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Ground Level Tree Assessment

Survey site:

Mill Lodge, Mill Lane, Ashington Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 3BX

Client:

Vanessa Bamford

Survey date:

30th July 2025

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with Horsham District Council. The proposal is described as: “Demolition of the existing carport to provide access to the rear and developing one dwelling in the rear of the garden”.

GLTA survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: **PRA Methodology and Legislation - 2024.**

The site survey was undertaken by Chantae Bleakman-Wells BSc (Hons) MSC, MRSB (Accredited Agent on Natural England Bat Licence Number: 2018-33540-CLS-CLS)					
Date of survey	Temperature (°C)	Humidity (%)	Cloud Cover (%)	Wind (m/s)	Rain
30/07/ 2025	22	74	20	9	None
PRA Survey Factor	**Detailed using desk study and site survey. Any specific limitations noted within relevant section. This table may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.**				
See GLTA plan in Appendix 1, location plan in Appendix 2.					
Background and Site Location					
Summary of site and desk study	The site is located in Ashington at National Grid Reference TQ13001553 and is approximately 0.15ha. There is a residential area to the north of the site and arable fields and pockets of woodlands in the wider, surrounding landscape. London Road (A24) is located 120m south of the site. A site location plan can be found in Appendix 1. This report should be read in conjunction with the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Arbtech, 2024), Arboricultural Method Statement (Arbtech, 2025) and Arboricultural Survey report (Arbtech, 2025). The trees are numbered as in the Arboricultural reports.				

Trees – Ground Level Tree Assessment	
Survey Findings	T11 Gum Tree DBH 200mm PRF-I Peeled bark at base of trunk (approximately 1m), however the feature is sub-optimal due to being surrounded by dense bamboo, resulting in no clear flight path.






G03

Group of Cherry Laurel

DBH 170mm

PRF-NONE

No suitable roosting features for bats





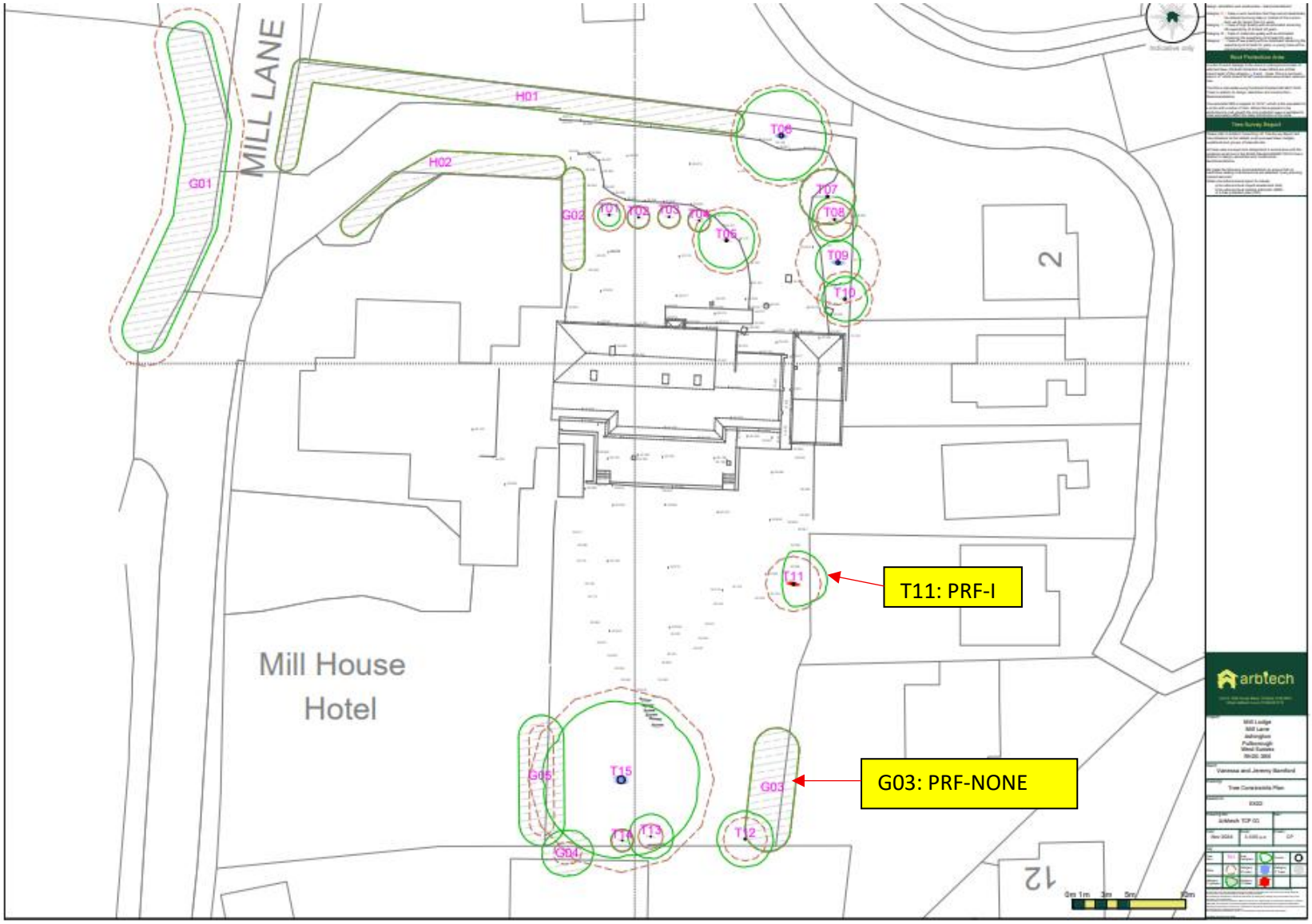




Foreseen Impacts	T11 and G03 will be felled to ground level. The risk to bats from the felling of G03 is acceptably low, due to the lack of suitable roosting features. The risk to bats from the felling of T11 can be reduced to an acceptably low level through the implementation of precautionary working methods.
Recommendations	In accordance with BCT guidelines, trees classified as PRF-I do not require further surveys to determine the presence or likely-absence of roosting bats. However, precautionary working methods are considered necessary to reduce the potential for impacts to an acceptable level whilst felling the tree. The removal of T11 will be completed in accordance with the following mitigation: • The provision of one bat box per tree due to be impacted (total one) will be installed onto the existing building or retained mature tree within the wider site curtilage **prior to their removal** as to compensate for the loss of PRF-I features. Suitable bat boxes can be found: https://www.greenwoodsecohabitats.co.uk/ or https://www.barkboxes.co.uk/ • The trees will be soft felled by competent Arboricultural contractors. The tree sections will be left in-situ over night as to allow any roosting bats potentially present to emerge unharmed prior to their removal from the site. • Immediately prior to the felling, the tree will be inspected by a suitably qualified ecologist, for bats and evidence of bats • Should any evidence be recorded that indicates current use of the trees by roosting bats, works must stop immediately and a suitably qualified ecologist must be consulted on how best to lawfully proceed. This may require further surveys to characterise any roosts present and a subsequent degradation licence from natural England, where necessary.
Nesting Birds	
Summary of Survey Findings	Nesting birds were observed within G03.

Foreseen Impacts	The felling of G03 will result in the destruction of bird nests, if present at the time of felling.
Recommendations	The trees must be felled outside the period 1st March to 31st August. Precautions should be taken with machinery and noise levels when working close to any retained nests so as not to disturb any nearby nesting birds (for example within the single tree within the site) during construction works. At least a 3-5m buffer should be created between any machinery and active nests until the young have fledged.

Appendix 1: Tree map



Appendix 2: Location map



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Version control			
Status	**Issue**	**Name**	**Date**
Draft	0.1	Chantae Bleakman- Wells BSc (Hons), MSc, MRSB - Consultant Ecologist	30/07/2025
Final	1.0	Chantae Bleakman- Wells BSc (Hons), MSc, MRSB - Consultant Ecologist	06/08/2025
Final (Updated)	2.0	Chantae Bleakman- Wells BSc (Hons), MSc, MRSB - Consultant Ecologist	26/09/2025