

Everill Gate Lane

Broomhill, Nr Wombwell, Barnsley

Arboricultural report in compliance with BS5837 (2012), "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction– Recommendations".

August 2013

Everill Gate Lane, Broomhill, Wombwell, Barnsley

Arboricultural Report prepared by:

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1. Introduction

1.1 This report has been commissioned MWP Planning to provide arboricultural advice for the possible development of agricultural land at to the north of Everill Lane, Broomhill. The purpose of the report is to inform the proposed development to ensure the long term retention of appropriate trees by ensuring that there is no detriment from the construction of the development or in future years.

1.2 The trees are not the subject of a Tree Preservation Order. The combined cubic capacity of the trees may mean that a Felling Licence may need to be obtained before the trees are removed. The author as not applied for consent and will be indemnified by the owner against any possible future action taken by the Forestry Commission for works without consent.

1.3 The Local Planning Authority is Barnsley Council, Civic Hall, Eldon Street, Barnsley, S70 2JL

1.4 This report is not a tree health report although some comments are provided to enable decisions to be made on tree retention. The trees were inspected on the 18th of August 2013, from ground level. Where any defects are noted further inspections are advised, which may result in climbing assessments being carried out by a competent tree surgeon. Trees are living objects and can fail at any time; Woodleigh Environmental Planning Consultants accept no liability for any damage caused by the trees or failure to spot defects from a ground level inspection.

2. Tree Survey

2.1 This report is compiled in compliance with BS 5837 2012 (Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction– Recommendations). The purpose is to assess trees on the development site in terms of species, health, growth rates, stem and canopy sizes and possible obvious tree surgery requirements. This enables conclusions to be added to the Arboriculture Impact Assessment and added to plans to form the Tree Protection Plan.

2.2 The dimensions and distances are summarised in Figure 1, attached to the back of this document.

2.3 The tree survey is on a tree by tree basis using the identification numbers indicated on the Tree Protection Plan and Figure 1. All species are identified, their dimensions are in metres and a basic comment on their form is indicated. There are references to tree growth rates which is assessed against rates attributed to the species, their age (semi mature, mature), their Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) in years and finally a categorisation (Tree Quality Assessment) based on their condition which provides the 'number' shown on the Tree Protection Plan. These categories provide the basis for the distance between the tree and any excavations. An example of the Tree Quality Assessment is attached as Figure 2 in the appendices. Finally the area to be protected by fencing, known as the RPA (Root Protection Area) is shown. This is the radius of protective fencing to be provided.

2.4 The trees in question are three semi mature Ash (Fraxinus excelsior) which are set within a hedgerow of Hawthorn and Buckthorn. The Ash are multi-stemmed at ground level, the number of stems is indicated on the schedule. Their condition is summarised in the schedule but a number of the stems have suffered from damage

perhaps caused by the mechanical pruning of the hedgerow or the reconstruction of the footway to Everill Gate Lane. Of major concern in a number of cases are the weak unions at the base of the stems with the root plate. The stems are relatively young and small in diameter but with age these will push against each other which may result in stem collapse. T1 has an occulded wound that appears to have decayed behind which would render the stem dangerous due to the close proximity of the road.

2.5 The hedgerow is in three distinct clumps mainly of Hawthorn but interspersed with Buckthorn. The hedgerow appears to have been well maintained by trimming.

3. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1 The purpose of an arboriculture impact assessment is to take the information from the tree survey and utilise this to inform the development.

3.2 Successful integration of existing trees into a development layout should take due consideration of the impact of any work on the land. The crown spreads of the trees are accurately plotted on the Tree Constraints Plan, with their associated root protection area

3.3 The tree survey indicates that the majority of the trees are in a fair condition but due to the stem unions and the close proximity to a footpath, their safety is of concern in the long term. The Ash trees are within category C which is due to poor form and the amount of stem damage.

3.4 Therefore even with the development proposal for the site there are arboricultural reasons to loose the trees.

3.5 The access is proposed to be sited in the location of T1 and T2 and the required sight lines may impinge upon T3. The access way could be re-sited but it is not felt warranted on tree grounds due to the relatively poor condition of the trees.

3.6 It is suggested that the trees could be readily replaced as part of a landscaping scheme, which would also include a replacement hedgerow. Such replacement planting could take place outside of the required site lines. However, due to the outbreak of Ash Die Back, the use of Ash should not be considered as part of the replacement planting. A more suitable species should be considered.

Figure 1 Tree Survey Schedule

Fig 1Tree Schedule																	
Tree Number	**Species**	**height**	**largest Stem o**	**Stem Diameter**	**mean**	**average stem diameter**	**Combined stem diameter**	**Crown Size NESW**	**Age class**	**Growth rate**	**condition**	**Life Expectancy**	**Quality Class**	**RPA-radius**	**Comments**		
T1	Ash	6.9	0.4	*0.13*	*0.10*	*0.20*	*0.45*	3.8,3,3.1,4.8	middle	fair	Fair	>20	C1	2.4	formed of some 20 stems off one root plate. Several stems are exhibiting stem lesions mainly onto the north side. Occulded stem wound on major stem onto road side which has decayed behind..		
T2	Ash	6.8	0.6	*0.19*	*0.14*	*0.24*	*0.48*	2.8,3.6,3.2,4.1	middle	fair	Fair	>20	C1	2.8	formed of 12 stems off one root plate.largest stem in poor condition which is situated on the south side into the field behind. Sparse crown. Sat within the hedgerow. Street light within the crown to the east.		
T3	Ash	6.4	0.7	*0.22*	*0.15*	*0.20*	*0.45*	2.3,2.9,2.6,3.4	middle	fair	Fair	>20	C1	2.4	formed of 9 stems from one root plate. Two largest stems have very weak union at ground level which may in time cause the stem to collapse. Scar tissue on a number of branches which may have been caused by striking of vehicules or as part of hedgerow maintenence.		
H1	Hawthorn, Buckthorn	4.8						0.2,#,0.3,#	mature	fair	fair	>20	B1	N/A	In three main blocks. All in good condtion and appear to have been clipped over a number of years.		
																	x



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TITLE
SITE PLAN

CLIENT
MR P PEARCE, WILLOW FARM
EVERILL GATE LANE, WOMBWELL
BARNSLEY S73 0YJ

SITE
EVERILL GATE LANE, BROOMHILL

DATE	DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY
15/08/2013	CJB	CJB
DRAWING NO 10106/01	SCALE 1:1250 @ A3	

REV	AMENDMENT	DATE

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LEGEND

Planning Application Boundary

T1 TREE NUMBER + CANOPY
C1 CATEGORY

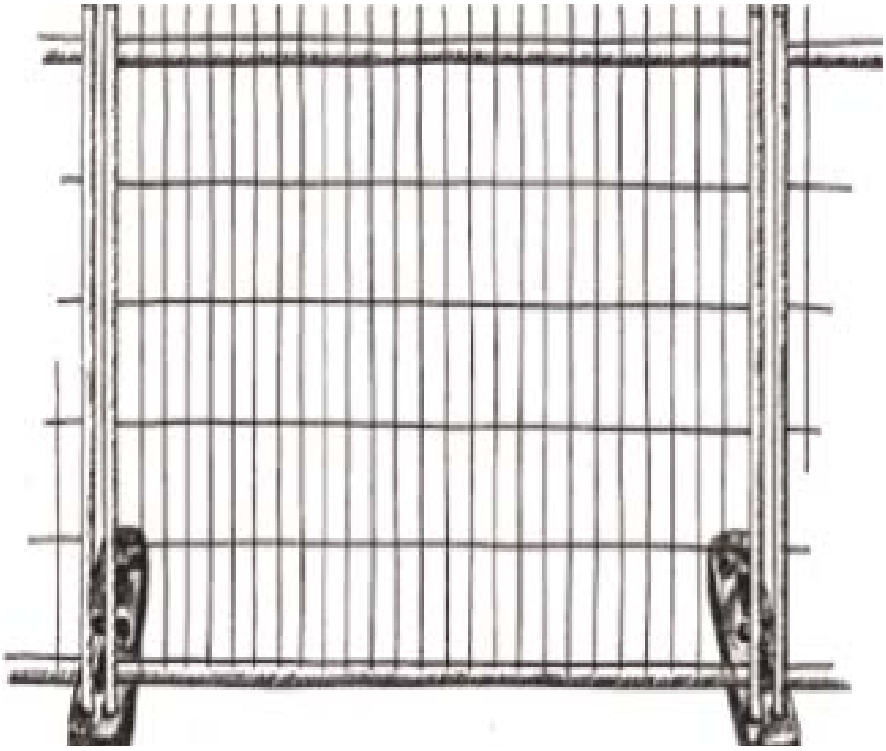
RPA

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Figure 2 Tree Quality Assessment Table

category	Criteria		
Trees unsuitable for retention			
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot be realistically retained as living trees for longer than ten years	• Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) • Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline • Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality *NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve;* *see **4.5.7**.*		
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	**2 Mainly landscape qualities**	**3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation**
Trees to be considered for retention			
Category A **Trees of high quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)
Category B **Trees of moderate quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g.presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value
Category C **Trees of low quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value

Figure 3 Herras Style Protective Fencing



Photographs



Tree locations from the west looking east

T1



T1 Occluded wound



T1 Multi-stems



T2



T3



T3 Weak Unions

