

BS5837:2012 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Glendale

Countryside Limited

Hele View, Clayhanger. EX16 7NZ

26th October 2021

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1.0 Instructions/Introduction

- 1.1 I have been Instructed by Hazel Walker to survey trees (in connection with a development proposal) at Hele View, Clayhanger. EX16 7NZ in accordance with BS5837: 2012; trees in relation to design, demolition and construction.
- 1.2 A tree survey and quality assessment of the trees on the proposed development site form a Tree Constraints Plan (TCP)
- 1.3 The Tree Constraints Plan (TCP), shows the location of the tree protective fencing (highlighted as orange lines on plan) which will protect the RPA for each tree (detailed in the tree survey schedule)
- 1.4 Made recommendations to protect trees during the construction process, will be shown on the tree protection plan (TPP)

2.0 Methodology

- 2.1 Any trees relevant to the proposed development have been surveyed in accordance With BS5837:2012 (Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction)
- 2.2 The tree's condition has been assessed from the proposed development site. Where trees grow adjacent to public access areas such as, highways and footpaths, Recommendations may be made based on safety
- 2.3 The survey report and plan are based on the instructions and plan supplied by the Client. Drawing No. 6405-16JUN21-01
- 2.4 Root protection areas of the surveyed trees have been allocated within the tree survey schedule on pages 8-9, as indicated by BS5837

3.0 Report Limitations

- 3.1 All tree have been inspected from ground level with the aid of binoculars using visual observation methods and a sounding mallet where required to determine the trees condition. Soil was not assessed and no samples were taken
- 3.2 Trees are living dynamic organisms whose condition can change rapidly, due to severe weather conditions, the effects of pest and diseases as well as other environmental factors. Therefore the conclusion and recommendations in this report are only valid for the period of one year (12 months). The period of validity may be reduced in the case of any change in condition or to proximity to the tree
- 3.3 The tree survey and report is for planning purposes only and does not constitute a tree risk assessment

4.0 Conditions

4.1 Site Location:

Hele View, Clayhanger. EX16 7NZ is located approximately 0.8m South of Venn Cross on the B3227, Taunton. TA4 2BE

Grid reference: ST 02810 23608, What3Words: internet.mastering.stuffing
(Grid Reference & What3Words are to site entrance)

4.2 Description:

The proposed development site consists of existing structures set within fields with a hardstanding access track

4.3 Tree on the site:

There are 12 individual trees and 5 groups of trees on the site. Most of the trees are of reasonable quality with the exception of the Ash trees which are showing positive indicators of Ash Dieback.

4.4 Legal Status:

I am unaware of any Tree protection Orders or other designation that might be protecting the trees. Before any works are undertaken on the trees, advice from the Local Planning Authority (LPA) should be sought to determine if the site has any Tree Preservation Orders or Other protection orders.

5.0 Tree survey definition of terms

5.1 Tree heights and crown spreads are measured in metres and have been estimated

5.2 The stem diameters are taken for single stemmed trees at approximately 1.5m above ground level and for multi-stemmed trees just above the root flare. Where the trees are detailed as a group, the stem diameter shown has been taken as an average so as to provide a suitable RPA for the trees in this group based on my knowledge and experience

5.3 The age class for the tree is estimated based on it's expected life span in its given situation taking into account any defects, the form of the tree ect. The categories are Young (less than 5 years old), Early Mature (less than $\frac{1}{3}$ of expected life span), Mature ($\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of expected life span), Late Mature (more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of expected life span) and Veteran (in a state of natural decline)

5.4 The condition of the tree or group of trees is detailed as either Normal, Fair or Poor. Where trees have been grouped, comments given will reflect the whole group except where individual details are required (e.g. because a tree within the group is dead or has a significant fault)

5.5 The retention categories are as followed:-

U: Trees that cannot be realistically retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for more than 10 years (shown highlighted in red on attached schedule)

A: Trees of high quality and value (shown highlighted in light green on attached schedule)

B: Trees of moderate quality and value (shown highlighted in mild blue on attached schedule)

C: Trees of low quality and value (shown highlighted in grey on attached schedule)

For the full details of categories please see BS5837: 2012.

6.0 Proposed Layout

6.1 The proposed layout is the full refurbishment of an existing structure on the proposed development site to a 2 bedroom single story dwelling

6.2 I have not been provided with the proposed layout for the proposed dwelling though the existing structure is shown on the plans provided

7.0 Impacts of proposed development on trees

7.1 Tree Felling:

It is necessary to fell 12 trees on the site, these are category C & U trees G2 & T193 due to the positive indicators of Ash dieback being present at stages 2-3, G2 (9 trees) is located at the entrance to the site within striking distance of the public highway, T193 is located on the boundary hedge to the South of the proposed development directly adapted to the to the access track for vehicles and approximately 5m from the existing/proposed structure/dwelling.

G4 (2 trees) is located within 0.5m of one of the subsidiary buildings and would need to be removed to facilitate works to secure the structure

7.2 Remedial tree work:

It will also be necessary to undertake remedial works to trees both at the entrance to the site and on the boundary hedge to the South of the proposed development, these are category B (5 trees) T192, 199, 200 and G5.

These works would be required, not only to facilitate the proposed development but would also be required to facilitate any repairs to the existing structures as it is clear that the trees are causing damage from low limbs applying pressure on the roofs of the buildings and do not provide sufficient clearances if repairs were to be made.

- 7.3 Pollarding:
T190 (Ash) has positive indicators of Ash dieback, the condition of the tree is likely to worsen as it matures and Ash dieback further increases through the stages. Pollarding this tree would retain some wildlife benefit and reduce overall the size of the tree. There is also some evidence that pollarding Ash trees with AD can prolong the life expectancy

8.0 Root protection areas (RPAs)

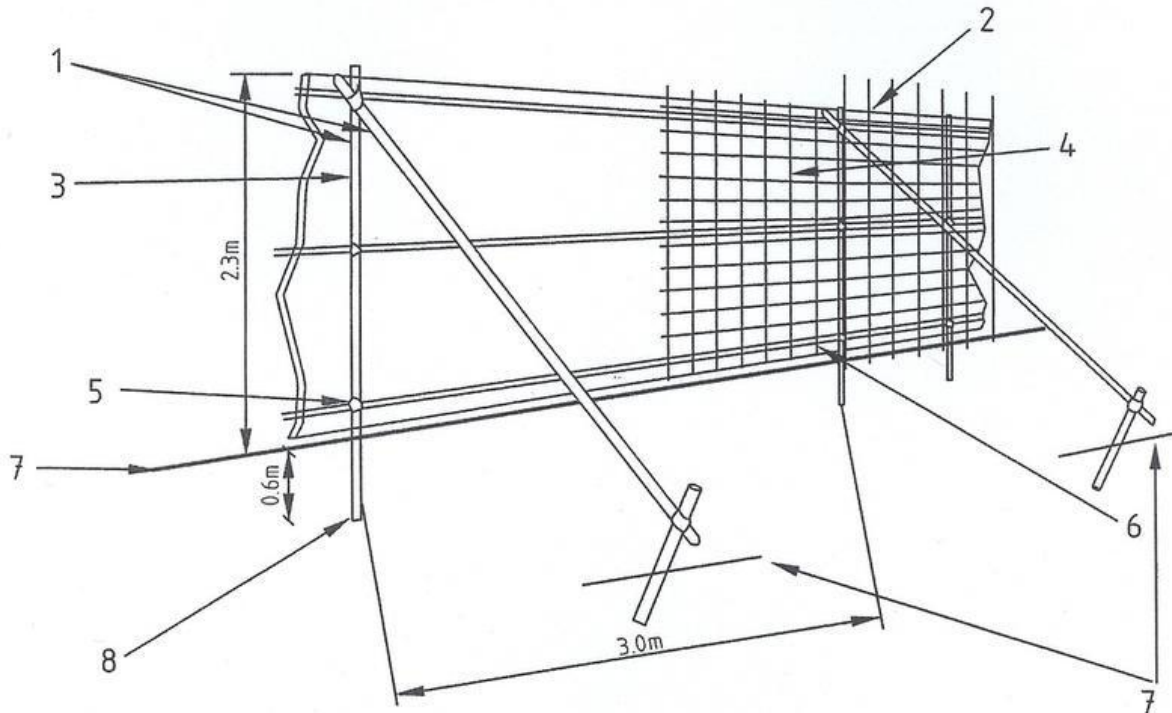
- 8.1 BS5837:2012 recommends Root Protection Areas (RPAs), these RPAs are delivered by the stem diameter. The RPA for individual trees is calculated by measuring the stem diameters at approximately 1.5m, for multi-stemmed trees the diameter measurement is taken at the base of the tree just above any basal flair and for groups the measurement is taken as an average. This is shown in the survey schedule as an area and as a radius of that RPA, based on a circular protection zone
- 8.2 The purpose of a circular RPAs for this report is to illustrate the areas of concern where potentially damaging activities should be avoided such as; excavation, the transit of vehicles including plant and the storage of materials over non surfaced ground
- 8.3 Tree 199 is located within close proximity of the access track to the proposed development site with exposed roots within the track. The track is within the RPA of T199. During the construction of the proposed development it would be recommended that the access track around T199 remains without disturbance. Tree 192 has an RPA within the proposed development. The construction of the existing structure is unknown with what seems to be a solid concrete base
- 8.4 The potential impacts to the tree roots and subsequent impacts to the health cannot be predicted with accuracy in advance of the works. Therefore I consider the Recommendation that during any excavation of the footings of the existing structure an arboricultural watching brief should take place during this phase of construction

9.0 Impacts of trees on proposed development

- 9.1 Shade is often used as a reason to prune/fell trees and careful consideration should be given when Planning new development

10.0 Recommendations (Root Protection Areas)

10.1 I have recommended tree protection fencing during the construction phase on the North side of the boundary hedge where T189 - 193 and G3 - G5 are located. The is to act as a barrier preventing the trees to remain and their rooting areas. This fencing is to be erected after tree work and prior to construction commencing. Fencing consists of heras panels attached to a rigid scaffold framework as shown by the drawing below



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Standard scaffold poles | 5 Standard clamps |
| 2 Uprights to be driven into the ground | 6 Wire twisted and secured on inside face of fencing to avoid easy dismantling |
| 3 Panels secured to uprights with wire ties and, where necessary, standard scaffold clamps | 7 Ground level |
| 4 Weldmesh wired to the uprights and horizontals | 8 Approx. 0.6m driven into the ground |

10.2 The area enclosed by the fencing is to be designated as a construction exclusion Zone, within which the following are prohibited:

- Changes in levels
- Any excavations
- Storage of materials
- Transit and parking of vehicles (including plant)

10.3 During the construction phase, the existing hard standing on the access track should remain undisturbed between the first two gates at the access of the main road to act as protection for the rooting structure of T199 with heras fencing erected along the edge of the track to act as a physical barrier for T199

11.0 Arboricultural site monitoring

11.1 Arboricultural monitoring is recommended during the initial construction phase:

1. An initial site meeting with the arboriculturalist, client, contactor and site manager to discuss tree work and setting out the protection fencing
2. An arboricultural watching brief during the excavation of existing footings
3. An compliance check of the protection fencing

12.0 Conclusion

12.1 A planning application is proposed for the refurbishment of the existing structure at Hele View, Clayhanger. EX16 7NZ

12.2 There are 11 individual trees and 5 groups which at the time of writing this report, I am unaware of any Tree protection Orders or other designation that might be protecting the trees. Before any works are undertaken on the trees, advice from the Local Planning Authority (LPA) should be sought to determine if the site has any Tree Preservation Orders or Other protection orders

BS5837 categorises the tree as follows:

- A category tree: One Beech tree outside the proposed development
- Eight individual and 2 groups B category
- Three individual and 2 groups C category
- One group of Ash trees U category

12.3 It is necessary to remove G2 & T193 due to the presence of later stages of Ash dieback and G4 to give clear access to assess the structural stability of existing structures

It is also necessary to undertake remedial work to T191, 192, 199, 200 and G5 to facilitate the proposed development

12.4 Tree protection barriers are recommended during the construction phase to protect the rooting areas of trees

12.5 This report makes the recommendations for precautionary measures including Monitoring during construction to minimise risks to trees

