



July 2023
CBA11764 v1

Mr Venky

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

Site:
79 Ashdown Road
Chandlers Ford
SO53 5QX



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The Complete Arboricultural Consultancy



ARBORICULTURAL REPORT FOR RETROSPECTIVE PLANNING APPLICATION

Client:	Mr Venky
Site:	79 Ashdown Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 5QX
Arboricultural Consultant:	Stefan Rose <i>BSc (Hons), TechCert (Arbor.A), TechArborA</i>
Date:	July 2023

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- CB1 Tree Survey Schedule and Root Protection Area Schedule
- CB2 Qualifications and Experience

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 CBA Trees was instructed to visit site at 79 Ashdown Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 5QX to assess three Silver Birch trees following the erection of a front porch to the property. An arboricultural report was further instructed for retrospective planning permission for retention of the front porch (reference H/23/95063) following comments from Mr Chris Stringer, Tree Officer for Eastleigh Borough Council, regarding the storage of construction materials within the root protection areas which may have caused damage to the trees.
- 1.2 Our advice has been sought on the potential impact that the works to construct the porch and material storage may have had on the protected trees, what actions may be taken to help lessen the impact through mitigation and recommend a course of management for the trees should it be thought that the trees can be retained.

Image 1: Showing Google Street view from September 2020



2.0 CLIENT'S BRIEF

2.1 In line with our written quotation and verbal instructions, information has been compiled in accordance with current best practice advice.

- To undertake an assessment of the site works and the impact of these works on the Birch trees and to advise of any potential remedial works or course of management for the trees if considered appropriate.

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

3.1 The site is an existing residential semi-detached property set within an established residential area. Retrospective planning permission for retention of the front porch (reference H/23/95063) is to be decided by Eastleigh Borough Council.

3.2 At the time of the site visit on 6th July 2023 building works for the construction of the front porch had been completed although there appears to be an area in front of the newly constructed porch (a constructed concrete/brick floor) that appears to be incomplete and further brickwork is being laid.

3.3 The front and side areas to the property are mainly laid to lawn. A new loose stone area is immediately to the frontage of the porch and dwelling.

Photograph 1:
Showing Tree 1 (left)
and Tree 3 (right)
in relation to the
dwelling



4.0 THE TREE STOCK

- 4.1 CBA Trees undertook a tree survey on 6th July 2023. The tree survey exercise identified three Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) trees. The Tree Survey Schedule is appended at CB1.
- 4.2 There are three trees, all Birch growing to the eastern side of the dwelling.
- 4.3 Of the three trees, the middle tree (Tree 2) is dead and has been for some time. Of interest to this report are the two larger Birch trees.
- 4.4 Tree 1 is considered to be of a mature age class and has a trunk diameter of 570mm at 1.5m above ground level. This tree grows with Tree 3 and as such the crown is naturally distorted through competition for light. Minor deadwood was noted throughout the crown. The tree had an overall appearance of being a little sparser and with a leaf colour not as strong as Tree 3. The tree has low branches over the public footpath.
- 4.5 Tree 3 is considered to be of a mature age class and has a trunk diameter of 580mm at 1.5m above ground level. This tree grows with Tree 1 and as such the crown is naturally distorted through competition for light. The tree had an overall appearance of a healthier tree in comparison to Tree 1. The tree has low branches over the public footpath.

5.0 TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.

- 5.1 The Silver Birch trees are legally protected by the Tree Preservation Order 58-H served and administered by Eastleigh Borough Council.

6.0 TREE/SITE OBSERVATIONS

- 6.1 Of the three trees, the middle tree is dead and has been for some time. This is considered to have died naturally and not as a result of the works on site.
- 6.2 There was no evidence of tree protection having been set up i.e. there were no areas of dead grass or obvious holes in the ground where fencing support would have been placed.
- 6.3 There is no obvious damage to the ground surface from the storage of materials within the root protection areas of the two trees.
- 6.4 Areas of grass appear to have cement/mortar on them. The client advised that no mixing took place on site and that these areas are where cement was dropped in the rooting area of the trees (see Photograph 2 below).
- 6.5 A new boundary wall has been built, which in our opinion is likely to have compromised tree roots to some degree although the client informs us that no digging took place and that the wall is held together using wall ties.

- 6.6 In general the soft ground area appears to have been used for some form of activity when the current ground condition (lack of grass or bare earth patches) is compared to the street view of 2020 shown in Image 1 above.
- 6.7 A window frame is currently stored against the new boundary wall and a bag (appears to be a cubic meter size) is also present in the rooting area of the trees.

Photograph 2: Showing soft ground area near to Tree 1 (left) and Tree 3 (right) indicating areas where materials have been mixed/used



Photograph 3: Showing the ground adjacent to the trunk of Tree 1



Photograph 4: Showing Tree 2 and the proximity to the newly constructed porch



7.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 BS5837:2012 *"Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations"* advises a minimum area for trees to be retained with a root system that allows the tree to survive. This area is a recommendation with site-specific conditions, tree species and health needing to be considered as well to make a judgement on the extent of rooting area a given tree needs.
- 7.2 Using the above recommendations, Tree 1 would require a root protection linear distance of 6.8m and Tree 3 a distance of 7.0m indicating that the porch is located within the rooting area albeit that the incursion itself, in our opinion, would not be detrimental to the trees rooting systems and the long term health of the trees.
- 7.3 However, storing and mixing of materials within the root protection area can compact soils and change the rate that air, nutrients and moisture can be accessed by roots and mixing or use of wet materials can cause chemicals that are poisonous to tree roots to leech into the soils and which can then be harmful to the trees.
- 7.4 With the above in mind and the fact that a wall has been constructed that must, logically have a foundation and is highly likely to have damaged/removed roots we would recommend that the following works occur as soon as reasonably practical in a time frame agreed with the Local Planning Authority to provide an environment of optimal conditions for the rooting environment improvement:
- Remove all building materials and loose spoil that is within 7m of the trunk (window frame and bag).
 - Aerate the soil within 6.5m of the centre of the trunk by inserting a garden fork into the ground to the depth of the spikes and spaced at approximately 50cm gaps; fill the gaps with a horticultural sand or grit to allow air and nutrients to enter the ground and relieve any compaction that may have occurred.
 - Mulch to a depth of 100mm with good quality wood chip up to the line of the decorative stones in the lawn between the trees and the dwelling, up to the boundary.

Image 2: Approximate area to mulch



- Commit to having annual tree assessments for the next three years to be carried out in the summer months when the tree is expected to be in full leaf. This will provide ongoing advice over a period of time of the impact that the storage of materials and probable root loss may have had on the legally protected Birch trees with recommendations to be made after each visit accordingly.







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TREE SURVEY NOTES

This Tree Survey has been undertaken within the recommendations of British Standards 5837:2012 and current arboricultural best practice.

- Each tree has been numbered and, where instructed, for future identification on site, has been tagged using small durable metal or plastic tags.
- Due to variations of existing ground levels through the site, height dimensions are estimated and are given in metres. Accurate heights, measured with the aid of optical instruments can be provided where instructed.
- Trunk/stem diameters are measured in mm at 1.5 metres above ground level, using a standard measuring tape as defined by British Standards, unless otherwise stated.
- Estimated branch spread is taken in metres from the centre of the trunk, at the four cardinal points of a compass, to achieve an accurate representation of the crown shape which will be recorded on the tree survey plan.

- An assessment of a tree's age classification is made in terms of its maturity within the site's landscape and defined as:

Y	=	young trees
SM	=	semi-mature trees
EM	=	early mature trees
M	=	mature trees
OM	=	over-mature trees

- An assessment of a tree's physiological condition is defined as:

Good	=	fully functioning biological system showing average vitality i.e. normal bud growth, leaf size, crown density and wound closure
Fair	=	fully functioning biological system showing below average vitality i.e. reduced bud growth, smaller leaf size, lower crown density and reduced wound closure
Poor	=	a biological system with limited functionality showing significantly below average vitality i.e. limited bud growth, small and chlorotic leaves, low crown density and limited wound closure
Dead	=	dead

- An assessment of a tree's structural condition is defined as:

Good	=	no significant structural defects
Fair	=	structural defects which could be alleviated through remedial tree surgery or management practices
Poor	=	structural defects which cannot be alleviated through tree surgery or management practices
Dead	=	dead

- An assessment of a tree's future life expectancy is defined as: **<10, 10+, 20+ or 40+ years.**

Categorisation of Trees

The category for each tree is assessed using the recommendations of BS5837:2012. The assessment has not considered any site-specific development proposals, but will have considered any changes on or off-site which may have an effect on the conditions surrounding the surveyed trees.

The trees have been classified into one of the following categories (and one or more sub-categories [this will however not increase the value of the tree]) and are indicated on the associated drawings by colours as indicated.

Category U				Identification colour on plan
Trees 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 - 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			DARK RED
Category A	1 – Mainly arboricultural values	2 – Mainly landscape values	3 – Mainly cultural values	Identification colour on plan
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 semi-formal 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	1 – Mainly arboricultural values	2 – Mainly landscape values	3 – Mainly cultural values	Identification colour on plan
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 down-graded 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 value or other cultural value	MID BLUE
Category C	1 – Mainly arboricultural values	2 – Mainly landscape values	3 – Mainly cultural values	Identification colour on plan
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

Clients are advised that Tree Surveys are a basic data collection exercise and record of tree condition at the time of survey. This will identify any visible signs of ill-health or major defects, advising a further detailed investigation where appropriate. This will most often take the form of a request for either “*full ground level inspection*” or “*climbing inspection required*”. There may also be a further reference to the need for “*decay detection equipment*” to aid diagnosis. A tree survey does not include a comprehensive schedule or specification of remedial tree works, but may contain a guide to the work which might be undertaken by a prudent tree owner, purely for reasons of health and safety.

A Tree Survey should not be confused with a Tree Inspection or Arboricultural Implication Assessment, which are totally separate exercises.

	TREE SURVEY REPORT (BS5837:2012)	
	Site:	79 Ashdown Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 5QX
	Date:	6th July 2023
	Consultant:	Stefan Rose <i>BSc(Hons), TechCert (Arbor A), TechArbor.A</i>
	Tagged:	No

Notes:

1. It may be advised that some trees should have the ivy removed to enable a re-survey to be carried out. This would also alleviate the tree from becoming suppressed; carrying additional weight that increases the chance of windthrow due to a larger dense crown area; and only receiving restricted light. Unless otherwise stated, in order to prevent regrowth, it is only necessary to remove a 300mm section of ivy and clear around the base.
2. It may be advised that it was only possible to estimate the diameter of some trees because of ivy smothering, dense vegetation, or trees located off-site with no access.
3. The estimated remaining contribution in years, and the tree grading category have been calculated for the current situation and may alter where further investigation works are advised.
4. Some trees or groups may have been given an interim grade. The reason for the interim grading is addressed in the timescales given as this may have a bearing on health and safety and/or any development proposals.
5. Tree Groups have been assessed with estimated and representative data.
6. This is not a Tree Works Schedule. Any preliminary management recommendations are listed in the interests of health and safety and should be carried out by a prudent tree owner.
7. Any management recommendations are suggested for reasons of health and safety only, regardless of development proposals at this stage. However, the defects requiring remedial tree surgery are by their very nature potential wildlife habitats, including protected species which needs consideration prior to any tree surgery works commencing.
8. The data collected and any advice provided within this report is supplied in the interests of sound arboricultural management. Trees are a living dynamic organism that can be affected by external conditions (high winds, storms, snow, heavy rain or drought) and may occasionally fail without warning. It is therefore not possible to state with any certainty that any tree or group of trees is completely safe. The condition of a tree or group of trees can change rapidly as a result of external factors; we would advise that the occupier/ owners inspect the trees at least every 12 months or following periods of extreme weather and where concerns are raised relating to tree health that would be considered beyond the knowledge of a layperson, further arboricultural advice should be sought.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER / CONSERVATION AREA STATUS:
The Eastleigh Borough Council interactive map shows that at the time of the enquiry there is a Tree Preservation Order 58-H protecting all trees on site. The site is not located within a Conservation Area.

Tree No	Species	H't (m)	Single/ Multi-Stemmed (S or MS)	Stem Diam (mm)	Branch Spread (m)				H't of Crown AGL (m)				Life Stage	Physio-logical Condition	Structural Condition and General Observations	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Est. Rem. Contrib. (Yrs)	Cat
					N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W						
1	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	17	S	570	8.5	7.0	5.5	6.5	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	M	Fair	Fair Trunk and crown shape distorted due to group pressure Minor deadwood in crown	Crown lift over public footpath to provide 3m ground level clearance	20+	B1+2
2	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	SM	Dead	Dead Dead tree	Advise removal	-	U
3	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	16	S	580	5.0	5.0	4.0	5.5	2.0	2.5	1.5	1.0	M	Good	Fair Apical dieback beginning to form Low hanging branches Trunk and crown shape distorted due to group pressure Minor deadwood in crown	Crown lift over public footpath to provide 3m ground level clearance	20+	B1+2

	BS5837:2012 TREE ROOT PROTECTION AREA SCHEDULE	
	Site:	79 Ashdown Road, Chandlers Ford, SO53 5QX
	Date:	6th July 2023
	Consultant:	Stefan Rose <i>BSc(Hons), TechCert (Arbor A), TechArbor.A</i>

Notes:

1. This is an assessment of the Root Protection Area (RPA) required, based on the individual tree data collected and Section 4.6.1 of BS5837:2012.
2. For all single stem trees with a stem diameter greater than 1250mm, and multi-stem trees with a stem diameter greater than 1500mm, the calculated RPA has been capped at 707m² in accordance with Section 4.6.1 of BS5837:2012.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER / CONSERVATION AREA STATUS:

The Eastleigh Borough Council interactive map shows that at the time of the enquiry there is a Tree Preservation Order 58-H protecting all trees on site. The site is not located within a Conservation Area.

Tree No	Species	Category	Single/ Multi-Stemmed (S or MS)	Stem Diameter (mm)	Initial Linear Root Protection Distance (Radius m)	Root Protection Area (m ²)
1	Silver Birch Betula pendula	B1+2	S	570	6.8	147
2	Silver Birch Betula pendula	U	-	-	-	-
3	Silver Birch Betula pendula	B1+2	S	580	7.0	152





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Qualifications of Stefan Rose Principal Consultant

Stefan Rose *BSc (Hons), TechCert (Arbor.A), TechArbor.A*, joined CBA Trees in 1998 as a junior surveyor and having gained extensive knowledge and a wealth of experience over the years including Professional Tree Inspectors Certification (LANTRA), has progressed to Principal Consultant. He has considerable experience in working as a locum for Local Authorities, assessing new and extant Tree Preservation Orders, and continues to work on a number of major development projects nationwide.

As our Principal Consultant Stefan undertakes a full range of arboricultural services from health and safety audits to BS5837:2012 tree surveys, providing expert advice and guidance on initial feasibility site assessments to full scale planning applications. He is accomplished at producing implication assessments and method statements for the submission of planning applications, working with both individual home owners and within multi-disciplinary teams to achieve successful arboricultural outcomes.