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**BS5837:2012 TREE SURVEY AND
ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:
65 Summerhouse Lane, Harmondsworth, UB7 0AW**

Dated: 20th June 2023

Our reference: GHA/DS/162420:23

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Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Location: 65 Summerhouse Lane, Harmondsworth, UB7 0AW
Our reference: GHA/DS/162420:23
Client: MCS Design
Dated: 20th June 2023
Prepared by: Glen Harding MICFor, MSc (Forestry), MArborA
Date of Inspection: 6th June 2023

Instructions

Issued by – MCS Design

TERMS OF REFERENCE – GHA Trees were instructed to survey the subject trees within and adjacent to 65 Summerhouse Lane, Harmondsworth, in order to assess their general condition and to provide a planning integration statement for the indicative proposed development that safeguards the long term wellbeing of the retained trees in a sustainable manner.

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Executive Summary

The proposal for the site is to construct a new outbuilding to the rear of the existing house; the structure is already part built. It is understood a tree was removed from the rear garden to facilitate the new structure (the tree was removed before this tree survey); therefore, a new silver birch tree will be planted in the rear garden to compensate for the loss. The proposed scheme does not require the removal or pruning of any of the trees on site, or of trees within nearby adjacent sites; therefore, the landscape character of the site will be unaffected by the proposal. The retained trees require protection in accordance with industry best practice and BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations, in order to ensure their longevity.

Documents Supplied

The client supplied the following documents:

- Existing layout plans
- Proposed layout plans

Scope of Survey

- 1.1 The survey is concerned with the arboricultural aspects of the site only.
- 1.2 The planning status of the subject property was not investigated in detail.
- 1.3 A qualified Arboriculturist undertook the report and site visit and the contents of this report are based on this. Whilst reference may be made to built structure or soils, these are only opinions and confirmation should be obtained from a qualified expert as required.
- 1.4 Trees in third party ownership were surveyed from within the subject property, therefore a detailed assessment was not possible and some (if not all) measurements were estimated. Where the stem location of a third party tree has been estimated, this is noted on the plan.
- 1.5 Dense vegetation or climbers (such as ivy) also prohibited full inspections for some trees; this is noted where applicable.
- 1.6 No discussions took place between the surveyor and any other party.
- 1.7 The trees were inspected on the basis of the Visual Tree Assessment method expounded by Mattheck and Breleor (The body language of tree, DoE booklet Research for Amenity Trees No. 4, 1994)
- 1.8 The survey was undertaken in accord with British Standard 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations.
- 1.9 Underground services near to trees will need to be installed in accord with the guidance given in BS5837.
- 1.10 The client's attention is drawn to the responsibilities under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981).

Survey Method

- 2.1 The survey was conducted from ground level with the aid of binoculars if needed.
- 2.2 No tissue samples were taken nor was any internal investigation of the subject trees undertaken.

- 2.3 No soil samples were taken.
- 2.4 The height of each subject tree was estimated using a clinometer and recorded to the nearest half metre.
- 2.5 The stem diameter for each tree was measured in line with the requirements set out in BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations.
- 2.6 The crown spreads were measured with an electronic distometer and recorded to the nearest half metre. Where the crown radius was notably different in any direction this has been noted on the Plan (appendix A) and within the tree table (Appendix B). The crowns of those trees that are proposed for removal, or trees where the crown spread is deemed insignificant in relation to the proposed development are not always shown on the appended plan; however their stem locations are marked for reference.
- 2.7 The Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree is included in the tree table, both as an area, and as the radius of a circle.
- 2.8 The crown clearance was measured using a clinometer and recorded to the nearest half metre. Where it is significantly lower in one direction, this is noted within the tree table at appendix B.
- 2.9 All of the trees that were inspected during the site visit are detailed on the plan at Appendix A; this plan was produced in colour and **MUST** only be scanned or reproduced in colour. The trees on this plan are categorised and shown in the following format:

COLOUR CODING AND RATING OF TREES:

Category A – Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. Colour = light **green** crown outline on plan.

Category B – Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years. Colour = mid **blue** crown outline on plan.

Category C – Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 to 20 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. Colour = uncoloured crown outline on plan.

Category U – Those 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. Colour = **red** crown outline on plan.

All references to tree rating are made in accordance with BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations', Table 1.

The Site

- 3.1 The site is located on Summerhouse Lane, a residential through road located in Harmondsworth.
- 3.2 Access to the property is currently gained via a driveway to the front of the site.

The Subject Trees

- 4.1 The details of the subject trees are set out in the Schedule at Appendix B.
- 4.2 Please be aware that ash tree(s) were identified during the survey. Many ash trees in the UK are suffering from 'ash dieback' (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) which can cause the rapid decline of affected trees, often rendering them unsafe. Affected trees have been highlighted in the tree table at appendix B and the severity of the infection noted; however please ensure these trees are inspected regularly.
- 4.3 Both trees surveyed have been assessed as BS 5837 category C.

The Proposal

- 5.1 The proposal for the site is to construct a new outbuilding to the rear of the existing house; the structure is already part built.
- 5.2 The proposed location of the above structures can be seen on the appended plan.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

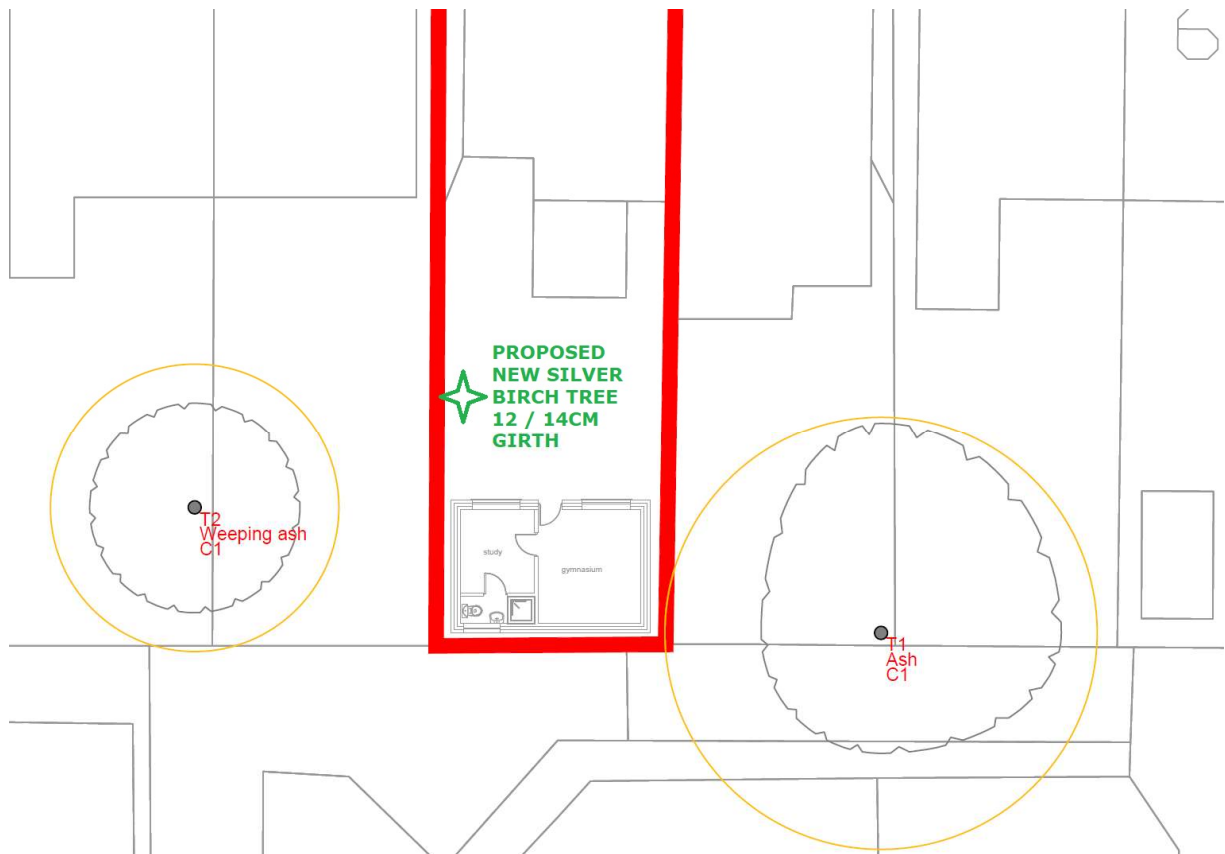
PROPOSED TREE REMOVAL:

- 6.1 The proposed site layout and all of its associated structures allows for the healthy retention of all of the trees within nearby adjacent sites; therefore, the arboricultural landscape character of the site will be retained.

REMEDIATION PLANTING

- 6.2 It is understood a tree was removed from the rear garden to facilitate the new structure (the tree was removed before this tree survey); therefore, a new silver birch tree will be planted in the rear garden to compensate for the loss. A proposed location for a new tree can be seen on the site plan below.

Location for new silver birch tree:



- 6.3 Any new tree should be of a minimum 12/14 cm girth and purchased from a reputable nursery. Tree planting should be undertaken between the months of November and March by a suitably experienced contractor. The scheme should include the implementation of an aftercare package to include: weed management, tree hydration, stake and tie maintenance, replacement of any failures, mulching and formative pruning.

TREE PRUNING TO ACCOMMODATE THE PROPOSAL OR ACCESS TO THE SITE

- 6.4 The implementation of the proposal does not lead to the requirement to prune any of the retained trees, or shrubs.
- 6.5 There is no part of the new structure which will have tree canopies overhanging it and the building works can progress safely without the need for any facilitation pruning.

ASSESSMENT OF RETAINED TREES ROOT PROTECTION AREAS

- 6.6 Section 4.6.3 of BS 5837: 2012 states that the Root Protection Area (RPA) of each tree should be assessed by an arboriculturalist considering the likely morphology and disposition of the roots, when known to be influenced by past or existing site conditions.
- 6.7 Following the assessment described in section 6.6, the RPAs have all been drawn as notional circles as there are no existing site structures (visible from the available access) which are assessed to have the potential to significantly affect tree root morphology.

ASSESSED IMPACT ON RPAS BY PROPOSED STRUCTURES

- 6.8 The proposed new structure is situated outside of the assessed RPAs of all of the trees; therefore, these trees pose no below ground constraints on the new structure or vice versa.

PROPOSED ACCESS TO THE NEW DEVELOPMENT

- 6.9 The existing driveway and parking areas will be retained and there are no plans to upgrade or extend these areas as part of the proposed site works.

INSTALLATION OF SERVICES

- 6.10 New services must be routed to avoid all RPAs of retained trees on site and within nearby sites. From an assessment of the subject site, undertaken in conjunction with the project architect, there is no reason to assume this isn't possible. Inspection chambers must also be sited outside the RPAs of any nearby trees.

Post Development Pressure

FUTURE TREE AND STRUCTURE RELATIONSHIPS

- 7.1 The retained trees are at a satisfactory distance from the proposed new building and highly unlikely to give rise to any inconvenience.
- 7.2 Regular inspections of the retained trees by a suitably qualified Arboriculturalist and subsequent remedial works will ensure that the trees are maintained in a suitable manner, to exist in harmony with the new structures and its occupants for many years to come.

Tree Protection Measures and Preliminary Method Statement for Development Works

8.1 INCOMING SERVICES, DRAINAGE AND SOAKAWAYS

New services **MUST** be routed to avoid all RPAs of retained trees on site and within nearby sites. From an assessment of the subject site, undertaken in conjunction with the project architect, there is no reason to assume this isn't possible. Inspection chambers **MUST** be sited outside the RPA.

8.2 OTHER TREE PROTECTION PRECAUTIONS

- **NO** level alterations will occur within the RPA of any tree to be retained.
- **NO** fires lit on site within 20 metres of any tree to be retained.
- **NO** fuels, oils or substances which will be damaging to the tree shall be spilled or poured on site.
- **NO** storage of any materials within the root protection zone.

Conclusion

- 9.1 In conclusion, the surveyed off-site trees can be retained and adequately protected during development activities.
- 9.2 Subject to precautionary measures as detailed above, the proposal will not be injurious to trees to be retained.
- 9.3 A new tree to replace the previously removed tree can be planted to ensure a sustainable tree stock for the future.

Recommendations

- 10.1 Site supervision – An individual e.g. the Site Agent, must be nominated to be responsible for all arboricultural matters on site. This person must:
- a. Be present on the site the majority of the time.
 - b. Be aware of the arboricultural responsibilities.
 - c. Have the authority to stop any work that is, or has the potential to cause harm to any tree.
 - d. Be responsible for ensuring that all site personnel are aware of their responsibilities towards trees on site and the consequences of the failure to observe those responsibilities.
 - e. Make immediate contact with the local authority and / or retained arboriculturalist in the event of any related tree problems occurring whether actual or potential.

10.2 It is recommended, that to ensure a commitment from all parties to the healthy retention of the trees, that details are passed by the architect or agent to any contractors working on site, so that the practical aspects of the above precautions are included in their method statements, and financial provision made for these.

20th June 2023

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Glen Harding', with a stylized, cursive script.

Glen Harding MICFor, MSc (Forestry), MArborA
For and on behalf of GHA Trees

Appendix A
TREE PLAN
(see separate PDF)

Appendix B

TREE TABLE

Tree Number	Tree Name (species)	Ht (m)	Calculated Stem Diameter (mm)	Number of Stems	Root Protection Area (Radius, m)	N (m)	E (m)	S (m)	W (m)	Age Class	Clearance (m)	Estimated life expectancy	BS Category	Comments / Recommendations
T1	Ash	17	600	1	7.20	7	6	4	4	M	5	10-20	C1	Early signs of Ash dieback noted. Off site - full inspection not possible. Some measurements estimated.
T2	Weeping ash	8	400	1	4.80	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	M	2	10-20	C1	Advanced signs of ash dieback. Off site - full inspection not possible. Some measurements estimated.

KEY :

Tree No: (T= individual tree, G= group of trees, W= woodland)
Age class: Young (Y), Middle aged (MA), Mature (M), Over mature (OM),
Veteran (V)
Height (Ht): Measured in metres +/- 1m

Appendix C
TREE FENCING DETAIL

Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems

