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ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANT

SURVEY DETAILS FOR TREES AT
POLAR FORD, DODWORTH ROAD, BARNSELEY.

Issued to:

BELLWAY HOMES LIMITED (YORKSHIRE DIVISION)

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Note:

All tree surgery and felling works detailed should be carried out to a standard, the minimum of which is specified in BS3998 Recommendations for Tree Work.

Contractors should be suitably qualified and experienced to an acceptable standard. They should also be aware that if during operations any defects become apparent that would not have been immediately obvious to the Consultant, that such defects should be notified immediately and confirmed in writing within a reasonable period.

All observations and recommendations only relate to the site and the trees as they were at the time of inspection. Should severe climatic or environmental events or changes take place, it may be necessary to reassess the situation so as to ensure an acceptable and continuing level of safety.

Should the inspection have taken place during the dormant season, this will have simplified the inspection of the high crowns and canopies. It will not have been possible however to ascertain either leaf size, colour or density which, can be classic indicators of stress or root associated disorders.

The survey has also been prepared in the knowledge that some form of dev may occur on the site. As such, some of the recommendations put forward could be considered unnecessary were the site simply left as it presently exists.

Furthermore, should development be approved, it may be necessary to reassess and amend this document upon completion of all construction operations to ensure that trees, properties and people can all safely co-exist.

All tree numbers refer to those indicated on the attached site drawing. Dimensions of any trees off site may have been estimated if access was not possible.

The report unless stated otherwise, is of a preliminary nature in that the trees were not climbed but inspected from ground level, and no soil or timber samples have been taken for analysis.

A copy of the Consultant's General Conditions of Contract are attached. These form the basis upon which all services and information are provided.

KEY:

Tree No. - Tree Number – to be recorded on tree survey plan where necessary.

Species – common and scientific names, where possible.

Height – overall height of the tree in metres

Stem Dia - Stem diameter – in millimetres at 1.5m above adjacent ground level (on sloping ground to be taken on the upslope side of the tree base) or immediately above the root flare for multi stemmed trees.

Branch spread – in metres taken at the four cardinal points to derive an accurate representation of the crown (to be recorded on the tree survey plan where necessary).

Height of cc - Height of crown clearance – in metres above adjacent ground level to inform on ground clearance, crown stem ratio and shading).

Age class – young (Y), Middle aged (MA), mature (M), over mature (OM) & veteran (V).

Physiological condition – e.g. good (g), fair (f), poor (p) & dead (d).

Structural condition – e.g. collapsing, the presence of decay and any physical defect.

Preliminary management recommendations – including further investigations of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment and potential for wildlife habitat.

ERC - Estimated remaining contribution – in years, e.g. less than 10, 10-20, 20-40, more than 40.

Cat grade - Category grade – R or A to C (see Table 1) to be recorded in plan on the tree survey plan where appropriate.

RPA – Root protection area calculated from BS5837:2005 Trees in Relation to Construction - Recommendations in sq/m's. Where indicated, dimensions of radius of circle or sides of square based around centre point of trunk calculated for design purposes.

RP – Remedially prune: remove significant dead wood, basal & epicormic shoots, broken, crossing and rubbing branches etc and undertake light reshaping if necessary to improve form and balance/ abate actual or potential nuisance.

Table 1 — Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

TREES FOR REMOVAL				
Category and definition	Criteria			Identification on plan
<p>Category R Those in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 R category trees (i.e. 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 (e.g. Dutch elm disease), or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality <p>NOTE: Habitat reinstatement may be appropriate (e.g. R category tree used as a bat roost: installation of bat box in nearby tree).</p>			DARK RED
TREES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR RETENTION				
Category and definition	Criteria — Subcategories			Identification on plan
	1 Mainly arboricultural values	2 Mainly landscape values	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
<p>Category A Those of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested)</p>	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands which provide a definite screening or softening effect to the locality in relation to views into or out of the site, or those of particular visual importance (e.g. avenues or other arboricultural features assessed as groups)	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	LIGHT GREEN
<p>Category B Those of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)</p>	Trees that might be included in the high category, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage)	Trees present in numbers, usually as groups or woodlands, such that they form distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals but which are not, individually, essential components of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. trees of moderate quality within an avenue that includes better, A category specimens), or trees situated mainly internally to the site, therefore individually having little visual impact on the wider locality	Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits	MID BLUE
<p>Category C Those of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm</p>	Trees not qualifying in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary screening benefit	Trees with very limited conservation or other cultural benefits	GREY
NOTE: Whilst C category trees will usually not be retained where they would impose a significant constraint on development, young trees with a stem diameter of less than 150 mm should be considered for relocation.				

Tree No.	Species	H'gt.	Stem Dia.	Branch Spread	H'gt of C.C.	Age Class	PC	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations	ERC	Cat Grade	RPA Sq.m's	RPA Circle of Radii / m's	
1	Rowan	5	140	N 2 E 2 S 2 W 2	1.4	EM	F	Comparatively low vigour. Several minor pruning wounds to stem. Growing in gravel bed. Minor dead wood, crossing branches etc.	Remove or retain in accordance with development proposals.	10	C2	8.87	1.68	
2	Hornbeam	6	145	N 2 E 3 S 2.5 W 2	2	EM	F	Growing in narrow landscape bed to site frontage. Reasonable vitality. Minor defects typical of species. Some basal growth and epicormic shoots to trunk. Base obscured by shrub.	Remove or retain in accordance with development proposals.	10	C2	9.51	1.74	
3	Hornbeam	4	75	N 1 E 1 S 1.5 W 1	1.6	Y	F	Growing in narrow landscape bed to site frontage. Reduced vitality. Base obscured by ground cover shrubs.	Remove or retain in accordance with development proposals.	10	C2	2.55	0.9	
4	London Plane	12	440	N 2.7 E 4 S 2.7 W 2.5	3	M	F	Highway tree. Has been repeatedly topped in past and likely that it will continue to be managed in this form. Various occluded & partially occluded pruning wounds to trunk and canopy. Some tight forks and decay at topping points all typical of management procedures. Minor displacement of adjacent footpath.	No action at present.	10-20	C2	87.59	5.28	
G1	Goat Willow & Elder	4 avg	m/s 100 max	N E S W	2 over site	0	EM	F	Material growing through site boundary fence from railway land. All scrub material can be readily maintained. Japanese knotweed also present.	Cut back overhanging material. Discuss with rail authority in respect of control of knotweed.	10	C2	4.52 max	1.2 max
G2	Sycamore	10	300 at ground level	N 4 E 4 S 4 W 5	2	Y/EM	F	Possibly on railway land with some overhang across site. Generally self set pole type material of low quality and limited future potential.	Cut back to site boundary and/or discuss with Rail Authority in respect of long term management including selective felling etc to create manageable feature.	10-20	C2	28.28	3	

Tree No.	Species	H'gt.	Stem Dia.	Branch Spread	H'gt of C.C.	Age Class	PC	Structural Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations	ERC	Cat Grade	RPA Sq.m's	RPA Circle of Radii / m's
G3	Sycamore	15 est.	350 max est.	N E S W 5 est.	2	EM	F	Ownership unclear - possibly on site to railway boundary. To north of site - no shade issues but not most desirable species for retention on or near residential development due to dense canopies, honeydew and massive viable seed production. Comparatively low ecological value.	Consider removal and replacement planting with more attractive, secure and appropriate boundary feature with good ecological value.	20	B2	55.42 max est	4.2 max est
G4	Ash, Horse Chestnut, Sycamore	17 est.	350 est.	N E S W 7 max	3	EM/M	F	All outside the site with canopy of largest items just approaching site boundary.	No action at present.	20	B2	55.42 est.	4.2 est.
G5	Lombardy Poplar, Sycamore, Lime, Cherry, Whitebeam	14 Poplar 11 all rest	320 max	N E S W 2m over site max	2	EM	F	Growing on bund or similar to south of security fence - possibly planted as screen, to residential properties. Now requires thinning out to maximise potential of better specimens. Minor defects all typical of species and tight spacings. Desirability of bund now questionable within residential environment.	If within site ownership, selectively thin to remove Poplars and weaker specimens - say 15%. If bund is to be removed majority of Poplars will be automatically lost. Remainder of material to south would then require remedial pruning to maintain secure feature.	10/ 10	C2/ B2	46.33 max	3.84 max

