Merewood
Arboricultural Consultancy Services

Arboricultural survey to British Standard B.S. 5837: 2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'
at
375 Malden Road
Worcester Park
KT4 7NT

Client: Mr Shahid Ahmad

Prepared by
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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Brief

1.1.1. I am instructed by Kasun Bandara to carry out an arboricultural survey at 375 Malden Road Worcester Park. I am to assess the health and condition of the trees, provide an estimate as to their longevity and to provide recommendations for tree work or other operation to ensure the trees are kept in safe a condition as can be reasonably expected.

1.1.2. I am to advise on the likely impact of development proposals to the trees on and adjacent to the site. I am to provide recommendations for tree retention and protection, including appropriate measures that are to be undertaken in order to minimize the impact of development.

1.1.3. I have carried out the survey, collecting data in accordance with the recommendations of British Standard B.S. 5837: 2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations' and in line with best practice procedures.

1.2 Report Limitations

1.2.1 This survey assesses the condition of the trees based on a visual inspection made at ground level, including the use of binoculars. Typically, instruments such as a nylon hammer or a simple core sampler may be used if necessary. If further inspection of any specific tree is required, including the use of more sophisticated decay detection equipment, the recommendation to do so is made clear, both in the report and as a note to the tree survey sheets.

1.2.2 Trees are dynamic living organisms that are subjected constantly to external stresses and to biological and non-biological influences. As such the structure of trees can change at any given time and it is therefore recommended that trees are inspected regularly and assessed for risk. It is normally recommended that such inspections are undertaken every five years, unless otherwise advised.

1.2.3 The assessment of the trees made in this report may be considered valid for a period of twelve months, after which a further assessment is normally recommended.

1.2.4 This report is restricted to those trees shown on the plans and described in the schedule.

1.2.5 It has been established at the time of the survey that the trees on the site are not covered by a Tree Preservation Order nor are they located within a designated Conservation Area.

1.2.6 The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) makes provision for the protection of wild birds, bats, and other wildlife. Landowners have a duty of care to consider nesting birds and bats (and any other wildlife that may be affected) when proposing tree management, especially felling.

1.3 Survey Date

I surveyed the trees at 375 Malden Road Worcester Park on Thursday, September 24, 2020.

2.0 Summary

2.1 The site has no trees of any significance, or important enough to prevent the proposed development from being implemented.

3.0 Site Description

3.1 375 Malden Road Worcester Park is the site of a former public conveniences. The original utility is still present although remains closed to public use.

3.2 The property is located on the south west side of Malden Road alongside the entrance to a restaurant car park, opposite a parade of local shops. The plot is to the south of the A3 at New Malden. The surrounding area has an urban feel about it with trees having a useful role in the local landscape.

3.3 The topography of the site is more or less even, with no significant level changes. The British Geological Survey maps indicate the bedrock here is London Clay formation (clay and silt) with no superficial (surface) deposits recorded.

4.0 Observations

4.1 The site is currently disused as the facility (a former public conveniences) has now been closed to the public. The site is not being formerly maintained and appears derelict and overgrown.

4.2 A number of self-sown trees have sprung up on the land including ash and elm, the latter being susceptible to dying off as it begins to establish a broader stem diameter due to the onset of Dutch elm disease.

4.3 A longer established crab apple (T5) is growing at the front of the plot, overhanging the pavement of the Malden Road. This is a fully mature ornamental tree that has a limited useful life ahead of it.

4.4 To the south of the site, in the restaurant car park is a specifically planted ash tree (T1) that is beginning to establish itself.

4.5 The tree survey has shown that of the 5 trees surveyed, 0 are category 'A' 1 is category 'B'; 4 are category 'C' and 0 are category 'U'.

5.0 Appraisal

5.1 The site includes a number of trees of little or no real value in the local landscape, in particular the self-set trees that have only established as a result of the neglect of the upkeep of this plot.

5.2 A number of these self-set trees are dying anyway and present a liability prone to dropping into the road as they decay.

5.3 The more established crab apple (T5) would have formed part of the original landscaping of the facility. However, the tree is becoming over mature and with a pronounced lean over the public footpath and the fact that the tree is becoming smothered by ivy the time has come to review the future of this tree.

5.4 There are otherwise no other considerations with regards to the trees at this site. There are no trees of such importance as to prevent a development of this plot or to influence its' design. However, there should be realistic scope for new tree planting incorporated into any proposed layout.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The trees on the site are not of any great importance and should not prevent the site from being developed, although any future design should make realistic provision for the planting of a new tree or trees.

Simon Hawkins ND Arb MArborA

Appendix 1
Key to Tree Survey Data

Tree number:

Sequential reference number corresponding to the tree survey plan. Trees are recorded either as individuals (T1, T2, etc.) or as groups (G1, G2, etc.)

Species:

These are listed in the schedule by their common name. The botanical name of the species present is as follows:

- Ash *(Fraxinus excelsior L.)*
- Crab apple (*Malus sylvestris Mill.*)

Height

The height of the tree is measured using a 'Suunto' Height Meter or estimated to the nearest metre.

Stem diameter

Stem diameter as measured at 1.5m above ground level, or otherwise in accordance with Annex 'C' of the British Standard and expressed in millimetres to the nearest 10mm. Where access to the stem for measurement purposes was not possible, an estimated size is given with (est.) shown.

Crown spread (m):

Crown radius measured in metres (shown est. if estimated) to cardinal point

Height to 1st main branch:

The height from ground level of the first significant branch growth of the tree, with an indication of direction of that branch to inform on ground clearance, crown/stem ratio and shading

Height of canopy:

The height from ground level of the lowest part of the main canopy to inform on ground clearance, crown/stem ratio and shading

General observations:

A brief description summarising the form and condition of the tree; including physiological and structural defects (e.g. the presence of any decay) and preliminary management recommendations.

Life expectancy

Estimated safe useful life expectancy based on species, condition & context. The following age class bands are used: <10; 10-20; 20-40; 40+.

Category

A summary of the British Standard classification:

Trees for Removal

Category U = Trees in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.

Trees to be considered for retention where

Subcategory 1 concerns mainly arboricultural values

Subcategory 2 concerns mainly landscape values

Subcategory 3 concerns mainly cultural values including conservation

Category A = **Those trees of the highest quality and value**: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested).

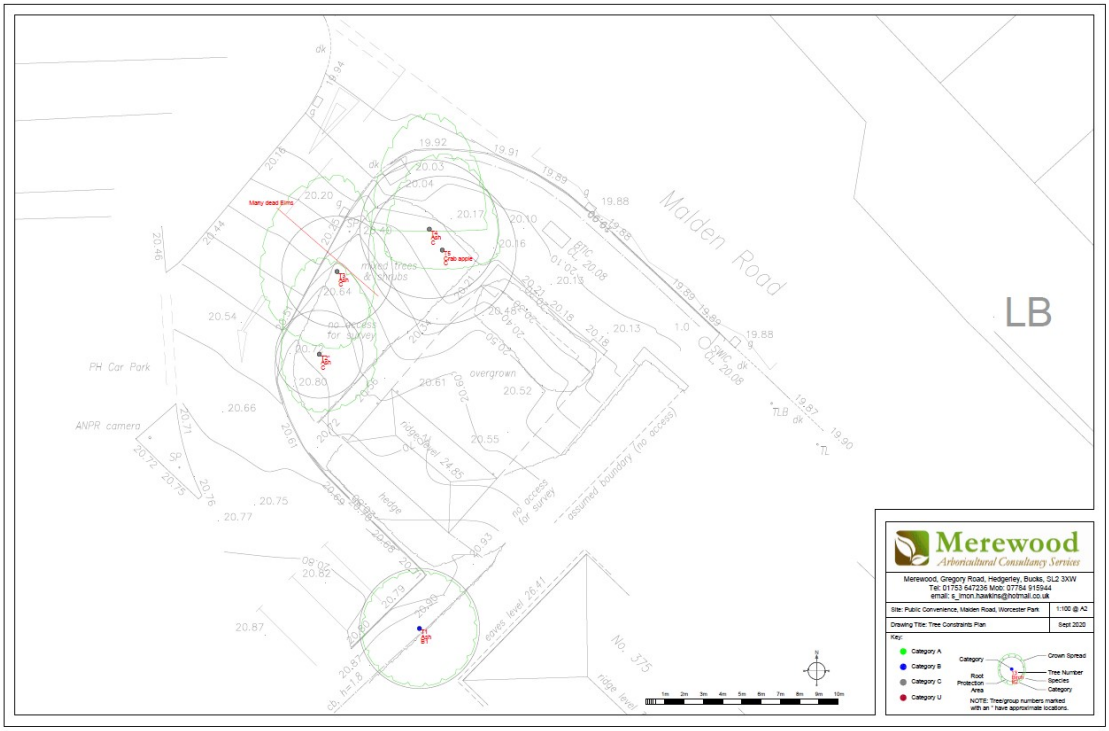
Category B = **Trees of moderate to high quality and value**: in such a condition as to be able to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested).

Category C = **Trees 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 of below 150mm

Appendix 2
Tree survey data sheets

Tree no	Species	Height	Stem diameter	Crown spread				Height to1st main branch	Height of canopy	Age	General observations	Life expectancy	Category
				North	South	East	West						
T1	Ash	9	260	3	3	3	3			M/A		40+	B1
T2	Ash	10	190	5	3	3	2			M/A		40+	C
T3	Ash	10	240	5	4	2	4			M/A		40+	C
T4	Ash	10	300	6	0	3	3			M/A		40+	C
T5	Crab apple	5	320	5	1	3	3			M		20 - 40	C

Appendix 3
Tree Constraints Plan


Malden Road
LB
PH Car Park
ANPR camera
overgrown
hedge
ridge level 24.85
eaves level 26.41
No. 375
ridge level
no access for survey
assumed boundary (no access)
mixed trees & shrubs
Many dead Birch
Crab apple
RPC
SWC
TLB
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Tel: 01753 647236 Mob: 07784 915944
email: e_imon.hawkins@hotmail.co.uk
Site: Public Convenience, Malden Road, Worcester Park
1:100 @ A2
Drawing Title: Tree Constraints Plan
Sept 2020
Key:
Category A
Category B
Category C
Category U
Category
Crown Spread
Root Protection Area
Tree Number
Species
Category
NOTE: Tree/group numbers marked with an * have approximate locations.

Appendix 4
Qualifications and experience

- I am Simon Hawkins, proprietor of Merewood Arboricultural Consultancy Services.

- I hold the National Diploma in Arboriculture which I attained in 1987. I have studied and practised Arboriculture for over 30 years, during which time I have been involved with both the private and public sector.

- I hold professional member status of the Arboricultural Association (M. Arbor A.), recognised as a higher vocational level within the industry.

- I am committed to undertaking continuous professional development in order to maintain my knowledge and skill set at the highest modern levels. I am currently studying for the NVQ level 6 Professional diploma the highest award in the industry.

- I have undertaken an intensive course in the principles and application of VTA Visual Tree Assessment. I have been assessed and found to have attained the advanced level of technical competence of a VTA Practitioner with Elite Training.

- I hold the LANTRA award for professional tree inspections

- I have attended a Masterclass in the use of the use of the IML Microdrill

- I have run a successful tree surgery business in which I was involved with the hands-on aspect of organising and running the day to day operations and carrying out contract work, including Local Authority contract work to a high professional standard.

- I have over 18 years' experience working in the public sector, during which time I have dealt with all aspects of trees and development in the town planning context, within the inner city; in a greater London Borough; and in the Green Belt. Typically, I have worked with planners, developers, architects, and other professionals in the construction industry in which I provide advice and assistance in dealing with arboricultural matters.