



Preliminary arboricultural assessment

Waterloo Park, Elettra Avenue, Waterlooville

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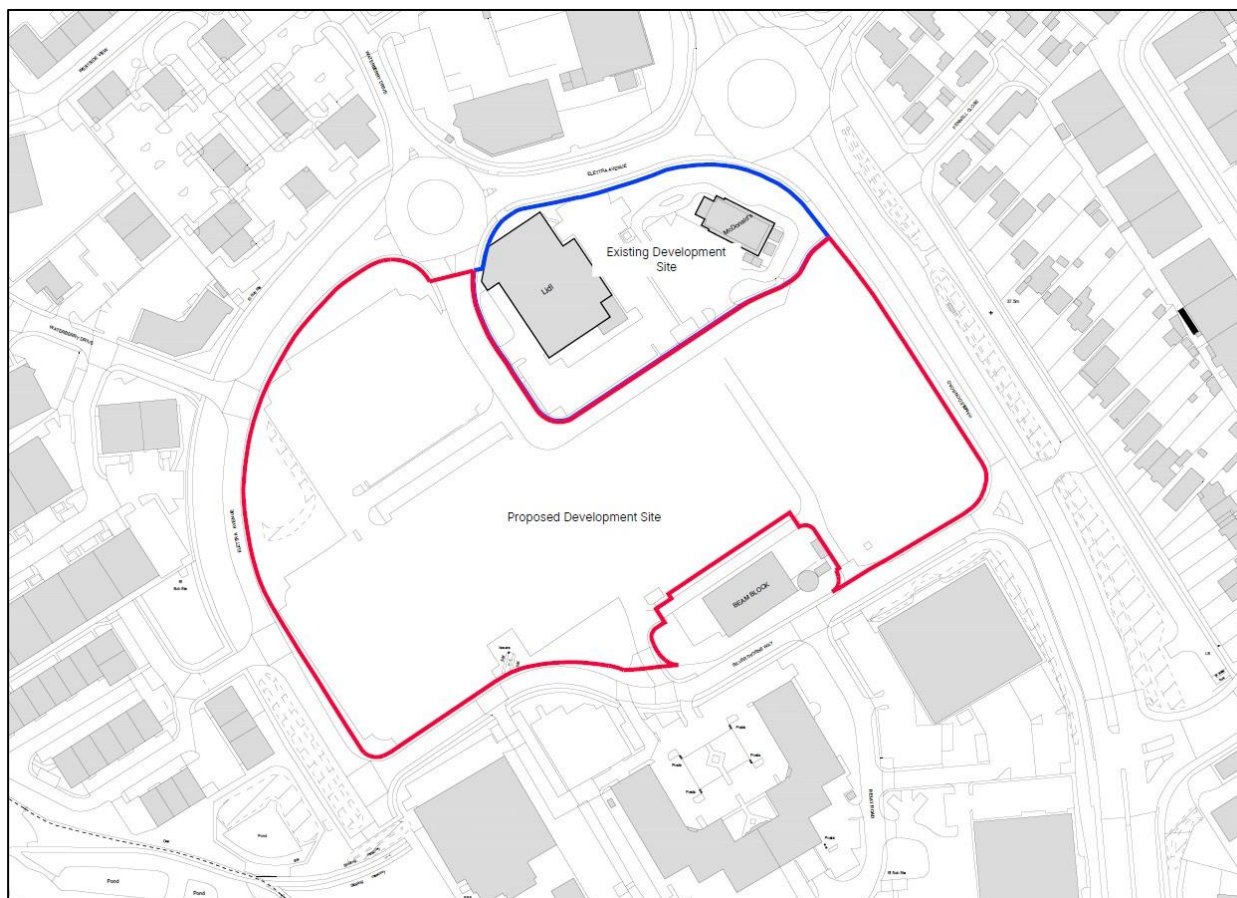


2nd September 2024

15217-PrelimAIA-CA

Site location and report purpose

Site location



The site location is outlined in red.

Report purpose

This preliminary arboricultural assessment report is a discussion document for use in a planning pre-application context. It describes the trees on and near the site, summarising what the impact of the development proposal on those trees will be, and indicating how any adverse impact could be mitigated. Its primary purpose is for the local planning authority (LPA) to review the tree information to help identify any significant issues in advance of a full planning submission. As its status is preliminary, explanations are kept to a minimum, to be expanded upon when the report is finalised for submission purposes.

More specifically, the purpose of the outline application is to seek approval from Havant Borough Council (HBC) for the access and use of the site, with all other matters reserved.

This report includes:

- A **Pre-application tree plan** illustrating the location of the trees, their categories and their RPAs.
- A **Preliminary arboricultural assessment** providing an analysis of the tree issues to assist the LPA in assessing the impact on local character.
- **Appendices (Appendix 1 – Background administrative information and data collection; and, Appendix 2 – Tree schedule and explanatory notes).**

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1.1 Summary of trees affected and protected by the proposal

At this stage the only trees likely to be required for removal are part of G21 for the western access, and G22 which are an internal area of scrub and small trees located close to the western boundary. These are all low quality trees with very little potential to contribute to local character because there are significant retained trees around the boundary that will buffer any loss to the extent that there will be no impact on local character.

Note on types of protection: All retained trees will be protected during development by using fencing.

Note on RPA adjustment: Special precautions are only necessary where encroachment into RPAs occurs. If the extent of RPAs can be adjusted within the guidance set out in BS 5837, affected trees will be shown for retention with the use of special precautions.

Note on category U trees: Trees categorised as U (T4, T6, T9, T17 and G25) are in such poor condition that they have been assessed as needing removal for management reasons irrespective of any development proposals. Removal of any category U trees will be a management decision and not caused by this proposal, so should not be considered a direct impact.

1.2 The impact of tree pruning on local character

Other than pruning for normal maintenance, no trees will be pruned because of this development.

1.3 Special precautions to limit RPA encroachment impact

Most of the site is hard surfaced, and it is not anticipated that any of the retained trees will be affected by encroachment into their RPAs.

1.4 Post development considerations

I assess that there will be no adverse impacts on retained trees once the development is completed and occupied.

1.5 New tree planting to enhance local character

New tree planting is feasible as a means of supplementing retained trees and enhancing local character, which could include heavy-standard or semi-mature specimens. The final selection of species, size, and location would be matters to be agreed with the LPA through a planning condition. All new trees will be specified and planted in accordance with the recommendations in BS 8545 (2014) *Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape –Recommendations*. My preliminary assessment is that there is sufficient space for new trees to be planted in locations where they will have the potential to reach a significant height without excessive inconvenience and be sustainable into the long term, significantly improving the potential of the site to contribute to local character.

1.6 Clarifications to be provided with the full planning submission

The successful retention of trees depends on the quality of the protection and the administrative procedures to ensure those protective measures remain in place whilst there is a risk of damage. An effective means of doing this is through an arboricultural method statement that can be specifically referred to in a planning condition. Implementation of a suitable method statement



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will allow all the retained trees to survive without any adverse impact and allow them to continue to contribute to local amenity and character.

From this preliminary appraisal, issues that will require detailed explanation in an arboricultural method statement and direct reference in a planning condition include:

1. Pre-commencement meeting
2. Preliminary tree felling and pruning
3. Installation of CEZ barriers (fencing and/or ground protection)
4. Upgrading existing surfacing
5. Installation of new services or upgrading of existing services
6. Removal of protective measures
7. Tree planting and general landscaping
8. Programming of tree protection
9. Arboricultural supervision

1.7 Summary of impact on local character

In summary, if the specification and implementation of appropriate measures to protect the retained trees are secured through planning conditions requiring a formal arboricultural method statement, the development proposal will have no significant impact on the contribution of trees to character in the wider setting. Indeed, new planting proposals will increase the potential of the site to contribute to local character well beyond the short term.

Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

A1.1 Table 2: Background administrative information

	Background administrative information
Report date & reference	2 nd September 2024; 15217-PrelimAIA-CA
Tree protection plan reference	15217-4
Instructing client	Hargreaves Properties Ltd
Instructions	Visit the site, assess the relevant trees, prepare a schedule of their details, describe the impact of the proposal on those trees and identify the tree protection issues in an arboricultural method statement confined to a heads of terms with a tree protection plan, if appropriate.
Provided documents	Topographical survey, drawing reference W15306_3DSX.dwg, received by email on 24 th May 2024
Report author and credentials	Chris Alder is a Chartered Forester (www.charteredforesters.org), and a Fellow and Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association (www.trees.org.uk), and is fully qualified to undertake the assessments in this report (https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/who-we-are/).
Report limitations	This report does not consider ecological or archaeological issues, or any other matter beyond the assessment of the trees.
Technical references	In preparing the analysis in this report, we considered the guidance and advice in the following technical references: • Climate Change Act (2008) www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents • Town and Country Planning Act 1990 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/contents • National Planning Policy Framework, published by the MHCLG www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2 • BS 5837 (2012) <i>Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations</i>, BSI https://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail?pid=000000000030213642 • BS 8545 (2014) <i>Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations</i>, https://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail?pid=000000000030219672 • BS 3998 (2010) <i>Tree work – Recommendations</i>, https://shop.bsigroup.com/ProductDetail?pid=000000000030089960 • <i>Trees in the Townscape: A Guide for Decision Makers</i>, published by the Trees & Design Action Group http://www.tdag.org.uk/ • <i>Trees in Hard Landscapes: A Guide for Delivery</i>, published by the Trees & Design Action Group www.tdag.org.uk/ • National Joint Utilities Group (2007) Volume 4, Issue 2: <i>Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees</i> http://streetworks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/V4-Trees-Issue-2-16-11-2007.pdf



Appendix 1: Background administrative information and data collection

A1.2 Table 3: Data collection

	Data collection
Date of site visit	29 th May 2024
People present during site visit	Chris Alder
Weather & visibility	Clear and dry with good visibility
Limitations to observations	• The inspection of the trees for the purposes of assessing their condition and work requirements was made on the basis that they will be annually inspected in the future to identify any changes in condition and review the original recommendations. For these reasons, the tree assessment advice only remains valid for one year from the date that the trees were last inspected. • All observations were of a preliminary nature and did not involve any climbing or detailed investigation beyond what was visible from accessible points at ground level. • Observations of trees outside the site boundaries are confined to what was visible from within the site. • All dimensions were estimated unless otherwise indicated.
Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), Conservation Areas, and tree categorisation	We have checked the Havant Borough Council and none of the trees are subject to statutory protection.
Tree location and numbering	Each tree, hedge, and group was inspected, and the numbering scheme is indicated on the tree protection plan. Where important trees were found on site that were not included on the provided plan, their approximate positions and canopy extents are shown on the plan.
Recording of tree data	For each identified tree, hedge, and group, the information collected was recorded on the tree schedule in Appendix 2 and the tree protection plan.
Crown spreads	Crown radial spreads were estimated to the nearest metre and represent our assessment of the viable crown dimensions that would be retainable after normal management. For clarification, the viable crown spread is the size of the main body of the crown, and not necessarily the furthest extent of odd branches that extend out beyond this core of the crown.
Compliance of data collection with BS 5837	The data collection is fully compliant with the advice in subsection 4.4.2 of BS 5837. When collecting this information, specific consideration was given to any low branches that may influence future use, age class, physiological condition, structural condition, and remaining contribution. Where appropriate, crown spreads were also noted where they differed from those shown on the provided land survey.
Calculation of RPAs	Following the recommendations in Table D1 of BS 5837, the diameter of each tree was rounded up to the next 2.5 cm increment, with the radius of a nominal circle and the resultant RPA taken directly from that table. This information is listed for each tree in the tree schedule in Appendix 2.



Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

NOTE: Colour annotation is A & B trees with green background; C & U trees with blue background; trees to be removed in red text.

Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Diameter (cm) @ 1.5 m	Maturity	Low Branches	Category	Notes	RPA radius (m)
T 1	White willow	8	40*	Maturing		C	Small tree, very dense undergrowth unable to access	4.8
T 2	Sycamore	10	45*	Mature		B	Dense undergrowth unable to access	5.4
T 3	Sycamore	8	25*	Maturing		C	Not shown on original topo, location approximate. Small tree	3
T 4	Ash	16	55*	Mature		U	Advanced ash dieback	6.6
T 5	White willow	6	35*	Maturing		C	Small tree	4.2
T 6	Ash	16	60*	Mature		U	Advanced ash dieback	7.2
G 7	White willow	7	25*	Maturing		C	Small trees	3
T 8	Sycamore	10	50	Mature		B	Dense undergrowth	6
T 9	Ash	18	55*	Mature		U	Advanced ash dieback	6.6
T 10	Sycamore	11	45*	Mature		C	One sided crown	5.4
T 11	Sycamore	15	50*	Mature		B	Multi stems from 2 m	6
T 12	Sycamore	13	45*	Mature		C	Chlorotic foliage, poor	5.4
H 13	Leyland cypress	10	30*	Mature		C	Overgrown hedge	3.6
G 14	Norway maple, red oak	14	45*	Mature		B	Off site, dense group	5.4
G 15	White willow	15	45*	Mature		C	Previously topped at 4 m	5.4
T 16	Oak	12	90*	Mature		C	Advanced decline and dieback	10.8
T 17	Oak	8	60*	Over mature		U	Dead	7.2
H 18	Hawthorn, ash, sycamore	3	15*	Mature		C	Overgrown hedge	1.8
T 19	Norway maple	10	50*	Mature		B	Dense undergrowth, companion tree	6
T 20	Norway maple	14	45*	Mature		B	Dense undergrowth, companion tree	5.4



Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Diameter (cm) @ 1.5 m	Maturity	Low Branches	Category	Notes	RPA radius (m)
G 21	Blackthorn, dog rose, white willow, sycamore, hawthorn	6	20*	Maturing		C	Not shown on original topo, location approximate. Overgrown hedge and small trees	2.4
G 22	Sycamore, dog rose, blackthorn, hawthorn, ash	5	15*	Maturing		C	Not shown on original topo, location approximate. Overgrown scrub and small trees	1.8
G 23	White willow	12	40*	Mature		C	Linear group, overgrown, previously topped	4.8
G 24	White willow	11	45*	Mature		C	Dense linear group, previously topped	5.4
G 25	White willow	8	35*	Mature		U	Dead	4.2
G 26	White willow	10	45*	Mature		C	Not shown on original topo, location approximate. Overgrown	5.4
G 27	Blackthorn, hawthorn, sycamore	4	15*	Maturing		C	Not shown on original topo, location approximate. Dense scrub and small trees	1.8

Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

Explanatory Notes

G: Group
H: Hedge
T: Tree

- **Botanical tree names:**

Ash	: <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Blackthorn	: <i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Dog rose	: <i>Rosa canina</i>
Hawthorn	: <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Leyland cypress	: <i>X Cuprocyparis leylandii</i>
Norway maple	: <i>Acer platanoides</i>
Oak	: <i>Quercus robur</i>
Red oak	: <i>Quercus rubra</i>
Sycamore	: <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
White willow	: <i>Salix alba</i>

- **BS 5837 (2012) compliance:** All data has been collected based on the recommendations set out in subsection 4.4 of BS 5837.
- **Tree inspections and site limitations:** Each tree was subjected to a quick visual check level of inspection. Where there is restricted access to the base of a tree, its attributes are assessed from the nearest point of access. Climbing inspections are not carried out during this level of inspection and, if heavy ivy is present, tree condition is assessed from what can be seen from the ground. A separate note is recorded if further investigation may be required to clarify its status.
- **Crown spreads:** Crown radial spreads were estimated to the nearest metre and represent our assessment of the viable crown dimensions that would be retainable after normal management. For clarification, the viable crown spread is the size of the main body of the crown, and not necessarily the furthest extent of odd branches that extend out beyond this core of the crown.
- **Dimensions:** All dimensions are estimated unless otherwise indicated with an asterisk (*) after the figure.
- **Species:** Species identification is based on visual observations. Where there is some doubt over tree identity, sp is noted after the genus name to indicate that the species cannot be reliably identified at the time of the survey. Where there is more than one species in a group, only the most frequent are noted and not all the species present may be listed.
- **Height:** Height is estimated to provide a broad indication of the size of the tree.
- **Trunk diameter:** Trunk diameter is estimated or measured (with a diameter tape), at the discretion of the consultant, and is normally rounded up and recorded in 2.5 cm increments as advised in BS 5837 Table D1. Estimates may be made where access is restricted, direct measurement is prevented because of ivy on the trunk, or the tree is assessed as low quality. The point of measurement and the adjustments for stem variations are as advised in Figure C1 of BS 5837. Individual diameters for multiple stems are recorded in the notes, with the calculated cumulative diameter recorded in the diameter column.
- **Maturity:** In planning context, maturity provides a simplistic indication of a tree's ability to cope with change and its potential for further growth. For the purposes of this report, young indicates a potential to significantly increase in size and a high ability to cope with change, maturing indicates some potential to increase in size and a medium ability to cope with change, and mature indicates little potential to increase in size and limited ability to cope with change.
- **Low branches:** Any low branches that would not be feasible for removal during normal management and should be considered as a design constraint are noted here and explained in the notes.
- **Category:** Our assessment automatically considered tree physiological/structural condition (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5h), and so these are not listed separately in the schedule. Additionally, the category accounts for the remaining contribution (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5i) as greater than 40 years for A trees, greater than 20 years for B trees, at least 10 years for C trees and less than 10 years for U trees, so this is also not listed separately in the schedule. Category A, B and C trees are automatically listed as sub-category 1 unless otherwise stated.
- **Notes:** Only relevant features relating to physiological or structural condition and low branches that may help clarify the categorisation are recorded. If there are no notes, then the presumption should be that no relevant features were observed.



Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

- **Future tree safety inspections:** Due to the time that may elapse between the original survey and the start of development, all trees should be re-inspected as part of the standard risk management process before any works start on site. Our assessment of the trees was carried out on the basis that a re-inspection would be carried out within a year of the assessment visit and our advice on tree condition must be reviewed annually from the date of that visit.



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