Arboricultural report in support of a planning application, (BS:5837):

- Tree Survey
- Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- Tree Constraints Plan
- Tree Retention and Protection Plan



SITE LOCATION:

Church Cottage
Church Street
Rudgwick
West Sussex
RH12 3DA

Date of Issue:
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Contents

1.0 Introduction / Background: 3
2.0 Planning Policy and Legislation....6
3.0 Site Assessment 10
4.0 Planning Proposal 10
5.0 Arboricultural Assessment....11
6.0 Impact Appraisal....13
7.0 Below Ground Constraints 13
8.0 Above Ground Constraints 16
9.0 Conclusions 17
10.0 Recommendations....18
11.0 References 19
12.0 Appendices: 20

1.0 Introduction / Background:

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The principal author of this Arboricultural Impact Assessment, (AIA), is Nicholas Eddison BA, DipArb, Principal Arboricultural Consultant at The Sussex Tree Company. Nicholas is a Technician member of the Arboricultural Association, an Assessor for the Arboricultural Association's Approved Contractor scheme and is LANTRA certified to undertake Professional Tree Inspections.

1.2 Instruction

1.2.1 We are instructed by Mr & Mrs Thomas & Michele Ryan-McGrath, ('the Clients'), owners & residents of Church Cottage, Church Street, Rudgwick, West Sussex, RH12 3DA, ('the property'), upon recommendation by June Grinstead of Your Home Plans Ltd, ('the architect'), to undertake an arboricultural report in support of a planning application, following guidance set out in the British Standard document number 5837 "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations" (2012), and publish our findings in a report document, for a fee.

1.2.2 This report is an Arboricultural Impact Assessment, ('AIA'); a second report, a 'detailed' Arboricultural Method Statement, ('AMS'), accompanies this report as a separate report document. Both reports should be read in conjunction with each other. This AIA report will provide any interested parties with a comprehensive assessment of the potential impacts on the retained trees at the Site. It is accepted that chief among the interested parties for this report is the arboricultural officer(s) of the Local Planning Authority, ('LPA'), Horsham District Council.

1.3 Planning history.

1.3.1 There is an application in progress for the proposed development at the property. The LPA require an arboricultural assessment of the proposed Site to ensure compliance with their duties as the planning authority.

1.3.2 This report & the accompanying AMS will deliver that & compliance with the recommended standards set out in the British Standard document, 'BS5837 – trees in relation to design, demolition & construction: recommendations'.

1.4 Scope of the project.

1.4.1 The scope of this project is to amend the existing garage at Church Cottage, which presently has space for 2 cars on the ground floor, with a garden shed attached to the rear & a studio above the garaging space. The existing building is a combination of brick & timber under tiled roof.

1.4.2 The existing building & proposed Site is located within the footprint of the property. It is situated approximately 6m to the southwest of the main dwelling at the property. It is set amongst differing hard landscaping surfacing, (concrete, pes shingle), & there are tended gardens to the south & west.

1.4.3 The scope of this project is fivefold:

I. Undertake a survey of trees on the Site and within influencing distance of the Site to fulfil the requirements of BS5837:2012 *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction: Recommendations*.
II. Provide a Tree Constraints Plan, ('TCP'), for the Site including root protection areas and canopy spreads.
III. Provide an AIA, in relation to the design proposal, providing comment in relation to the building orientation in its environment. The AIA will assess the trees in relation to the proposals, and the potential impacts the trees will have.
IV. Provide a detailed AMS which will provide guidance on methodologies to ensure the implementation of the design plan does not negatively impact any retained trees, or if there is impact, ensure it is rational, minimised and is sufficiently mitigated.
V. Provide a Tree Retention and Protection Plan, ('TRPP'), for the Site, showing the location of any tree protection apparatus.

1.5 Reference Documents

1.5.1 As background information, the following documentation has been referenced.

Table 1: Document and Plans Provided / Referenced

Document Description	Reference Number	Prepared By	Date
Block Plan	CHU-26-B01	Your Home Plans Ltd	21/08/2026
Existing Garage Plans & Proposed Elevations	CHU-26-A1010	Your Home Plans Ltd	22/08/2026
Church Cottage – Tree Constraints Plan	STC-CCR-TCP-01	The Sussex Tree Company	11/2026
Church Cottage – Tree Retention & Protection Plan	STC-CCR-TRPP-01	The Sussex Tree Company	11/2026

1.5.2 The report publishes: research methodology, findings and recommendations in relation to all existing trees, groups of trees & hedgerows which may be impacted by the proposed development; quantifies these trees / groups of trees according to their

estimated life expectancy & quality; details whether any are to be removed in order to facilitate the development; offers mitigation strategies, with accompanying methodologies, for the protection of trees / groups of trees that are to be retained; & suggests appropriate mitigation for any trees / groups of trees to be removed. More detailed protection methodologies & mitigation strategies are presented as a separate, detailed AMS report document.

1.6 Report limitations

1.6.1 The contents are intended for the sole use of the Client(s), authorised agents of the client(s) & planners from the LPA in respect of this development project only. No liability is accepted for their use by any other parties to advance an argument or claim (including legal or financial) without prior consent.

(1.6 – 'Report Limitations' continues, and sections 1.6.2. – 1.6.20 can be found in Appendix 5)

1.7 Access conditions

1.7.1 Access to all parts of the property was unrestricted. Access to 3rd party or public land was not required to complete the tree survey.

2.0 Planning Policy and Legislation

2.1.1 **National Planning Policy Framework ('NPPF'), updated in August 2026:** When determining planning applications, local planning authorities, ('LPAs'), should adhere to the Environment Objective of NPPF & *"support efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, including moving to a low carbon economy; and to protect and enhance our natural, built and historic environment, including making effective use of land, improving biodiversity, using natural resources prudently, and minimising waste and pollution."* (Section 1, paragraph 17c.).

2.1.2 Additionally, section CC3 states development plans should *"Use design approaches which minimise risks from overheating in accordance with policy DP3(2)(b), and include green infrastructure and suitable tree planting in accordance with policies DP3(2)(c) and N3"*

2.1.3 DP3 states the key principles for well-designed places. DP3(2) states development principles, including subsection (c) *"Nature: incorporate and/or connect to a network of high quality, accessible, multi-functional green infrastructure to provide opportunities for recreation and healthy living, strengthen habitats, improve climate change resilience and improve air and water quality. This should include maintaining and enhancing tree cover and incorporating sustainable drainage systems in accordance with policies N3"*. Subsection 3 states *"Development proposals should be refused if, without clear justification, they conflict with paragraph 1 of this policy or relevant aspects of the principles in paragraph 2, or with any explicit design standards set out in the development plan (including those in locally specific policies, guides, codes or masterplans). Substantial weight should be given to compliance with relevant development plan policies when assessing the design quality of proposals"* & subsection 5 states *"Substantial weight should also be given to outstanding or innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability, or which help raise the standard of design more generally in an area, so long as they are consistent with the overall form and layout of their surroundings."*

2.1.4 N2, 'Improving the natural environment': subsection 1(d) states development proposals should *"Conserve and enhance existing natural features of visual, historic or nature conservation value (such as established trees and hedgerows) where possible; and use appropriate landscaping to help create a well-designed place and integrate the development into its surroundings"* & subsection 1(e) states development proposals should *"Use green infrastructure provided as part of the scheme and nature-based solutions to secure multiple benefits: such as for biodiversity; surface water and pollution management (including maintaining flow rates and water quality); climate change mitigation and adaptation, and recreation"*. Furthermore, subsection 2 states *"If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated for, then the development should be refused."*

2.1.5 N3: 'Trees in new development': subsection 1(c) states development plans should: *"Make provision for the long-term maintenance of both existing and newly-planted trees which form part of the development."*

2.1.6 N6: 'Areas of particular importance for biodiversity and geodiversity': paragraph 2 states: *"Irrespective of a site's status in nature conservation terms, development proposals which would entail the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists"*

2.1.6 There are no tree removals required to implement the design plan. Overall, the design plan upholds the principles of NPPF & therefore in this regard permission should be granted.

2.1.7 In regard to the proposed development, there are applicable local policies, the **Horsham District Planning Framework, 2015**, ('HDPF')). Chapter 9: Conserving & Enhancing the Natural & Built Environment states: *"There is a continued need to protect and enhance nationally and locally designated landscapes, habitats, species and ancient woodland;"*

2.1.8 Within Chapter 9 there are applicable policies:

i. Policy 25, (The Natural Environment and Landscape Character), states: "*The Natural Environment and landscape character of the District, including the landscape, landform and development pattern, together with protected landscapes and habitats will be protected against inappropriate development. The Council will support development proposals which:*
   - *3. Maintains and enhances the existing network of geological sites and biodiversity, including safeguarding existing designated sites and species, and ensures no net loss of wider biodiversity and provides net gains in biodiversity where possible."*

ii. Policy 28, (Replacement Dwellings and House Extensions in the Countryside), states: *"Outside the defined built-up areas, house extensions, replacement dwellings and ancillary accommodation will be supported if the development can be accommodated appropriately within the curtilage of the existing dwelling. In addition:*
   - *3. Ancillary accommodation and garaging will be required to meet with all other appropriate policies, particularly design principles, and demonstrate that the need for additional space cannot be met from an existing dwelling or buildings suitable of conversion on the site. The size of any new outbuilding should have regard to the dwelling they serve and should be grouped with the house.*
   - *4. Garages and any new outbuildings should have regard to the dwelling they serve and should be grouped with the house."*

iii. Policy 31, (Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity), in the preamble notes it is stated:
   - *"9.27 Green Infrastructure is a term used to describe a multi-functional and connected network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in urban and rural areas. It includes trees,*

parks, road verges, allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, rivers and wetlands. Green Infrastructure can contribute to the provision of 'ecosystem services'.

- *9.29 The network of Green Infrastructure within the district must be maintained and enhanced."*
- *9.30 Forming part of the Green Infrastructure network of the district, Horsham district contains a rich network of biodiversity (variety of life). The nature of the habitats and species found across the District is very varied, but key characteristics include the network of woodland habitats, which is particularly dense in the north of the district. Much of this woodland has been present since at least 1600. Designated as ancient woodland, these areas are of particular importance to wildlife and are irreplaceable.*
- *9.31 Development has the potential to harm biodiversity both directly and indirectly. Direct effects include loss of land to new development, whereas indirect effects include increased traffic resulting in a decline in air quality, which can impact habitats and species some distance from a development site. Development does however have potential to create places for biodiversity, for example by planting native species as part of site landscaping, or incorporating features such as bat or bird boxes.*
- *9.32 This policy seeks to ensure that development does not cause a net loss in biodiversity, and provides net gains in biodiversity where possible.*

iv. The text of policy 31 states:

- *"1. Development will be supported where it can demonstrate that it maintains or enhances the existing network of green infrastructure. Proposals that would result in the loss of existing green infrastructure will be resisted unless it can be demonstrated that new opportunities will be provided that mitigates or compensates for this loss, and ensures that the ecosystem services of the area are retained.*
- *2. The Council will support new development which retains and /or enhances significant features of nature conservation on development sites.*
- *3. Where felling of protected trees is necessary, replacement planting with a suitable species will be required."*

2.1.9 Overall, the design plan upholds the principles of the HDPF & adheres to the highlighted policies, (above, subsections 2.1.8 i - iv), & therefore in this regard permission should be granted.

2.2 Statutory Tree Protections

2.2.1 The LPA has been contacted to establish whether any trees contained within the survey are protected by either a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or are located within a local Conservation Area.

2.2.2 The LPA's online TPO list was accessed; a search for the property revealed that there are no TPOs at or close to the proposed development Site, but that the property is within a Conservation Area, (see screenshot of the LPA's TPO checker & detail of the TPO at Appendix 4).

2.2.3 It should be considered that any proposed tree works detailed in the tree schedule are also implemented as part of the planning decision consent.

2.3 Felling Licence

2.3.1 Tree felling is also restricted under the Forestry Act 1967.

2.3.2 As there are no requirements to remove trees in order to deliver the design proposal, felling licence restrictions do not apply.

2.4 Trees and Wildlife

2.4.1 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, (as amended), the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 & the Conservation of Species & Habitat Regulations 2010, (as amended) provide statutory protection of birds, bats & other species that can inhabit trees.

2.4.2 Great care is required to avoid disturbance to those species & consideration should be given to the timing of tree works in order to avoid disturbance. Where the presence of such species is suspected & proposed works to the tree may affect any protected species, (or their habitats), the project ecologist or Natural England should be contacted for advice.

3.0 Site Assessment

3.1 Site Visit

3.1.1 A Site visit was carried out by Nicholas Eddison *BA (Hons) DipArb*, on 13th November 2026, who surveyed all the significant trees, groups of trees & hedgerows throughout the Site, (& other relevant areas), from ground level including those with a diameter at breast height, ('DBH'), of more than 15cm, (where possible, DBH is taken at 1.3m above ground level; where this is not possible, this is indicated in the survey sheet data). The owners of the site were informed of his presence on site & prior to undertaking the inspection of the trees.

3.2 Site Description

3.2.1 The proposed development Site is located entirely within the curtilage of the property, within which is a detached, residential dwelling & the existing garage block, (subject of the planning application), as well as a further garden outbuilding. These buildings are set within a mature & well-tended garden, which has a pond, areas set to lawn, borders & hedges/trees around its perimeter. The proposed development Site consists of a section of the property directly around the existing garage. The property itself is set within the village of Rudgwick, along the main thoroughfare through the village, Church Street, (B2128).

3.2.2 Site topography:

- The proposed development Site is predominantly flat, with a gentle slope from the Site westwards out into the garden.
- There is an outbuilding directly to the south of the garage, which appears to be a woodstore/storage shed.

3.2.3 The site's underlying geology is predominantly clay and mudstone:

Superficial deposits: No superficial deposits recorded

Bedrock geology: Weald Clay Formation-Mudstone

4.0 Planning Proposal

4.1.1 The planning proposal is remodel the garage thereby creating a separate, residential annex at Church Cottage. To do this the garden shed attached to the rear of the garage will be demolished; then it is proposed to construct a larger room over the existing shed footprint, extending that footprint by approximately 2m to the west. The

garage space will then combine with this newly constructed area to form the ground floor of the annex. The existing studio on the first floor will be extended over the newly constructed ground floor footprint to form the bedroom & en-suite bathroom for the annex. In order to achieve this the existing roof structures will have to be remodelled; a section of the roof will be flat, with a roof window installed.

5.0 Arboricultural Assessment

5.1 Method of Data Collection

5.1.1 The trees on the site were originally surveyed without reference to the site layout as detailed in Clause 4.4.1.1 of BS5837:2012. However, for the purposes of this arboricultural assessment, the design proposal for the site has been considered.

5.1.2 The survey recorded trees either as individual specimens or as groups of trees, where these trees were aerodynamically, culturally or visually important as groups of trees. The tree numbers associated with each tree are cross-referenced within the schedule & plans at Appendix 1 & 2 respectively. The complete method of data collection for the tree survey is provided at Appendix 6.

5.2 Summary of Data

5.2.1 The overall survey includes records of 4 individual trees. There are 3 trees classified as category C; & there is 1 tree which is Unclassified, ('U'). The design plan shows that there is an impact on the RPA of 1 tree, T1 – classified as C. The extent of this impact is that new incursions are required into its RPA, though the extent of these is less than 3% of the total area of the RPA; no access facilitation is required. There are no new incursions planned into the RPAs of any other retained tree, nor is there a requirement for any further pruning.

5.2.2 There are 3 trees classified as category 'C':

- T1, (Western Red Cedar, *Thuja plicata*), is an over-mature specimen which historically has received unsympathetic pruning – topping to 10m AGL & the severing of 2 major scaffolds/limbs, back to the trunk, leaving large diameter wounds.
- T3 & T5, (Wild Pear, *Pyrus communis*, & Apple, *Malus* spp.), are mature specimens. Both of these have unbalanced crowns due to suppression from T1.

All category 'C' trees are scheduled for retention.

5.2.3 There is 1 tree which is 'Unclassified':

- T2, (Apple, *Malus* spp.), is a mature specimen that historically has failed & collapsed It has 3 'phoenix' stems remaining.

All unclassified trees are scheduled for retention.

5.2.4 The location of the trees & groups of trees and their associated constraints including canopy spread and root protection areas are illustrated on the Tree Constraints Plan at Appendix 2.

Table 2: Summary of Trees Surveyed

Retention Category	Individual Trees	Groups	Hedges	Totals
Category A (Trees of high quality with an estimated life expectancy of at least 40 years).	0	0	0	0
Category B (Trees of moderate quality with an estimated life expectancy of at least 20 years)	0	0	0	0
Category C (Trees of low quality with an estimated life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm).	3	0	0	3
Category U (Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years).	1	0	0	1
Totals	4	0	0	4

5.2.5 It should be noted that Table 1 of BS5837:2012 only gives recommendations in relation to remaining years. A tree may be considered to have a longer remaining life, however, & still be considered to be of a lower category given its maturity, condition or overall impact to the application site.

5.2.6 In line with BS5837:2012, category A & B trees / groups of trees are considered as providing a substantial contribution to a site. Therefore, Category A & B trees should be retained & incorporated into the proposed development where possible & feasible.

5.2.7 Generally, category C and U trees / groups of trees are considered to be of low quality or are young specimens, which can be readily replaced, therefore, should not be considered a constraint to future development.

5.2.8 Retention of trees is considered desirable, wherever possible, as it ensures continuity of tree cover & provides a mature landscape to the proposed development.

6.0 Impact Appraisal

6.1 Overview

6.1.1 BS 5837:2012 provides a methodology for determining the above and below ground constraints presented by trees on & adjacent to the site. The RPA & canopy spreads of all trees, groups & hedgerows are shown in Appendix 1, (Tree Survey Schedule), & Appendix 2, (Tree Constraints Plan).

6.1.2 The Arboricultural Impact Assessment considers the development proposals & how they relate to the trees on the site. Any tree & design conflicts are highlighted, & possible remedial action suggested if appropriate. The proposed design is shown on the Tree Constraints Plan & Tree Removal and Protection Plan, (Appendix 2).

6.2 Tree Removal

6.2.1 The current preliminary/outline design plan does not require the removal of any trees, groups of trees or hedgerows.

*Table 3: Arboricultural implications of the **proposed development***

	Tree Quality Category			
	A	**B**	**C**	**U**
Trees to be removed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Groups of trees to be removed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hedgerows to be removed	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total removals	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Trees to be retained	n/a	n/a	T1, T3, T4	T2
Groups of trees to be retained	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hedgerows to be retained	n/a	H8	n/a	n/a
Total retentions	**0**	**0**	**3**	**1**
Overall total	**0**	**0**	**3**	**1**

7.0 Below Ground Constraints

7.1 Root Protection Area

7.1.1 The below ground constraints are generally summarised as the root protection areas (RPAs). The RPA is an area equivalent to a circle with a radius of 12 times the diameter of the trees measured at 1.5 metres for single-stemmed trees. For trees with more than one stem, one of the two calculation methods should be used where there are

either 2 - 5 stems or 5 or more stems. In all cases, the stem diameter(s) should be measured in accordance with Annex C, & the RPA should be guided from Annex D of BS5837:2012.

7.1.2 The RPA is an area in which no groundwork should be undertaken *without due care* in relation to the retained tree(s) & this is to avoid direct damage to the underground sections of the tree, (its roots), soil compaction, changes in levels or soil contamination which could alter the trees condition and / or stability. The shape of the RPA & its exact location will depend upon arboricultural considerations, topography & ground conditions.

7.1.3 The RPA for the trees have been calculated as prescribed by BS5837:2012 & are shown as circles or polygons on the Tree Constraints Plan at Appendix 2. These plans illustrate the relationship between the RPAs associated with the trees & the proposed development.

7.1.4 In addition to the illustration of RPAs on the plans at Appendix 2, the numerical RPA values are provided within the Tree Schedule at Appendix 1. Within the schedule both RPA radius in metres from the main stem & total area for the RPA as square metres are shown.

7.2 Existing RPA Incursions

7.2.1 There are existing incursions into the RPA of T1. These are:

- the existing garage building, (including the garden shed attached to the western elevation);
- the outbuilding, located immediately to the north of T1's stem;
- sections of the property's driveway, (pea-shingle over hard standing);
- concrete pathways to the north of T1 & to the south of the existing garage;
- a small section of patio comprised of paving slabs, to the northwest of T1's stem.

7.2.2 In order to implement the design plan there is no requirement to remove T1 or any other tree/group of trees or hedgerow.

7.3 New RPA Incursions required to implement the design proposal

7.3.1 In order to implement the design proposal there is a requirement to make further new incursions into the RPA of T1, additional to the area of existing incursions.

7.3.2 These new incursions are estimated to be approximately less than 3% of the RPA of T1.

7.3.3 Particular consideration has been given to the proposed foundation design for the new incursion: the proposed use of screw pile foundations. The design plan uses this approach to minimise the requirement for conventional excavation, reduce soil disturbance & limit the potential for adverse effects upon existing tree roots. Details

of this & compensatory mitigations designed into the methodology of insertion can be found in the accompanying AMS.

7.3.4 The new incursions required to deliver the design plan do not contravene the guidance & meet the recommendation in BS:5837, section 7.4.2.3, "*New permanent hard surfacing should not exceed 20% of any existing unsurfaced ground within the RPA*".

7.4 Proposed demolition works & level changes within the RPAs

7.4.1 In order to implement the design proposals, demolition works are required to remove the existing garden shed attached to the western elevation of the garage building.

7.4.2 For all demolition / construction works, any plant and machinery, if used, will either be sited on existing hard standing or outside the RPA of the retained tree, group of trees or hedgerow. Any machines or plant which are sited on areas where pre-existing incursions exist within the RPA of any trees must be of appropriate size & design so that no new incursions are accidentally created or damage occurs to the pre-existing hard surfacing because of the weight and dimensions of the machine, (thereby creating a potential compaction / contamination hazard).

7.4.3 There are no proposed level changes within the RPAs of any retained trees.

7.4.4 Any spoil created by excavation works will not be stored within the RPA of any retained trees. Ideally, spoil will be removed from the site contemporaneously as created.

7.5 Proposed construction of the new annex.

7.5.1 The construction of the proposed new annex impacts on the RPA of T1. The impact is minor, (as described above in subsection 7.3), & sufficiently mitigated by the design of foundations, (as described above in subsection 2.3.4 & in detail in the AMS).

7.5.2 Tree protection fencing will be erected beyond the extremities of RPAs of retained trees, (with the exception of sections of T1's RPA).

7.5.3 Tree protection fencing creates an impermeable barrier for the duration of the demolition & construction phases of the development. The areas inside the tree protection fencing are known as the Construction Exclusion Zones, (CEZs) No incursions into the CEZs are permitted.

7.5.4 Tree protection fencing must be erected prior to the commencement of active demolition & construction works & remain in situ until completion of the proposed development project.

7.5.5 Locations of tree protection fencing can be found on the Tree Retention and Protection Plan at Appendix 2; more detail on tree protection fencing & its location is contained within the detailed AMS.

7.5.6 Specifications for the design of tree protection fencing & precautionary signage to be attached to this fencing can be found in Appendix 3 & the Appendices of the detailed AMS.

7.5.7 There is no requirement for temporary ground protection to be installed at any place, as the only incursion required into the RPA of any retained tree is the one described above, (subsection 7.3 & as shown on the TCP). There are no further incursions into the RPAs of any other retained tree.

7.6 Construction scaffolding

7.6.1 In order to implement the design proposal there is a requirement for scaffolding to be installed within the RPAs of retained tree T1.

7.6.2 Special scaffolding feet will be designed & installed in order to suitably mitigate any occurrence of potential compaction; more detail on these special scaffolding feet can be found in the detailed AMS.

7.7 Infrastructure

7.7.1 Due to the details provided for this application there is insufficient information relating to below ground infrastructure available at present to comment. However, a presumption is made that the route of underground services will follow the route for the already existing services that supply the existing dwelling, or away from the RPAs of retained trees.

7.7.2 If services need to enter RPAs of retained trees, the use of hand digging as detailed in the National Joint Utilities Group publication 'Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Services in Proximity to Trees' (NJUG 10, Volume 4, 2007)

will be undertaken to minimise the impact on the tree roots.

8.0 Above Ground Constraints

8.1.1 The above ground constraints predominantly refer to the impact of the canopy of any retained tree on the Site either by size & form, shadowing & nuisance factors. As a result, it is sometimes required that a canopy protection zone is established to ensure it is not harmed during construction.

8.1.2 There are no above ground constraints impacting the implementation of the design proposals.

8.1.3 Where the current and / or ultimate height of a Category A, B or C tree will cause an obstruction to the proposed development, this must be considered as a constraint. This is usually considered in terms of issues relating to shade and light. There are no

above ground constraints posed by the retained trees on the proposed development in this regard.

8.2 Impact on Amenity

8.2.1 As there are no tree removals required to implement the design plan there is no impact on amenity from the proposed development.

8.3 Future Growth

8.3.1 The future growth of the trees may have an impact on proposed new developments. Trees which are not fully mature, & which are in close proximity to new structures may become a nuisance to occupiers as they grow to their full extent, and therefore a pressure to limit such growth either through felling or pruning may develop.

8.3.2 The retained trees do not create any impact in terms of future growth. Those close to it are either mature or over-mature specimens, so the impact of future growth is very limited.

8.4 Leaves, Fruit and Honeydew

8.4.1 The leaves of retained trees will have little or no impact on the site or its users above & beyond the present impact they currently have.

8.4.2 Honeydew is most likely to be a significant problem from Lime & maple trees, (though not Japanese Maples) – none of the retained trees are these species of tree.

9.0 Conclusions

9.1.1 This tree assessment and AIA is prepared in relation to the full planning application and includes 4 trees.

9.1.2 Wherever possible trees should be retained. In order to deliver the design plan for this proposed development, no tree removals are required.

9.1.3 In order to implement the design proposals there are minor new incursions into the RPAs of 1 tree only, T1. These are minor, considered tolerable & are below the recommended limits as set out in the guidance document, 'BS537: Trees in relation to design, demolition & construction – recommendations.'

9.1.4 In order to implement the design proposals there are no new incursions into the above ground sections of retained trees.

9.1.5 The proposed development utilises the established built footprint of existing outbuildings & incorporates screw pile foundations, thereby minimising excavation & disturbance to existing soils & tree roots, therefore avoids further adverse impacts upon the retained tree, T1.

10.0 Recommendations

10.1 The installation of tree protective fencing must occur prior to commencement of operations, in the location(s) shown on the TRPP.

10.2 Any unplanned incursions into the RPAs of retained trees must be immediately reported to the Project Arboriculturalist, who will attend the site to assess the potential impact of the unplanned incursion & decide whether to notify the Local Authority's specialist / Arboriculturalist.

10.3 No plant or machinery is to be used within 5m of any retained tree's root / stem junction.

10.4 The successful retention of those trees that remain on the Site is dependent upon the quality & maintenance of any protection system that is put in place. The accompanying, detailed AMS report demonstrates how the necessary tree protection strategies will be implemented and proposed mitigations will be effective.

10.5 An indicative draft Tree Retention & Protection Plan ('TRPP', at Appendix 2) is provided; however, this is subject to alteration following a final decision notice.

10.6 It is critical that all protective fencing is installed & erected, & the Construction Exclusion Zone, (CEZ), enforced prior to the commencement of any works on the Site. Following installation of tree protection, a Site meeting with the LPA's Tree Officer may be considered necessary to ensure satisfaction of all parties prior to any on-Site works commencing.

10.7 It is recommended that a suitable competent arboriculturist undertakes the site supervision & monitoring works – & be recognised as the Project Arboriculturalist.

10.8 Any access facilitation pruning works should be completed before the erection of any tree protection fencing. Pruning works should be undertaken by a professional & reputable contracting arborist & should adhere to the operational works methodologies as set out in the guidance document 'BS3998 – Tree Works: recommendations'

10.9 In order for tree and root protection measures to work effectively all personnel associated with any demolition & construction processes must be familiar with the Tree Protection and Retention Plan.

11.0 References

11.1.1 British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendation'.

11.1.2 British Standard 3998:2010 ‘Tree work – Recommendations’.

11.1.3 BS8545:2014 Trees: ‘From nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations’.

11.1.4 The Forestry Act 1967.

11.1.5 The Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

11.1.6 The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.

11.17 APN 12, Through the Trees to Development, Arboricultural Advisory and Information Service. Derek Patch and Ben Holding.

11.18 The National Planning Policy Framework, (August 2026 revision).

11.19 Horsham District Planning Framework, (2015)

12.0 Appendices:

Appendix 1: Schedules
Appendix 2: Plans
Appendix 3: Tree Protection
Appendix 4: Screenshots relevant to the proposed development
Appendix 5: Report Limitations
Appendix 6: Arboricultural Survey: methodologies
Appendix 7: Summary of author's qualifications and experience

Appendix 1: Schedules

Schedule 1: Cascade chart for tree quality assessment:

Table 1 - Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment

Category and Definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on Plan
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	▪ Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning); ▪ Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline; and/or ▪ Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality *NOTE: Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7*			Dark Red
Trees to be considered for retention				
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	**2 Mainly landscape qualities**	**3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation**	
Category A **Trees of high quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that Are essential components of groups or formal or semiformal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue).	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features.	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g., veteran trees or wood-pasture).	Light Green
Category B **Trees of moderate** quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation.	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality.	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.	Mid Blue
Category C **Trees of low quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value.	Grey

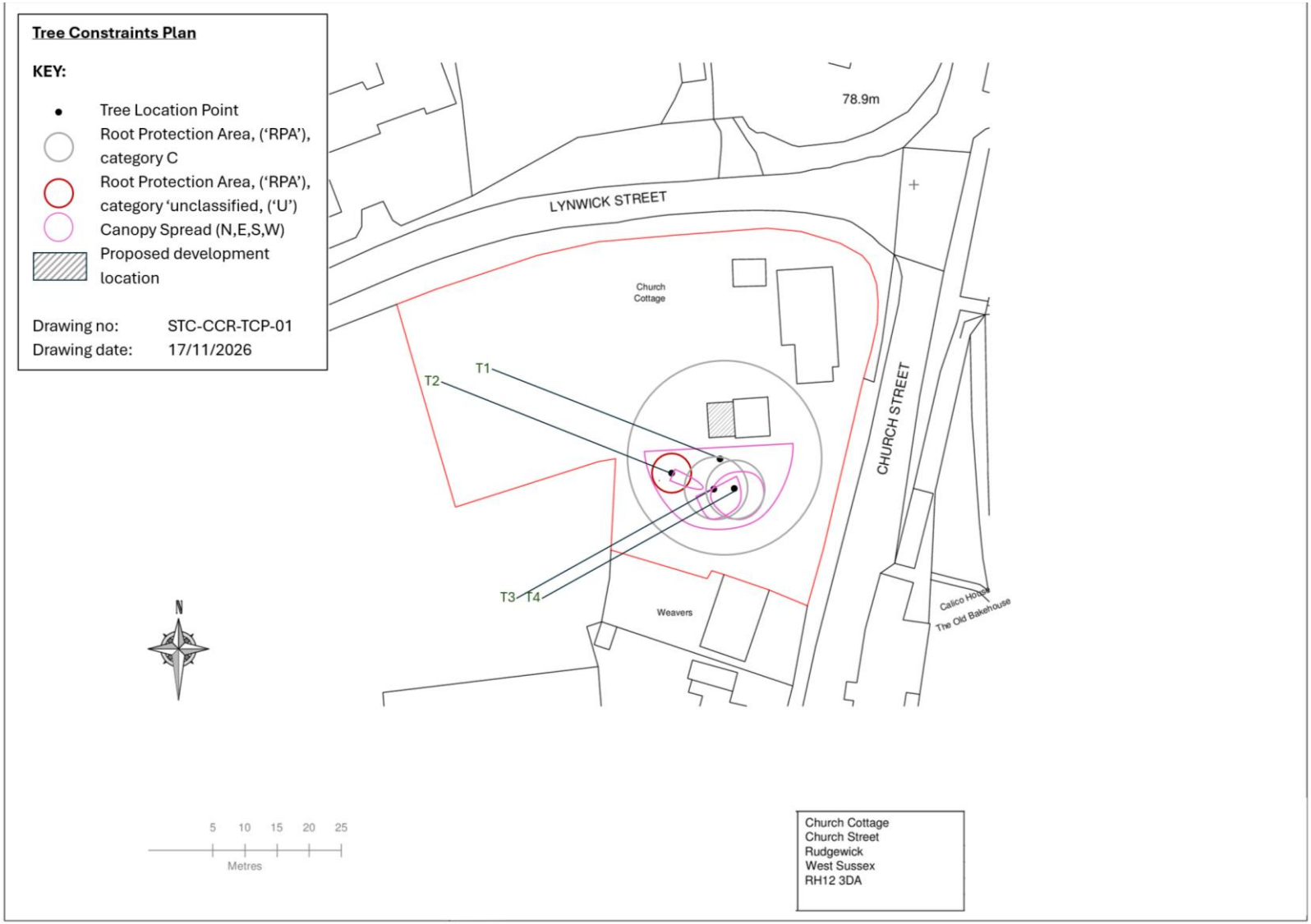
Schedule 2: BS:5837 Tree Survey:

Client Name: Mr & Mrs Thomas & Michele Ryan-McGrath
Site: Church Cottage, Church Street, Rudgwick, West Sussex, RH12 3DA
Ref: Full planning application

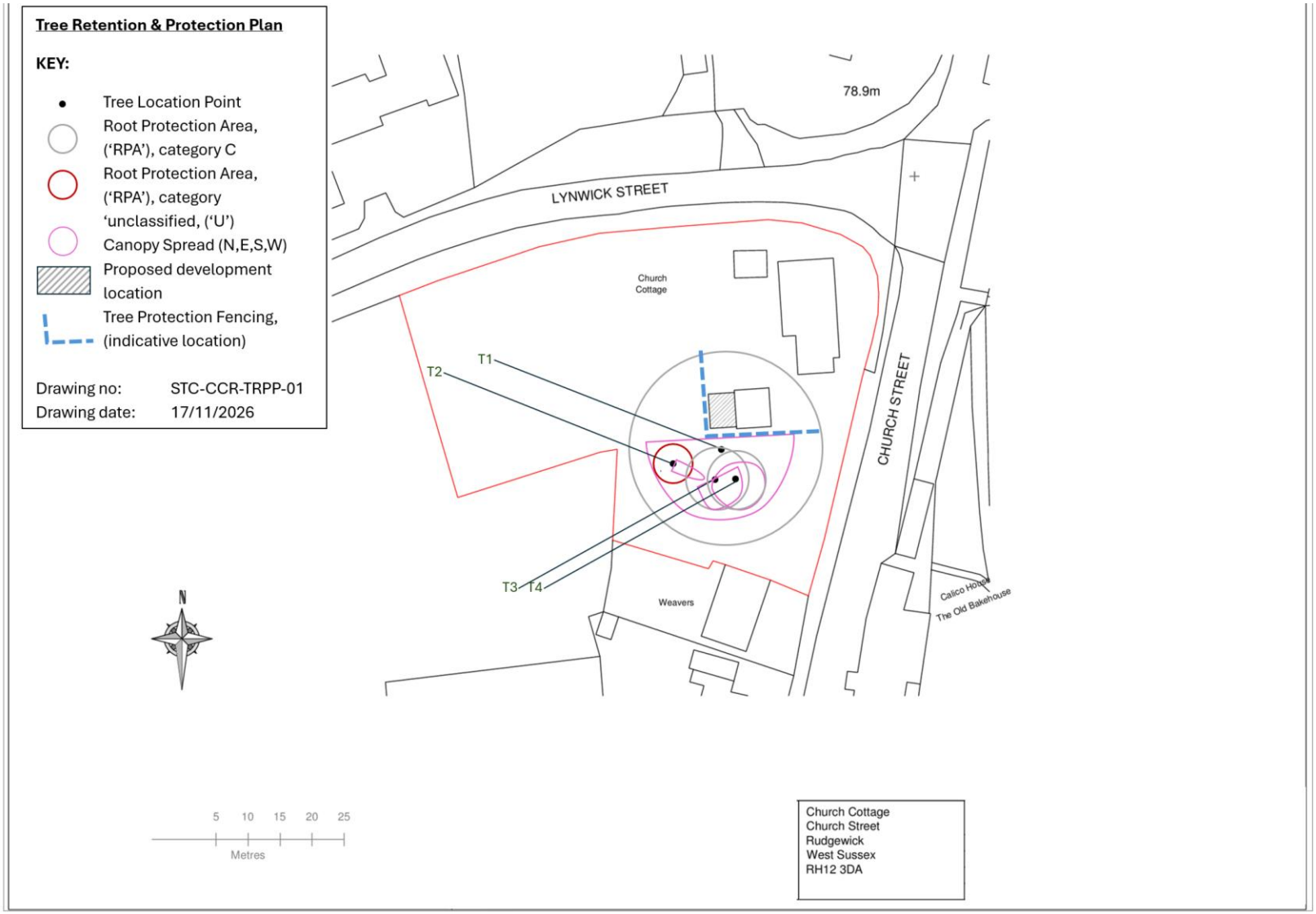
Consultant: N. Eddison
Survey Date: 11/11/2026

Tree No.	Species	Common name	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Crown Spread (North)	Crown Spread (East)	Crown Spread (South)	Crown Spread (West)	Crown Height AGL	Root Protection Area Radius (m)	Root Protection Area (m²)	Age	Bat habitat potential?	Condition	Risk	Category	Remedial Recommendations	Notes
T1	*Thuja plicata*	Western Red Cedar	10	2000+	2	6	6	6	1.75 N	15.00	707.00	Over-mature	Low	Fair	Low	C1	NWR	Multi-stemmed, with 2 major stems from GL & 5 from approx. 1.5m AGL, all significant diameter. Has recently had 2 significantly-sized scaffolds removed, (fresh pruning cuts), on N side, leaving tree unbalanced. Historically topped, (at 10m).
T2	*Malus spp.*	Apple	3.5	290	1	6	1	0	1 E	3.48	38.05	Mature	Low	Poor	Low	Unclassified	NWR	Tree has historically failed & collapsed; 3 'pheonix' stems remain
T3	*Pyrus communis*	Wild Pear	6	390	0	4	5	3	1.5 W	4.68	68.81	Mature	Low	Fair	Low	C1	NWR	Multistemmed from GL, (4). Unbalanced crown due to supression from T1
T4	*Malus spp.*	Apple	5	365	3	4	4	4	2 N	4.38	60.27	Mature	Medium	Fair	Low	C1	NWR	Bifurcates at approx. 1.5m AGL. Both stems have cavitation at bifurcation point, with significant hollowing internally
T5																		

Appendix 2: Plans – Tree Constraints Plan:



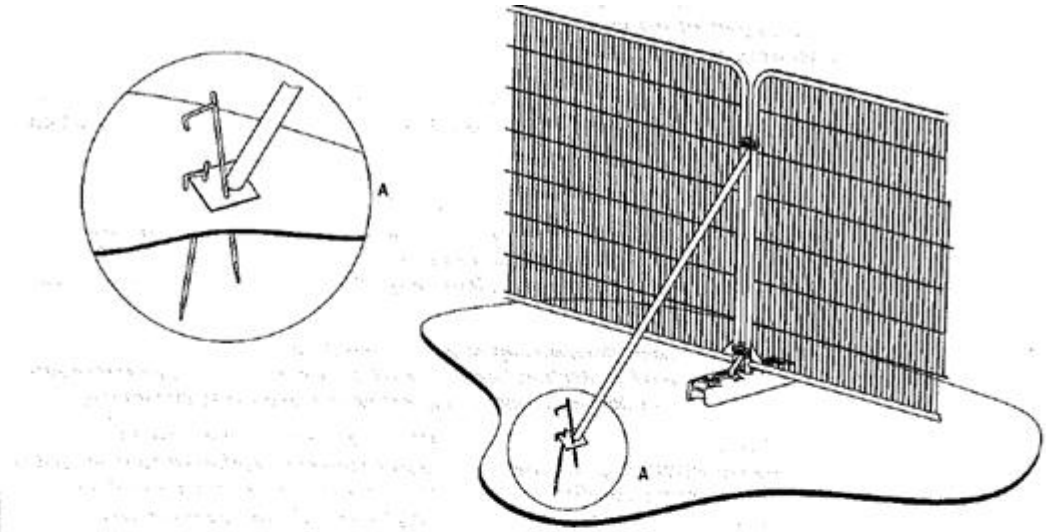
Appendix 2: Plans – Tree Retention and Protection Plan:



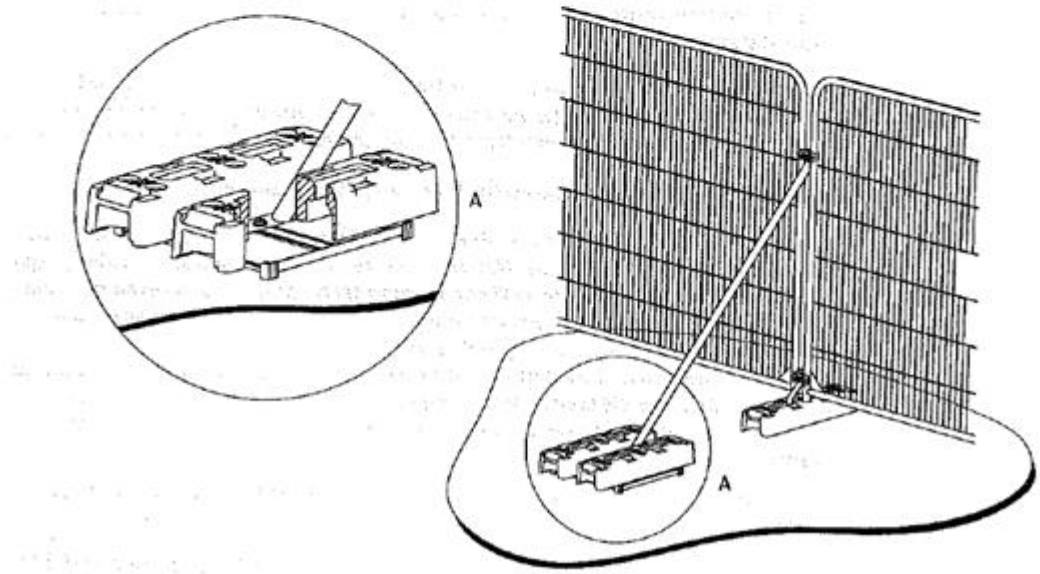
Appendix 3 Tree Protection:

Tree Protection Fencing – specifications:

BS5837 Recommended protective barrier (Fence A-Herras type fence)



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins



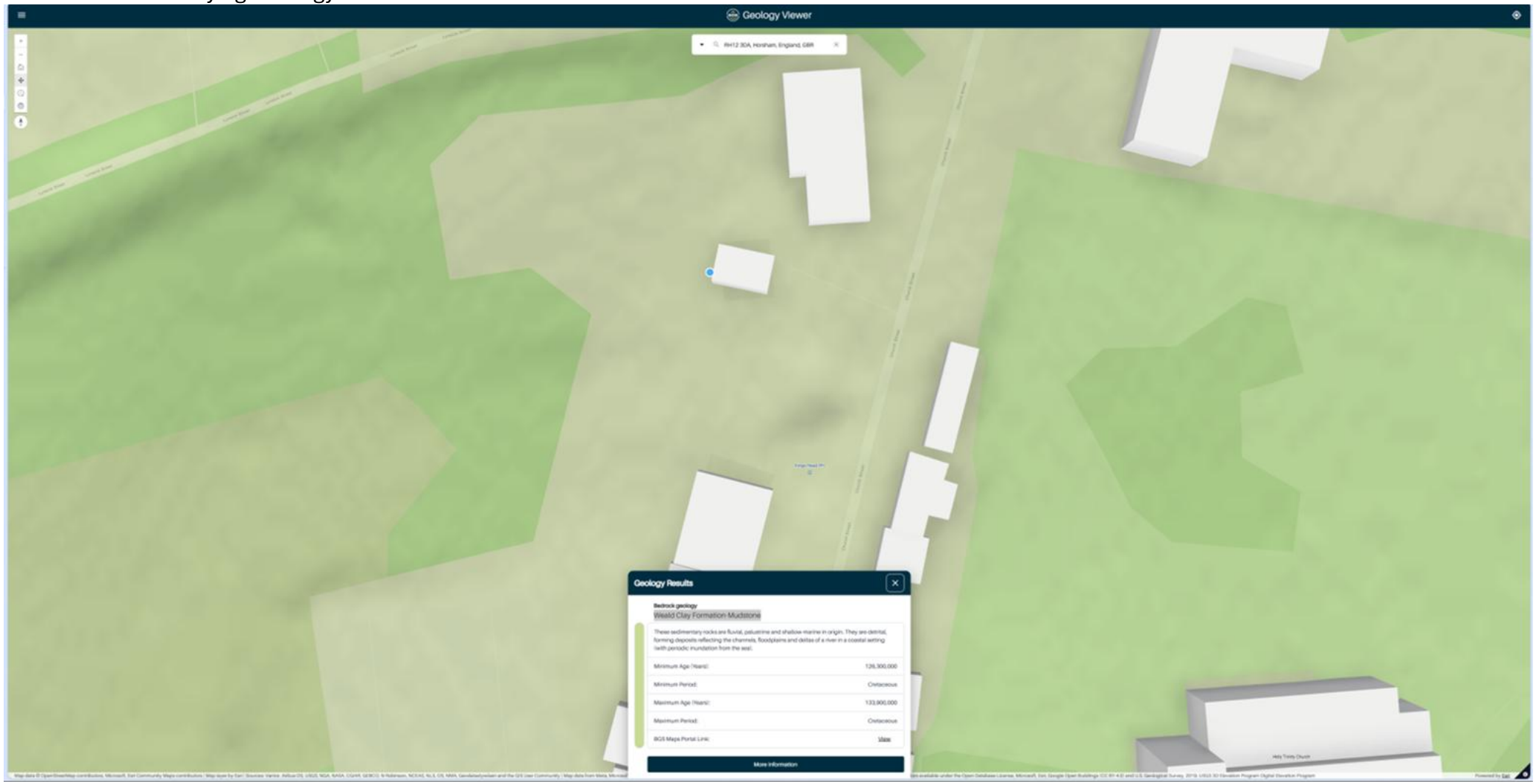
b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

Tree Protection Fencing – signage:



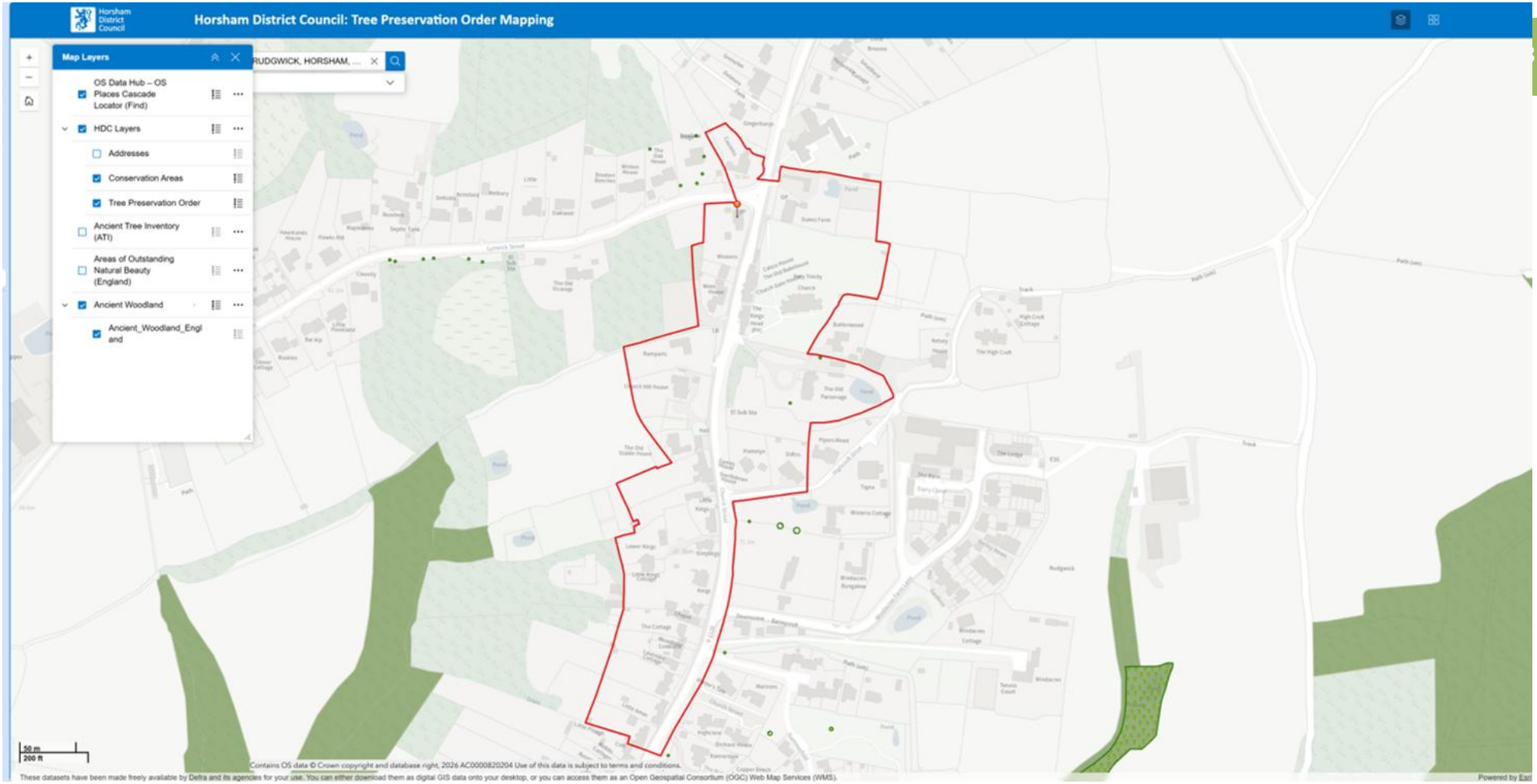
Appendix 4: Screenshots relevant to the proposed development:

BGS Underlying Geology:



Appendix 4: Screenshots relevant to the proposed development:

LPA's TPO/Conservation Area on-line map checking facility & details of TPO:



Church Cottage, Church Street, Rudgwick, West Sussex, RH12 3DA

Appendix 5: Report Limitations, (1.6.2 – 1.6.20)

1.6.2 The observations, assessments & analyses made are valid from the time of inspection. These, & any recommendations made, are subjected to the timescales detailed elsewhere in this report, applicable from time of surveying.

1.6.3 This is an arboricultural report & as such no reliance should be given to comments relating to buildings, engineering or soil.

1.6.4 The tree survey undertaken for this report not an arboricultural health & safety survey, a more detailed survey of internal decay detection etc. can be supplied but would be subject to a further fee.

1.6.5 This is a report which accompanies a planning application & provides no detail specifically in relation to the health & safety of the trees.

1.5.6 This report does not comment on the effects of surveyed trees in relation to any issues of subsidence or heave.

1.6.7 The analysis of the tree's / trees' status & assessments of condition, (in this report), are valid for 12 months from the date of site-survey. Any appraisals, & conclusions based thereon, will be invalidated & need reviewing in the event of material change/s to the site or site usage which result in any impact to the trees, (including their rooting zones), from the time of site-surveying, however minor. Consultation with The Sussex Tree Company, (STC), will be necessary, for clarification purposes, if there is any doubt as to whether any such changes materially affect the trees.

1.6.8 Formal assessment of topography, drainage, service conduits, soil conditions & the like are outside the scope of this report. Topographical surveying for the development project has not been undertaken, although there are contours shown on the 'As Existing Site Plan', the TCP & the TRPP.

1.6.9 Other specialist arboricultural surveys (e.g., root collar examination or sonic tomography) have not been conducted & are beyond the scope of this report.

1.6.10 Specific laboratory investigations of soil properties (plasticity index, moisture content, suction pressure) have not been made & are beyond the scope of this report.

1.6.11 Where further inspections of particular trees, (or features of trees), are made as recommendations in this report, an additional or updated report must be submitted following these inspections; either as a new report or part of a re-edit of the comprehensive report. The findings for the re-inspected trees are ***only*** valid for 12 months from the time of re-inspection. Any inspections are chargeable.

1.6.12 Trees are growing dynamic structures. Whilst reasonable effort is made to identify

defects within the trees inspected, no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree. No tree is ever absolutely safe due to the unpredictable laws & forces of nature. As a result of this, natural failure of intact trees will occur; extreme climatic conditions can cause damage to even apparently healthy trees.

1.6.13 Trees are living organisms & as such are subject to change through the natural occurrence of growth, maturation & senescence – as well as in response to naturally occurring events outside of human control & influence. When the inspected tree/s experience naturally occurring events materially affecting their status, the findings in this report will be invalidated; re-inspection may be necessary to meet the thresholds for duty-of-care liabilities. Such events can be, (but are not limited to): strong, storm winds; extremely heavy, sustained & unusual rainfall resulting in sustained waterlogging of rooting zones; significant periods of drought/low rainfall; or heavy, settled snowfall. Any re-inspections are chargeable.

1.6.14 This report will seek to clarify the existence or otherwise of statutory protections on trees for the site & publish findings. However, should any operational works be commissioned because of the survey it is incumbent on the contractor undertaking those works to seek clarification from the Local Planning Authority & give any notifications / seek any permissions should protections be in place & not covered by the granting of the proposed project's planning permissions. The LPA, (Horsham District Council), has been contacted to determine whether any statutory protections to trees at the Site exist; their on-line TPO / Conservation Area checking information was accessed & it shows that there are statutory protections to trees at the Site; there is no TPO in force on the Site, but the Site is subject to Conservation Area status.

1.6.15 Should any tree works be commissioned as a result of recommendations made in the Tree Survey the commissioned contractors should adhere to BS:3998 – 2010: Tree work; Recommendations.

1.6.16 On undertaking the recommended works, the arborist / tree surgeon must without delay report any defects that become apparent while climbing or working on the tree/s in question. Those defects must be reported immediately to the relevant project manager, landowner &/or the author of this report to enable the appropriate remedial action.

1.6.17 The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 provides statutory protection to birds' nests whilst under construction or in use, & any contents therein. Any species listed in the Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2017, are also protected, (commonly known as 'European Protected Species' – 'EPS'). Some may create habitats within trees. This is particularly relevant to bats as trees & features of trees can provide roosts. All bats & their roosts are protected. Whilst this report does make an assessment to the likelihood or otherwise of bat roosts, this is indicative & cannot be relied upon, as all observations are made from ground level. It is incumbent on any contractor

undertaking operational works to ensure appropriate aerial checks are made for EPS before commencement of works with the potential to disturb or destroy a roost.

1.6.18 This is an arboricultural report & therefore does not rely on ecological or archaeological data. If either is commented upon within the report further professional advice should be sought.

1.6.19 To achieve the study objectives stated in this report, STC were required to base our conclusions on the best information available during the period of the investigation & within the limits prescribed by our client in the agreement. No investigative method can completely eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise or incomplete information. Thus, we cannot guarantee that the investigations completely defined the degree or extent of e.g., species abundances or habitat management efficacy described in the report.

1.6.20 All rights in this report are reserved for the commissioning client & The Sussex Tree Company. The report or its constituent contents may not be lent, sold, hired out or divulged to any 3rd party not directly involved with the development project unless permission is sought & obtained from The Sussex Tree Company.

Appendix 6: Arboricultural Survey – methodologies:

Arboricultural survey

- On-site analysis follows the VTA practice, developed by Prof. Dr. Claus Mattheck & published by Lonsdale, (VTA: 1999); all observations are made from ground level.
- Assessment uses the guidance for survey requirements & categorisation uses the Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment, (Appendix 1), both taken from BS 5837: 2012. Recorded trees have been given a reference number which can be found within the Tree Survey, & on the supplied drawings.
- Assessment is based around the useful life expectancy of the tree(s) & their condition & their contribution to the amenity value of the environment – categorised using four letters, the values of which are described in Appendix 1, Schedule 1.
- Branch spread, in general, has been measured on four sides together correlating to the compass points: north; east; south; west. Stem diameters are measured at 1.3m above ground.
- Current tree heights have been measured using a HAGLOFF clinometer, except where trees are inaccessible, when measurements will have been estimated, &, if possible, using Pythagoras' theory of trigonometry.
- Where, due to local constraints such as impenetrable vegetation or tree location in

private property to which direct access to trees was not possible, field data will have been estimated & referenced in the data with shading, (grey) &/or an (E) beside the figure.

Ash die-back disease

- Following reports of ash dieback disease, first reported in 2012 and caused by the fungus *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus,* there is concern over the future health of ash trees in the UK. Any categorisation of ash trees within this survey are based around the condition at the time of surveying & life expectancy in a normal environment.

- Where Ash trees are found to have the disease, they will fall into a C or U category, (dependent on contemporary research findings).

- More information can be found on the Forestry Commission's web page: http://www.forestry.gov.uk/planthealth

Glossary / key to interpreting tree survey data sheet

- **Tree/**group **of trees number:** where trees have historic tree-tag numbers attached to their stems, the tag number is used for identification. Where there are not tags, a number is attributed to each tree or group of trees surveyed & corresponds to marked areas on the Tree Location Plan(s).

- **Species:** the botanical & common names for each tree or group of trees is provided.

- **Height:** an estimated height is given in metres; although a clinometer is used, these devices are not infallible. Precise ways to obtain tree height are by either climbing to the highest growth tip and measuring from there to ground level; or to using Pythagoras' theory of trigonometry to mathematically calculate height – however, the Haglöf clinometer STC use estimates within tolerable levels of accuracy.

- **DBH range:** an estimation of the tree's diameter at breast height is given, measured in millimeters and in ranges of 75mm. The typical DBH reading is taken at around 4.5ft or 1.37m AGL – diameters are taken at 'breast height' to avoid potential inaccurate readings at ground level, where buttressing of roots is common for many species.

- **Age Class:** a subjective judgment on the extent of maturation of each tree or group of trees surveyed; each value is based on the report author's knowledge of the particular species of tree in question & is judged against the average length of life for the species in an 'ideal' or 'usual' surrounding environment. The categorisation used is:
  - Newly planted
  - Juvenile
  - Semi-mature
  - Mature

- Over-mature
- Veteran
- Dead specimen

- **Bat Habitat Potential:** an assessment of the tree or its features and the likelihood whether these present a suitable potential habitat for bats or other EPS. The categorisation used is:

  - n/a
  - Low
  - Medium
  - High

- **Condition:** an appraisal of the tree or group of trees present overall structural status and physiological health, as well as any significant pre-existing external environmental impacts. The categorisation used is:

  - n/a
  - Dead
  - Poor
  - Fair
  - Good

- **Risk Rating:** an assessment of the observed hazards presented by the tree/group of trees & associated features, & the categorisation of the severity of risk these present to persons or property. The categorisation used is:

Low	potential risk to damage persons or property is within tolerable levels; harm is not likely to occur within the next 12-24 months
Medium	potential risk to damage persons or property is of a medium likelihood; harm may occur within the next 6-12 months
High	potential risk to damage persons or property is of a high likelihood; harm may occur within the next 3-6 months
Immediate	potential risk to damage persons or property is immediately likely; harm may occur immanently

- **Remedial recommendations:** enacting the recommendations for work given will mitigate or remove any hazard observed & lower the tree/group of trees' risk rating to tolerable levels; this does not apply where the recommendation given is for further surveying, analysis or investigation – in such instances the report's recommended instructions must be followed & delivered, as if the risk rating for the tree/groups of trees were 'immediate'. Further recommendations made as a result of the re-surveying, assessment, analysis or investigation also must be followed & delivered to lower the tree/group of trees' risk rating to tolerable levels, (any associated timeframes will apply from the date of the re-surveying, assessment or investigation).

- **Abbreviations and glossary:** certain commonly used phrases have been abbreviated for ease of delivering this survey. These are listed below. Certain

technical terms used in arboriculture may appear in this report and their precise meaning may not be familiar to 'lay-people', so the author has supplied brief explanations. These are listed in the glossary below:

Abbreviations:	NWR –	No works recommended
	GL –	Ground level
	AGL –	Above ground level
	DBH –	Diameter at breast height
	VTA –	Visual tree analysis
	DOC –	Duty of Care
	CODIT –	Compartmentalisation of dysfunction/damage in trees

Glossary:

Access Facilitation Pruning – *description of an arboricultural operational task* – A one-off tree pruning operation necessary to provide access for operations on site, which, when complete, are without significant adverse impact on tree physiology or amenity value.

Aerial investigation and report – *a description of arboricultural consultancy practice* – to undertake an investigation of aerial sections of a tree, not observable from ground level, using a systematic approach; to analyse structural integrity and any observable features – recommended when the VTA analysis from ground level is incomplete/inconclusive and the consultant has seen a feature/s which require further investigation to decide on a risk-rating and/or works priority.

Arboriculturalist – *description of professional status* – person who has gained expertise in the field of trees, (with particular refence to construction projects), through relevant education, training & experience.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) – *arboricultural consultancy task for trees on development sites* – a study, undertaken by an arboriculturalist, to identify, evaluate & possibly mitigate the extent of direct & indirect impacts on existing trees that may arise as a result of the implementation of any site layout proposal.

Arboricultural Method Statement – *arboricultural consultancy task for trees on development sites* – a document describing the methodology for the implementation of any aspect of development that has potential to result in loss of or damage to a

retained or newly installed tree.

Bifurcated – *description of tree architecture* – when a tree has 2 distinct stems.

Cambium/cambial – *description of tree morphology* – the layer of cellular structure immediately behind the bark, where vascular tissues are created.

Cavity – *description of tree morphology* – a feature of a tree's architecture that is an incursion into the interior wood in some way, shape or form, usually formed as a result of a branch tearing away from the tree, pathogenic incursion or animal incursion, (or combination of all of these).

Canker – *description of tree morphology* – an area of bark/wood that exhibits dysfunctional growth patterns, often with localised degradation in structural integrity.

Construction Exclusion Zone – *arboricultural consultancy terminology* – an area based on the RPA where access is prohibited for the duration of the enabling & construction phases of a development project

Crown – *description of tree architecture* – the part of the tree distinct from the roots and stem(s), where most of the tree's leaves are, supported by primary, secondary, tertiary branches & twigs/shoots.

Drop-crotching – *description of arboricultural operational practice* – to prune a tree by selecting branches with terminal growth at the reduction's desired length from crown perimeter.

Epicormic – *description of tree morphology* – a type of branch/shoot growth emergent from adventitious buds or parenchyma tissue present within the layer of wood immediately below the tree's bark, (cambium). These branches attach to the tree's branches/stems in a way that is structurally much weaker than branch attachments made in the normal course of a tree's development.

Ganoderma applanatum – *a tree pathogen* – commonly known as the artist's bracket, artist's conk or bear bread. It is a wood-decay fungus that causes rot of the tree's heartwood. Its fruiting bodies are hard brackets that appear white at first and then later brown in colour.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ganoderma_applanatum

Internal investigation and report – *a description of arboricultural consultancy practice* – to undertake an investigation of the trees internal wood/wood structures using specialist equipment; either a Resistograph drill machine or a tomograph machine. These will give readings that when analysed can be interpreted by the arboricultural consultant to make judgments about the integrity or otherwise of the tree's internal wood structures & deduce/extract from these the likelihood of failure &/or recommendations to mitigate risks.

Kretzschmaria deusta – *a tree pathogen* – commonly known as 'brittle cinder' is a fungus and plant pathogen. It is a 'soft rot', preferentially degrading the cellulose, then later both the cellulose & lignin that make up wood cells. It colonises the lower stem &/or roots of living trees through injuries or by root contact with infected trees. It can result in sudden breakage/complete failure from the root/stem junction in otherwise apparently healthy trees. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kretzschmaria_deusta

Lesion – *description of tree morphology* – a small area of dysfunctional bark tissue.

Limb – *description of tree morphology* – branch.

Management recommendations – *arboricultural consultancy task for trees surveyed* – comments based on VTA observations, on the condition of the tree, group or woodland and recommendations for future works.

Monolith – *description of arboricultural operational practice* – to partially fell a tree, but leave a designated length, (above ground level), of stem standing; the remaining section is not considered a hazard & will become a site for wildlife habitation.

Re-trenchment pruning – *description of arboricultural operational practice* – crown reduction in late-mature & senescent trees to anticipate or keep pace with decline in the crown.

Root Protection Area, (RPA) – *arboricultural consultancy terminology* –a layout design tool showing the minimum area needed around a tree's stem to protect its subterranean rooting structures so as to maintain the tree's future viability, if left undisturbed.

Root/stem junction – *description of tree morphology* – where the root & the stem join.

Scaffold – *description of tree morphology* – a primary branch; one

that grows directly from the stem & acts as a support for secondary branching

Self-set – *description of a tree's origins* – when the tree has been naturally propagated, in other words, not planted by human agency.

Tree Constraints Plan– *a description of arboricultural consultancy task for trees on development sites* – a scale drawing showing the pre-existing trees, groups of trees & hedges, (& other landscape features), on the site of a proposed development as well as the footprint of the proposed development, thereby illustrating what, if any, constraints the tree-scape imposes.

Tree Protection Plan– *a description of arboricultural consultancy task for trees on development sites* – a scale drawing incorporating finalised design proposals for a development, showing locations & dimensions of retained trees, there RPAs & the location of tree and landscape protection measures; also, the locations of any new trees to be installed, (& any tree & landscape protection measures required for these).

Trifurcated – *description of tree architecture* – when a tree has 3 distinct stems

Union – *description of tree morphology* – a site within the tree's architecture where 2 branches or stems, (or combination of both), originate

Veteran Tree – *arboricultural specific terminology* – a tree that, by recognised criteria, shows up to 4 features of biological, cultural or aesthetic values that are characteristic of, but not exclusive to, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species. concerned. These might be large girth, habitat features, signs of crown retrenchment & hollowing of the stem.

Wound-wood/reaction wood – *description of tree physiology* – a type of wood grown by trees, distinct from wood grown in the usual course of development, & in reaction to a wounding event, as part of the CODIT defense strategy trees have. Wound-wood has greater strength properties than wood grown in the usual course of development.

Appendix 7: Summary of author's qualifications and experience

The author, Nicholas Eddison, has the following qualifications & experiences and has undertaken CPD as described, below:

i. Qualifications

BA (Honours): Politics, Philosophy and History, (Birkbeck College, University of London)

Level 4 Diploma in Arboriculture, (Merrist Wood)

LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection Certificate

Arboricultural Association Assessor for the Approved Contractor scheme

Assessor for the Level 4 qualification at Tree Life AC

Arboricultural Association Certificate in Undertaking Aerial Tree Inspections

Named Manager in the Arboricultural Association's approved contractor scheme for a medium/large business

Arboricultural Association Certificate in Risk Assessment for Commercial Arboriculture

Arboricultural Association Certificate in Subsidence Reporting in relation to Trees

Certificate in Bat Awareness Training: compliant with BS: 8596: 2015 – Surveying for Bats in Trees and Woodland

Arboricultural Association Certificate in Assessing Tree Risk – Likelihood of Failure

Arboricultural Association Certificate in Assessment of Tree Forks

NPTC Level 2 Certificates in: Chainsaw Cross-Cutting and Maintenance; Felling and Processing Trees up to 380mm; Tree Climbing and Aerial Rescue; Use of chainsaw from a Rope and Harness
Level 2 Award in Basic Electrical Knowledge, (Arboriculture)
City and Guilds: Signing and Guarding, (Chapter 8)

ii. Practical/relevant experience

15 years as a practicing Arboricultural Consultant
4.5years at director level as an Arboricultural Director
Assessor for the Arboricultural Association's Approved Contractor scheme.
Trainer of chainsaw maintenance & cross-cutting at Brinsbury College.
Over 30 years' experience as a practicing Climbing Arborist; in the domestic, commercial & civil arenas.
Over the preceding 10 years the author has undertaken & delivered multiple Tree Condition Survey Reports; BS:5837 Tree Surveys & Arboricultural Reports in support of planning applications; Aerial Inspection Reports; Subsidence Reports; Resistograph Internal Investigation Reports; Tree Hazard Assessment Report; also worked as Project Arboriculturalist for civil development projects.
Review board member for the Arboricultural Association's Guidance Notes: Tree Climbing and Aerial Rescue; Use of Tools in a Tree
Member of Trees and Design Action Group, (TDAG)
Technician Grade member of The Arboricultural Association

iii. Continuing professional development

The author periodically attends courses and lectures in order maintain his knowledge base & to further his learning and development. Examples of recently attended CPD events:

- Taught sessions for Thorough Inspection of LOLER equipment, (Arboriculture)
- Regular CPD sessions required for Assessors of the Arboricultural Association's Approved Contractor scheme.
- Arboricultural Association's seminar on the Approved Consultant scheme
- a training day for AutoCAD and the 'Keytree' application, from Keysoft solutions – September 2019;
- the most recent meeting of TDAG, (Trees in Design Action Group) – September 2019;
- a seminar in morphophysiology of trees at Barcham tree nursery – summer 2019;
- Arboricultural Association's Subsidence Reporting course – Spring 2019;
- Arboricultural Association's Aerial Tree Inspection course – Spring 2019;

- Arboricultural Association's Business Masterclass – Winter 2019;
- and Claus Mattheck's farewell lecture at Loughborough University in the summer of 2018.

The Sussex Tree Company:

We are providers of specialist services to the Arboricultural & Development industries in the UK:

Arboricultural Consultancy: all requirements are serviced.

Business-to-business advice & assistance for the arboricultural industry:

- For achieving compliance & award of Arboricultural Association approved contractor status
- For developing efficient & ergonomic business systems
- For developing efficient & intuitive financial reporting & management systems

All of the 3 service offerings improve businesses and generate increased growth in revenues, profits & in professionalism.

Development & Construction: we are a 'single-point of contact' for all tree-related requirements; from design/pre-planning to post-handover.

Visit our website at www.thesussextreecompany.co.uk for a comprehensive overview