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Date 22/1/24

DEVELOPMENT SITE TREE SURVEY

Our Ref RBSTS1Spen2224

Prepared for Mr Spence

Conducted by, David Lloyd-Jones

1.0 INTRODUCTION TO THE REPORT

This report concerns various trees in the vicinity of:-

Land adjacent to Ashdene. Burwell Close, Rochdale, OL12 6DQ

1.1 EXPERIENCE

With over 30 years experience of supplying arboricultural consultancy I have been supplying tree reports and surveys, (including those to help guide clients through the property design and planning process), throughout that time.

I was the chairman of the Consulting Arborist Society (CAS) from 2002 until 2009. I was the 2006-2008 President of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA UK+I Chapter). I am an Honorary Life Membership of both organisations.

My technical qualifications include Technicians Certificate in Arboriculture - Arboricultural Association (Tech.Cert.Arbor.A) as well as specific technical seminars and competencies that qualify me for Consulting Arborist Society Professional Membership.

I have prepared various Arboricultural papers outlining my research into the field of morphological tree evolution and its implications on tree understanding and modern, sympathetic tree management.

In March 2013 I published a book called "Tree Morphogenesis book 1 Reduction Via Thinning Theory" on Amazon's Kindle platform and in 2015 it was also published in traditional printed form.

Tree Morphogenesis Book 1 details for the first time how trees long evolution has literally designed them to be progressively pruned by wind. The tree care that we usually specify is Reduction Via Thinning and as is based on understanding that natural design process, we call it "Simulated Wind Pruning".

You can find out more about Tree Morphogenesis by visiting www.TreeMorphogenesis.com.

1.2 THE REPORT PROCESS

This report is an initial part of the planning process relating to the formal assessment of trees as recommended by BS5837:2012

This first stage allows for investigation of Arboricultural remedial works/removal requirements which might have influence over the potential development site design layout.

The early identification of the trees with the highest retention and quality will allow "tree sensitive design" which will assist the retention of the best and most sustainable trees on the site with adequate provision of Root Protection Area (RPA) for their roots. This will minimise healthy, aesthetically valuable tree losses, (which might be deemed as "planning

losses" – trees lost as a direct result of Planning Permission), to accommodate development and will help to sustain amenity by design.

This process does involve the early elimination from the process, by the removal or management of, any hazard trees. This will also allow the designer to suggest the removal of any trees worthy of retention which have characteristics that will be in conflict with the planning proposals, or to alter his proposals to accommodate trees of good health with distinctly beneficial aspects.

The removal or modification of trees for arboricultural reasons are identified within this report.

The removal or modification of unsuitable trees will preserve a safer environment and will also identify the areas of the site where tree protection might be concentrated during and after development in order to preserve the trees worthy of care and protection together with calculations of the RPA requirements which would usually be projected on a scale site plan.

1.3 REPORT SCOPE

For the purposes of this report a total of 27 trees including groups have been assessed from all of the trees around the site.

This assessment documents their physical size and characteristics as well as their physiological and morphological condition. Where relevant I will discuss their ecological significance and their historical context.

The trees have marked on the plan supplied with our reference CA/01 which is for tree identification purposes only.

From that site plan a Tree Constraints Plan can be produced (CA/02) by superimposing the Root Protection Area calculations included in paragraph 3.4. onto a topographical survey with the positions of the tree trunks marked on as datum points.

Once this information has been considered in the design proposals, the final stage would be for me to produce a Tree Protection Plan and the planning officers may also request an Arboricultural Implication Study including an Arboricultural Method Statement as well.

1.4 THE SITE

The site comprises a large, triangular suburban plot with trees established along all 3 sides.

1.5 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Some of the more mature trees (Limes, Chestnuts, Sycamore and Oak are typical of the tree mixture of the area and as such, asides from their size and apparent health (with some exceptions), they have significant historical context as original features.

1.7 ARBORICULTURAL SCHEDULE

This investigation catalogues individual trees includes Species, Age Range classed as :- Young (Y) - recently planted, Middle (M) – a tree with an apically dominant form (single leading shoot, generally a pointed top shape) which has yet to reach its site specific potential height, Mature (Ma) – a tree which has achieved most of its potential height and has developed a de-current shape (without a single leader, broadening and rounded shape). Over-mature – a tree which is showing distinct signs of physiological decline usually accompanied by thinning foliage and small but progressive or large structural failures (broad and disjointed canopy), Veteran (V) – A tree in decline and/or having achieved great age. These explanations of the different age class categories and how they relate to the morphology of the tree are taken from Reduction Via Thinning © David Lloyd-Jones 1995.

I also assess Height, ground clearance to first branch, Crown Spread over the four points of the compass, Diameter measured at 1.5 metres from ground level, current physiological condition, current structural condition, future growth potential, comments, Category Grading in accordance with BS5837:2012 Table 1 and finally, work requirements and recommendations

All trees have been inspected from ground level only. Tree heights, age, crown spread and future growth potential are approximate measurements. Please refer to the arboricultural schedules (attached) for full details.

1.8 REFERENCES

A range of arboricultural historical and statistical data and allied industry documentation has been referred to during the compilation of this report.

The British Standard BS5837:2012 concerns itself with all of the problems of developing the ground around trees and defines guidelines intended to assist in the successful retention of high amenity value trees through the development process. Since it was revised in 2012 it has gained the planning status "Recommendation" rather than "Guidance".

The National Joint Utilities Guidelines booklet NJUG 10 Volume 4 concerns itself with providing basic information about the practical preservation of tree roots where there is excavation or services planned within the drip line of a tree.

Tree Morphogenesis Book 1, Simulated Wind Pruning details new understanding of how trees grow and use environmental extremes to creatively diversify the canopy of the tree

which prepares the mature canopy to facilitate peripheral and progressive failures in windy conditions. Trees are designed to be pruned and understanding that enables Simulated Wind Pruning which is the most sympathetic way to manage trees.

All of these documents are primary references to this report.

2.0 SUBSOIL SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS

Site specific soil samples have not been taken to sample and examine the nature of the subsoil and consequently laboratory analysis (BS1377; Part 2) has not been carried out to determine relative shrinkability of any substrate.

Calculating Attenburgh limits (relative shrinkability) is usually done cross referencing the species of trees and their relative distance from the structure, in order to calculate building design issues so that the building complies with NHBC or other design standards. That service is not included in this report.

2.1 STATUTORY PROVISIONS

I have not obtained details of any TPO or Conservation Area status.

2.2 ECOLOGICAL ISSUES AND CONSTRAINTS

Dead wood within the crown of the tree occurs naturally and increases the environmental significance and diversity of a tree's plant/animal community. Removal of dead wood is therefore only justifiable where people/property/safety is in question.

It is illegal to put a nesting bird off its nest or to remove Bat roosts and as the most environmentally valuable trees on site are likely to be in a condition that might preclude their retention without management we suggest that nesting boxes and roosting boxes for both Birds and Bats be placed in the remaining trees and that any replanting include a proportion of native "Species Rich" trees and shrubs.

2.3 EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Condition:-

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Good - | Describes a tree of normal vigour, with very few abnormalities and displaying full and healthy foliage distribution. |
| Average - | Describes a tree of normal vigour with minor abnormalities. |
| Poor - | Describes a tree with major abnormalities, of low vigour, under stress and considered to have a limited safe useful life expectancy. |

Age Range:-

- Young (Y) – Recently planted
- Middle (M) - A vigorous, apically dominant (or ex-current) form of tree with significant growth potential which has not yet achieved a high portion of its (site specific and species specific) potential size
- Mature (Ma) - A tree which has achieved most of its mature height (dictated by the site specific environmental restraints) and has lost its main apical bud and as a result is beginning to, or has already established a broad de-current form typical of its species in that specific location.
- Over-mature (OM) - A tree showing multiple and cumulative signs of decline, for instance cavities, deadwood, peripheral dieback, bark necrosis, internal decay broken branches, light foliage density and Chlorosis (yellowing) of the leaves all leading to the conclusion that the tree is imminently or predictably in terminal decline.
- Veteran (V) - A tree of great age or in severe decline. In its ecological zenith however and potentially very valuable as an amenity as long as the risks associated with it's retention are manageable

Under this description of the relative age classifications of trees is taken from the practitioners version of "Reduction Via Thinning" (Copyright © David Lloyd-Jones 1995), the mature tree classification can account for the largest part of a tree's life as it is based on the trees own form and not an arbitrary fraction of the tree's total length of life. Other arbitrary age assessments make little reference to natural physiological milestones of a trees life and offer correspondingly little insight into the individual tree and its strategic progress through that life.

Physiological condition:-

This relates to any disorders that are currently affecting the tree with three categories:-
"Good", - a tree with no, or insignificant diseases or infestations,

"average" - a tree with some diseases or infestations worthy of note but not currently seriously damaging the tree's health and

"poor" - a tree with significant diseases or infestations that are probably causing stress or even strain and consequential decline.

Details would be within the comments section.

Structural condition:-

This relates to any morphological/structural defects with three categories:-

"Good", - a tree with no, or insignificant defects,

"average" - a tree with some defects worthy of note and requiring some remediation

“poor” - a tree with significant defects resulting in a high probability of failure.

Details would be within the comments section.

Category Rating:-

See BS5837:2012 Table 1 for details of how the category rating should be interpreted when considering the re-design of the site.

3.0 REMEDIAL WORKS/TREE REMOVAL/MONITORING

Remedial Works including considerations:

The following trees require remedial works: T2, 14 & 27.

Tree Removal including trees under consideration for removal: T2, 3, 8, 13, 14, 25, 16 and two small defective treed from T19 group.

Tree monitoring:

All of the trees will require further monitoring in the future and as any other environmental changes become apparent. This can take the form of formal Arboricultural site supervision if that is deemed necessary by the local planning authority

All of the trees will require further monitoring through the development process in the future and as any other environmental or physiological changes become apparent.

Within the context of property development, this monitoring can take the form of formal Arboricultural site supervision through the development process if that is deemed necessary by the local planning authority and made conditional.

The main focus of monitoring should be T4, 5 and 10.

3.1 MONITORING OF THE TREE PROTECTION THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT:

“Site supervision”, or, random and unannounced periodic monitoring by an Arboriculturist or other appointed person, of all of the large trees on site to check tree protection measures stipulated in the planning permission are being adhered to and to assess the significance of any physiological or environmental changes occurring during the development process and beyond, is recommended.

3.2 QUALITY OF CRAFTSMANSHIP

When appointing a Tree Surgeon, please use only properly qualified and experienced companies and always check that they carry Public and Products Liability Insurance with a minimum of £2 million cover and the relevant Employers Liability Insurance.

3.3 LIMITING CONDITIONS

Unless stated otherwise:

- 1) Information contained in this report covers only those trees that were examined and reflects the condition of those trees at the time of the inspection:
- 2) The inspection is limited to visual examination of the subject trees from ground level only and without aerial inspection, dissection, excavation, probing or imaging. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied that problems or deficiencies of the subject trees may not exist or arise in the future.

All trees mentioned in this report should be reviewed periodically to assess the significance and impact of any physiological and/or environmental changes.

3.4 ROOT PROTECTION AREA TABLE (RPA)

BS5837 makes clear recommendations for the provisions that should be made for an area to be set aside and protected so that the tree roots in that area are preserved.

In this instance the area's calculated from the sizes of the trees (suitable for retention) are laid out in the table below.

These areas equate approximately to a circle of radius 12 x the trunk diameter or in the case of multiple stemmed trees, 10 x the trunk diameter measured just above the basal flare of the trunk for twin or multi stemmed trees.

Tree Numbers	Diameter of the trunk @ 1.5M	Root Protection Area in Sq M	Circle of M radius
4, 11	100	5	1.2
12, 14, 16, 23	150	10	1.8
1, 13, 24	200	18	2.4
6,	250	28	3
5, 10, 19, 26, 27	300	41	3.6

8, 15, 18, 20	350	55	4.2
3, 4, 9, 17	400	72	4.8
2, 21	450	92	5.3
22	500	113	6
7, 25	600	163	7.2

These distances and areas of enclosed RPA should now be plotted on the scale Tree Constraints Plan CA/02 using the position of tree trunks as datum points for each tree intended for retention. This is to show if any aspects of the proposed plans encroach on the Root Protection Areas projected from the positions of the trunks of trees that are retained.

See the latest edition of BS 5837 for full details of how these RPA figures may be able to be strategically modified on the Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) to reduce them by up to 20%, subject to negotiation with the tree or planning officer representing the LPA.

4.0 CONCLUSIONS INTRODUCTION

The trees mentioned in this report, stand on. Land adjacent to Ashdene. Burwell Close, Rochdale, OL12 6DQ

The preliminary tree works required and the arboricultural which can also be Duty of Care reasons, are outlined in the tabular tree data (attached).

The works suggested are justified by reasons associated with the condition of the trees and good management rather than strategic issues related to the sighting of the proposed development. Quite rightly that design issue is secondary to preserving the best trees.

I have seen no documents implying that any new service trenches will be brought onto the site. If any other works are proposed within the RPA of the adjacent trees, then their design and implementation will have to be considered and prescribed so that the Local Authority agree to those strategic amendments to the PRA requirements.

Any trees and especially any large trees in this garden the adjoining grounds or on the roadside are ultimately the responsibility of their respective owners and once those respective owners have been given a copy of this report, they should consider the information contained within relating to their trees. and follow the advice contained within.

They should also check that they have adequate insurance to cover their liabilities in the event of claims arising from the direct or indirect actions of their trees on their neighbours or members of the public and/or their property.

The trees respective owners should in any event apply good management practise to pass off their duty of care and respond to any risks that they become aware of in order to minimise the risk that their trees represent to their neighbours or members of the public.

4.1 CONCLUSIONS

The trees which are the primary subjects of this report will need some consideration and forethought to retain them unscathed through the development process especially where they will be in close proximity to the development or its infrastructure.

The Arboricultural Method Statements will cover the detail of the tree protection measures if the proximity of any works requires such detail and once preliminary designs, exact location and footprint, have been proposed.

Young trees of whatever species generally have greater capacity to accommodate and survive environmental changes than mature trees. So mitigating losses with well chosen young trees will establish and develop strategic screening along boundaries

Significant consideration to the rooting environment is required and designs of surface treatments should be sympathetic to the continuity of ingress of water into the soils into the rooting environment of any trees and especially where the full RPA requirement can not be accommodated, if those trees are retained through the development process a key support is to not intercept and remove moisture that would have wet the soils. In any woodland site, preserving as many of the things that positively support tree health (all "continuity" issues), water, sunlight, soil biology. Happily, you can protect the woodland soil that you have to some degree, by covering it with a mulch of well composted woodchip.

Any trees are retained then strategic tree preservation is likely to be achieved as long as BS5837 , NJUG 10 or other guidelines based on more recent research are followed rigorously throughout and beyond the development process in conjunction with arboricultural site supervision, formal verification of tree protective measures and well communicated and accepted penalties for breaches of those protection measures within the organisation undertaking the development on site.

Trees retained and protected in accordance with British Standards Institute and allied industry guide lines using construction methods and surface treatments sympathetic to the needs of the trees should ensure sustained amenity and conservation values to the site by preserving long term tree cover. Protecting the rooting environment during development is of primary importance.

5.0 ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS STUDY

5.1 SCOPE

The purpose of this part of the report is to assess the implications that the proposed development will have on the trees identified in this survey and advise on Arboricultural measures proposed to mitigate any damage resulting from the proposed development.

5.2 ASSESSMENT

The Tree Constraints Plan CA/02 identifies the trees in relation to the development and specifies the position of the tree protection fence.

The relative proximity of the tree protection fence has been calculated and the results are in the table in 3.4 Root Protection Area Table.

Where the proposed works, or measures to facilitate the proposed works come within the ideal RPA of individual trees (as specified in BS5837:2005) we have draw up a table below listing the tree number and measures to mitigate against resulting adversities for the trees and finally, a judgement on whether the tree can be successfully retained.

Tree Number	Mitigation Measures	Can it be retained successfully
1,2,3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9	The driveway encroaches the very edge of the RPA but the area currently hardstanding. If the driveway is constructed on the existing sub base without disturbing it, then any roots underneath the existing compacted hard standing will be protected.	Yes

5.3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Regarding all Cat A and B trees, no further trees need be removed to accommodate the development.

In all other cases the full RPA required to meet BS5837:2016 can be accommodated.

5.4 DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION

We have identified the potential to improve the soil ecosystem to place additional physiological resources at the disposal of these trees by mulching around the base of the tree.

The purpose of the application of some well composted woodchip is to reduce competition for resources from grass while preventing the soil from heating up with the consequential loss of moisture that naturally occurs when the topsoil becomes heated through direct sunlight.

Additionally, the mulch will in part replicate the natural woodland floor which will provide a boost for all of the soil organisms that contribute to a healthy topsoil ecosystem.

The size of the mulched area is dictated by personal taste and the ergonomics of the garden but in general that larger the mulched area the better the benefits for the trees.

5.5 DISCUSSION

Tree's roots mostly occupy the top 600mm of soil and can extend radially for some considerable distance from the trunk following contours of the ground.

Beyond the main structural roots, which mostly extend less than a few metres from the trunk, the roots form an absorbing root matrix comprising conductive "tensile" roots connecting the small roots and microscopic root hairs (which are in intimate contact with the soil particles) to the larger diameter "woody" structural roots.

The root and tree growth is related to the extent and the quality of the root zone. The growth and vitality of the tree will be linked to and constrained by the quality and extent of the root zone. Because the root zone will typically be of variable quality it follows that the true extent, distribution and orientation of the roots of the tree will be variable in practice.

Roots need oxygen to enable cell division and growth (respiration) so maintaining gaseous exchange by avoiding compaction will help to minimise adversities associated with compaction, anaerobic soil and moisture runoff.

Therefore the actions that need to be avoided within the RPA are :-

1. Compaction. Even repeated foot traffic can compact some soils but machinery can cause compaction after just one pass.
2. Changes to the water table
3. Capping the soil or creating an impermeable surface that intercepts and diverts water
4. Changing the topography by more than 150mm
5. Soil stripping
6. Provision of service trenches
7. Contamination of the soil by any material that will change the Ph or otherwise adversely affect the tree.

5.6 METHOD STATEMENT

Before the development can take place, the following steps should be completed in this order:-

1. Position the Tree Protection fence in the positions indicated in CA/02 and as specified in BS5837:2012 with notices indicating the function of that fence.
2. Where the RPA comes close to the proposed property the use of scaffold from ground level bridging over the RPA, could prevent compaction of the soils through the building process while allowing personal access around the walls of the property.
3. In relation to the driveway, during construction load spreading mats or plates to be used to allow heavy vehicles and equipment on site.
4. Once the build of the proposed property is completed, the hard and soft landscaping can be completed including laying the Geo-cell or other suitable load spreading surface treatment that will allow moisture penetration and gaseous exchange, leaving only the tree protection fence to be removed as the last item.
5. The site layout allows for access, storage of materials and workers subsistence whilst constructing the new components.
6. Mulch area to be created and managed so as to improve the woodland soil ecosystem by simply storing organic waste (leaves) in an even layer and allowing that to degrade naturally.

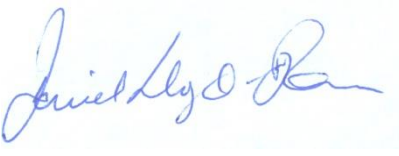
5.7 CONSTRUCTION OF "NO DIG" HARD SURFACES WITHIN RPA (if required).

Surface layer to be scraped by hand or small excavator, removing no more than 100mm of topsoil.

Lay a geotextile to prevent mixing of the strata.

Construct a means to retain the surface treatment then spread a sub-base material with no "fines" so that voids are preserved to allow gaseous exchange and moisture penetration.

Finally install the surface treatment also chosen to avoid prevention of gaseous exchange and moisture penetration.

Signed 

David Lloyd-Jones Tech Cert Arbor A.

Dated 27/3/2024

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6.0 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

6.1 EXPLANATION OF ARBORICULTURAL METHODOLOGIES

Terravention -- Release pressurised nitrogen injections to the root zone via a probe to alleviate compaction, improve drainage and if beneficial, infuse beneficial bacteria, Mycorrhizal fungi or other bio-remediation. The application of Mycorrhizal fungi in conjunction with de-compaction to compacted or deficient soils is beneficial for newly planted or existing trees as it creates a cultural medium within which the tree can grow to the limits of its capacity to assimilate the resources available to it, without forcing it to do so.

Crown Lifting – removal of a number of the lowest lateral branches to achieve either a certain clearance from the ground or a certain aesthetic effect. All achieved by removal of branches to suitable pruning points as described in various industry guidelines such as BS 3998 1989 or as modified by more recent research.

Formative pruning and dead-wooding – removal of dead damaged and or crossing branches. Also the removal of structural stresses on branches resulting from acknowledged structurally weak forms of branch junction by light thinning of foliage bearing branches if deemed necessary and the removal of specific components to achieve better form and function. All achieved by removal of branches to suitable pruning points as described in various industry guidelines such as BS 3998 1989 and as modified by more recent research. This would include pruning to accommodate the development where specific branches need to be removed to facilitate the construction process and increase light levels within the gardens.

Reduction Via Thinning - RVT the removal of a small number of primary foliage bearing branches to subtly reduce and thin the canopy, reducing wind resistance giving the roots trunk and structural branches a mechanical advantage while retaining the shape, functionality and, most importantly, the character of the tree. Concentrating on and limited to the removal of small percentages of the foliage bearing branches to maintain metabolism while removing no structural elements (usually developed before the loss of the apical bud's dominance) of the tree. All achieved by removal of branches to suitable pruning points as described in various industry guidelines such as BS 3998 1989 and as modified by more recent research. We usually express this specification as a small percentage of the foliage, typically less than 20%. This is subtle and progressive tree management, which is sympathetic to the trees health and growth requirements. Copyright © David Lloyd-Jones 1995

“Reduction Via Thinning” as an Alternative to Pollarding, the removal of a portion of primary foliage bearing branches to subtly reduce and thin the canopy, reducing wind resistance giving the roots trunk and structural branches a mechanical advantage while retaining the shape and character of the tree. Concentrating on and limited to the removal of significant percentages of the foliage bearing branches.

As an alternative to pollarding, as much as 40 - 50% of the primary branches need to be removed at one time, to create conditions that encourage the formation of new branches from the original pollard points, as a lighter pruning might only invigorate the remaining secondary branches, without producing the re-growth from the pollard point that would be necessary to allow the repetition of this specification. We usually express this specification as a percentage of the foliage of up to 50 %.
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Pollarding – removal of all portions of a tree above a previously created lopping point, preserving the pollard stump as a point from which regeneration will most readily occur. This is not “Lopping and Topping” which has no place in the modern Arboriculturalist’s catalogue!

6.2 APPLICATION OF ARBORICULTURAL METHODOLOGIES

All of the specifications above are listed in increasing severity from the most sympathetic to the least sympathetic although it should be noted that properly managed pollards can be the most long lived and constant components of the landscape in positions that would not allow their retention to full size while maintaining a perceived acceptable level of risk and thereby adequately dispatch the landowners duty of care.

Trees and especially groups of trees are not static features but develop and change in their nature, appearance and structural integrity as they progress through their age classifications. As such in an urban environment they must be managed pro-actively and can, by their significant potential to adapt to subtle and progressive changes, be adapted and successfully incorporated into a changing local environment.

That local environment, when talking about a tree in close proximity to a dwelling or a public open space, is the human context. Within that subjective context a tree is either an asset, and a TPO placed on such trees a benefit to all including the owner, or it is a liability, and a TPO placed on such a tree an imposition on the owner and/or adjacent landowners.

Therefore any realistic protective measures designed to preserve the long term tree cover should ideally not focus too closely on individual trees but on actively recycling the tree cover in the historical sense and providing designed space for their inclusion. Tree preservation that is sympathetic to the tree owner’s perspective is likely to be the most sustainable kind.

Good management should be seen as preserving this system and allowing designated designed space for the continued inclusion of trees but does involve the necessary pruning or removal of trees in certain instances where their age, condition or species characteristics and the scale of local changes proposed by the development, dictate.

6.3 HEDGEROWS

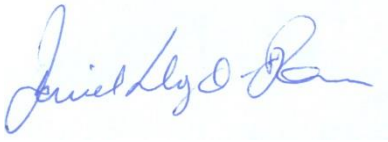
Hedgerows are valuable ecosystems, which can easily be retained or established within designs. They provide shelter, breeding sites and food sources for a wide range of wild animals, birds and insects, improving the bio diversity and interest of a site as well as defining boundaries and reinforcing security and ergonomics.

Where supplementary planting is required or where new hedges are planned I would suggest that Native "Species Rich" hedgerows with component species dictated in some measure by the existing mix of species established on the site. These could provide cost effective boundaries, valuable ecology and aesthetic impact.

6.4 OLD ORCHARDS

Old or traditional orchards are now designated "UK Priority Habitat", as determined by the Joint Nature conservation Committee. This means that they have high ecological habitat status of national importance similar to SSSIs.

The ecology and diversity of species associated with old orchards means that their assessment, treatment and management are best undertaken by appropriate Orchard specialists.

Signed 

David Lloyd-Jones Tech Cert Arbor A.

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