

Arboricultural Report to BS5837

Site Address: Birch Tree Farm

Owners Anne & Robin Upton

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1. Introduction

This Arboricultural Report has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines set out in BS5837:2012 "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations". The purpose of this report is to provide an assessment of the trees on the site at Birch Tree Farm and to offer recommendations for their management in relation to the proposed development.

2. Site Description

Birch Tree Farm is a rural property comprising a blend of open meadows and woodland areas. The site supports a diverse range of tree species, including mature individuals that make substantial contributions to the local landscape and biodiversity. The landowners demonstrate a strong commitment to the treescape, as evidenced by the arboretum-style layout and woodland plantings distributed throughout the 7-acre property.

3. Tree Survey

A tree survey of the proposed construction site was conducted, with the following key information being recorded for each tree:

Tree Number: Unique identifier for each tree.

Species: Botanical name and common name.

Height: Estimated height in metres.

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH): Measured at 1.5 metres above ground level.

Crown Spread: Estimated spread of the tree's canopy.

Age Class: Young, semi-mature, mature, over-mature.

Physiological Condition: Good, fair, poor, dead.

Structural Condition: Good, fair, poor, hazardous.

Preliminary Management Recommendations: Any immediate actions required.

Only trees within the immediate vicinity of the proposed site were surveyed.

4. Tree Species Present

The proposed construction site at Birch Tree Farm includes a variety of tree species. The following species were identified during the survey:

Quercus robur (Common Oak)

Quercus rubra (Red oak)

Acer pseudoplatanus *Schwederii* (Purple leaved Norway maple)

Fraxinus excelsior (Ash)

Fagus sylvatica (Beech)

Prunus avium (Wild Cherry)

Malus pp. (Crab apple)

Aesculus hippocastanum – Horse chestnut

5. Tree Constraints Plan

A Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) has been prepared to illustrate the constraints imposed by the trees on the site. This includes the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) and the canopy spreads. The TCP is essential for informing the design process and ensuring that the proposed development respects the existing trees.

6. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) evaluates the potential impact of the proposed development on the trees. It considers factors such as:

Tree Retention: Identifying trees that can be retained and protected during construction.

Tree Removal: Identifying trees that need to be removed due to their condition or to facilitate the development.

Construction Activities: Assessing the impact of construction activities on the retained trees, including root damage and soil compaction.

Root Protection Areas (RPAs): Confirming that the proposed dwelling will not impact the RPAs of any of the trees.

7. Arboricultural Method Statement

The Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) outlines the measures to be taken to protect the retained trees during the construction process. The recommendations can be found in the attached Survey Data Sheets.

Protective Fencing: Install protective fencing around the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees. The RPAs are indicated in green on the accompanying plan, and the fencing should closely follow these boundaries.

Ground Protection: Installing ground protection measures to prevent soil compaction.

Construction Exclusion Zones: Establishing zones where no construction activities are permitted.

Tree Protection Monitoring: Regular monitoring of tree protection measures by a qualified arboriculturist.

8. Conclusion

The trees at Birch Tree Farm are an important asset to the site and the local environment. By following the recommendations in this report and adhering to the guidelines set out in BS5837:2012, the proposed development can proceed while ensuring the protection and preservation of the existing trees. It is confirmed that the proposed dwelling will not impact upon the RPAs of any of the trees nor will the trees impact upon proposed development in the future.

Please see attached plan and Survey Data report for more details.