

# HEARNE ARBORICULTURE

ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND TREE PROTECTION SCHEME FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT:

YEW TREE COTTAGE, EASTON, SO21 1EJ



John Hearne 30 August 2022 JH/AIA/22/092



### ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND TREE PROTECTON SCHEME FOR PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT: YEW TREE COTTAGE, EASTON, SO21 1EJ

# Summary

This report identifies the arboricultural impact of proposed development at Yew Tree Cottage, Easton. It is produced in accordance with British Standard (BS) 5837 - 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations'.

No trees will be removed to facilitate the development. There will be some incursion into the British Standard recommended root protection areas of two boundary trees, the extent of which is not considered so great as to be overly harmful to the trees and no specialist ground work techniques are thought necessary. A risk of inadvertent harm during construction activity is identified and appropriate protection measures are detailed.





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#### 1.0 Terms of Reference

- 1.1 I am instructed by Mr and Mrs Buckley to survey trees in proximity to proposed development at Yew Tree Cottage, Easton by construction of an extension to the rear of the dwelling, and creation of a terrace, to provide a report of the arboricultural impact of the proposal with appropriate protection and working methods outlined to ensure the successful retention of significant trees.
- 1.2 I am provided with Fowler Architecture and Planning proposed site plan 200242-100.

#### 2.0 Report Limitations

- 2.1 The report is based on the condition of the trees, their expected longevity and their significance in the landscape – both current and in the context of potential development – as found at the time of survey. Observations were made from ground level and no internal investigations were carried out.
- 2.2 The report is for the sole use of the clients and their appointed agents.

#### 3.0 Statutory Tree Protection

3.1 I have not ascertained if any trees listed in this report are protected by Tree Preservation Order(s) or by virtue of being located within a Conservation Area. If either be the case no works to protected trees, or any operation that harms them, may be carried out without the consent of the local planning authority.

#### 4.0 The Tree Survey

- 4.1 The trees were surveyed on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022 from ground level using visual tree assessment (VTA) principles. No internal investigations were conducted.
- 4.2 The trees have been categorised in accordance with BS 5837. Their categories are listed in the schedule at appendix 1 and colour coded on the plan at appendix 2.
  Category A trees are the trees of the highest quality and importance in the landscape with estimated life expectancies of at least 40 years. They are considered the most suitable for long term retention.
  Category B trees are trees of moderate quality with life expectancies of at least 20 years.

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**Category C** trees are trees of low quality or landscape importance or young trees with stem diameters below 150mm. Category C trees should not constrain development potential though some reasonable specimens can be retained where desired, for example to provide maturity to landscaping. **Category U** trees are unsuitable for retention as their condition is such that they cannot realistically be retained for 10 years.

- 4.3 Trees have been assigned numbers and listed in the appended schedule and plotted on the appended plan.
- 4.4 For each tree, data was collected to calculate recommended root protection areas as recommended by British Standard 5837. Data on stem diameters is provided in the schedule at appendix 1. Circular root protection areas (RPAs) of retained trees are depicted on the plan at appendix 2.

#### 5.0 Arboricultural Implications

- 5.1 **Tree Removals:** No trees will be removed will be removed.
- 5.2 Infringement of Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of Retained Trees: The proposed terrace and retaining wall encroaches on the RPA of a Birch tree and an Ash tree (T2 and T3 on the appended schedule and plan). The overlap into the Birch RPA is by 6.6m<sup>2</sup> and of the Ash by 8m<sup>2</sup>. This equates to 3.8% and 4.6% of their RPAs respectively. I am satisfied that these incursions are of no consequence as the RPAs are undisturbed in other directions for distances in excess of the minimum RPAs and so have larger rooting areas than would be permissible with development on all sides. The proximity is not so close that larger structural roots that me destabilise the trees will be severed.
- 5.3 **Underground Services**: I am not provided with routes for any new underground services which are assumed to be connected to existing. Any soakaways and associated pipework must be sited outside RPAs.
- 5.4 **Construction Activity**: Any development activity has the potential to cause harm to trees, for example by direct impact or by contamination or compaction of soil. Appropriate protection can comprise robust barriers, temporary ground protection, or a combination of both. In this case fencing should be erected at the location shown on the appended plan, with ground protection to allow working space without compaction of the RPAs.
- **6.0 Impact on Amenity:** No trees are being removed and there will be no arboricultural impact on amenity.



#### 7.0 Method Statement

7.1 Prior to the commencement of any development activity barrier fencing should be installed at the location shown on the appended plan. Fencing should comprise the default specification for fencing as illustrated in Figure 2 of BS 5837 and reproduced below.



Figure 2. – Protective fencing for RPA

- 7.2 Installation of Underground Services: If underground services are required to cross retained tree RPAs they are likely to need specialist installation techniques such as careful excavation with hand tools, air spade or trenchless technique under the supervision of the project arboriculturist and in accordance with National Joint Utilities Guidance (NJUG Vol. 4 2007). No roots greater than 25mm in diameter should be severed without prior consultation with project and local authority arboriculturists. Where it is agreed a root can be cut, it must be with a sharp saw or secateurs creating the smallest possible wound. Clumps of fine roots must be retained but can be bent to avoid services. Exposed roots must be protected from drying out or rapid temperature changes with a suitable covering such as damp hessian. Trench sides should be similarly protected with damp hessian.
- 7.3 **Storage of any spoil or materials** must be outside the RPAs of retained trees as shown on the plan.
- 7.4 **Storage of any oils, fuels or chemicals** must be sited on impervious bases and surrounded by a bund to contain any spillage



#### 8.0 References

• British Standard 5837 (2012) Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.



## **APPENDIX 1**

TREE SCHEDULE

### TREE SCHEDULE

| Tree<br>No. | Species             | Stem<br>Diameter<br>(mm) | Canopy<br>Spread<br>N/E/S/W<br>(m) | Crown<br>hgt | Estimated<br>Height (m) | Life<br>Stage | Physiological<br>Condition | Structural<br>Condition | Observations                               | BS Cat | Root<br>Protection<br>radius (m) | Root<br>Protection<br>Area (sq.<br>m) |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| T1          | GOLDEN IRISH<br>YEW | 280#                     | NA                                 | NA           | 4                       | EM            | GOOD                       | GOOD                    |  | В      | 3.4                              | NA                                    |
| T2          | BIRCH               | 620                      | NA                                 | NA           | 20                      | м             | GOOD                       | GOOD                    | Within hedge line, one side viewed<br>only | В      | 7.4                              | 172                                   |
| тз          | ASH                 | 620#                     | NA                                 | NA           | 20                      | м             | GOOD                       | GOOD                    | Ditto                                      | В      | 7.4                              | 172                                   |
| T4          | Unidentified        | 280                      | NA                                 | NA           | 3                       | EM            | GOOD                       | GOOD                    |  | C      | 3.4                              | NA                                    |
| T5          | HOLLY               | 350                      | NA                                 | NA           | 6                       | м             | GOOD                       | GOOD                    |  | C      | 4.2                              | NA                                    |

#### Schedule abbreviations:

**FSB Hgt/Dr**: First significant branch height and direction. **Phys Con**: physiological condition. **BS Cat**: British Standard 5837 tree quality categorisation.

GL: Ground level. Y: Young. SM: Semi-mature. M: Mature # - Estimated

### APPENDIX 2

TREE PROTECTION PLAN

