Arboricultural Report

In accordance with BS 5837:2012

For 18 St Catherines Road
Ruislip
HA4 7RU

June 2021

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ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Location:

18 St Catherines Road, Ruislip, HA4 7RU

Client:

Ruislip 2nd/9th Scout Group, 18 St Catherines Road, HA4 7RU

Date of survey:

22/06/21

Date of report:

29/06/21

Report contents:

1. Introduction

Surveyor and survey date

1.1 The surveyor and author of this report was Ralph Parks B.Sc., Arboricultural Consultant and Director of Ralph Parks Ltd. The survey was undertaken on 22nd June 2021, and updated 9th March 2025.

Client

1.2 Ruislip 2nd/9th Scout Group, 18 St Catherines Road, Ruislip

Site and nature of proposed works

1.3 18 St Catherines Road, Ruislip. The proposed works are to demolish the existing buildings on site and build a new Scout Hut and storage buildings.

Survey Instructions

1.4 This Arboricultural survey was commissioned to conform to BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.

Methodology

1.5 A standard Arboricultural survey was undertaken, noting tree species, stem diameter, height and spread and notes on general condition and age. Heights and distances were measured using surveyors tapes, a Leica Distometer and Suunto Clinometer.

Tree diameters were measured in accordance with Annex C of BS 5837:2012. Measurements were usually taken at 1.5m above ground level, using a diameter tape, where possible. Where trees have multiple stems, measurements were taken for all stems.

Trees were numbered from 152 – 167, a round metal tree tag nailed into each bole at approximately eye level.

Tree locations were measured against fixed points on the site and surrounding properties and locations plotted on a site plan.

Trees were assessed for quality in accordance with Table 1 from BS 5837:2012

Trees unsuitable for retention	
Category U	Trees with serious faults
Trees to be considered for retention	
Category A	Good examples of the species, life expectancy 40+ years
Category B	Moderate quality trees, life expectancy at least 20 years
Category C	Unremarkable trees of limited merit but life expectancy of at least 10 years or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm

Root Protection Areas (RPA) were calculated for each tree based on the diameters at breast height. The formulae in section 4.6.1 of BS 5837:2012 were used for trees with multiple stems.

Limitations

1.6 Trees were subject to visual inspection only and specialist equipment such as resistographs were not employed, nor were core samples taken.

1.7 Tree conditions can change quickly, especially in extreme weather events. This report details the conditions of the trees as observed on the day of inspection, therefore the author cannot accept any liability for any changes in tree condition occurring subsequent to the date of inspection.

1.8 Soil sampling or ground investigations were not included in the remit of this survey.

1.9 Trees on the neighbouring property to the east were not accessed and are not included in the remit of this report. However the Leyland Cypress hedge has tree diameters too small to impact on the proposed works.

2 Relevant legislation

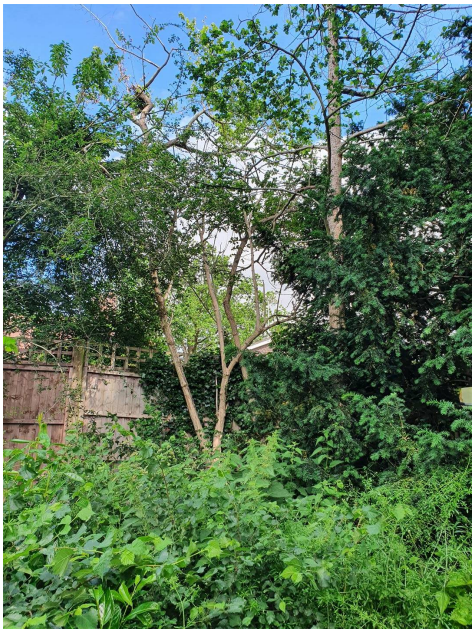
2.1 None of the trees on site are currently subject to a Tree Preservation Order, nor does the site lie within a Conservation area

3 Survey results

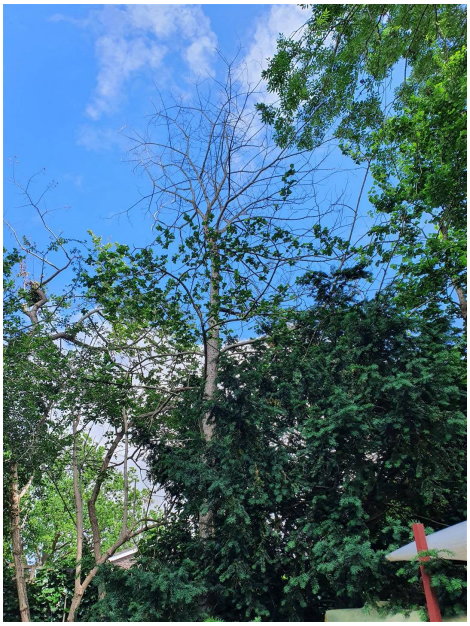
Tree	**152**
Location	North west of site
Species	Elm
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	18.5
Height (m)	11
Spread (m)	6
Age	Early mature
Condition	Poor
Observations	Asymmetric crown, in decline
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	2.22

Tree	**153**
Location	North Western boundary
Species	Hawthorn
Number stems	2
DBH (cm)	10/4
Height (m)	6
Spread (m)	4
Age	Young
Condition	Poor
Observations	Young regrowth from decayed stool – hollow in ground
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	1.08

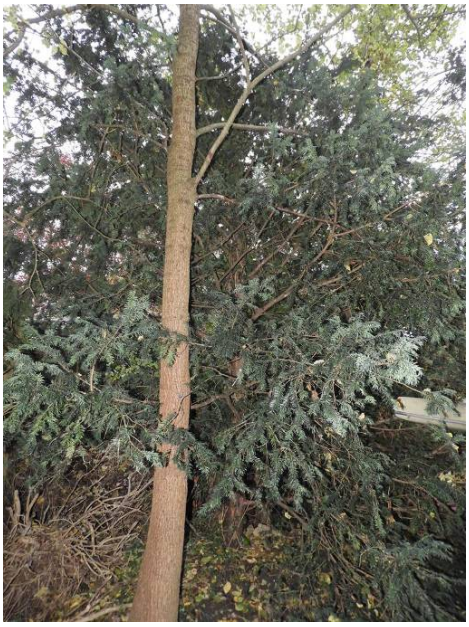
Tree	**155**
Location	Against north western Boundary fence
Species	Elder
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	12.5
Height (m)	7
Spread (m)	5
Age	Early mature
Condition	Poor
Observations	Moribund, against fence
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	1.50



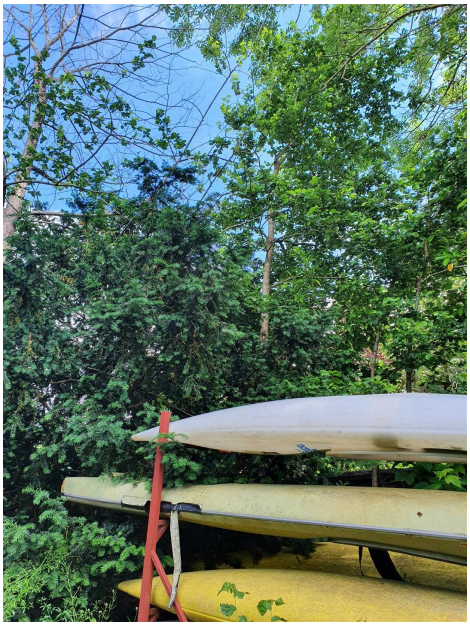
Tree	**156**
Location	North east corner of site
Species	Elm
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	17
Height (m)	12.0
Spread (m)	5.0
Age	Early mature
Condition	Good
Observations	Dead
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	2.04



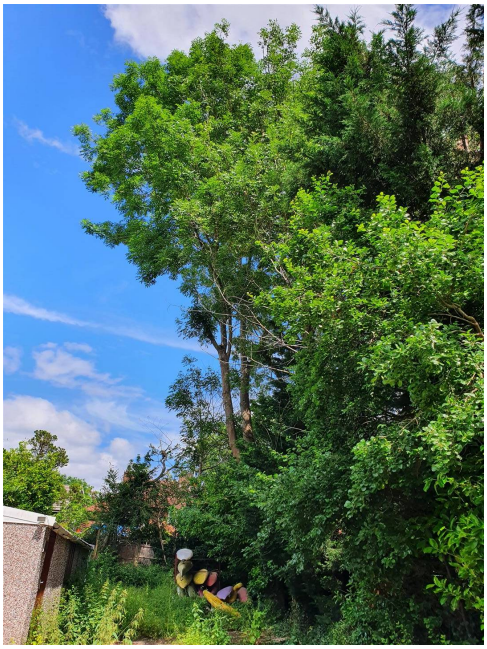
Tree	**157**
Location	North east corner of site
Species	Yew
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	13
Height (m)	6.0
Spread (m)	5.0
Age	Early mature
Condition	Good
Observations	Balanced with many laterals from near base
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	1.56



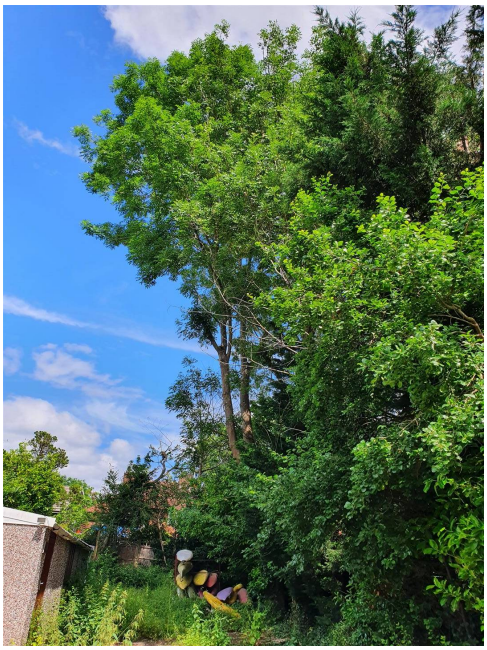
Tree	**158**
Location	Eastern boundary
Species	Elm
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	10
Height (m)	10
Spread (m)	3
Age	Young
Condition	Fair
Observations	Etiolated, in decline
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	1.20



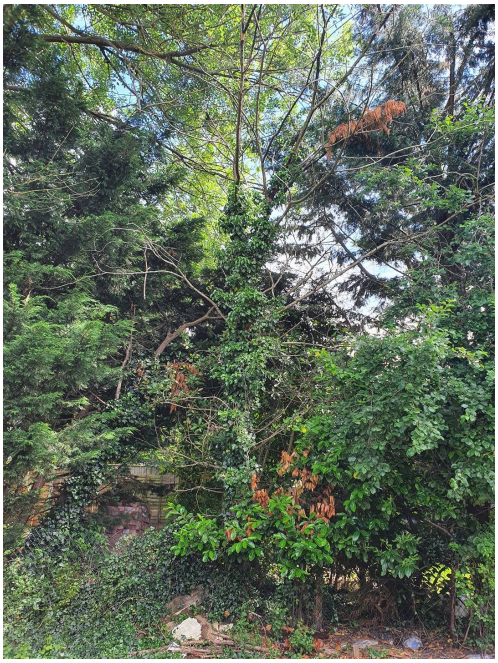
Tree	**159**
Location	Eastern boundary
Species	Ash
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	45
Height (m)	22.0
Spread (m)	14.5
Age	Semi mature
Condition	Fair
Observations	Forks @ 4m, co-dominant leaders
BS 5837 category	B
RPA radius (m)	5.40



Tree	**160**
Location	Eastern boundary
Species	Ash
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	49
Height (m)	22.0
Spread (m)	14.0
Age	Semi mature
Condition	Fair
Observations	Tight fork @ 6m, co-dominant leaders
BS 5837 category	B
RPA radius (m)	5.88



Tree	**161**
Location	Eastern boundary, adjacent to fence
Species	Elm
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	20
Height (m)	11.0
Spread (m)	7.0
Age	Early mature
Condition	Poor
Observations	Dead
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	2.40

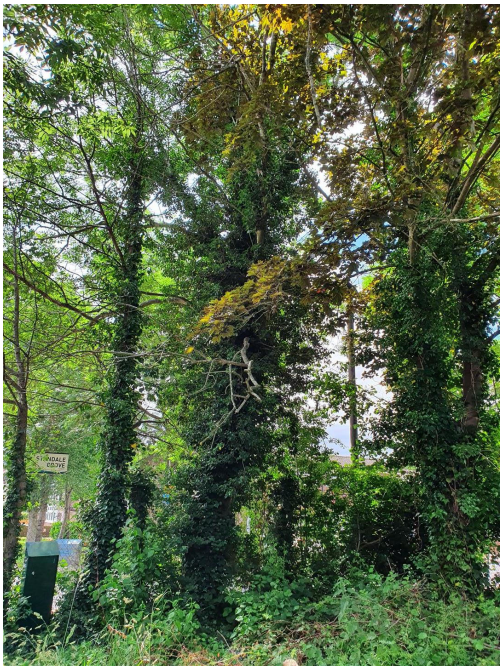


Tree	**162**
Location	Eastern boundary
Species	Ash
Number stems	3 becoming 6
DBH (cm)	30 / 30 / 24
Height (m)	13.0
Spread (m)	11.0
Age	Early mature
Condition	Fair
Observations	On boundary, three stems forking @ 1m
BS 5837 category	C
RPA radius (m)	4.87

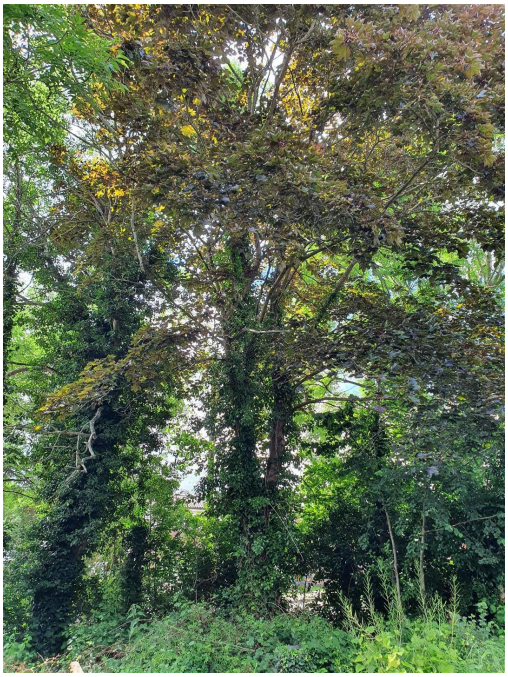
Tree	**163**
Location	Southern boundary
Species	Elm
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	14
Height (m)	7
Spread (m)	4
Age	Early mature
Condition	Poor
Observations	Moribund
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	1.68

Tree	**164**
Location	Southern boundary
Species	Elm
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	22
Height (m)	12.5
Spread (m)	6
Age	Early mature
Condition	Poor
Observations	Moribund
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	2.64

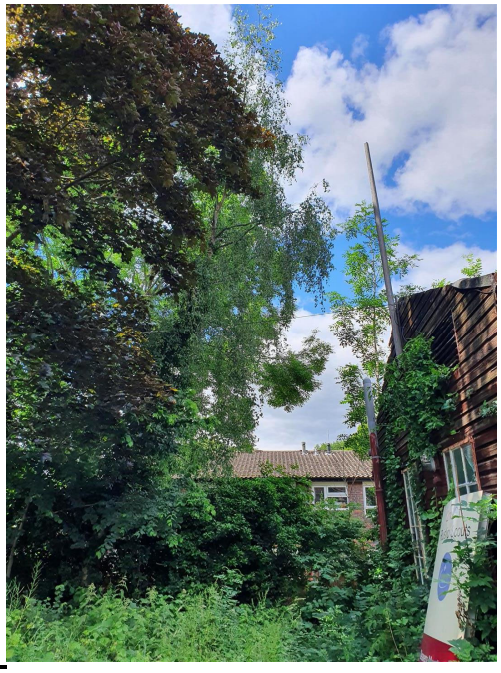
Tree	**165**
Location	Southern boundary
Species	Ash
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	35
Height (m)	14.5
Spread (m)	10
Age	Semi mature
Condition	Fair
Observations	Against fence with some wire included.
BS 5837 category	B
RPA radius (m)	4.20



Tree	**166**
Location	South west corner
Species	Norway Maple
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	41
Height (m)	14.5
Spread (m)	10
Age	Semi mature
Condition	Fair
Observations	Heavy Ivy obscuring inspection. Asymmetric crown with bias to north due to T165
BS 5837 category	B
RPA radius (m)	4.92



Tree	**167**
Location	South west corner
Species	Birch
Number stems	1
DBH (cm)	15
Height (m)	11.5
Spread (m)	4
Age	Early mature
Condition	Poor
Observations	Etiolated with significant lean to NNE due to T166
BS 5837 category	U
RPA radius (m)	1.80



4 Arboricultural Method statement and options

Implications of disease to the tree classifications

4.1 Dutch Elm disease is present in all elms, which are dead or moribund. Elms account for 7 of the trees numbered on the site.

There are four Ash trees on the site. Ash die back *(Hymenoscyphus fraxineus)* is known to be present within the 10 km radius of this site, however symptoms were not observed in either the established trees or the regeneration on the western boundary. The author of this report is a Forestry Commission Plant health inspector and has observed what is almost certainly Ash Die back within 5km of the site at Moor Park.

Therefore, whilst the possibility of Ash die back has not been factored in to the BS5837 classifications, the potential for this disease should be taken into account. Given that the proposed development is for a Scout Hut, children and young adults will be the potential targets should any trees on the site subsequently become diseased and dangerous.

Existing footprints and topography

4.2 There are several existing buildings on the site and a concrete roadway running parallel to the eastern boundary for 66% of its length. The existing footprints will have an affect on root development and therefore the locations of the root protection areas.

There is a man made mound of soil along the northern border of the site. Trees 152 to 158 are growing on or adjacent to this mound.

Trees on the north east boundary – T152 to T158

4.3 Whilst T157 the Yew is in good condition, it has been classified as U since its DBH is below 15cm. The remaining trees are of poor quality or are Elms which are likely to be infected with Dutch Elm disease within the next 10 years.

Trees on the eastern boundary T159 – T162

4.4 The two most significant trees on this boundary are T159 and T160, both semi mature Ash. The trees are of similar dimensions and age and should be considered as a pair. Whilst both trees have been given a B classification, neither is considered to be suitable for retention given their proximity to the proposed new building and the potential targets once the building is in use. It is likely that the proposed new footprint will impinge on the Root protection areas of both trees, though the southernmost RPA could be

amended due to the proximity to the existing roadway. Both trees fork at 4 and 6 metres respectively and the southernmost has a tight fork. Reducing these trees as a pair may be a possibility; however the pollard regrowth will be a potential hazard within 20 years.

T163 is a dead Elm against the fence.

T164 is a multi-stemmed Ash growing on the boundary just over two metres from the access gate. This tree could be retained, however the existing access road sits over most of the root protection area and construction traffic will need to use this access.

Trees on the south western boundary T163 – T167

4.5 The trees on this boundary provide some screening for the site from the road, which is desirable to maintain and improve. However, T163 and T164 are Elms, which are moribund due to Dutch Elm Disease.

T165 is an Ash and T166 a Norway Maple, both with B classifications. It is intended to retain both these trees and to protect the root protection areas as detailed in section 4.7 of this report. The RPA for these trees is partially below an existing concrete path and permeable concrete parking grid, as such they have grown with these in place.

Parking and the storage of materials will be prohibited in the root protection areas of these trees if the path and parking grid are removed.

The hut access ramp partially encroaches the RPA of T166, however it is within the tolerances given for RPA offset in BS5837.

T167 is a poor quality Birch with a significant lean as it is suppressed by T166. It is proposed to fell this tree.

Mitigation

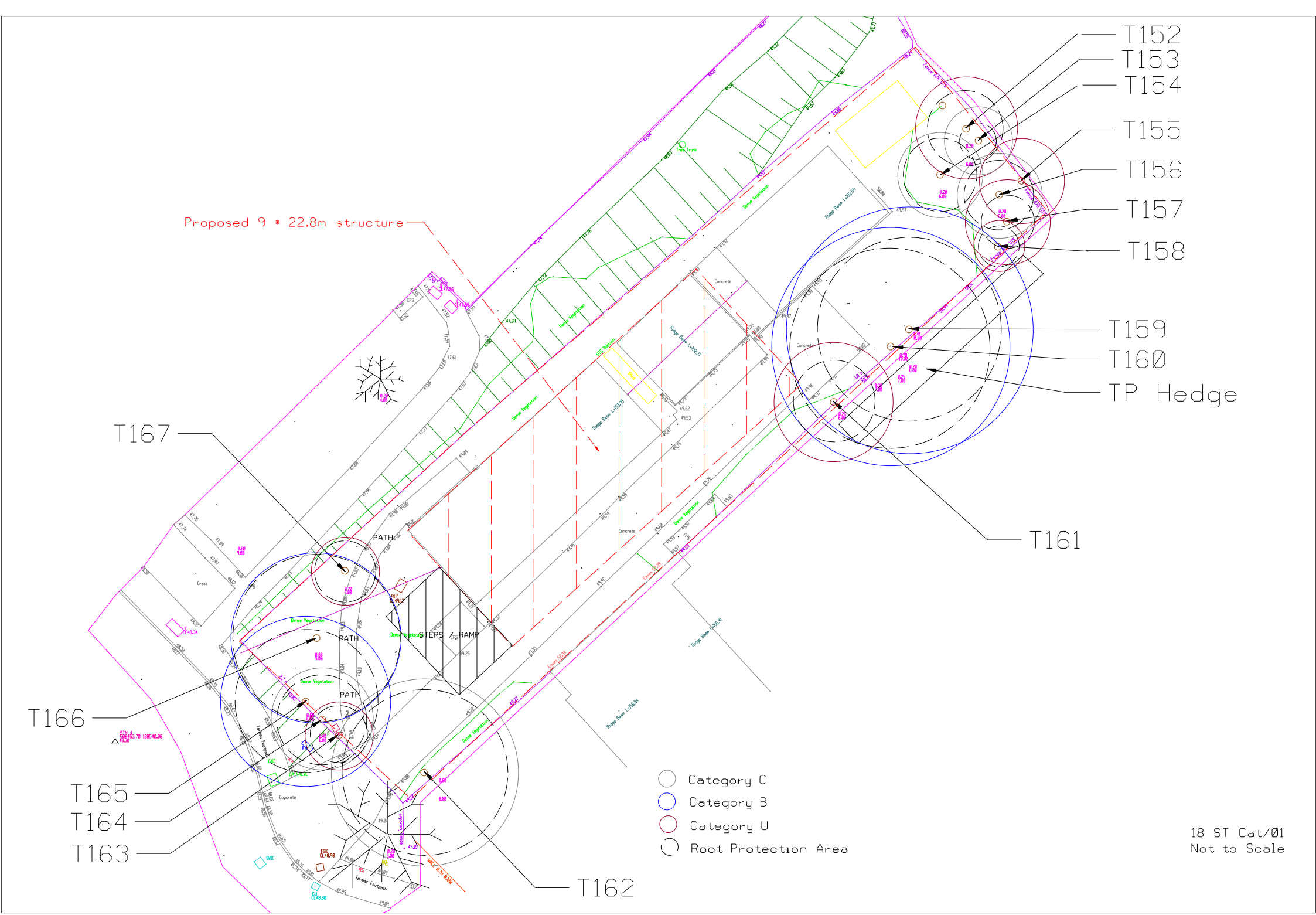
4.6 It is proposed to mitigate the felling on this site by planting new trees in accordance with the attached landscaping plan.

Materials for protecting the root protection areas and RPA demarcation

4.7 Rigid boundaries will be created using standard scaffold poles (48.3 mm O/D) driven into the ground to a minimum depth of 0.6m and spaced at maximum three metre centres. The uprights will support weld mesh infill panels such as Heras fencing. Where possible, stabiliser struts will be attached to the uprights using scaffold Swivel couplers (to BS EN74-1). All weather signage stating “construction exclusion zone – no access” will be attached to the infill panels.

The root protection areas will be measured on the ground as a radius from the centre of each tree that requires protection. Where possible, a buffer of one metre will be added to the RPA.

5 Site plans


Proposed 9 * 22.8m structure
T152
T153
T154
T155
T156
T157
T158
T159
T160
TP Hedge
T161
T162
T163
T164
T165
T166
T167
PATH
STEPS
RAMP
Concrete
Grass
Dense Vegetation
Tarmac Footpath
Category C
Category B
Category U
Root Protection Area
18 ST Cat/01
Not to Scale

6 Schedule of trees and impact assessment

Tree	Species	DBH (cm)	Stems	Ht (m)	Spr (m)	Age	Cond	First branch (m)	Cat A/B/C/U	Ivy	Fence (m)	Fence (m)	Notes
152	Elm	18.5	1	11.0	6	EM	Poor	4	U	Y	0.95	7.00	Asymmetric, in decline
153	Hawthorn	10 / 4	2	6.0	4	EM	Poor	0.6	U	Y	0.73	6.00	Young regrowth, twin from near base with poor shape
155	Elder	12.5	1	7.0	5	EM	Poor	2	U	Y	0.05	2.50	Dead
156	Elm	17	1	12.0	5	EM	Good	2.5	U	N	1.60	2.60	Moribund
157	Yew	13	1	6.0	5	EM	Good	0.4	U	Y	0.50	1.30	Many laterals from base, balanced
158	Elm	10	1	10.0	3	EM	Fair	2	U	Y	3.40	0.50	In decline
159	Ash	45	1	22.0	15	SM	Fair	5	B	Y	10.50	0.30	Forks @ 4m with co-dominant leaders. Bias to north and west due to T160, with lean to west. Some deadwood
160	Ash	49	1	22.0	14	SM	Fair	3	B	Y	11.90	0.10	Tight fork @ 6m with co-dominant leaders. Bias to south due to T159. Some deadwood.
TP hedge	Cherry Laurel, Leylandii	N/A		15.0	20	EM	Fair						Third party; not accessed or measured. Three Leyland Cypress. Suppressed by T159/T160
161	Elm	20	1	11.0	7	EM	Fair	1.5	U	Y	16.70	0.10	Dead
162	Ash	30 /30 /24	3 to 6	13.0	11	EM	Fair	3	C	Y	2.10	0.50	Three stems to 1.5m, each then forking to make total of six stems. On boundary

Tree	Species	DBH (cm)	Stems	Ht (m)	Spr (m)	Age	Cond	First branch (m)	Cat A/B/C/U	Ivy	Fence (m)	Fence (m)	Notes
163	Elm	14	1	7.0	4	EM	Fair	2.5	U	Y	0.05	8.00	Single stem against chainlink fence, moribund
164	Elm	22	1	12.5	6	Y	Fair	3	U	Y	0.05	6.70	Single stem against fence with some chainlink wire included. Partially suppressed by T165, moribund
165	Ash	35	1	14.5	10	EM	Fair	4	B	Y	0.05	5.30	Heavy Ivy preventing accurate DBH measurement and obscuring inspection. Some wire included in stem.
166	Norway Maple	41	1	14.5	10	EM	Fair	4	B	Y	3.30	2.90	Heavy Ivy. Crown asymmetric with bias to east and north due to crown of T165
167	Birch	15	1	11.5	4	EM	Poor	4	U	Y	6.90	0.93	Significant lean to NNE due to T166. Etiolated with (redundant) cable through crown.
NW hedge	Ash/Elm regen					Y							Line of Ash and Elm regeneration on the western boundary fence