



## **Arboricultural Addendum re DM/25/2626 - 42 Hurst Road, Hassocks Consolidated Clarification and Tree Protection Measures**

### **1. Purpose of Addendum**

This addendum has been prepared to supplement the Arboricultural Report prepared by Arborsense (July 2025) and to respond comprehensively to comments raised by the Local Planning Authority's Tree Officer. It provides additional detail on retained trees, neighbouring trees, construction methodology, and long-term impacts.

### **2. Principal Retained Trees (T1 Beech and T5 Oak)**

T1 (Beech) and T5 (Oak) are mature Category B trees of high amenity value. Limited incursion into their Root Protection Areas (RPAs) is unavoidable but remains within BS5837:2012 tolerances.

To mitigate construction and long-term impacts, the following measures will be implemented:

- BS5837-compliant protective fencing erected prior to commencement;
- Permanent no-dig cellular confinement systems within RPAs subject to access or loading;
- No excavation, changes in ground level, or service installation within RPAs;
- Arboricultural supervision by Arborsense during key construction stages;
- Post-construction monitoring to ensure continued tree health.

### **3. Neighbouring Trees and Boundary Vegetation**

Trees and hedging within neighbouring gardens are predominantly Category C specimens of limited arboricultural value. These trees will not be subject to excavation or changes in soil levels. Temporary fencing will prevent encroachment and material storage during construction.



#### **4. Ash Tree Adjacent to the Access Track (Neighbouring Land)**

We note that the plan on page 15 of the Arboricultural Report identifies a tree immediately adjacent to the western boundary and the existing access track. This tree is an Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), located within the neighbouring property and positioned directly to the west of the access track, as shown on the extracted plan (circled in green) and confirmed by the accompanying site photograph taken from the southern end of the track looking north. (See Appendix A)

This Ash tree forms part of the boundary vegetation and is considered to be of moderate arboricultural value. Its Root Protection Area extends beneath the line of the access track, and accordingly it has now been specifically assessed in terms of potential impact and mitigation.

#### **Impact assessment and protection measures**

The proposed extension and use of the access track will be constructed using a permanent no-dig methodology, comprising a three-dimensional cellular confinement system laid above existing ground levels. This approach ensures that:

- No excavation will occur within the rooting zone of the Ash tree;
- Existing soil structure, porosity, and moisture movement will be retained;
- Root severance and soil compaction will be avoided;
- Long-term vehicular loading is dispersed without imposing damaging pressure on underlying roots.

Temporary tree protection fencing will be installed along the boundary line during construction to prevent encroachment, storage of materials, or accidental damage to the tree. No changes to ground levels, drainage patterns, or surfacing falls will occur in a manner that would adversely affect the Ash tree.

#### **Long-term considerations**

The access track will remain permeable and constructed in accordance with BS5837:2012 guidance for development within or adjacent to RPAs. The proposed surfacing will not restrict gaseous exchange or water infiltration and therefore will not create future physiological stress to the Ash tree.

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**5. Conclusion**

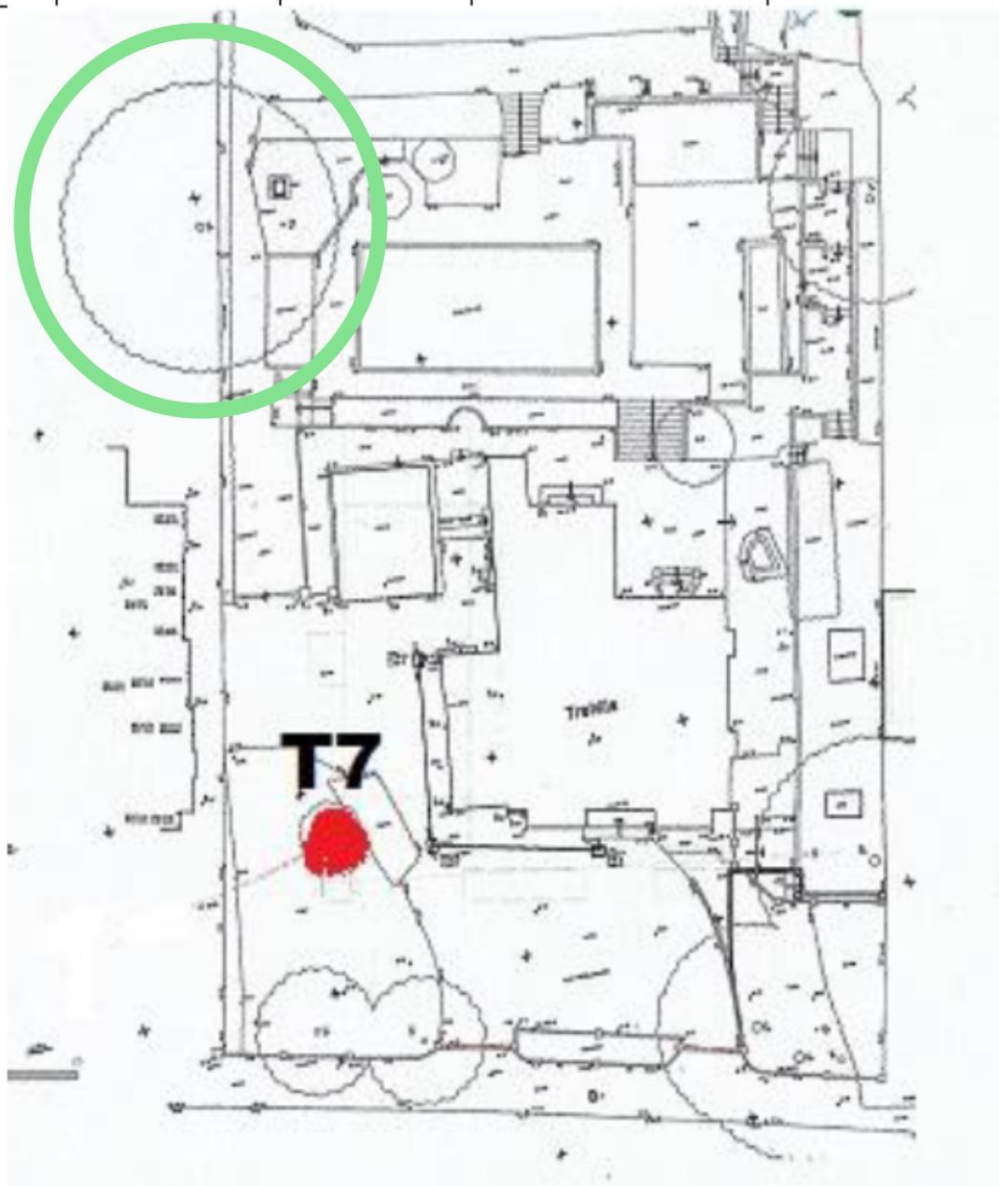
With the measures set out above, the proposed development will not result in unacceptable harm to retained trees, including those located on neighbouring land. The proposal accords with BS5837:2012 and Policy DP37 of the Mid Sussex District Plan and ensures the long-term protection of trees of amenity value.

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APPENDIX A

Ash tree circled in green:



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