



**Arboricultural Assessment
The Meadows**

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Arboricultural Assessment – The Meadows

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Contents

| | | |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 1. | Assessment..... | 1 |
|----|-----------------|---|

1. Arboricultural Assessment

- 1.1 This report contains supporting information regarding trees in relation to the proposed development at the Meadows, Marchants Close, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex, BN6 9UZ.
- 1.2 The report considers the species, size and position of any trees within the area of the proposed development and within neighbouring and adjoining areas where trees may have some significance to the proposed development.
- 1.3 The maturity and condition of the trees surveyed with appropriate recommendations for action.
- 1.4 The impact of the proposed development upon the tree population in and around the site.
- 1.5 Outline measures required to protect retained trees during the development works and the ongoing monitoring of construction works to ensure that retained trees remain protected effectively.
- 1.6 The site was visited in November 2025 and the relevant trees were assessed.
- 1.7 The site is under the administrative jurisdiction of Mid Sussex District Council.
- 1.8 There are no statutory controls (TPO) relating to the trees onsite. Moreover, the site is not located within a Conservation Area.
- 1.9 An assessment of the trees in the vicinity of the proposed development has been made in line with the guidance provided in British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction.
- 1.10 Development proposals can impact on trees by requiring their removal or by adversely affecting their longevity through disturbance to their rooting environment or the impact of severe pruning. In many cases however it is possible to reduce the levels of disturbance by implementing precautionary measures and by adopting appropriate working practices.
- 1.11 The only trees potentially impacted by the development are those to the east between the site and the countryside beyond.
- 1.12 The trees to the east of the proposed building form a belt and are a group of important trees in the locality.
- 1.13 The proposed building has been designed to ensure that the trees are protected and retained.
- 1.14 The dwelling would be situated outside of any root protection zone.

- 1.15 The dwelling is designed to be orientated north/south with limited windows to the east, to minimise prospective occupier pressure to reduce/lop/thin the trees to the east.
- 1.16 Protective fencing should be erected in order to ensure the trees are adequately protected during construction.
- 1.17 Pursuant to the Council's preference to ensure confident tree retention during development, a detailed Arboricultural Method Statement should be prepared, which expands on the outline detail provided above. This could reasonably be requested by Condition.
- 1.18 Within a Detailed Arboricultural Method Statement, Heads of Terms are advised to include:
- specification for tree protection barriers,
 - a detailed schedule of remedial tree works and removals
 - phasing of work and a scheme for auditing tree protection, site supervision and monitoring with subsequent reporting to the LPA.

Summary & Conclusions

- 1.19 British Standard 5837: 2012 contains clear and current recommendations for a best practice approach to the assessment, retention and protection of trees on development sites. The proposed development has followed this guidance by:
- ❖ Seeking arboricultural advice to inform the layout and design of the proposal
 - ❖ Respecting the constraints posed to development of the site by the retained trees, and taking proactive steps to ensure their protection during development
 - ❖ Continuing to take advice on all aspects of the proposal that may impact upon the retained trees
- 1.20 It is our professional opinion that the proposals put forward allow for confidence in the long-term retention of the existing tree cover and would not result in any detriment to the character of the area and the wider treescape.
- 1.21 From an arboricultural perspective the proposed development is therefore considered supportable in terms of Local Policy relating to trees. This opinion is strongly subject to the adoption of future safeguards for protecting trees.
- 1.22 In summary, we consider that there are no valid arboricultural issues that reasonably restrict the proposed development of the site.
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