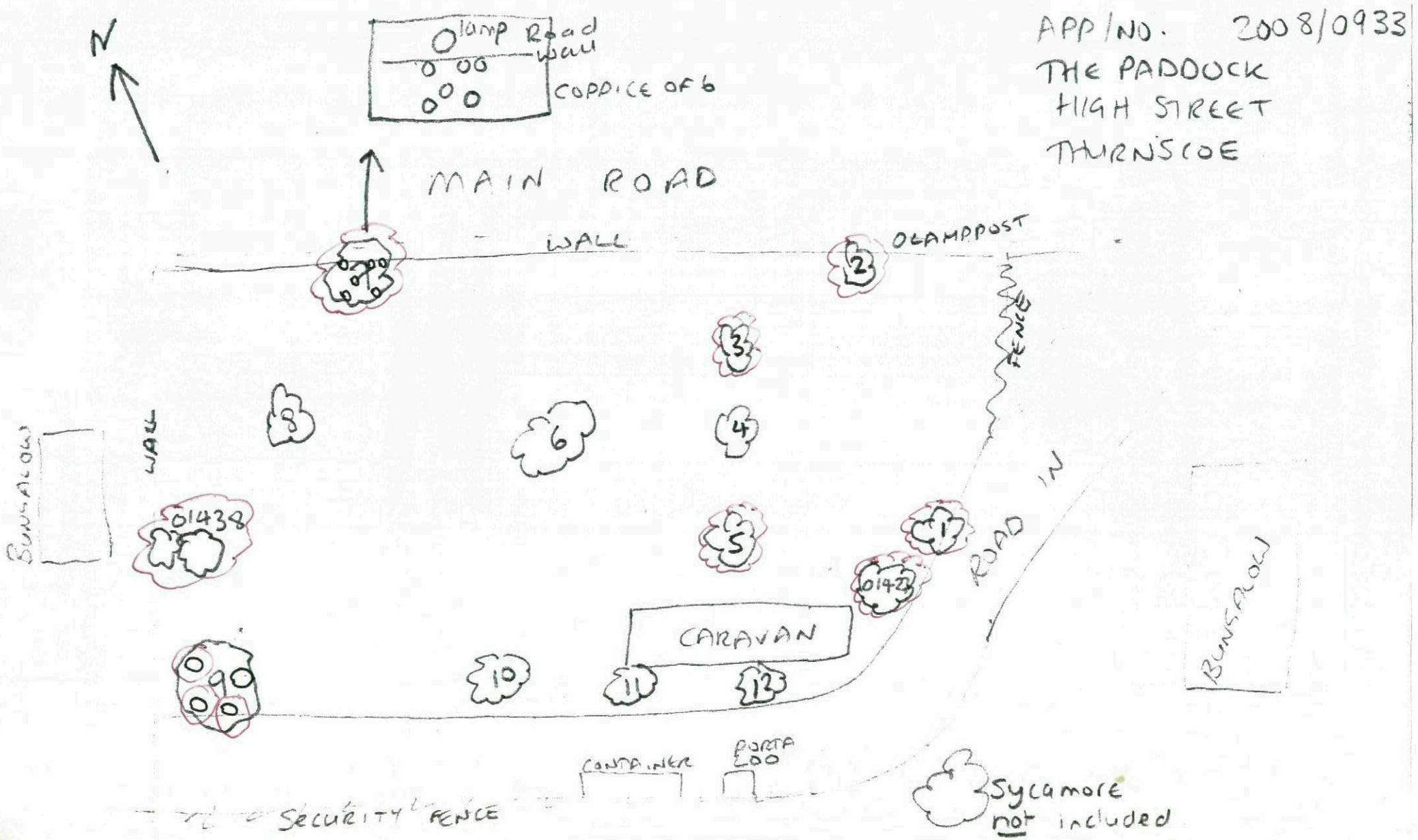
Note 3 Heart Rot

This is a fungal disease that has entered through open wounds or exposed bare wood. Any deciduous tree can get heart rot. The first usual sign is a mushroom like fruit appearing. It has been written that there is normally a cubic foot of rot behind each fruit . The heart rot fungi do not invade living wood. However it must be kept under observation as any new damage to trees affected through wind damage or severe pruning, for example,can advance the rot further. it may be that the rot has caused decay to an extent that the remaining live wood is not able to support the whole tree and would therefore be causing a hazard.

We hope this is of help to you and if there are any concerns or queries please conatct us at your earliest convenience.

Many Thanks

Mr D A Goben


APP/NO. 2008/0933
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