

Tree 2 —Laurel (Prunus laurocerasus)

Approx. 4 m tall, heavily twisted, 10 m from house
BS5837 Category: U / C

Tree 2 is similarly a poorly formed, multi-stemmed understory shrub with significant twisting, indicative of competition and suppressed light conditions. This species is low value in arboricultural terms and its structural qualities do not meet the threshold of a “tree of quality” under BS5837.

Given the small stature, compromised form, and lack of landscape presence, its retention would not offer measurable amenity value or ecological benefit.

Low-grade ornamental shrub with no meaningful contribution to site character. Removal would not diminish local tree cover significance.

Tree 1 —Laurel (Prunus laurocerasus)

Approx. 2 m tall, twisted form
BS5837 Category: U (Unsuitable for Retention) / Low C at best

This Laurel displays a highly distorted, twisted, and suppressed structural form, as evidenced from on site visit. Its low height and dense, congested basal growth indicate a specimen that has arisen through repeated shading, poor management, and structural stress. Laurel, being a vigorous evergreen shrub rather than a long-lived arboricultural tree, rarely contributes meaningful canopy, ecological, or structural continuity within a landscape.

The specimen has no identifiable arboricultural potential, no capacity to develop into a tree of landscape value, and no public visibility, given its location behind boundary vegetation. Its form and condition preclude long-term retention.

This tree/hedging is of very low merit, carrying no constraint to development and presenting no substantive justification for retention.

Tree 3 —Holly (Ilex aquifolium)

Approx. 6 m tall, “various offshoots”
BS5837 Category: C

This Holly presents as a multi-stem, unevenly developed specimen, likely arising from unmanaged basal growth. The form, as described, suggests a leggy, unbalanced, and internally congested structure, limiting its future potential.

Holly can be a valuable species when well-formed, but in this instance the specimen shows limited canopy development, poor symmetry, and restricted long-term prospects. It is visually contained within the garden and offers minimal wider amenity value.

This tree holds marginal landscape or arboricultural merit; retention is optional and its removal would have negligible visual or ecological impact.

Tree 4 —Douglas Fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii)

Approx. 10 m tall, heavily ivy-clad trunk
BS5837 Category: C / possible low B if in better condition (but not here)

While Douglas Fir can achieve high value in suitable settings, this particular specimen shows substantial ivy encroachment up the main stem (clearly visible on site), indicating prolonged lack of maintenance, potential structural concealment, and reduced long-term physiological resilience.

At approx 10 m height, the tree is a juvenile relative to species potential and is heavily screened and suppressed within the plot. The combination of ivy load, competition, and limited crown development diminishes its future prospects and current contribution.

The tree's amenity influence is negligible due to its location behind structures and other vegetation. It does not form part of a group of identifiable landscape value.

Although the species itself can be of interest, this individual specimen is of low arboricultural significance. Removal would not represent the loss of a valuable tree.

Tree 5 —Conifer (species unspecified)

Approx. 5 m tall, repeatedly lopped;
BS5837 Category: U (Unsuitable for Retention)

Tree 5 is in very poor condition, a finding supported by the note that it has been repeatedly lopped by neighbouring parties, resulting in structural degradation, loss of form, and severely compromised crown architecture.

This type of historical topping creates decay vectors, weak unions, and unpredictable future growth, leaving the specimen with no safe or realistic future contribution.

Its small stature and unsound management history render it entirely inappropriate for retention under BS5837.

This specimen is unequivocally of no arboricultural value and warrants removal on both structural and quality grounds.

Tree 6 —Oak (Quercus sp.)

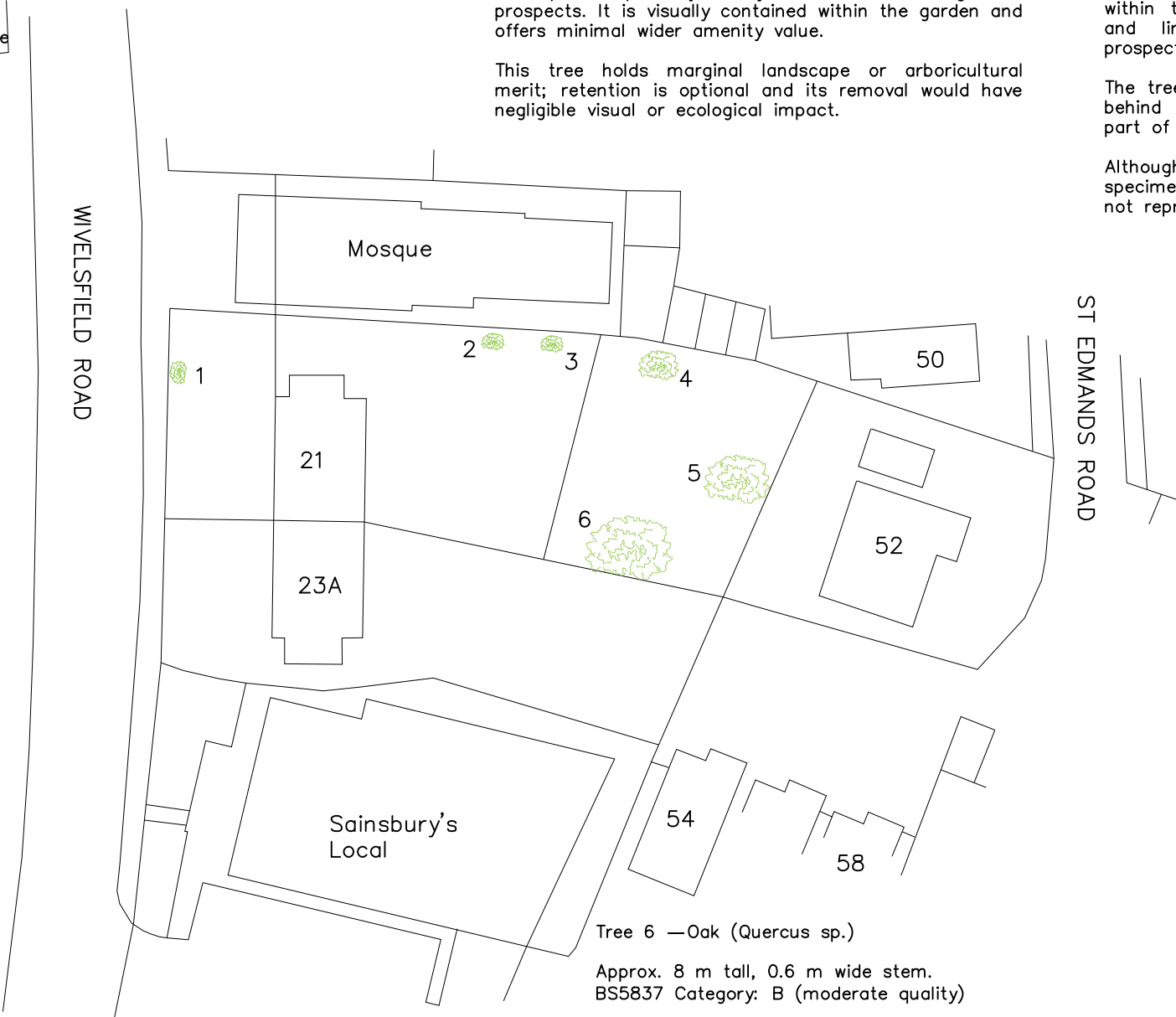
Approx. 8 m tall, 0.6 m wide stem.
BS5837 Category: B (moderate quality)

This young Oak appears to be the only tree with potential for future amenity contribution. However, even here, several constraints reduce its actual significance:

It is still juvenile, with limited canopy spread. It is located internally within the site, not forming part of a street scene or public landscape. The amenity influence is therefore localised and visually contained.

While structurally it may be sound, its current contribution is modest, and within the context of redevelopment the tree does not exert a significant constraint.

Moderate individual value but not of high strategic importance, and its loss would not materially affect wider landscape character.



Do not scale dimensions off drawing except for planning purposes. Contractor to check measurements on site and is responsible for the stability of all the new and existing building whilst the works are proceeding.

Drawing Title	
Existing Tree Condition Plan	
Location	
21 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath, RH16 4EF	
Drawing No.	Date
WREX006	14 July 2025
Scale	Rev
As Seen @ A3	001

