

0809.bjh.TPOlet

5th October 2015

Mrs Audrey Ruttle
Lovedean Farm
246 Lovedean Lane
Waterlooville
PO8 9RY



Dear Mrs Ruttle,

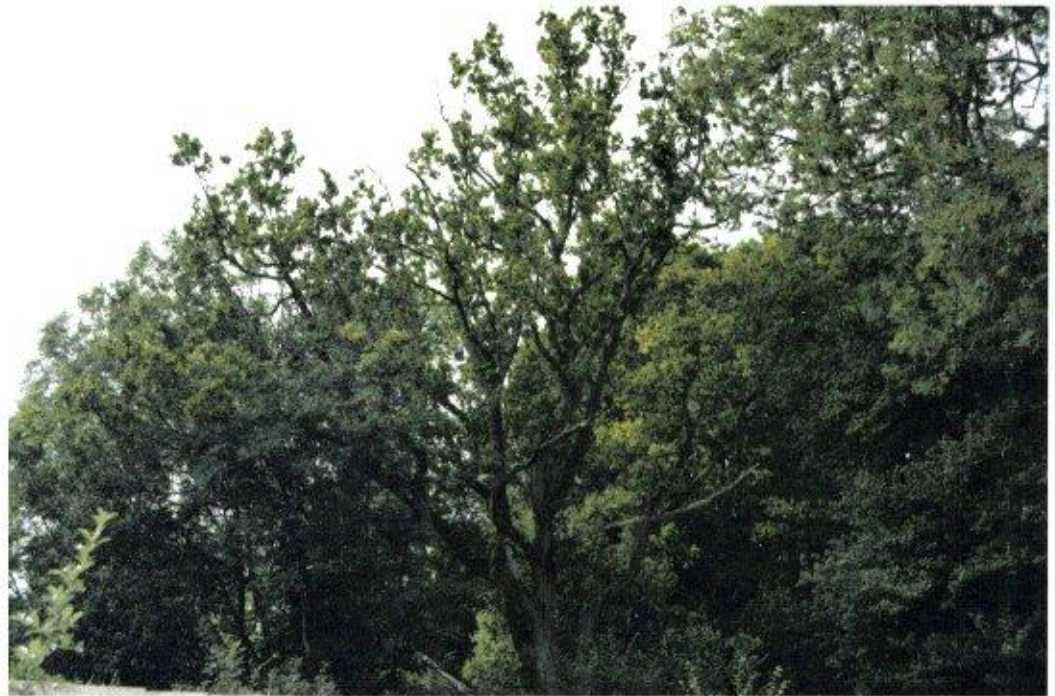
Trees to the rear of 97 Lovedean Lane, Lovedean - TPO 1641

I refer to our site meeting on Thursday 24th September when we met with the owners of 3 & 4 Woodbury Grove and inspected the following trees:-

1. **Oak (TPO T4)** to the rear of 93 Lovedean Lane - with crown overhang of same.
2. **Oak (TPO W1)** to the side of 4 Woodbury Grove - with crown overhang of same.
3. **Yews/Hazels (TPO W1)** to the side of 4 Woodbury Grove - with crown overhang of the garage.
4. **Birch (TPO W1)** - in corner of woodland leaning towards 3 Woodbury Grove.
5. **Cherries (TPO W1)** - on banking beside 3 Woodbury Grove.
6. **Oak (TPO W1)** - in corner of woodland with crown overhang of 3 Woodbury Grove.

Having reviewed the health and safety of these trees (access permitting) you have asked that I advise you on a management strategy and any recommended tree works to satisfy complaints received from the two house owners in Woodbury Grove. I understand that it is your intention to submit this report in support of a TPO application to Havant Borough Council.

Oak (TPO T4)



Bernie Harverson M.Arb.

- This mature Oak is in a state of decline with a crown full of tip dieback and large diameter dead branches.
- I was unable to inspect the basal area of the tree because of the dense Brambles and undergrowth – thus I cannot confirm whether it is safe or what fungal pathogen might be attacking the root system. *clearance inspection to be done immediately*

Recommendations:

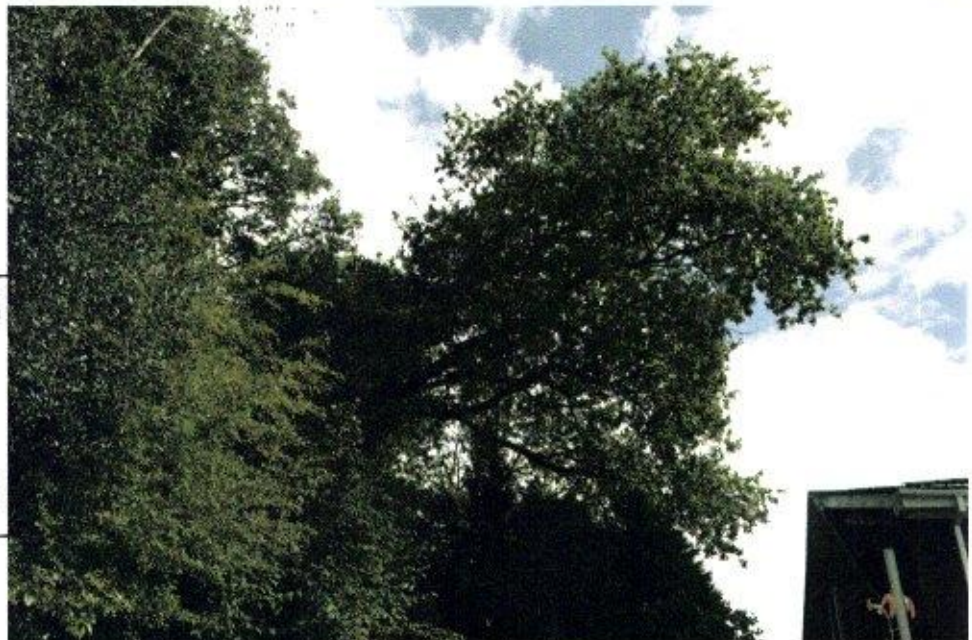
- The immediate risk is to the owners of No 93 Lovedean Lane as some very large diameter branches precariously overhang their rear garden. I would recommend that your tree surgeon removes the dead branches to make the crown safe – this does not require consent or notification to the Council.
- I recommend that you also have the dense undergrowth cleared away around the base of this tree and then have it fully inspected by an arboricultural consultant – preferably between Oct and March when fungal brackets and toadstools will be most evident – please ask whoever is doing the work to progress with care around the base of the tree as they may destroy any evidence of fungus that may be present. *Consent to be visited*

Oak (TPO W1)

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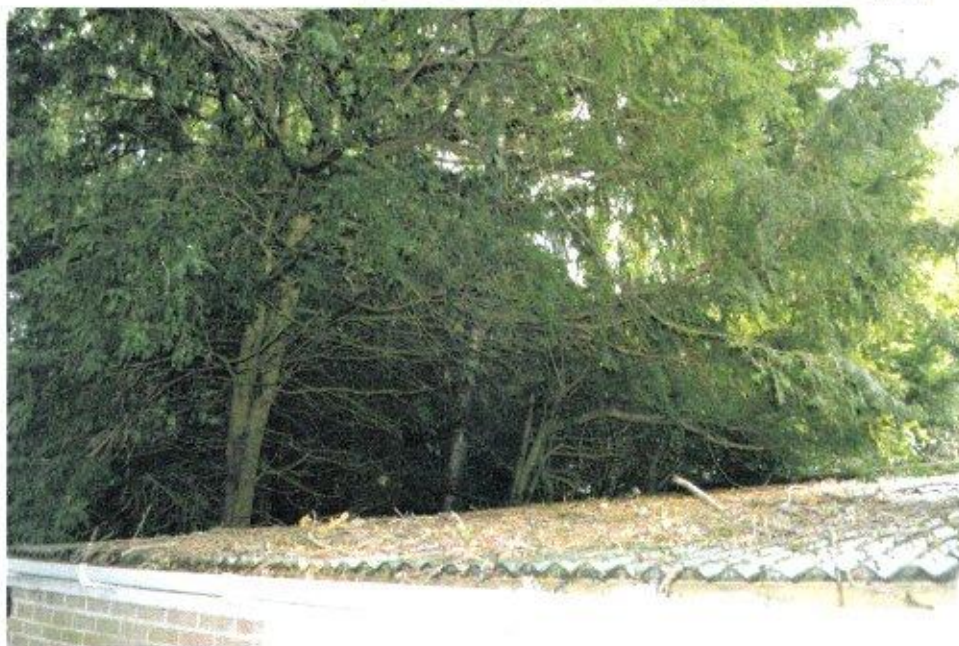
- This semi mature Oak tree is growing out of the woodland towards the roof of the house at No 3 giving the owner cause for concern - as other trees have failed and fallen within the woodland in this vicinity.
- I inspected around the base of this tree and found no evidence of fungal decay or anything that might suggest the lean was anything but natural caused by pressures from other trees and the propensity for the tree to present the fullest crown to the south facing side although it does have a very heavily weighted arching crown to the south side.
- This is also an Oak which is noted to be a deep rooted tree and the trees which have fallen are all Cherries.
- However, the crown of this tree is heavily weighted towards the house and I advise that some pruning works would be prudent to address this issue and they would not affect this trees amenity value.

Recommendations:

Works advised are:-

1. Reduce the lateral spread to the south side only by 2m to 2.5m overall making all final cuts adjacent to living growth points in accordance with BS3998.

Yews/Hazels (TPO W1)



- These small trees have been suppressed by more dominant woodland trees behind them and as a result they grow out to the south side underneath the canopies of the larger trees to achieve maximum light for their own crowns.
- This brings them into contact with the roof of the garage which the owner now needs to have repaired and maintained.

Work A

Recommendations:

Works advised are:-

1. Prune the Yews and Hazels in such a way that they are crown lifted and a 1m clearance is achieved above the garage roof and away from the sides of same - making all final cuts adjacent to living growth points in accordance with BS3998.

Birch (TPO W1)



- This tree was once multi-stemmed but only one stem remains which accounts for its leaning habit to the east side as it was previously competing for air space for its crown with the other stems.
- The owner of No 4 advised that one of the stems failed recently and showed me the remains of the cut sections of wood and these revealed that it had failed around a point of fungal decay - but the final cut close to ground was made through sound wood.
- There was no evidence of a fungal pathogen around the base of the tree and the crown of the remaining stem is full and healthy.
- I tapped the basal area with a sounding mallet but there were no hollow soundings produced.
- I probed the tight forks with an auger but there was no sign of decay pockets.
- There is no option to use electronic decay detection equipment because the tight forks will distort the readings.
- Whilst it is never possible to be absolutely certain that a tree is safe as it is a living organism and situations can therefore change radically as it grows I can only assert that at the time I inspected the tree there was no reason to suspect that it is anything but sound and healthy.
- This does not address the concerns of the owner of No 3 who is alarmed by the lean and weighting of the crown and would prefer to see it crown reduced and reshaped. I would not advise this course of action as this is a mature tree and Birch does not respond well at this age to heavy pruning. Plus once you start down the road of pruning works you can actually create a situation (as with the Cherries in TPO W1) where topping out creates problems that were not there before by promoting growth from weak points of attachment around the old pruning wounds and then you have to repeat the pruning operations on a cyclic basis every 3 to 5yrs.

Recommendations:

Works advised are:-

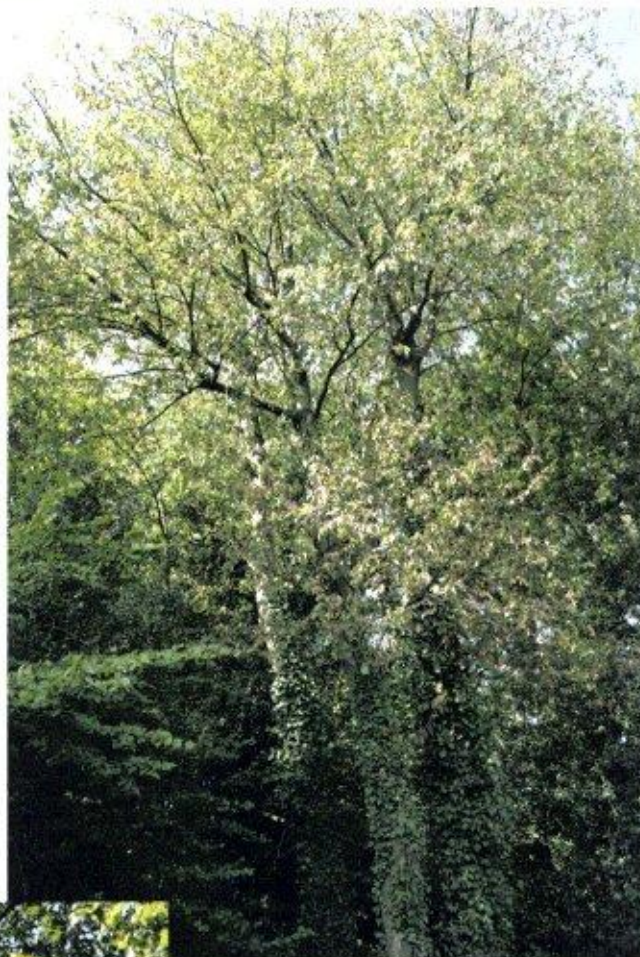
1. No tree works are advised at this time.
2. Re-inspect this tree in 12 months time.

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Cherries (TPO W1)



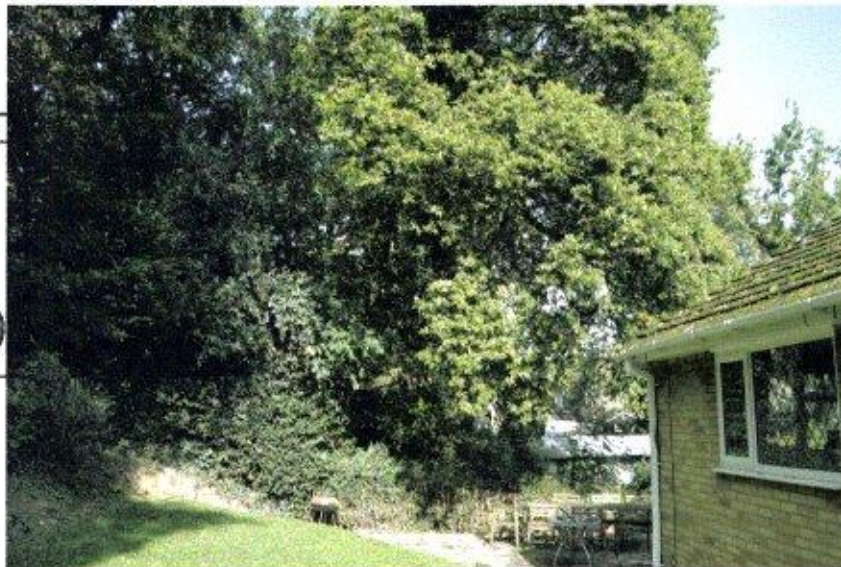
- These mature trees have been heavily reduced and reshaped in the past leaving large open wounds from which a mass of new stems have arisen around each pruning wound and some decay pockets are visible.
- These new stems have weak points of attachment and there is with this species of tree a high risk of failure of these stems in high winds.

Recommendations:

Works advised are:-

1. Reduce these trees back down to the old pruning points unless there is decay noted in same in which case cut just below this into sound wood.

Work B 1



- This mature tree has a low spreading canopy which overhangs the rear garden of this property casting shade and leaf fall on same.
- The owner asked me if this tree could be topped out or removed to solve this problem – my response was that this tree was TPO'd and thus the Council would resist its removal as there are insufficient grounds for same. Similarly no topping out would be permitted because it would achieve nothing given that this tree is at the edge of a mature woodland and the trees behind it would still cast shade and leaf fall over the garden.
- I advised that the best course of action would be to apply for some crown lifting works to clear the low overhang and provide some relief for the owner.

Work B 2

Recommendations:

Works advised are:-

1. Crown lift by removing the 'dropper branches' of less than 70mm diameter from the undersides of the main limbs – to achieve a ground clearance above the garden of between 3m to 4m.

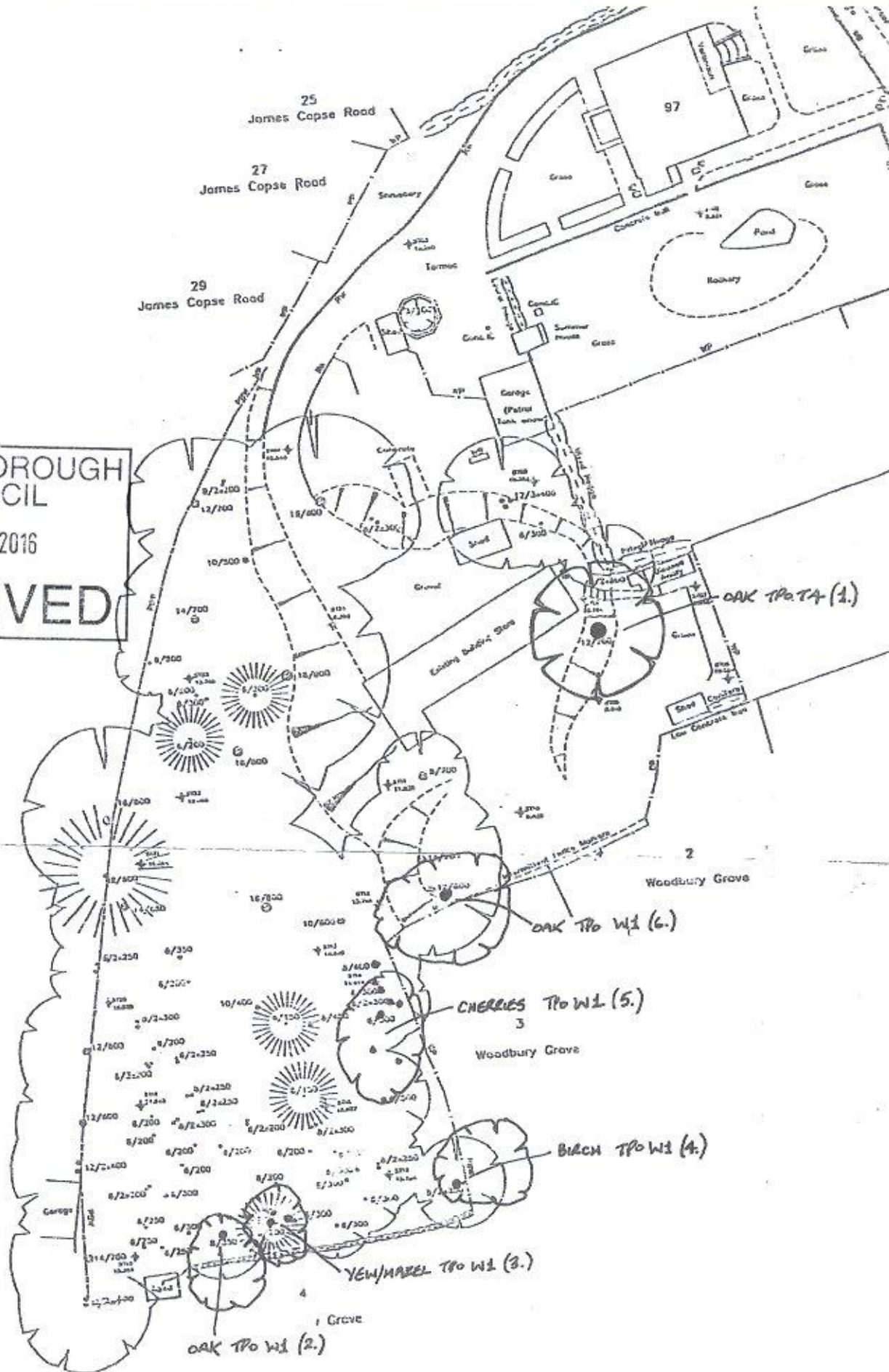
I trust that this management strategy is of assistance to you when making your TPO application.

Yours sincerely,

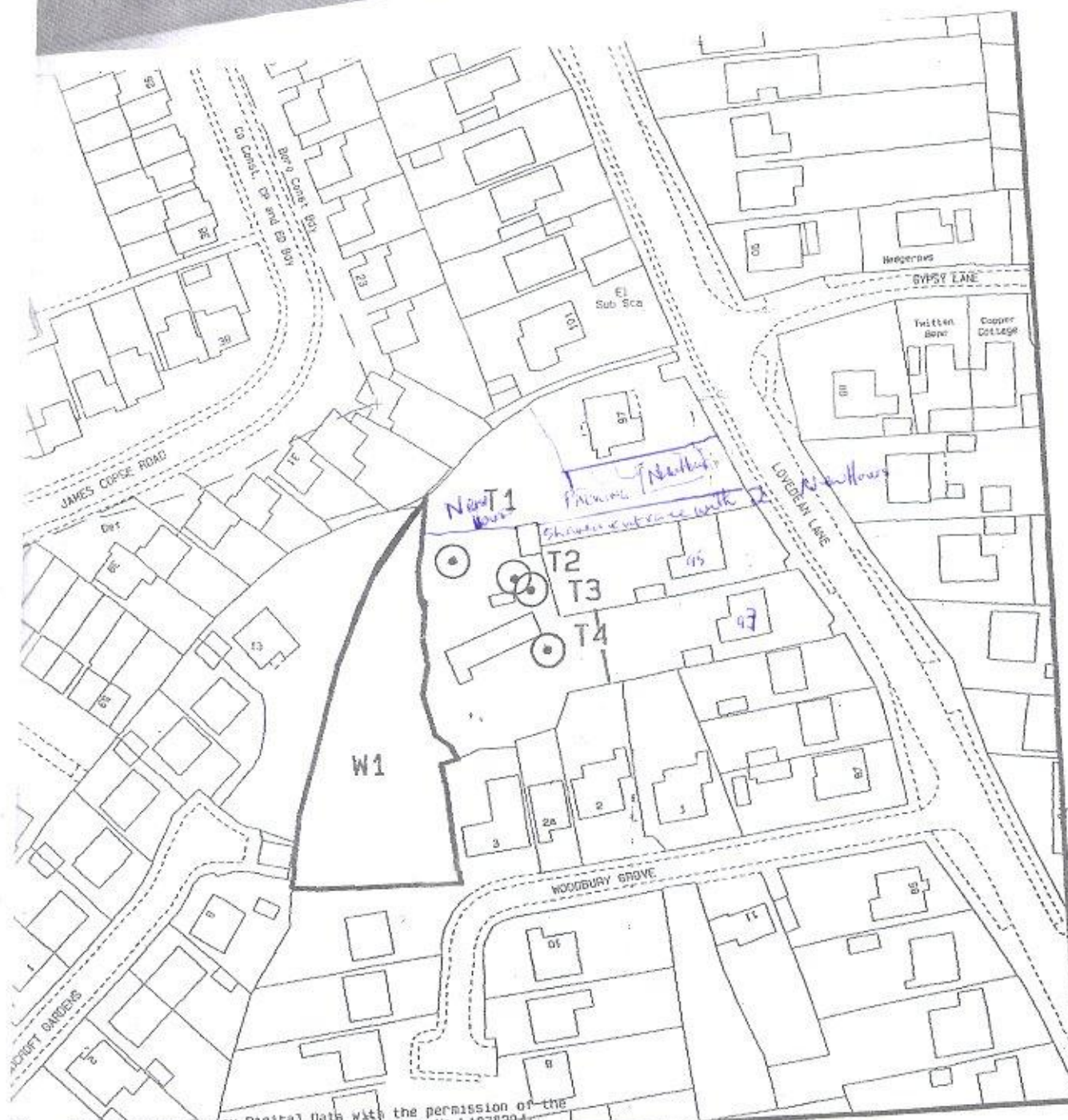
Bernie Harveym

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BTM/0809/Oct 15



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COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME
Oak, Cherry, Birch, Yew,	Quercus robur, Q. petraea, Prunus avium,
Ash,	Betula pubescens, Taxus baccata, Fraxinus,
	excelsior.
Oak	Quercus robur
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior
Field Maple	Acer campestre
Oak	Quercus robur

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J.R. Campbell BA (Hons) MATPI
 Head of Development Control



TITLE: Tree Preservation Order 1641
 97, Lovedean Lane, Cowplain.

DRAWN BY:
 nda

SCALE:
 1: 1250