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ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

to BS 5837:2012 at:

Land adjacent to
Newsome Avenue
Wombwell
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S73 8QS

For:
South Yorkshire Housing Association Limited
43-47 Wellington Street,
Sheffield,
South Yorkshire,
S1 4HF

September 2012

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1. Introduction

1.1 Instructions and Brief

1.1.1 I am instructed by Derrick Foster of South Yorkshire Housing Association, to visit the site at land adjacent to Newsome Avenue, Wombwell, and prepare my findings in a report.

1.1.2 The report is required in accordance with *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction –Recommendations,* to provide detailed, independent, arboricultural advice on the trees present, in the context of potential development.

1.2 Survey Details

1.2.1 The survey took place during September 2012 by Adam Winson, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons) MICFor, AIEEM, (the author's qualifications and experience are included within **Appendix 1**).

1.2.2 The trees were surveyed visually from the ground using 'Visual Tree Assessment' techniques and in accordance with the guiding principles of British Standard 5837:2012 (explanatory details regarding the survey methodology are included within **Appendix 2**).

1.2.3 A full explanation of the tree data can be found at **Appendix 3**. Full details of all the trees surveyed are found in **Appendix 4**. For tree locations please refer to the Tree Constraints Plan at **Appendix 5**.

2. The Site

2.1 Location

2.1.1 The site is situated is the small town of Wombwell, near Barnsley, grid reference SE 39087 03409.

2.1.2 The tree survey was limited to the area within the red line, shown in the image below:



2.2 Site Description

2.2.1 The site is formed by a large fenced off grassed area and a youth centre building.

2.2.2 The topography of the site is generally level.

3. The Trees

3.1 Legal

3.1.1 Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, before authorising any tree works a check should be made with the Local Planning Authority to see if the trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or if they are within a Conservation Area. If either applies, then statutory permission is required before any works can take place.

3.1.2 When appointing a tree surgeon, only properly qualified and experienced companies should used who have adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance. All tree work should be carried out according to British Standard 3998: 2010 – *recommendations for tree work*.

3.2 Vegetation Overview

3.2.1 Surrounding the site are residential gardens with a good distribution of established trees, and school and amenity green-spaces with a reasonable mix of trees.

3.3 Summary of Results & Discussion

3.3.1 The tree survey revealed 28 items of vegetation, consisting of 9 groups of trees and 19 individual trees. Of the surveyed trees and groups, 6 have been classed as retention category 'B' and the remaining 22 items are classed as retention category 'C'.

3.3.2 Much of the site has been fenced off and unmanaged, apparently for several years, which has lead to the grassed area now containing numerous small naturally regenerated Alder saplings; whilst these were noted they were not considered relevant to the survey brief.

3.3.3 The significant trees within the site can be broadly grouped into the areas of densely planted young and semi-mature trees, mostly situated along the sites western and northern boundaries and occasional more mature ornamental trees scattered within and adjacent to the site. The southern quarter of the site is a mix of lower value ornamental trees, dense planted trees and natural regeneration.

3.4 Arboricultural Impacts

3.4.1 It is likely that any new development within this site will necessitate the removal of some trees; however, none of the trees are particularly noteworthy and some losses would be acceptable without adversely impacting the surrounding treescape.

3.4.2 It would be beneficial to retain some of the boundary groups, as these provide good screening and will enhance any new development.

3.4.3 The planted areas to the north of the site have spread further into the main body of the site via natural regeneration and it may be necessary to remove some of the newer trees, yet provided a strip of trees is retained along the boundaries the impact will be minimal.

3.4.4 It may be necessary to remove some of the lower value ornamental trees, dense planted trees and natural regeneration within the southern quarter of the site. This area does provide a green feature visible from the adjacent roadside; however, some losses in this area would be acceptable, as the more mature Cherry 'Kanzans' only have limited future prospects and the surrounding natural regeneration and planted trees are all of low individual value.

3.4.5 A new development provides opportunities to manage the densely planted areas via selective thinning out of poorer suppressed trees and there are also opportunities for new tree planting throughout the developed site.

3.5 Protection of the Retained Trees

3.5.1 The significant trees may require protection by fencing in accordance with BS 5837: 2012, during the development phase. The protective fencing should protect the Root Protection Area (RPA) of the trees as highlighted on the plan at Appendix 5.

3.5.2 If required by the Local Planning Authority, an associated Arboricultural Method Statement, detailing protective fencing specifications and details of any necessary specialist construction methods can be provided.

4. Signature

I trust this report provides all the required information.

Signed



.....

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

25th September 2012

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications and Experience
Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations
Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions
Appendix 4: Tree Descriptions and Recommendations
Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications & Experience

Mr Adam Winson *Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), ND, MICFor, AIEEM.*

Adam has extensive experience in arboriculture, having worked with trees for over 15 years. He initially worked as a climbing arborist, throughout Europe and Australia. After returning home, to study a BSc (Hons), he began working as a Consulting Arboriculturist. His work now ranges from individual expert tree inspections to managing trees on major multi-million pound housing and park developments and highway and infrastructure projects. In 2010 Adam obtained an MSc in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry (with distinction), also gaining the top student award. Adam has had articles published in industry magazines and has original research published by the UK Forestry Commission.

Membership of Professional Bodies

Professional Member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters
Associate of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management

Education and Qualifications

MSc Arboriculture and Urban Forestry (Distinction) University of Central Lancashire - Myerscough College. 2006 -2009
BSc (Hons) Environmental Conservation 2:1. Sheffield Hallam University. 2002 2005
National Diploma in Arboriculture University of Lincoln/ Riseholme.1996-1998

Previous Experience

Consulting Arboriculturist at JCA Ltd. **Halifax, Yorkshire** 2005 to 2012
Freelance Arborist for various companies. **Sheffield, South Yorkshire** 2002 - 2005
Arborist for AAA Arbor /Sydney City Council Australia 2001- 2002
Arborist for The Tree Surgeon, Brisbane, Australia 2000- 2001
Groundsman/Climber at Lindsey Tree Services, Grimsby, Lincolnshire 1998 -2000
Groundsman/Climber at Freelance Baumpflege, Frankfurt, Germany 1998
Freelance Groundsman/Climber for various companies, Lincoln Area 1996-1998

Training, Awards & Qualifications

MSc Top Student Award University of Central Lancashire 2010
Bats and Bat Surveys- a foundation course for ecological consultants. BCT 2007
Arboriculture & Bats: A Guide for Practitioners BCT and AA 2007
CPRE Prize for best dissertation on the theme of Countryside Management. Campaign to Protect Rural England Prize 2006
Lady Hastings Prize; awarded for the best performance whilst on work placement. Sheffield Hallam University 2005
Tree Climbing, Aerial Rescue & Use of Chainsaw from Rope and Harness (CS 38 & 39) N.P.T.C 1998

Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations of Report

The survey was undertaken in accordance with British Standard 5837 (2012) *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction –Recommendations.* The trees were assessed objectively and without reference to any proposed site layout. The trees were surveyed from the ground using 'Visual Tree Assessment' (VTA) methodology. VTA is appropriate and is endorsed by industry guidance. It is used by arboriculturists to evaluate the structural integrity of a tree, relying on observation of trees biomechanical and physiological features. Measurements are obtained using a diameter tape, clinometer, distometer and loggers tape. Where this is not practical measurements are estimated. Tree groups have been identified in instances as defined in BS 5837 (2012). Shrubs and insignificant trees may have been omitted from the survey.

This report represents a BS5837 tree survey and should not accepted as a detailed tree safety inspection report; however, tree related hazards are recorded and commented upon where observed, yet no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree. All recommended tree work must be to BS 3998: 2010 - '*Tree Work:Recommendations'*.

The findings and recommendations contained within this report are valid for a period of twelve months from the date of survey. The author shall not be responsible for events which happen after this time due to factors which were not apparent at the time, and the acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with these guidelines and terms.

Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

HEIGHT of the tree is measured from the stem base in metres. Where the ground has a significant slope the higher ground is selected.

CROWN HEIGHT is an indication of the average height at which the crown begins and includes information of the first significant branch and direction of growth.

STEM DIAMETER is measured at 1.5 metres above (higher) ground level. Where the tree is multi-stemmed at this point; the diameter is measured close to ground level or else a combined stem diameter is calculated.

CROWN SPREAD is measured from the centre of the stem base to the tips of the branches in all four cardinal points.

AGE CLASS of the tree is described as young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature, or over-mature.

PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair, poor, or dead. This is an indication of the health of the tree and takes into account vigour, presence of disease and dieback.

STRUCTURAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair or poor. This is an indication of the structural integrity of the tree and takes into account significant wounds, decay and quality of branch junctions.

LIFE EXPECTANCY is classed as; less than 10 years, 10+, 20+ or 40+ years. This is an indication of the number of years before removal of the tree is likely to be required.

Retention Categories

A (marked green on the plan) = retention most desirable. These trees are of very high quality and value with a good life expectancy.

B (marked in blue on the plan) = retention desirable. These trees are of good quality and value with a significant life expectancy.

C (marked in grey on the plan) = trees which could be retained. These trees are of low or average quality and value, and are in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established.

U (marked in red on the plan) = trees for removal. These trees are in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years.

Appendix 4: Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan

Tree Data

Tree Ref.	Age Species *Latin Name*	Height (m)	Crown Height (m)	Height (m) and Direction of the Lowest Branch	Diameter (cm)	Crown Spread N W E S	Observations	Recommendations	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Amenity Value	Life Expectancy (yrs)	Retention Category
T 1	Semi-Mature Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	16	2.5	1.5 E	45 #	4 4 5 4	Situated on adjacent land, crown overhanging boundary. Limited access prevented detailed inspection yet no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	MOD	20-40	B
T 2	Semi-Mature Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	15	2	2.5 S	43	2 2 5 4	Situated on boundary. Twin-stemmed at 1.5m with tight union and partially included bark. Wire through stem.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	MOD	20-40	C
T 3	Semi-Mature Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	15	2	2 W	50 #	4 5 2 4	Situated on adjacent land, limited access prevented detailed inspection. Multiple-stemmed near base.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	MOD	20-40	C
T 4	Semi-Mature Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	14	4	2 E	26	3 1 4 1	Situated on boundary. Unbalanced crown. Wire through stem.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	10-20	C
G 5	Young Mixed *#N/A*	8	2.5	2.5 E	Ave 12	See plan	Ash, Sycamore, Lime, Rowan & Wild Cherry. Strip of planted trees. Tall thin form. Some crown lifted. Low individual value yet some screening value as a group.	No action required	GOOD	FAIR	MOD	40+	C
T 6	Semi-Mature Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	10	4	3 E	25 #	2 3 3 3	Situated on adjacent land, access prevented detailed inspection. Multiple-stemmed near base.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	20-40	C
T 7	Early-Mature Birch *Betula sp*	10	3	3 N	35 #	4 3 3 2	Situated on adjacent land, access prevented detailed inspection. Twin-stemmed at 1m.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	20-40	C
T 8	Semi-Mature Cherry *Prunus sp*	10	4	2 S	31	4 3 3 4	Multiple-stemmed at 3m. Co-dominant branch at 2m. No major visible defects. Reasonable prospects.	No action required	GOOD	FAIR	LOW	40+	B
T 9	Semi-Mature Alder *Alnus glutinosa*	5	2	2 E	18	2 0 3 2	Multiple-stemmed at 2m. Poor form with unbalanced crown.	No action required	FAIR	POOR	LOW	10-20	C
G 10	Young Mixed *#N/A*	8	3	2 E	10	See plan	Ash, Alder, Birch, Sycamore, Lime, Rowan & Wild Cherry. Strip of planted trees. Tall thin form. Some crown lifted. Low individual value yet some screening value as a group.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	MOD	40+	C

Dimension Estimated

Tree Data

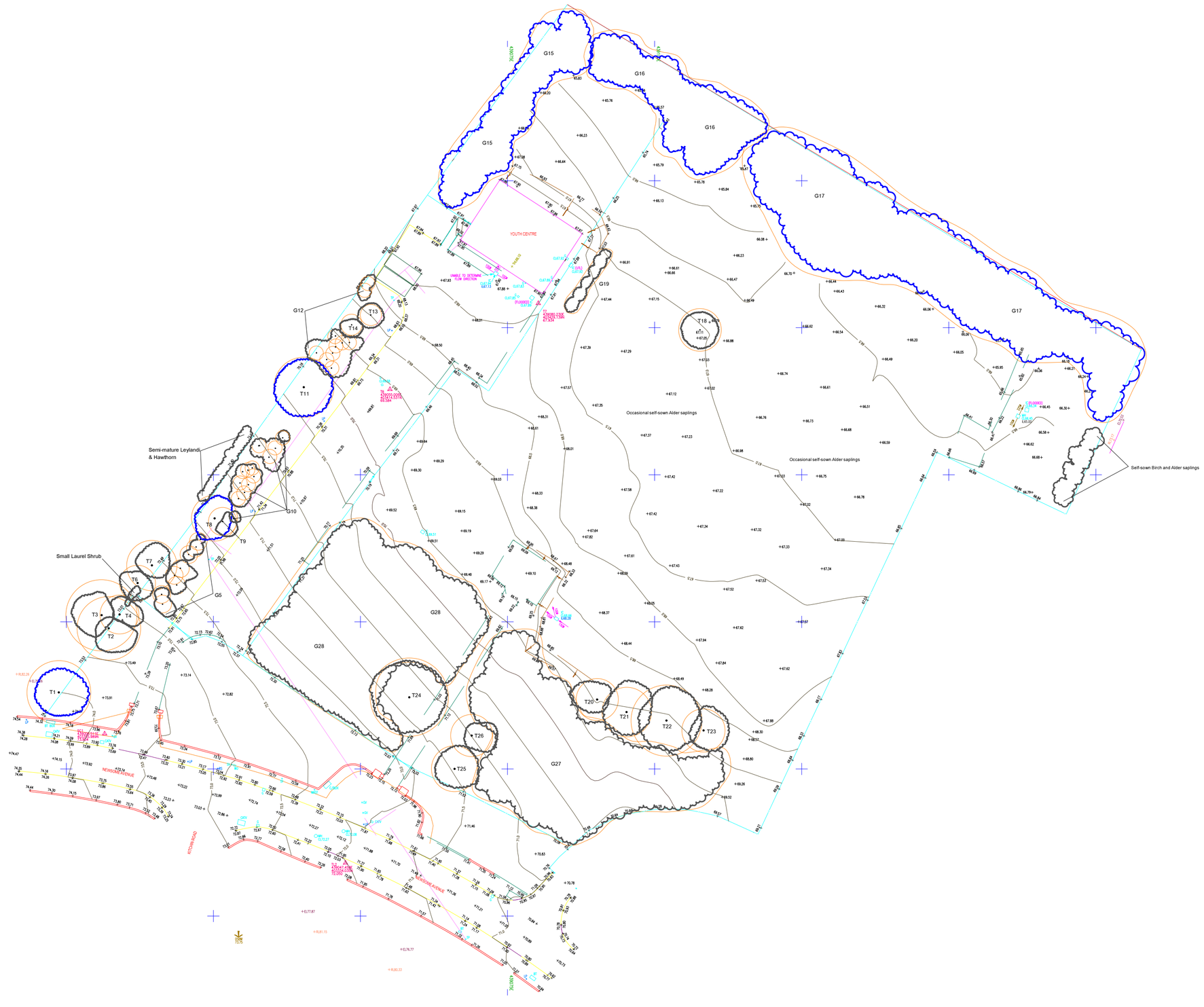
Tree Ref.	Age Species *Latin Name*	Height (m)	Crown Height (m)	Height (m) and Direction of the Lowest Branch	Diameter (cm)	Crown Spread N W E S	Observations	Recommendations	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Amenity Value	Life Expectancy (yrs)	Retention Category
T 11	Semi-Mature Norway Maple *Acer platanoides Drummondii*	10	3	3 E	41	5 5 5 5	Multiple-stemmed at 3m. Well developed crown with no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	MOD	40+	B
G 12	Young Mixed *#N/A*	8	2.5	2 E	12	See plan	Ash, Alder, Birch, Sycamore, Rowan, Hawthorn & Hazel. Strip of planted trees. Tall thin form. Some crown lifted. Low individual value yet some screening value as a group.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	MOD	40+	C
T 13	Semi-Mature Alder *Alnus glutinosa*	8	4	2 W	13	2 2 2 2	Single-stemmed with no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	LOW	40+	C
T 14	Young Goat Willow *Salix caprea*	5	2	2 E	16	1 2 2 2	Multiple-stemmed at 0.5m. Limited long term value.	No action required	FAIR	POOR	LOW	10-20	C
G 15	Young & Semi Mature Mixed *#N/A*	10	2	3 N	20	See plan	Dense Elder understory prevented detailed inspection of more occasional semi-mature planted Field Maple, Wild Cherry, Rowan and Birch. 1 thin dead birch in group.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	MOD	40+	B
G 16	Young & Semi Mature Mixed *#N/A*	7	0	1 S	15	See plan	Densely planted boundary group of Rowan, Cherry, Hawthorn and occasional Birch. Low individual value yet good screening value as a group and good long term prospects. No previous management or pruning wounds.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	MOD	40+	B
G 17	Young & Semi Mature Mixed *#N/A*	10	0	1 N	15	See plan	Densely planted boundary group of Cherry, Birch, Field Maple, Rowan, Hawthorn & occasional Sweet Chestnut and Lime. Low individual value yet good screening value as a group and good long term prospects. No previous management or pruning wounds.	No action required	GOOD	GOOD	MOD	40+	B
T 18	Early-Mature Pear *Pyrus communis*	6	2	2 W	29	3 3 3 3	Twin-stemmed at 1.5m. Cavities throughout stems.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	20-40	C
G 19	Young Cypress *Cupressus sp.*	5	0	0 N	15	1.5 1.5 1.5 1.5	Line of small planted trees. Some minor value as a screen yet limited long term value.	No action required	GOOD	FAIR	LOW	20-40	C
T 20	Mature Flowering Cherry *Prunus Kanzan*	6	2	2 N	30 #	3 4 2 2	Dense undergrowth and brambles prevented detailed inspection. Significant pruning wounds which will limit long term value.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	10-20	C

Dimension Estimated

Tree Data

Tree Ref.	Age Species *Latin Name*	Height (m)	Crown Height (m)	Height (m) and Direction of the Lowest Branch	Diameter (cm)	Crown Spread N W E S	Observations	Recommendations	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Amenity Value	Life Expectancy (yrs)	Retention Category
T 21	Mature Flowering Cherry *Prunus Kanzan*	6	3	2 S	35 #	5 4 4 4	Dense undergrowth and Brambles prevented detailed inspection. Multiple-stemmed at 2m with tight union and partially included bark. Limited long term value.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	10-20	C
T 22	Mature Flowering Cherry *Prunus Kanzan*	10	5	3 E	50 #	6 5 6 5	Dense undergrowth and Brambles prevented detailed inspection. Multiple-stemmed at 2m with tight union and partially included bark. Limited long term value.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	10-20	C
T 23	Mature Flowering Cherry *Prunus Kanzan*	6	2	2 N	30 #	4 2 4 3	Dense undergrowth and Brambles prevented detailed inspection. Multiple-stemmed at 2m with tight union and partially included bark. Limited long term value.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	10-20	C
T 24	Mature Flowering Cherry *Prunus Kanzan*	11	3	3 N	55 #	6 6 6 6	Ivy on stem. Multiple-stemmed at 2m with weak union. Ganoderma decay fungi at base. Limited long term value.	No action required	POOR	POOR	MOD	10-20	C
T 25	Mature Crab Apple *Malus sylvestris*	6	3	3 N	32 #	4 3 4 3	Multiple-stemmed at 2m. Decay at union with Sterium sp fungi. Limited long term value.	No action required	POOR	FAIR	LOW	10-20	C
T 26	Early-Mature Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*	4	2	2 N	30 #	2 1 4 2	Multiple-stemmed at 2m. Significant stem lean and unbalanced crown.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	LOW	10-20	C
G 27	Young Mixed *#N/A*	5	1	1 N	10	See plan	Dense Elder and Bramble understory with occasional semi-mature self sown Cherry and Alder.	No action required	FAIR	FAIR	MOD	20-40	C
G 28	Young & Semi Mature Mixed *#N/A*	7	1	1 N	10	See plan	Dense Elder and Bramble understory with occasional semi-mature self sown Cherry, Sycamore and Alder and mixed planted group of Birch and Ash.	No action required	GOOD	FAIR	MOD	20-40	C

Dimension Estimated



Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan

Newsome Avenue, Wombwell
Ref: AWA1034

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012
RETENTION CATEGORIES
Definitions of these catagories can be found in Appendix 2 of the report.

SCALE :1:500 PAPER: A2

	CATEGORY A: RETENTION MOST DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY B: RETENTION DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY C: COULD BE RETAINED
	CATEGORY U: FOR REMOVAL
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM
	TREE STEM TO BE REMOVED