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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1.1 This report is required at **Grange Farm**, **Humber Lane**, **Welwick**, to provide detailed, independent, arboricultural advice on the trees present, in the context of potential development.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of this report is to summarise the findings of an arboricultural assessment of the existing vegetation at the above site; conducted in accordance with the guidelines contained within BS5837: 2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction Recommendations'.
- 1.1.3 Where necessary, this report will outline any tree works which are required within the current context of the site. It will also grade the trees in accordance with the British Standard, which will guide the design in terms of which trees should be retained and which trees could be removed.

1.2 Terms of Reference

- 1.2.1 JCA Ltd has been instructed by **Hudds Design** to survey the site and prepare the findings in a report.
- 1.2.2 For this purpose, a topographical survey has been supplied (Drawing Ref: Topographic Survey SGS-KT-001), which forms the basis for the Tree Constraints Plan at Appendix 6. The topographical survey, along with all other documents supplied to JCA, is assumed to be correct. No checking of such documents will be undertaken and JCA cannot be held responsible for incorrect data supplied by other parties.
- 1.2.3 Individual tree positions were not marked on the topographical plan (only the canopy lines of boundary vegetation) and have therefore been plotted by the surveyor on site using GPS technology. Whilst not as accurate as a topographical survey, our drawing is considered to provide a fair representation of the positions of the trees surveyed. Tree positions should, however, be considered indicative on the Tree Constraints Plan.

1.3 Scope of the Report

- 1.3.1 This report is compiled in accordance with BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations' and is based on an independent and objective assessment of the existing vegetation.
- 1.3.2 Where applicable trees outside the site boundary, but close enough to be affected by the proposed development, are included.
- 1.3.3 The specific designs of the proposed development are not generally considered at this stage. This is to be detailed in an Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

1.4 Survey Details

- 1.4.1 The survey took place during March 2022 and was conducted by Emily Wilde *Fdsc* (*Arboriculture*).
- 1.4.2 During this survey, all trees were inspected from ground level. Further investigations, such as a climbed inspection or a decay detection survey, have not been undertaken but may be recommended where deemed appropriate.
- 1.4.3 Measurements were obtained using clinometers, specialist tapes or electronic distometers. Where this was not possible, measurements were estimated to the best ability of the surveyor. JCA endeavour to provide accurate information and will always take measurements unless inhibited by restricted access or other mitigating circumstances. Where measurements have been estimated, they are clearly highlighted at **Appendix 1**.

2. Site Description

2.1 Land Use & Topography

- 2.1.1 The site is currently an open field with vegetation bordering the site.
- 2.1.2 The site is generally level

2.2 Treescape & Amenity

- 2.2.1 The small village of Welwick lies to the north and west, with fields to the south and east.
- 2.2.2 The trees on this site have a moderate impact on the local treescape, providing screening from Main Street.

2.3 Age Class & Species

2.3.1 The trees surveyed ranged in age from semi-mature to mature, with species consisting of Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Ash, Sycamore and Apple. The dominant species being Hawthorn.

3. Status of the Trees

- 3.1 A check was made on 4th February 2022 with *East Riding of Yorkshire Council*.
- 3.2 We are informed that there is no Tree Preservation Order (TPO) in force and that the site is not within a Conservation Area.
- 3.3 Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, JCA recommend that a further check is carried out prior to any works being undertaken. This is especially relevant as the Local Authority is able to serve a TPO at any time.
- 3.4 The presence of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) represents the Local Authority's desire to retain trees within the landscape. As such, trees covered by a TPO are generally more likely to require retention within a proposed scheme and this should be taken into account during the design process. In some cases, the removal of TPO trees may be agreed upon, providing the benefits of the proposed development are deemed greater than the material loss of the trees. The value of existing vegetation is just one factor in the decision making process; all benefits of the proposed development will be taken into consideration in the usual manner.

4. Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

4.1 Full details of all individual trees surveyed are recorded in the tables at **Appendix 1**. A full explanation of the tables can be found at **Appendix 2**. Please refer also to the Tree Constraints Plan at **Appendix 6** for tree locations.

5. Discussion Relating to the Existing Treescape

5.1 Tree Condition & Recommended Works

- 5.1.1 The tree survey revealed a total of 9 items of vegetation (4 individual trees, 2 groups of trees and 3 hedges). Of these, 7 items were identified as retention category 'B' and 2 items were identified as retention category 'C'. Please refer to **Appendix 2** for retention category and definition criteria.
- 5.1.2 The surveyed trees were found to be in a good structural and physiological condition, as such, no tree works are required under the current context of the site. However, all trees to be retained within the proposed development should be inspected on a regular basis in the interests of risk management.

5.2 Existing Site Constraints and General Design Advice

- 5.2.1 The following is an overview of the constraints on this site to development, along with general design considerations relating to the tree cover. The precise details of a proposed development are not known at present. The specific implications of a proposed design should be assessed within an Arboricultural Implications Assessment (AIA).
- 5.2.2 The retention categories of the trees surveyed are an indication of their overall values. The category of each item is listed at **Appendix 1** and an explanation of the retention categories is included at **Appendix 2**. As a general rule, those trees listed as retention category 'A' or 'B' are the most valuable items and as such the removal of these is likely to be met with resistance by the Local Planning Authority (LPA). Those items listed as retention category 'C' are of lesser value and the removal of these is less likely to be met with resistance by the LPA. The above information should guide the design in terms of which trees are to be removed and which are to be retained. However, it should be noted that the retention of trees is just one consideration in the design process and each development will be taken for its merits.
- 5.2.3 The location of each tree is plotted on the associated Tree Constraints Plan at **Appendix** 6. This plan identifies the retention category of each tree (Retention A: green canopy, Retention B: blue canopy, Retention C: grey canopy, Retention U: red canopy), the crown spread, and also the associated rooting zone (Root Protection Area or RPA shown in gold). In order to enable the survival of trees shown to be retained within any proposals, both the canopy of the tree and its RPA must be completely avoided wherever possible. This relates to not just the location of new buildings, but also to the location of new areas of hard standing, proposed utility routes and any ground level changes (both excavations and soil piling). Where this is not possible, specialist construction methods and materials will need to be used.

- 5.2.4 Where information is available, the water demand of each tree is provided at **Appendix** 1, in accordance with NHBC Standards 2014 chapter 4.2. 'Building near trees'. The water demand of trees can affect adjacent structures and this is therefore included to inform foundation design, depth and the proximity of proposed structures to trees.
- 5.2.5 Retained trees will require adequate protective measures during development. Such measures typically entail temporary protective fencing, installed to the full extent of the RPA. Where this is not entirely possible, ground protection may also comprise part of the protective measures. This includes a compaction reducing construction detail which enables a degree of construction traffic over/within the RPA.
- 5.2.6 As the RPAs of the trees will require fencing off as a protection measure, this should be brought into consideration when planning such things as access routes and material storage during development. It is accepted that in some cases it is not entirely possible to completely avoid the RPA or canopy lines within a new development. The consulting arboriculturalist should therefore be made aware of any such incursions to make comment and, where possible, advise on mitigation actions. Such details should be contained within an Arboricultural Implications Assessment (AIA).
- 5.2.7 No material storage is permitted within the RPA of retained trees unless confirmed to be acceptable by the consulting arboriculturalist. The exact details and location of protective measures should be included within an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS).
- 5.2.8 The position of the site compound is a major consideration. It is recommended that this, which typically includes the site office, facilities, toilets, storage of materials and parking, is located away from trees and outside the RPA.
- 5.2.9 Any shade that may be cast by the retained trees must also be considered. Where buildings are to be positioned within the shade cast area of trees, these should be designed in order to maximise light levels.
- 5.2.10 Many development sites contain areas of nature conservation interest. Trees and hedgerows, in particular, can provide an important habitat for birds, bats, invertebrates and fungi and appropriate attention needs to be paid to preserving habitats throughout the development process. JCA can provide Ecological Surveys and Bat Surveys where required.
- 5.2.11 If a landscape planting scheme is proposed, consideration must be made at the planning stage as to where this is to be implemented on site. Such locations should be protected in order to prevent soil compaction and/or contamination and should therefore form part of the Construction Exclusion Zone. JCA can provide Tree Planting Schemes where required.

6. Conclusions

- None of the trees have been recommended for removal, pruning works or further monitoring for arboricultural reasons.
- Existing site constraints and general design advice has been provided in **Section 5.2**. Upon provision of specific proposals, site-specific advice can be given with regards to the impact on trees. In accordance with **Section 5.4** of **BS 5837: 2012**, the next stage on this site should be the preparation of an **Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)**, which will illustrate and discuss the impact of the proposals on the trees and vice versa, to help to inform good design.
- 6.3 The data gained during the survey provides an indication of the health of the trees. However, it does not enable a comprehensive assessment of their condition over time. Trees are living organisms which are affected by many factors including weather conditions, diseases/disorders, light levels and human activities. Due of this, this report is only valid for a period of 1 year from the date of issuing. Should an update or revision of this report be required outside of this time period, JCA may require a further site visit to ensure that the condition of the trees has not significantly changed. It is advised that the trees are inspected regularly, in the interests of risk management.

Appendices

| Tree Ref. | Age Common Name Botanical Name | Height (m) | Crown Height (m) | Height (m) and Direction of the Lowest Branch | Diameter (cm) | Crown Spread N W E S | Observations | Recommendations Priority | Physiological Condition | Structural Condition | Amenity Value | NHBC Water Demand | Life Expectancy (yrs) | Retention Category |
|--------------|---|------------|------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Н 1 | Semi-mature Common Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna | 2.5 | 0 | 0 n/a | <5 | See plan | Establishing boundary hedge. No major visible defects. | No action required. | POOR | GOOD | LOW | HIGH | 40+ | C 2 |
| G 2 | Mature Common Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna | 4 | 1 | 2 n/a | 22 | See plan | Two trees situated on adjacent land cavities to the base of both trees. The crowns overhang the site. | No action required. | GOOD | FAIR | MOD | HIGH | 20+ | C 2 |
| Н 3 | Mature Common Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna | 4 | 1 | 1 n/a | 22 avg. | See plan | Boundary hedge situated on adjacent land. Dense brambles amongst which prevented a detailed inspection. The crowns overhang the site. | No action required. | GOOD | GOOD | MOD | HIGH | 40+ | В 2 |
| Т 4 | Mature Common Ash Fraxinus excelsior | 12 | 0 | 1 n/a | 3 x 27 avg. | 6.5 6 3 | Situated on adjacent land. Multi- stemmed tree on slight mound. Overhanging the site. Occasional stubs noted. Ivy prevented detailed inspection but appears to be no defects. | No action required. | GOOD | GOOD | MOD | MOD | 20+ | В 1 |
| Т 5 | Early-mature Common Ash Fraxinus excelsior | 12 | 0 | 3 NE | 30 | 8 6 8 4 | Situated on adjacent land. Dense vegetation prevented a detailed inspection. Heavy lean to the northeast. Overhanging the site. | No action required. | FAIR | FAIR | MOD | MOD | 20+ | B 1 |
| Т 6 | Early-mature Sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus | 14 | 2 | 2 n/a | 35 30 | 5.5 | Situated on adjacent land. Twin- stemmed at ground level with a balanced crown which overhangs the site. Dense epicormic growth and Ivy prevented a detailed inspection. Appears in an acceptable condition at present. | No action required. | GOOD | GOOD | MOD | MOD | 40+ | В 1 |
| Н 7 | Mature Common Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna | 4 | 0 | 0 n/a | 4 x 12 avg. | See plan | Unmaintained boundary hedge along the road and dyke. Some blackthorn within. | No action required. | GOOD | GOOD | HIGH | HIGH | 40+ | В 1 |
| G 8 | Over-mature Common Hawthorn Crataegus monogyna | 4.5 | 0 | 0 n/a | 20 avg. | See plan | Small row of Hawthorn located around the pond. | No action required. | GOOD | GOOD | MOD | HIGH | 40+ | В 1 |
| Т 9 | Mature Apple Malus sp. | 5 | 1.5 | 2 n/a | 3 x 25 avg. | 3.5 | Multi-stemmed at ground level with a balanced crown. Cavities to the stems. Ivy prevented detailed inspection. | No action required. | GOOD | GOOD | LOW | MOD | 40+ | B 1 |

JCA Limited 2022 # Dimension Estimated

Appendix 2: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

A2.1 Measurements/ Reference Information

- A2.1.1 *REF NUMBER*. All items surveyed are allocated a reference number preceded with a letter, identifying the type of vegetation surveyed: T = an individual tree, G = a group of trees or an area of vegetation, W = woodland, H = a hedgerow.
- A2.1.2 SPECIES: COMMON AND BOTANICAL NAME. The common and botanical names of the species present are noted. If the species is not clear or identifiable, then a general common name and genus will be noted.
- A2.1.3 *AGE CLASS* of the tree is described as young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature, overmature, veteran or dead.
- A2.1.4 *HEIGHT* of the tree is measured in metres from the stem base to the top of the crown.
- A2.1.5 *CROWN HEIGHT* is an indication of the height above ground level at which the crown begins.
- A2.1.6 STEM DIAMETER is measured at 1.5 metres above (higher) ground level. Where the tree is multi-stemmed at this point; diameter measurements are taken for each stem. If more than five stems are present, an average stem diameter is taken. If for whatever reason it is not practical to measure multiple-stemmed trees in this way, the diameter is measured close to ground level, just above the root buttress.
- A2.1.7 *CROWN SPREAD* is measured from the centre of the stem base to the tips of the branches to all four cardinal points.
- A2.1.8 HEIGHT AND DIRECTION OF LOWEST BRANCH. The height and direction of the lowest significant branch is noted because of potential issues relating to clearances and the need for tree pruning.
- A2.1.9 *NHBC WATER DEMAND*. The water demand of each tree, as listed in NHBC Standards 2010 Chapter 4.2 'Building near trees'. This is included to aid structural engineers, architects and other members of the design team as it determines foundation depth and other considerations with regard to trees.

A2.2 Evaluations

- A2.2.1 *PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION* is classed as good, fair, poor, or dead. This is an indication of the health and vitality of the tree and takes into account vigour, presence of disease and dieback.
- A2.2.2 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.
- A2.2.3 *LIFE EXPECTANCY* is classed as; Dead, less than 10 years, 10+ years, 20+ years, or 40 + years. This is an indication of the minimum number of years before removal of the tree is likely to be required.
- A2.2.4 *AMENITY VALUE*. A general indication is given in respect to the amenity/landscape value of the tree/group within the surrounding area.
- A2.2.5 *PRIORITIES*. A priority rating is given concerning the time periods in which the recommended works should be undertaken. LOW priority works should be undertaken within 12 months of the survey, MOD (moderate) priority works should be undertaken within 6 months and HIGH priority works should be completed as soon as practically possible. If no works are recommended, N/A (not applicable) will be used.

A2.3 Retention Categories

A2.3.1 A (marked green on the Tree Constraints Plan) = Trees of high quality.

These trees are of high quality and value with a good life expectancy (usually with an estimated remaining life expectancy of 40 years).

A2.3.2 B (marked in blue on the Tree Constraints Plan) = Trees of moderate quality.

These trees are of moderate quality and value with a reasonable life expectancy (usually with an estimated life expectancy of at least 20 years).

A2.3.3 C (marked in grey on the Tree Constraints Plan) = Trees of low quality.

These trees are of low quality and value but which are in adequate condition to remain or are young trees with a stem diameter below 15cm (usually with an estimated life expectancy of at least 10 years).

- A2.3.4 Trees categorised as retention category 'A', 'B' or 'C' are then justified by being further divided into 3 subcategories:
 - 1 = Mainly arboricultural qualities.
 - 2 = Mainly landscape qualities.
 - 3 = Mainly cultural values, including conservation value.

Appendix 3: General Guidelines

- A3.1 All tree work should be undertaken to BS 3998: 2010 'Recommendations for tree work' or other recognised industry practice.
- A3.2 Staff carrying out the work must be qualified, experienced and ideally be Arboricultural Association approved contractors. They should be covered by adequate public liability insurance.
- A3.3 This report is based upon a visual inspection. The consultant 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 the guidelines and the terms listed therein.
- A3.4 Any defects seen by a contractor or the employer that were not apparent to the consultant must be brought to the consultant's attention immediately.
- A3.5 No liability can be accepted by JCA in respect of the trees unless the recommendations of this report are carried out under the supervision of JCA and within JCA's timescale.
- A3.6 It is advisable to have trees inspected by an arboricultural consultant on a regular basis.

Appendix 4: Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations

Arboriculture The cultivation of trees in order to produce individual specimens of the

greatest ornament, for shelter or any primary purpose other than the

production of timber or fruit.

Canker Disease damaged area of a tree, usually caused by fungus or bacteria affecting

the bark.

Co-dominant stem A stem which has grown in direct competition to the main stem and which

has formed a substantial size influencing the appearance of the tree.

Crown lift The removal of the lowest branches, usually to a given height. It allows more

residual light and greater clearance underneath for vehicles etc.

Crown reduction The reduction of a tree's height and spread while preserving its natural shape.

Crown thin The removal of some of the density of a tree's crown, usually 5-15% allowing

more light through its canopy and reducing wind resistance.

Deadwood Either dead branches, or a procedure involving the removal of dead, dying

and diseased branches.

Dieback Where branches are beginning to show signs of death usually at the tips in the

crown.

Epicormic shoots Small branches that grow in clusters around the base of the stem of a tree or

within the crown. This is usually as a result of bad pruning or some other stress factor, although can be a natural growth pattern for some species of tree

(eg Lime species).

Included bark Where the bark on two adjoining branches or stems is growing tight together,

forming a joint with limited physical strength.

Pollarding A method of tree management in which the main trunk and principle branches

of the tree are cut to the same height, and the resulting branches are then

cropped on a regular basis.

Remedial pruning The removal of old stubs, deadwood, epicormic growth, rubbing or crossing

branches and other unwanted items from the tree's crown. Sometimes

referred to as crown cleaning.

RPA Root Protection Area – Theoretical rooting area of a tree as defined in BS

5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction -

Recommendations'.

Topping Topping is a form of pruning that removes terminal growth leaving a 'stub'

cut end. Topping can cause serious health problems to a tree.

Appendix 5: Author Qualifications

Principal Consultant and Managing Director

Jonathan Cocking *F.R.E.S., Tech. Cert. (Arbor.A), PDipArb (RFS) FArborA CBiol MSB. MICFor.* Jonathan is a Registered Consultant and Fellow of the Arboricultural Association and sits on its Professional Committee. He has 31 years' experience in the Arboricultural profession and served for eight years as Senior Arboriculturist with a large local authority before establishing JCA in 1997. Jonathan has since developed JCA's portfolio of services and its extensive client base. He is a Chartered Biologist, a Chartered Arboriculturalist and an Expert Witness with much experience of litigation work.

Technical Director

Toby Thwaites *BSc (Hons), HND (Arboriculture), MArborA.*. Toby joined JCA in 1998 after graduating in Ecology at the University of Huddersfield and has since graduated in Arboriculture at the University of Central Lancashire. A former JCA team leader and Consulting Arboriculturist, Toby is now Technical Director and oversees all office and on-site activities at JCA and is on hand to offer technical support and advice.

Operations Director

Charles Cocking *FdSc* (*Arboriculture*), *MArborA*. Charles joined JCA in January 2014 having previously worked for the company on a part time basis during 2013. Charles obtained his Foundation Degree in Arboriculture at Askham Bryan College, York, and is a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association. Charles now oversees all internal operations for the company.

Consulting Staff: Arboriculture

Andrew Bussey. Andrew started working in consultancy at JCA in 2006 having spent 12 years working as an arborist for various private companies before joining a Local Authority forestry team. He has various NPTC qualifications, is QTRA qualified and is a LANTRA Accredited Professional Tree Inspector.

Emily Wilde *FdSc* (*Arboriculture*). Emily joined JCA having previously worked for various private tree surgery and consultancy companies over the past 8 years. She initially obtained a ND in Forestry & Arboriculture, followed by a FdSc in Arboriculture at Askham Bryan College, York. Emily has various NPTC certificates and is QTRA qualified.

Mick Eltringham *ND (Forestry)*. Mick joined JCA after spending 12 years working in the industry for various private companies in the north and south of England. He has also spent the last five years working as a consultant for two canopy research projects in the Amazon Rainforest, working with Oxford University and the University of Arizona. He has various NPTC Qualifications.

Dan Kemp *FdSc* (*Arboriculture*). Dan joined JCA with nearly 30 years' experience in arboriculture. He worked as a London Tree Officer for 12 years and in several arboricultural and horticultural management posts, specialising particularly in tree risk assessments and tree related subsidence.

Ryan Bateman *BSc (Hons), FdSc (Arboriculture), TechArborA.* Ryan joined JCA in 2020 after working as a Lecturer on the Foundation Degree in Arboriculture at Askham Bryan College in York. Ryan has both practical skills, NPTC qualifications and theoretical knowledge and owned his own contracting business prior to, and whilst working as a lecturer.

Luke Wickham *FdSc* (*Arboriculture and Urban Forestry*). Luke joined JCA in 2021 after obtaining his Foundation Degree in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry at Askham Bryan College. Having previously worked within the industry for the past 4 years, running his own small business and sub-contracting for local firms, Luke brings a sound knowledge and understanding of the practical and academic sides of the industry.

Consulting Staff: Ecology

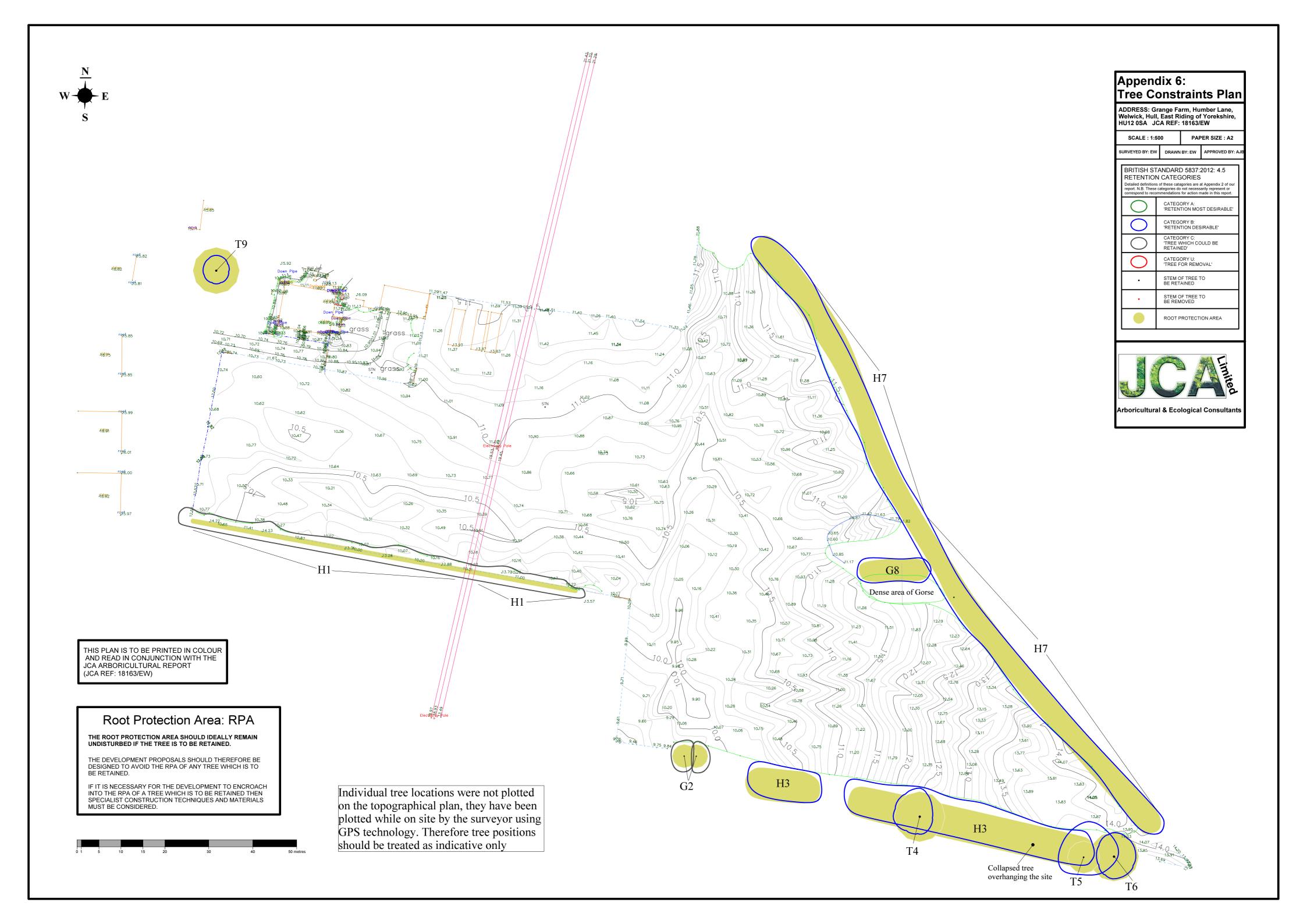
Adam West, Principal Ecologist BSc (Hons) Animal and Wildlife Management. Adam joined JCA to lead the expanding ecology department. Having returned to education as a mature student, Adam studied Countryside Management for two years before undertaking a Batchelor's degree, for which he was awarded First Class Honours. Adam has many years' experience in ecological consultancy, working on projects ranging from individual planning applications to national infrastructure projects. Adam holds a Natural England Level 1 great crested newt survey class licence, a Natural England Level 2 bat survey class licence (and the Scottish and Welsh equivalents) and a CSCS card.

Poppy McDermott, Seasonal Ecologist *BSc* (*Hons*) *Ecology and Conservation*. Poppy joined JCA after completing her degree for three years at Nottingham Trent University in Ecology and Conservation. She has gained practical experience in protected species surveying and report writing whilst at university and is hoping to further develop these skills and consultancy experience whilst at JCA.

Administrative Staff

Catherine Cocking Accounts Manager. **Kelly Saunders** Accounts Assistant.

Lorraine Spink Administrative Assistant. **Lisa Beedham** Marketing Manager.



I hope that this report provides all the necessary information, but should any further advice be needed please do not hesitate to contact the author.

Signed

E. Wild

Emily Wilde *FdSc (Arboriculture)*.

21st March 2022

For and on behalf of JCA Ltd

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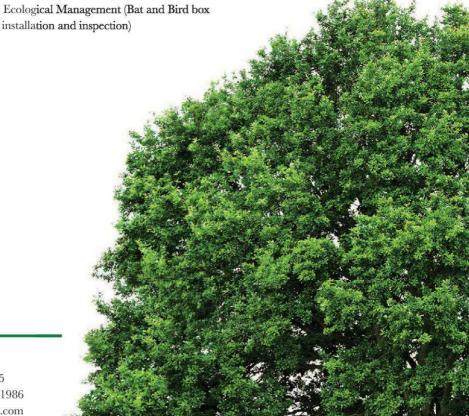
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- · Code for Sustainable Homes

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- Ecological Management (Bat and Bird box



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