

Arboricultural Assessment

for

**Land at Hilland Farm
Billingshurst
West Sussex**

Prepared by

Tim Pursey

MICFor, M.Arbor.A., Dip.Arb.(RFS), Tech.Cert.(Arbor.A.)

Arboricultural Consultant

Tel. 0117 951 1375

**1 Stanley Park, Lower Easton
Bristol BS5 6DT**

**Email info@tree-expert.com
www.timpursey.co.uk**

1.0 Date of survey

1.1 July 2025

2.0 Surveyor

2.1 Tim Pursey

3.0 Instructions

3.1 As a result of a planning application, I am instructed to undertake an arboricultural assessment and to prepare a report assessing the impact that the proposed development will have on trees growing at the site.

3.2 The report includes:

- An indication of the constraints placed on the design by the trees on site
- A schedule indicating the tree survey results
- A preliminary arboricultural method statement
- A tree protection plan – drawing TP 3269/2603/TPP appended

4.0 Report limitations

4.1 All inspections were made from ground level, using binoculars where necessary. Should a more detailed inspection, by climbing or by elevated platform, be required then this will be highlighted within the survey recommendations.

4.2 I have not contacted the local planning authority to determine the legal status of the trees on site. If any trees are the subject of an order, or the land forms part of a Conservation Area then it will be necessary to properly notify, or to obtain prior permission from, the local authority before carrying out any works on the trees.

4.3 Trees are living, dynamic organisms. Their health and overall condition changes as the trees grow and can be affected by external conditions. For this reason the condition survey and any recommendations given are valid for a period not exceeding one calendar year from the date of issue of this report.

5.0 Proposals

- 5.1 It is proposed to construct a new commercial/industrial development on land currently unused.
- 5.2 No trees are proposed to be removed to facilitate works.

6.0 Tree survey

- 6.1 See schedule of tree survey results.

7.0 Assessment of Impact

- 7.1 The property is currently unoccupied and is unused. Trees surveyed grow at the site's northern boundary.
- 7.2 It is proposed to construct a new development consisting of commercial/industrial units to the immediate south of trees growing in group G1.
- 7.3 Oaks growing in group G1 will be unaffected by the proposals. Works have been deliberately designed to remain outside RPAs so no excavation or other works will affect the trees.
- 7.4 All trees will be protected with simple, appropriate fencing during the period of works. Protective fencing will be utilised to ensure no damage occurs during the construction period. Provided that protective measures are properly employed, no trees should be affected by the proposals.

8.0 Preliminary Method Statement to Mitigate Impact

8.1 Tree Works

No tree works are proposed.

8.2 Protective Fencing

Retained trees within group G1 will be protected from the impact of construction by a small amount of protective fencing to be erected in accordance with BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations.

- 8.3 This fencing is designed to protect all parts of the trees, both above and below ground. It will be erected using Heras panels erected in a conventional fashion with supporting feet pinned to the ground to prevent movement. It is particularly important that the fencing be completely rigid and immobile.

- 8.4 The fence will be erected in the positions shown on the attached plan, TP 3269/2603/TPP and will be erected to protect the trees before any work commences. The protective fencing will remain in situ until all construction works are completed.
- 8.5 The protective fencing will be clearly marked indicating its purpose to all persons on site. Signs will be minimum A3 in size and will clearly state that the protective fencing will not be moved under any circumstances. The protected area behind the fencing will be considered sacrosanct and no entry into this area will be permitted for *any* reason except to maintain the protective fencing. No excavation is permitted, no changes in ground level, no plant will track across this area at any time, and no storage of any materials within this area will be permitted.
- 8.6 **Services**
Any new services will be installed outside the RPAs of any retained tree. There is plenty of space on site to ensure these areas can be avoided.
- 8.7 **Ground Levels**
Ground levels within the rooting area of any retained tree will remain unaltered unless otherwise specified by the project arboriculturist.
- 8.8 **General**
No storage or mixing of cement/concrete will be permitted anywhere within 10 metres of any retained tree. Account will be taken of any slopes in order to avoid the possibility of cement washings running into the rooting areas of retained trees.
- 8.9 Oil, bitumen or other material likely to be injurious to a tree should not be stacked or discharged within 10 metres of the trunk. Materials generally should not be stacked or discharged within 5 metres of the trunks.
- 8.10 **Arboricultural Supervision**
Provided that protective fencing is properly employed, there should be no need to further input or supervision from the project arboriculturist.

30th March 2026
Tim Pursey
Chartered Arboriculturist

Tree Survey

Key:

Height:	Estimated in metres.
Stem diameter:	Measured at 1.5m above ground level.
Branch spread:	Estimated in metres at four cardinal points.
Height of crown Clearance:	Height in metres (estimated) above adjacent ground level to inform on ground clearance, crown stem ratio and shading.
Age class:	<u>Y</u> oung tree in first third of its life expectancy <u>M</u> iddle age tree <u>M</u> ature trees <u>O</u> ver <u>M</u> ature <u>V</u> eteran
Category grading:	A/B/C/U – In accordance with BS 5837:2012 <i>Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations</i> . Category A – High Quality Category B – moderate quality Category C- low quality Category U – trees for removal All surveys and inspections made from ground level unless otherwise stated.

Land at Hilland Farm Billingshurst, West Sussex

Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Dia.(mm)	Crown Radius (m)				Crown Ht. (m)	Age Class	Remaining Contribution	Structural and Physiological Condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Retention Category
				N	E	S	W						
G1	Oak x7	12-14	500-700	7-8				2.5	Mat	40+	Line of mature trees. Normal	None	B1 B2

Bibliography

- British Standard 3936-1:1992 Nursery Stock- Specification for Trees and Shrubs
British Standard 3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Work
British Standard 4428:1989 Code of Practice for General Landscaping Operations
British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and
Construction – Recommendations
- Tree Preservation Orders: A Guide to The Law and Good Practice 2000
- Subsidence of Low-Rise Buildings 2000 Institution of Structural Engineers
Standards-Chapter 4.2 Building Near Trees 2003 National House Building Council
- Guidelines for The Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Services in
Proximity to Trees 1995 National Joint Utilities Group
- Controlling Water Use of Trees to Alleviate Subsidence Risk
2004 Horticulture Link Project 212
- Inspection of Highway Trees Roads 52/75 1975 Department of the Environment Circular
- Forestry Commission Information Notes
Phytophthora Pathogens of Trees: Their Rising Profile in Europe FCIN030 1999
Forests, Carbon and Climate Change: the UK Contribution FCIN048 2003
- Forestry Commission Bulletin Climate Change: Impact on UK Forests FCBU125 2002
- Essential Soil Science 2003 Ashman, M.R. & Puri, G.
Visual Amenity Valuation of Trees and Woodlands
2003 Helliwell, D.R.
- The Hillier Manual of Trees and Shrubs 2004 Hillier, J. & Coombes, A.
The Arboriculturalist's Companion 1990 James, N.D.G.
Collins Tree Guide 2004 Johnson, O. & More, D.
Habitat Management for Invertebrates 2001 Kirby, P.
Dead Wood Matters: The Ecology and Conservation of Saproxylic Invertebrates in Britain
1992 Kirby, K.J. & Drake, C.M.
- Physiology of Woody Plants 1979 Kramer, P.J. & Kozlowski, T.T.
Hazards from Trees: A General Guide 2000 Lonsdale, D.
Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management
2001 Lonsdale, D.
- The Body Language of Trees 2003 Mattheck, C. & Breloer, H
Trees of Britain and Northern Europe 1978 Mitchell, A.
Fungal Strategies of Wood Decay in Trees 2004 Schwarze, F., Engels, J, Mattheck, C.
Modern Arboriculture 2003 Shigo, A.L.
Diagnosis of Ill-Health in Trees 2000 Strouts, R.G. & Winter, T.G.
Soil Types: A Field Identification Guide 1989 Trudgill, S.
Manual of Wood Decays in Trees 2003 Weber, K. & Mattheck, C.
Reducing Infrastructure Damage by Tree Roots
2003 Costello L.R. & Jones K.S.
- Tree Roots in the Built Environment 2006 Roberts, Jackson, Smith

Publications from Arboricultural Advisory and Information Service

APN1 Driveways Close to Trees Patch, D. & Dobson, M.

APN12 Through the Trees to Development Patch, D.

ARIN 130/95/ARB Tree Root Systems Dobson, M.

