

MOORS MEAD
HONETBRIDGE LANE
ASHURST
WEST SUSSEX
BN44 3AW

MARCH 2025

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Arboricultural Report and Arboricultural Implications Assessment

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report was instructed by Mr. and Mrs. Mason with regard to the proposed development at Moors Mead, Honeybridge Lane, Ashurst, West Sussex. The report details all trees over 75mm at 1.5m above ground level that are relevant to the siting of the proposed development. The position of the trees on the site is illustrated at **Appendix 1** on the plan.

1.2 The existing tree stock has been identified and graded in line with the current British Standard BS 5837 2012: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations to enable informed decisions to be made regarding tree retention. The report also details methods of construction to be implemented to safeguard the retained trees.

1.3 This report details the constraints placed on the proposed development from the rooting area of the trees below ground and above ground by their size and position.

1.4 This report will therefore inform the planning process for the proposed development to minimise any negative impact on the existing tree stock and ensure that retained trees shall be in harmony with the proposed development enabling their long-term retention.

2.0 SITE VISIT

2.1 The site visit was undertaken on 25th February 2024. The trees were surveyed visually, externally and from ground level only. No samples or internal decay detection readings were taken for further analysis. All dimensions have been measured unless stated otherwise. Weather conditions at the time of the survey were dry, overcast and still.

3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

3.1 The site is located near Ashurst village a rural location in West Sussex. It is a detached family home with a large garden and several trees on and adjacent to the site.

4.0 TREE SURVEY DATA

In accordance with BS 5837 2012: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations, the characteristics of single-stemmed trees over 75mm stem diameter measured at 1.5m above ground level have been recorded and they have been categorised in accordance with Table 1 of BS5837: 2012. The following tree data tables should be read in conjunction with the annotated site plan shown at **Appendix 1** and the legend on the page following the tables

Tree Number and Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Branch Spread (m)				Existing Height Above Ground Level of Canopy and 1st Significant Branch (m)	Age Class	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years) & Physiological Condition	Comments	BS Category & Tree Work Necessary for Development	RPA (m^2)	RPA (m)
			N	S	E	W							
T1 Oak *Quercus* sp.	10	770	4	7	7	7	2.5 2.5 E	M	20-40 F	Adjacent to driveway on edge on drainage ditch. Numerous old Ganoderma brackets at base south side. Lean twenty degrees east, good reaction wood. Telephone line runs through crown. **Advisory: Undertake Picus test to determine extent of decay in base and stem.**	B2 Retain and protect	272	9.3
T2 Oak *Quercus* sp.	9	800	4	8	4	4	2.5 3.5 E	M	40 + G	Adjacent to driveway. Dense Ivy extends up main stem onto scaffold limbs, limited inspection. Minor dead wood. **Advisory: Sever Ivy to allow inspection of obscured parts.**	B1 Retain and protect	290	9.6
T3 Apple *Malus* sp.	7	390	2.5	5	3	4	1 1 NW	M	20 G	Old orchard tree. No signs of recent management.	B1 Retain and protect	72	4.8

Tree Number and Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Branch Spread (m)				Existing Height Above Ground Level of Canopy and 1st Significant Branch (m)	Age Class	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years) & Physiological Condition	Comments	BS Category & Tree Work Necessary for Development	RPA (m^2)	RPA (m)
			N	S	E	W							
T4 Oak *Quercus* sp.	15	1000	9	11	10	9	3 2 NW	M	40 + Good	Outside of garden, on edge of drainage ditch, ownership unknown. Very dense Ivy extends up all scaffold limbs, limited inspection. Crown break at 3m, not visible. Piece of wire around stem at 1m. Form typical of species. **Advisory: Remove wire. Sever Ivy.**	B1 Retain and protect. Reduce laterals to give 1.5m clearance from proposed building	452	12
TG1 Apple *Malus* sp.	Up to 4.5	Average 200	16		17		1 1 W	SM EM	20 + F G	Small group of fruit trees. No signs of recent management.	B2 Remove six trees. Retain and protect the rest	18	2.4

Tree Number and Species	Height (m)	DBH (mm)	Branch Spread (m)				Existing Height Above Ground Level of Canopy and 1st Significant Branch (m)	Age Class	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years) & Physiological Condition	Comments	BS Category & Tree Work Necessary for Development	RPA (m^2)	RPA (m)
			N	S	E	W							
TG2 Common Ash, Horse Chestnut and Cherry *Fraxinus, Aesculus, Prunus* sp.	Up to 13	Max 300	9		17		2 2 N	SM EM	40 + F P	Along the northern boundary. West most Ash stem trifurcates at 0.3m, unions sound at time of inspection. Large Ash has buttress roots and minor die back at branch tips. Cherry dead. Horse Chestnut poor form.	B2 Remove Cherry. Retain and protect the rest.	41	3.6
TG3 Field Maple, Goat Willow *Acer, Salix* sp.	Up to 10	Average 200	15		8		1 3 W	SM EM	20 F	Unmanaged tree group outside garden boundary. Ownership unclear. No evidence of recent management.	B2 Retain and protect. Crown reduce Field Maple and two Willow to give 1.5m clearance from proposal	18	2.4

Key to Terms

- Identification numbers have been used and correspond to the site plan shown at **Appendix 1.**
- Vegetation type has been categorized as one of the following: Tree (T), Hedge (H), Shrub (S), Group (G), Stump (ST)
- Species are listed by common and botanical name where appropriate.
- Where possible, measurements have been made in accordance with the conventions detailed below. Where this was not possible, due to site conditions or the vegetation being in third party ownership, dimensions have been estimated. * Indicates estimated measurement.
- Height has been recorded to the nearest half metre.
- Stem diameter has been measured at 1.5m and recorded in millimetres, except where forking or swelling has meant that this is not possible, stem diameter has then been recorded at the narrowest point below these features. Multi-stemmed trees have had individual stems measured at 1.5m. Where this was not possible the actual height where the diameter was measured is recorded. G.L. = Ground Level.
- Crown spread has been recorded to the nearest half metre. Rounded up for dimensions up to 10m and the nearest whole metre for dimensions over 10m.
- Age class has been recorded as follows:

  Y Young recently planted or establishing tree that could be transplanted without specialist equipment, i.e. up to 12-14cms-stem girth.
  S/M Semi mature. An established tree but one that has not reached its potential ultimate height and has significant growth potential.
  E/M Early mature. A tree reaching its ultimate potential height, whose growth rate is slowing down but will increase in stem diameter and crown spread, and has a safe life expectancy.
  M Mature. A mature specimen with limited potential for any significant increase in size but with a reasonable safe life expectancy.
  O/M Over mature. A senescent or moribund specimen with a limited safe life expectancy. Possibly also containing significant structural defects with attendant safety and/or duty of care implications.

- Physiological Condition has been recorded as Good, Fair or Poor.
- Recommendations for tree management have been based on current Arboricultural Best Practice as set out by the Arboricultural profession and all relevant publications.

5.0 TREE QUALITY ASSESSMENT

5.1 The trees have been categorized according to BS5837: 2012 as a guide to their condition and value in terms of visual amenity.

5.2 The trees are coloured on the plan attached at **Appendix 1** and the colours are explained in the key of the plan.

6.0 ROOT PROTECTION AREAS

6.1 In accordance with BS5837: 2012, the root protection area (RPA) of the trees has been calculated and is shown in the tree data tables and on the RPA plan attached at **Appendix 2.**

7.0 LEGAL CONSTRAINTS

7.1 Horsham District Council's online mapping system shows none of the trees are subjects of a Tree Preservation Order and that the site is outside of a Conservation Area. This should be confirmed in wring prior to any tree works recommend in this report being undertaken.

8.0 ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT

8.1 Description of Proposed Development

It is proposed to establish a detached double garage/garden store with a room above,

8.2 Drawings Used

A site plan scale 1:200 was provided at the time of survey. It shows the proposed building. This has been used to prepare the Tree Quality Assessment Plan **Appendix 1**, the Root Protection Area Plan **Appendix 2** and **Appendix 3** Tree Protection Plan.

8.3 Direct Loss of Trees

Several fruit trees are to be removed to facilitate the proposal. Minor crown reductions of two Willows and a Field Maple within TG3 and T4 Oak will ensure adequate clearance from the proposal and prevent mechanical damage during the construction process.

8.4 Position of Trees in Relation to Proposed Development

It is not considered that the proposal will increase future pressure to fell any of the trees retained on the site.

8.5 Protective Barriers and Ground Protection

Protective Barriers

Protective barriers will be established prior to any construction taking place. The location of the barriers is shown on the Tree Protection Plans at **Appendices 3.**

Protective barriers in accordance with Figure 2 of BS 5837: 2012 (**Appendix 4)** should be erected around the trees to be retained. The fencing is to be supported with an appropriate stabilizing system (**Appendix 5**). Where possible, the positions of these fences should be based on a distance equivalent to the radius of each tree's RPA. All site personnel shall be made aware of the importance of root protection areas and shall ensure that they are properly maintained at all times. Once established the fencing will define the boundary of the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ).

Once erected all weather signage should be displayed stating 'Construction Exclusion Zone'.

No development works shall commence within the CEZ until written confirmation has been obtained from the Local Planning Authority. The project Arboriculturalist shall supervise all work within the RPAs.

Ground Protection

The existing gravel driveway affords ground protection to the rooting area of the T1 and parts of the RPA of T2 and T3.

If the driveway extension is not installed first ground protection will be required as detailed in the Arboricultural Method Statement section of this report.

8.6 Changes in Ground Surface within RPAs

There will be a change in part of the ground surface within the RPAs of T2 and T3 to allow access for vehicles to the garage. This will be a no –dig surface with a gravel top dressing.

8.7 Changes in Ground Level within the RPA

There are no proposed changes in ground level within the RPAs of the retained trees.

8.8 New Driveway Section

The new driveway section will be no-dig construction installed under Arboricultural supervision.

8.9 Foundations

The foundations will be mini augured piles so as to minimise the disruption within the RPAs of retained trees.

8.10 Services

No overhead services are to be installed.

At the time of writing no details on underground services have been supplied. If they are required details of design and methodology for their installation will be provided for approval by the Tree Officer.

It is hoped the existing service runs will suffice. If not where these are proposed within the RPA of any retained tree details for installation will be provided.

8.11 Access for Contractors and Storage of Materials.

There is adequate space on site for storage of materials and machinery outside of the RPAs of any retained tree on the exiting driveway.

9.0 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 The trees are predominately of a moderate quality and are significant within the locale.

9.2 The establishment of the protective barriers and ground protection (if required) should be supervised by the project Arboriculturalist and confirmation of adherence with the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan should be made to the Local Authority Tree Officer before any development starts.

9.3 Supervised operations within the RPA of retained trees will keep any disturbance to a minimum and ensure the trees are not adversely affected by the proposal.

9.4 Given these conclusions the following section 'Arboricultural Method Statement' details the recommendations/methodology for the construction of the proposed works in terms of the effect on trees on the site.

Details within this AIA are considered correct at the time of writing but modifications may need to be made as more information becomes available.

Important Notes

The comments made with regard to the health and stability of the trees within this report were correct at the time of inspection. It should be recognized that trees are dynamic structures that can never be completely predictable and may become unstable or partially unstable even in average weather conditions. Changes can occur not only to environmental triggers but also in response to biological or mechanical events.

Inspection Caveats

The inspection was carried out from ground level. Binoculars were used to observe features higher in the canopies.

Foliage, extension growth and/or bud proliferation were assessed visually.

No soil or tissue samples were taken during this inspection.

No invasive diagnostic equipment was used to detect decay.

A nylon hammer was used to test for possible decay and dead or loose bark around the lower stems and bases of the trees.

Ivy has been removed during the inspection process only where reasonable and practicable. Where this has not been possible it has been noted as a recommendation to be removed to allow detailed re-inspection.

No tree is ever absolutely safe due to the unpredictable laws and forces of nature.

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

1.0 CONTACT DETAILS

Architect	Nik Wood	Kingfisher Creative Architectural Design Ltd 4 Cherry Tree Close, Hunston, Chichester. PO20 1BG 07795 472663 nik_wood@me.com
Arboricultural Consultant	Sarah Johnston	Johnston Tree Consultancy 16 Manor Close, Wickham, Hampshire, PO17 5BZ 07814 403146 johnstontreeconsultancy@gmail.com
Local Authority Case Officer	Unknown at Present	Horsham District Council Parkside, Chart Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1RL 01403 215187 planning@horsham.gov.uk
Local Authority Tree Officer	Unknown at Present	Horsham District Council Parkside, Chart Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1RL 01403 215291 trees@horsham.gov.uk

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) has been produced in line with BS 5837 2012: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction-Recommendations to aid the successful retention of trees on and adjacent to the proposed development at Moors Mead, Honeybridge Lane, Ashurst. No development shall take place on the site until this document has been submitted to and approved in writing by Horsham District Council.

2.2 This document sets out the methodology for all proposed works that affect trees on and adjacent to the site. Compliance with this method statement will be a requirement of all relevant contracts associated with the development proposals. Copies of this document will be available on site for inspection.

2.3 For details of trees to be retained and location and types of special protection methods, reference should be made to the Tree Protection Plan (TPP). A copy of which should be displayed prominently on site.

3.0 PHASING OF DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Phase 1 – Pre Development Phase

Pre-Commencement Site Meeting

This is to take place with the project arboriculturalist, local authority tree officer and developer present to ensure the Arboricultural Method Statement is understood and agreed prior to any development taking place.

Protective Barriers

Tree protection measures to be installed under the supervision of the retained Arboriculturalist for all the trees.

The protective barriers erected will be in accordance with Figures 2 and 3 of BS 5837:2012 (**Appendix 4 and 5**) and will form the boundary of the construction exclusion zone (CEZ). Where feasible, the positions of the fencing will be based on a distance equivalent to the radius of each tree's RPA. Once erected all weather signage should be displayed stating 'Construction Exclusion Zone Keep Out'.

The barriers will be erected prior to demolition and then relocated once construction is to begin.

Ground Protection

This is to be established if the no-dig driveway is not constructed first.

It will comprise of 150mm wood chip placed on top of membrane and then have interlocking proprietary ground protection boards or 18mm marine ply laid on top.

Area for Mixing Materials and Storage

The storage of materials and equipment can be outside of the RPAs of any retained tree.

3.2 Phase 2 – Construction Phase

Protective Barriers and Ground Protection

Once established the protective barriers and ground protection are not to be moved without written consent from Horsham District Council.

Establishment of No-Dig Driveway

Ground preparation will ensure surface is as level as possible using hand tools only. Sharp sand or no fines aggregate will be used where it is necessary to infill larger areas.

A geo-textile membrane such as Fibretex F4M is to be secured in place with pins.

Placement of the cellular confinement system Cell Web 100mm (or similar product) will be stretched into position and pinned into place by reinforced steel pins.

The web is to be filled with 20/40 clean angular granite based aggregate raked into place. Note; as soon as the Web has been filled it can be used without causing damage to the rooting area below.

Roll out techniques should be used to ensure machinery is above the sub-base layer at all times.

Edging is to be comprised of sleepers pinned in place or gabions or other non-invasive ground contact structures.

Final surface details have not yet been provided but will most likely be gravel the same as the existing driveway.

4.0 GENERAL ARBORICULTURAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Protective barriers must be regarded as sacrosanct, and must only be moved under direct supervision of the LPA or named Arboriculturalist to enable the undertaking of works within the RPAs of trees, as set out in this AMS, and approved in writing by the LPA. It is of paramount importance the fencing is repositioned correctly after any agreed operations.

4.2 No materials, chemicals, machinery or vehicles must be stored within the RPAs as defined on the TPP and identified on site by protective fencing and aboveground root protection.

4.3 Ground protection must not be lifted or removed without prior consultation with the LPA or named Arboriculturalist.

4.4 Damage caused to protective fencing or ground protection must be reported to the site supervisor and the named Arboriculturalist to ensure appropriate repair.

4.5 Any damage to retained trees must be reported without delay to the site supervisor, the LPA and the named Arboriculturalist so appropriate remedial work can take place without delay.

4.6 No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health such as oil, bitumen or cement will be stored or discharged within 5 metres of the trunk of the retained trees or any other trees on the site.

4.7 No fires will be lit on site.

4.8 Notice boards, telephone cables or any other signage or services are not to be attached to any part of the retained trees.

5.0 SUPERVISION AND MONITORING

5.1 The project Arboriculturalist shall be responsible for monitoring/supervising the following works.

- Establishment of protective barriers/ground protection
- Pre-commencement site meeting if requested by Horsham District Council
- Establishment of the no-dig driveway.

5.2 The project Arboricultural Consultant will be responsible for periodical monitoring and will inspect the protective fencing to ensure the CEZ is intact and monitor any works necessary within the exclusion zone. A record of site visits will be maintained for inspection on site and copies forwarded to the agent and planning authority when requested.

Please note this AMS is not a contract. The retention and services of a project Arboriculturist for supervision and monitoring must be agreed prior to commencement of construction operations

CREDENTIALS OF THE AUTHOR

Sarah Johnston M. Arbor. A., B.Sc. Arboriculture has worked in the Arboricultural profession for twenty one years. Her experience has been gained from undertaking practical tree work as well as working as an Arboricultural Surveyor and Tree Officer for Eastleigh and Havant Borough Councils respectively. In addition Sarah worked as a consultant for Marishal Thompson for two years from 2005 when she became self-employed. Sarah is a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association and holds Professional Indemnity Insurance.