



Membership No.FE00604

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30th November 2023

Mr R. Tasker
Forres Sandle Manor School
Fordingbridge
Hants
SP6 1DS

Dear Mr. Tasker

TREES AT FORRES SANDLE MANOR SCHOOL, FORDINGBRIDGE, HANTS, SP6 1DS.

Brief: Survey the trees that are on or close to the proposed development and their impact. Comment upon their condition, suitability for retention and the impact they may have on the proposed development.

Date of Inspection: 7th August 2023

Inspected by: John Christopher FdScArb, HND Building Studies, M.Arbor.A.
Ivan Hinsley BSc

Survey method: On foot ground level visual.

TREE SURVEY FOR FORRES SANDLE MANOR SCHOOL, FORDINGBRIDGE, HANTS, SP6 1DS.

Survey Technique

The surveyed trees were visually assessed from ground level as far as access allowed. No climbing inspections or invasive examination techniques were carried out. Access to some trees was restricted, in such cases the descriptions of the trees given in the survey schedule are subject to the tree being free of significant defects that were not clearly visible. Detail on the individual trees assessed is given in the survey schedule using the format in BS5837: 2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations', please read in conjunction with the enclosed Tree Survey Plan. The columns and abbreviations used are:

Column 1 = T – Tree number marked on the submitted plan.

Column 2 = The Latin binomial and common name if applicable.

Column 3 = Hgt – Approximate tree height, in metres; to the nearest 0.5m if under 10m.

Column 4 = Dbh – Diameter (rounded to the nearest 10mm). Single stemmed trees, at 1.5m above ground level. Low branched trees, at the narrowest point below the fork. Trunks with irregular swellings, at the narrowest point below the swelling. Multi stemmed trees, each stem measured at 1.5m above ground level. # estimated value if unable to gain access.

Column 5 = RPA – The Root Protection Area: radius measured in metres from the centre of the trunk.

Column 6 = B/S – Approximate branch spread to the four cardinal points of the compass, in meters.

Column 7 = FSB – Height of first significant branch above ground level in meters and direction of growth

Column 8 = C/C – Height of canopy above ground level, in meters.

Column 8 = Age – Age class as representation of passage through normal life cycle – Y=Young, SM= Semi-Mature, EM = Early Mature, M=Mature, FM = Fully Mature, OM = Over Mature.

Column 9 = R/C – Estimated remaining contribution, in years.

Column 10 = Cat – BS5837: 2012 Survey category.

Categories are: -

U Trees unsuitable for retention (Red on plan)

Trees that cannot realistically be retained, in the context of the current land use, for longer than 10 years.

A Trees of high quality (Green on plan)

Trees able to make a substantial contribution for a minimum of 40 years.

Particularly good examples of trees, or essential components of groups of arboricultural features e.g. avenues. Visual importance or significant conservation, historical or other value. Veteran trees, especially if ancient.

B Trees of moderate quality (Blue on plan)

Those in such a condition as to be able to make a significant contribution for a minimum of 20 years. Might be category A but have defects or lack special qualities; or growing in a high value group. Has conservation or cultural values.

C Trees of low quality (Grey on plan)

Unremarkable trees of limited merit, with a life expectancy of at least 10 years; or growing in a low value group. Also, young trees with a stem diameter of below 150mm.

Column 11 = General Observations - notes re structural and/or physiological condition, and/or preliminary management recommendations.

SURVEY SCHEDULE

T	Name & Species	Hgt	Dbh	RPA	B/S	C/C	Age	R/C	Cat	General Observations
1	English Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	16	720	8.4m	N4 E12 S9 W10 FSB3	3 3 2 2	FM	40+	A	Lean to the south, historic as no sign of root plate movement and tree has built structures to compensate. Good vitality. Good tree.
2	Species Unknown				N E S W FSB				U	Tree is dead.
3	Species Unknown				N E S W FSB				U	Tree is dead
4	Species Unknown				N E S W FSB				U	Tree is dead
5	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	19			N E S W FSB				U	Low vigour. Poor needle retention. In decline. No long-term retention prospects.
6	Species Unknown				N E S W FSB				U	Tree is dead
8	Elm <i>Ulmus</i>	4	90	1.1m	N1 E1 S1 W1 FSB	1 1 1 1	Y	10-20	C	Young tree. No long-term retention prospects.
9	Species Unknown				N E S W FSB				U	Tree is dead
10	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	20	450	5.4m	N2 E6 S5 W2 FSB	6 6 6 6	FM	-10	U	Low vigour. Majority of tree is dead. No long-term retention prospects.

11	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	19	350	4.2m	N4 E4 S4 W4 FSB	4 4 4 4	FM	-10	U	Top of tree broken off. Potential root issue displayed by the retreating foliage.
12	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	19	350	4.2m	N3 E4 S3 W3 FSB	4	FM	-10	U	Potential root issue displayed by the retreating foliage.
13	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	19	400	4.8m	N2 E4 S3 W3 FSB	4	FM	10-20	C	Showing signs of dieback. Tree needs to be monitored and re surveyed at a later date to establish if tree is to survive as end of line tree.

General Constraints:

When considering the retention of trees in a planning context, preference should be given to retaining trees in categories A and B as these are the trees that contribute most to the internal amenity of the site and surroundings for the longest time.

Category C trees are of lesser importance, they would not usually be retained where they would impose a significant restraint on development.

Trees placed in the removal 'U' category are assessed upon their condition and not on any planning proposals which may require the removal of the tree for other reasons; category U trees are unsuitable for retention in a development context and should be removed for sound arboricultural reasons.

The enclosed tree survey plan indicates the initial root protection areas produced from the survey data. The Root Protection Areas (RPA's) for the trees have been calculated using the formula given in to BS5837:2012. This is the recommended area around the tree in square metres within which no construction, excavation, soil stripping, level changes or other potentially harmful activities should take place unless appropriate precautions or techniques are employed to avoid root damage. Barriers should protect this area for the duration of any development works to avoid damage to the root system.

Adequate space should also be allowed for future growth, particularly around young and middle-aged trees.

These root protection areas have been scaled onto a flat plan. However, they represent a linear measurement to be taken across the topography of the ground. On steeply sloping areas a linear ground measurement will not extend so far across the plan as a flat ground measurement. It therefore follows that, on the steep areas of the site, it could be possible to create a more accurate, across the ground, root protection area measurement and marginally reduce some of the root protection areas from the limits shown on the enclosed plan.

The root protection areas deal only with the physical protection of the root system, other issues such as shade and dominance may still need to be addressed.

Impact Assessment:

The tree survey has been undertaken using the guidance in BS5837: 2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations.

A search of the New Forest District Councils (NFDC) map of trees that are covered by Tree Preservation Orders (TPO'S), on the 9th of August 2023, has shown that there are no trees on the site that would have an impact on the proposed development of Forres Sandle Manor School, Fordingbridge, that are covered by a pending or current TPO.

No trees are to be felled to facilitate the construction of the development proposals.

A number of trees located to the northeast of the development area were found to be dead with several other trees in poor health. The ground level survey was not able to identify the reasons for the death of trees, however, it would be reasonable to say that whatever the cause, it is working its way along this line of trees, and it would be likely that further tree death will occur in the future. I would recommend as part of sound management of the tree resource, that the felling of the dead trees is undertaken as soon as is possible to remove the risk that the failure of these trees would place on persons and property using the school site and Marl Lane. Further to the felling, I would recommend that a full condition and liability survey of these trees takes place to ensure that the retention of trees is achievable where possible.

The development proposal has been well sited to fall within areas of existing built form and inhospitable rooting environments. The proposed building has also been moved further away from T1 Oak than the current construction. This increased separation is viewed positively and will reduce any existing concerns over shading, dominance and pressure to fell perceptions.

A tree protection barrier should be installed to the northern and eastern canopy aspects of T1 Oak to act as tree protection. Whatever floor slab is found beneath the construction closest to T1 during demolition should be retained where possible to act as ground protection during the proposed construction. Should the retention of the slab not be possible, the laying of ground protection within the nominal root protection area of T1 Oak will be required to prevent compaction of the soil profile under from construction related operations.

The existing units should be demolished from within their own footprints and working away from the retained T1 Oak. Substantial areas outside of retained tree root protection areas are available on site for the delivery and storage of materials & the mixing of chemicals involved in the construction phase of the development.

No details of new service and drainage runs (if any are required) has been provided at this time, however, any service or drainage run within retained tree RPAs will need to be dug by hand, any inspection chamber and soakaway placement within retained tree RPAs will not be allowable. Further structural detail, when required, could be tied to a relevant planning condition upon grant of planning permission.

Conclusion

In my opinion, from the information so far supplied, the long term retention prospects of T1 Oak would be improved as a result of the development of the site being undertaken and therefore the development proposal is considered to be arboriculturally acceptable

Yours sincerely

John Christopher
Arboricultural Consultant
30th November 2023

