

SUPERSEDED



Urban Arborist
tree surgeon specialists

01302 832536 | 01427 891 808
info@urbanarborist.co.uk

Urban Arborist Ltd, Holme Tree Farm, Langholme Lane, Haxey, Doncaster DN9 2NP

**7 Belton Road,
Epworth,
DN9 1JL**

Contents

1. Introduction.....	4
1.1. Purpose of the Report.....	4
1.2. Terms of Reference.....	4
1.3. Scope of the Report.....	4
1.4. Survey Details.....	5
2. Site Description.....	5
2.1. Land Use.....	5
2.2. Topography.....	5
2.3. Tree Scape.....	5
2.4. Visual Amenity Value.....	6
2.5. Age Class Mix.....	6
2.6. Species Diversity.....	6

3. Status of Trees6

4. Tree Descriptions and Recommendations7

5. Discussion7

 5.1. Tree Condition & Recommendations7

 5.2. Potential Arboricultural Implications & General Design Advice.....8

6. Conclusions and Recommendations10

Appendix 1: Tree Descriptions Recommendation & Key.....12

Appendix 2: Explanation of Tree Grading System.....14

Appendix 3: General Guidelines.....16

Appendix 4: Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations.....17

Appendix 5: Author Qualifications20

Appendix 6: Site Plan21

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Report

1.1.1 A report is required by Sid Cherry to provide detailed arboricultural advice on trees relating to a proposed development.

1.2 Terms of Reference

1.2.1 I have been instructed by Sid Cherry to visit the site and prepare my findings in a report.

1.2.2 For this purpose I have been supplied a site plan showing tree location in relation to the development.

1.3 Scope of the Report

1.3.1 This report is compiled in accordance with *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction*.

1.3.2 Only the larger trees within proximity of the proposed development, have been surveyed.

1.3.3 The specific design of any proposed development is not generally considered at this stage.

1.4 Survey Details

1.4.1 The survey was conducted on Wednesday the 7th October 2020 which was a clear bright day.

1.4.2 The survey was made from ground level.

1.4.3 Measurements were taken using tapes and lasers.

2. Site Description

2.1 Land Use

2.1.1 The surveyed area is a residential garden.

2.2 Topography

2.2.1 The site is of level ground.

2.3 Treescap

2.3.1 The site forms part of a small cluster of trees that adjoins other residential properties in the heart of Epworth a small town in the Isle of Axholme, North Lincolnshire.

2.4 Visual Amenity Value

2.4.1 The trees on this site provide limited amenity value to the surrounding area due to them being hidden away from view.

2.5 Age Class Mix

2.5.1 The trees surveyed are of mature stature.

2.6 Species Diversity

2.6.1 Species surveyed include Sycamore and Ash.

3. Status of the Trees

3.1 Urban Arborist has not carried out any checks to determine whether the trees are within a conservation area or are protected under tree preservation orders, but we have been informed by Sid Cherry that these trees are protected under tree preservation orders. Therefore, the local authority must be consulted before any tree works are carried out.

4. Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

4.1 Full details are recorded in the tables at **Appendix 1** explanation of the table found in Key **Appendix 1** a full explanation of the Grading System can be found at **Appendix 2**, please refer also to the site plan at **Appendix 6**, for tree locations.

5. Discussion

5.1 Tree Condition & Recommended Work

5.1.1 The tree survey was carried out on **2** individual trees **T1 Sycamore** was identified as retention category B, and **T2 Ash** has been identified as retention category C.

5.1.2 **T1 Sycamore** should be retained if possible, with some minor remedial work. **T2 Ash** has been down graded due to the tree showing signs of decline with portions of the crown dying back.

This will require some remedial work to remove the dead portions of the crown and the tree should be monitored with a view of complete removal if the tree continues to decline in health.

5.2 Potential Aboricultural Implications & General Design Advice.

5.2.1 Details of the proposed development are not known. The following comments can be made about the site in terms of its tree cover in relation to a potential development.

5.2.2 During development the part of the tree most commonly under threat, and most ignored, is the rooting system. When trees are damaged, particularly the roots, their long-term health and stability can be affected. Most development activity can have an impact on the future condition and safety of a tree, and therefore careful planning and management of tree protection should be carried out.

5.2.3 In order to ensure that any retained trees on site are properly protected during the development phase, the tree rooting zones are to be considered. To development, the rooting zone of the tree is known as the Root Protection Area or RPA. The rooting zone which, where possible, should remain undisturbed. The protection of retained trees can therefore be

achieved by erecting a temporary barrier (based on the RPAs), so creating a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ).

- 5.2.4** Damage caused by any construction activity such as demolition, soil stripping, and provision of services needs to be considered at the design stage. Care must be taken to avoid damage to tree roots when existing structures such as tarmac surfaces are removed within an RPA.
- 5.2.5** The laying of access roads, driveways, parking areas or any other hard surfaces planned in proximity to retained trees needs to be considered.
- 5.2.6** Boundary walls or other light structures can be constructed without damage to roots using piled foundations rather than the more traditional strip foundations.
- 5.2.7** The location of drainage and utilities within the RPA should be achieved with careful consideration of the trees rooting system.
- 5.2.8** The position of any facilities, toilets, storage of materials and parking, should be located away from trees and outside the RPA.
- 5.2.9** Consideration must be given to movement of both vehicle and pedestrian traffic. If possible, traffic should be diverted away from the RPAs. If this is not possible a range of temporary

surfaces are available to distribute the weight of traffic and allow the roots to receive moisture and air.

- 5.2.10** The alteration of ground levels within the RPA is not acceptable. However, should ground levels need to be lowered in areas adjacent to trees or within the minimum distance recommended, appropriate measures must be taken to minimise the detrimental effects on the trees and their root systems. With regards to raising levels, it is necessary to maintain adequate supplies of moisture and oxygen through the soil to the tree roots. Therefore, no material must be placed within the RPA without arboricultural advice.
- 5.2.11** The shade that will be cast by the retained trees must also be considered. Where buildings are to be positioned within the shade cast area of trees, they should be designed to maximise light levels.

6. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 6.1** Although **T1 Sycamore** has been identified for retention this tree should be monitored at one to two-year intervals to check for any structural defects and general condition of the tree. **T2 Ash** showing signs of decline could be due to Ash die back. If this is the case, then consideration

should be given to removing this tree before any development takes place. This would be subject to the local authority's approval and the tree owner as this tree is located outside the boundary of the development site.

- 6.2** Once the proposed development is approved and the retained trees confirmed, a method statement will be required. This will provide data for root protection area (RPA) and construction exclusion zone (CEZ) plus details of the method to protect retained trees. Any retained trees will need to be plotted onto the final topographical site plan, showing the location of the trees in relation to the new development.

- 6.6** Urban Arborist can recommend a new planting scheme for post development if required.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Tree Descriptions Recommendation & Key

NO	TREE TYPE	TH (m)	SD (mm)	CS (M)	CH (M)	A G E	PHYS COND	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	PRELIMINARY MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIOIS	LIFE EXP	C A T
T1	Sycamore <i>(Acer)</i>	18	600	N, 6 E, 6 S, 6 W, 7	2	M	Fair	Cavities on the main stem @ approx. 6, some major deadwood greater than 50mm diameter	Remove dead wood and sucker growth from main stem	20/ 30	B
T2	Ash <i>(Fraxinus)</i>	16	700	N, 6 E, 10 S, 8 W, 8	3	M	Poor	Stem covered in Ivy so unable to inspect, multi-stemmed @ approx. 6m, portions of the crown dead	Remove Ivy to enable full inspection, remove deadwood and Monitor	0-10	C

Key

No.	T=Tree H=Hedge G=Group S=Shrub in relating to site plan
TREE TYPE	Common name followed by Genus name in italic

HT (m)	Height of tree in meters from ground level
SD (mm)	Stem Diameter in mm at breast height (1.5m from ground level)
CS	Crown Spread in Cardinal Directions North, East, South, West
CH	Crown Height of lowest branch from ground level
AGE	Age of Tree Y = Young SM = Semi mature M = Mature OM = Over Mature D=Dead
PHYSICAL CONDITION	Good, Fair, Poor, Dead
STRUCTURAL CONDITION	Identifying any defects within the form or structure
PRELIMINARY MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS	Tree Works Recommended
LIFE EXP	Estimated Remaining Life Expectancy
CAT	Grade of the tree relating to retention category see Appendix 2

Appendix 2: Explanation of Grading System

A2.1 A (marked in green on the plan) = trees of high quality; retention most desirable.

These trees are high quality and value with a good life expectancy. They may be sub-divided as follows:

A 1) Particularly good examples; perhaps rare or unusual species or forming an essential part of arboricultural features e.g. avenues.

A 2) Groups of trees having a significant landscape impact or with excellent screening properties, or those softening the effect of existing structures.

A 3) Those having significant conservation or historical value e.g. veteran trees.

A2.2 B (marked in blue on the plan) = trees of moderate quality; retention desirable.

These trees are of moderate quality and value with significant life expectancy. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

B 1) Trees that might be included in the high category but because of their numbers or slightly impaired condition, as downgraded in favour of the better individuals.

B 2) Groups of trees forming distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals.

B 3) Trees with clearly identifiable conservation of other cultural benefits.

A2.3 C (marked in yellow on the plan) = trees of low quality but which could be retained.

These trees are of low quality and value and are in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

C 1) Trees not qualifying in higher categories.

C 2) Groups of trees which do not form a distinct landscape feature.

C 3) Trees with limited conservation or other cultural benefits.

A2.4 U (marked in red on the plan) = unsuitable for retention: trees for removal.

These trees are in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years. This may be due to any of the following:

1) Failure is likely due to serious, irredeemable, structural defeats.

2) The trees are hazardous.

3) Diseases are present which may affect the health of adjacent trees.

- 4) They are serious, overall decline or are already dead.
- 5) Removal of other category D trees will render them exposed and unstable.

These trees should be removed or treated in such a way as to make them safe where they have high ecological value, such as in a woodland setting.

Appendix 3: General Guidelines

- A3.1** All tree work should be carried out to BS 3998 2010 – *‘Recommendations for tree work’*
- A3.2** Staff carrying out the work must be qualified and hold public liability insurance.
- A3.3** This report is based on a visual inspection. Urban Arborist shall not be held responsible for events which happen after this time due to factors which are not apparent at the time, and the acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with the guidelines and the terms listed in this report.
- A3.4** Any defects seen by a contractor or the employer that were not apparent to Urban Arborist must be brought to the attention of Urban Arborist immediately.

A3.5 No liability can be accepted by Urban Arborist in respect of the trees unless the recommendations of this report are carried out.

A3.6 It is advisable to have trees inspected by an arborist on an annual basis.

Appendix 4: Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Arboriculture

The cultivation of trees to produce individual specimens of the greatest ornament, for shelter or any primary purpose other than the production of timber.

Canker

Diseased damaged area of a tree usually caused by fungus or bacteria.

Co-dominant Stem

A stem which has grown in direct competition to the main stem and which has formed a substantial size influencing the appearance of the trees.

Crown Lift

The removal of the lowest branches, usually to a given height. It allows the more residual height and greater clearance underneath for vehicles etc.

Crown Reduce

The reduction of a tree's height or spread while preserving its natural shape.

Crown Thin

The removal of some of the density of the tree's crown, usually 5-25% allowing more light through its canopy and reducing wind resistance.

Deadwood

Either dead branches or a procedure involving the removal of dead, dying and diseased branches. Deadwood greater than 50mm in diameter is regarded as major, 25-50mm moderate and less than 25mm is classed as minor deadwood. Major deadwood should be removed from trees in high target areas.

Dieback

Where branches are beginning to show sign of death usually at the tips in the crown.

Epicormic Shoots

Small branches that grow uncharacteristic clusters around the base or the stem of a tree, usually because of bad pruning or some other stress factor.

Formative Pruning

The trimming of a tree to remove weakness and irregularities which may lead to problems. The formative pruning operation is aimed at reducing the potential for future weaknesses or problems within the tree's crown.

Included Bark

Where the bark on two adjoining branches or stems is growing tight together, forming a joint with limited physical strength.

Pollarding

A method of tree management forming a trees structure from a young age and the systematically pruning back to certain points on a regular basis.

Remedial Pruning

The removal of old stubs, dead wood, epicormics growth, rubbing or crossing branches and other unwanted items from the tree's crown. Sometimes referred to as crown cleaning.

Topping

Topping is a form of pruning that removes terminal growth leaving a 'stub' cut end. Topping causes serious health problems to a tree.

Appendix 5: Author Qualification

Nick Marsh/Urban Arborist Has a Diploma in *Arboriculture/Urban Forestry, (Dip.Arb)*, over 25 years of experience working within the tree care industry, plus various NPTC and LANTRA qualification associated with carrying out tree work.

Appendix 6: Site plan

