TRA Consulting

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations'

Planning Application for New Vehicular Crossing Over Highways Land

Arboricultural Method Statement

SITE

5 Western Way,

Salisbury,

SP2 9DP

CLIENT

Mr T. Smith

IAN LEE

MICFor MArborA BSC (Hons) Tech Cert (Arbor A)

Chartered Arboricultural Consultant

DATE: 31.08.2023

OUR REF: TRA 0362

CONTACT DETAILS: Office: 01622 435929

Mobile: 07980 281261

Ian@treeradaruk.com

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1. Introduction:

1.1. This report is for the purpose of providing information to comply with the requirements of Wiltshire District Council, to provide an Arboricultural Method Statement, detailing tree protection measures and working methodology for the creation of a new dropped kerb and driveway access at 5 Western Way, Bemerton Heath, Salisbury, SP2 9DP.The work is in accordance with BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations' (referred to as BS).

1.2. This report details tree condition, the impact of the proposal on, and from, the existing trees and the measures taken to protect the trees to be retained. It also includes tree surgery recommendations.

2. Statement of instructions and issues discussed:

2.1. I was instructed by Mr T. Smith to: -

2.1.1. Carry out a tree survey of all trees on or adjacent to the site which may be affected by the proposals in accordance with BS 5837:2012 '*Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*' (BS);

2.1.2. Analyse the proposals and the impact on trees to be retained using the tree survey data;

2.1.3. Produce a tree protection plan, showing the location of the tree protection fencing in accordance with the BS and a specification for the protection of the existing trees;

2.1.4. Provide a tree surgery schedule which includes work to facilitate construction, based on the layout of, and works to, trees due to their condition or previous management;

2.1.5. Provide an arboricultural method statement in as much detail as is practical at this stage, without the appointment of a contractor.

2.2. The issues addressed are tree condition, and how the proposal impacts on the site and vice versa.

3. The site and trees:

3.1. Site description: The site of the survey is the pavement and grass verge on the southern side of Western Way, adjacent to the junction with Pembroke Road. The grass verge is an irregular shaped triangle, with pavements running either side of it, with residential properties to the south and the roadway to the north and east. A single tree is located within the verge, while on the far side of the junction several larger trees are located in a much larger grass area.

3.2. The trees: There are 1 tree and 1 hedge which are the subject of this report. The individual tree is a mature cherry plum located within the center of the grass verge. The tree has had significant limb removal on the eastern side in the recent past, leaving large wounds and gaps in the crown. Brackets of the decay fungus *Phellinus igniarius* are present on several limbs, likely causing decay of the stems, though the condition and strength of the wood cannot be determined from ground level.



Photo 1. View of T1 looking north west.

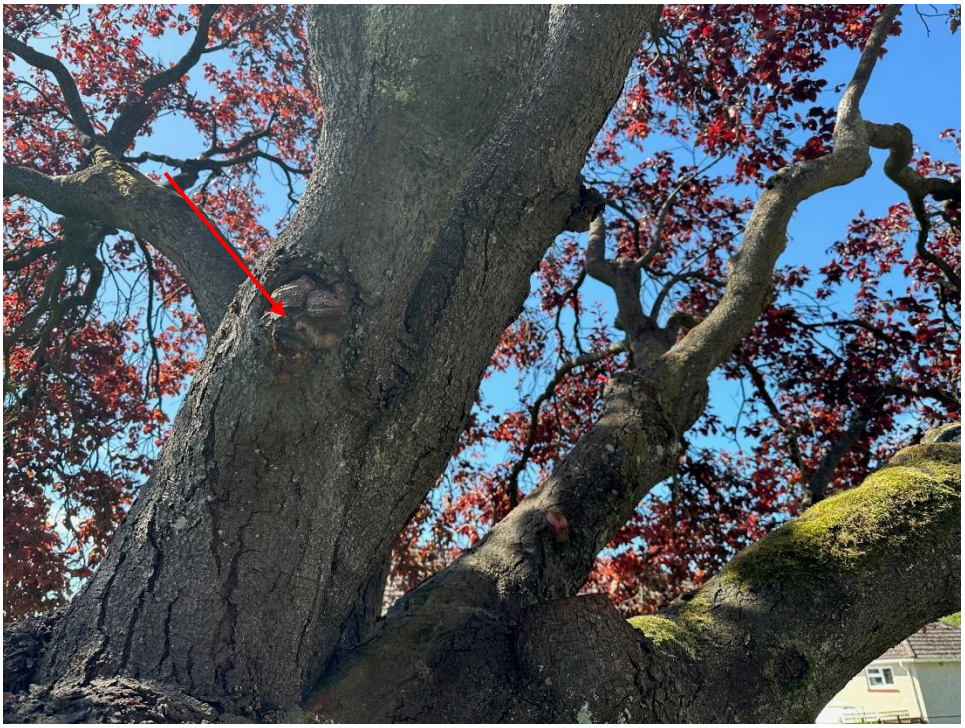


Photo 2. Arrow shows brackets of decay fungus in pruning wound on northern side.

3.3. Along the front boundary of the property, H2 is a well-maintained hedge line, providing screening and separation between the garden and the public space.



Photo 3. View of T1 and H2 looking south.

3.4. Full details are found in the survey sheets at Appendix 1 and their location on the tree survey plan TRA 0362 TSP at appendix 2.

4 The Application:

4.1. Planning consent for the creation of a new dropped kerb and driveway access to the dwelling has been submitted to Wiltshire Council as the Planning and Highways Authority. An early response from them has requested that the *'client will need to demonstrate that the proposals would not harm the tree during the proposed construction works or prejudice its long-term retention. Your client will therefore need to submit an arboricultural method statement undertaken by a suitably qualified individual to demonstrate that the proposals would not harm this tree.'*

5 Arboricultural method statement

5.1. Generally: Development can harm or destroy trees if not carried out carefully. Tree's crowns and trunks can be damaged by machinery or scorched by fire or chemicals. Tree's roots can be asphyxiated and die if the rooting zone becomes compacted and the soil structure damaged. This can happen very easily, particularly on clay soils, even with the passage of light vehicles. Tree roots can be damaged by raising or lowering the ground level. In some cases, it can take several years for the damage to become apparent. This report details how the proposed development will take place whilst ensuring that the tree shown for retention can be protected.

5.1.1 *Site and fuel storage, cement mixing and washing points:* All cement mixing and washing points for equipment and vehicles and fuel storage areas must be sited to the west of the grass verge or along the public highway. No discharge of potential contaminants may be permitted to occur where there is a risk of run off into the root protection area.

5.1.2 *Protection of tree canopies:* During the excavation works care must be taken to ensure that neither excavator booms, nor grabber lorries come into contact with the crown of the tree. It is the operator's and site foreman's responsibility to ensure that this is observed during the works. Clearance over the ground here is considered sufficient for the use of a mini-digger and for the passage of domestic vehicles.

5.2 The following method statements are in chronological order:

5.3 <u>Tree surgery schedule:</u>

To facilitate the works H2 will be felled to ground level and their roots removed during the creation of the driveway. No other works are required by the client to the crown of T1. The scope of all tree works to be carried out is found in the tree surgery schedule in Appendix 5. All works shall be in accordance with BS 3998:2010 '*Tree work. Recommendations*'. The use of a competent and insured tree surgery contractor is necessary to comply with this.

At the time of writing this report it is not known if either T1 or H2 are located within a conservation area, however it is understood that neither are the subject of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). Tree protection is subject to change and as such checks should be made prior to undertaking any works to the trees.

5.4 Tree protection during works

Tree protection is the responsibility of anyone who enters the site. Details of the required tree protection measures outlined within this report will be included in the site induction to ensure that they are fully understood.

5.5 Traditional Heras fence tree protection fencing is not appropriate for this site due to the short duration of the works within the bounds of the public highway. Instead, the working methodology within this report will set out measures to ensure the RPA of T1 is protected.

5.6 The proposed new vehicle crossing is located 4.4m from T1 at its closest point, extending into the RPA of T1 by 1.1m at the point of greatest encroachment. This area is shown by the brown hatching on the Tree Protection Plan. This area represents only a very small percentage of the theoretical RPA, with a part of this consisting of the soils beneath the pavements, which are sub optimal for tree root growth. The grass verge is narrowing at this point, while it widens to the southeast of the tree. As such it is likely that the tree will be preferentially rooting to the south-east.

5.7 To minimise the impact of the works on the root system of the tree all excavations will be carried out under arboricultural supervision. The excavations will be carried out using a toothless bucket mounted on a mini-digger, which will be restricted to working from outside the RPA. The edge of the excavation and the area of restricted access will be identified on-site during the set up using spray paint. The significance of this will be communicated to all site operatives. No machinery or materials will be permitted within the grass verge area. Shallow scrapes will be made under the guidance of the supervising arboricultural consultant, allowing hand digging around any roots. This will allow an assessment to be made as whether the roots can be retained and diverted or require pruning back to a suitable point. Debris will be rolled back away from the tree onto the surface yet to be removed. Any exposed roots must be covered with clean good quality sharp sand to prevent them drying out. The area will then be levelled using handheld tools only, with the subbase built up on top of this. Roots beneath the formation level will be left intact and undisturbed, with the depth of the excavations kept to a minimum.

5.8 The edges of the excavation will be lined with impermeable plastic sheeting to prevent alkali burn to roots in the surrounding soils, which can result from the use of concrete to set the kerb stones. Permeable surfacing will not be used due to the need to match the surrounding surface treatments, however this still only represents a small section of the theoretical RPA.

6. Arboricultural site supervision

6.1. The duration of the excavation works and setting of the kerb edging will be completed within a single day. Therefore, arboricultural supervision will be in place for the initial site set up, excavations, preparation and the setting of the kerb stones. The installation of the asphalt surfacing will be undertaken at a later date, once the kerbs are suitably set. This may be undertaken without arboricultural supervision in a similar fashion to the council repairing a pavement.

6.2. After the works are completed, a short report will be completed and submitted to Wiltshire Council and the client as a record of compliance with this report.

7. Conclusions:

7.1. That provided the methods in this report are followed on site, there will be no long term adverse arboricultural impact to tree T1.

8. Recommendations:

8.1. That a copy of the report, including the site-specific method statements and tree protection plan is kept on site at all times. This report is to form part of the site induction and should be sent to the demolition and construction contractors prior to their arrival on site to inform their method statements and risk assessments.

8.2. No ground level changes will be carried out within the RPA of T1 beyond the line of the new crossing and that the depth is kept to the minimum permitted by the Wiltshire Council guidelines.

IAN LEE
MICFor MArborA BSC (Hons) Tech Cert (Arbor A)

Appendix 1

Tree survey sheets

Explanation of the tree survey sheets

The tree survey has been carried out in accordance with BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations'. Below is an annotation of the abbreviations in the sheet and their meanings.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8				9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Tree Number	Botanical Name (Common name)	Age	Dia (mm)	Stems	Height (crown height)	Ult ht (m)	N	E	S	W	Cond	Life Exp	BS Cat	RPR (m)	RPA (m^2)	Comments	Recommendations

1 Tree

T - Tree, **G** - Group of trees, **H** - Hedge and **S** -shrub mass

2 Species – Botanical name (Common name)

3 Age

NP – Newly planted, **Y** – Young - an establishing tree that could be easily transplanted

SM - Semi-mature - an established tree still to reach its ultimate height and spread with considerable growth potential.

EM – Early mature – a tree reaching its ultimate height and whose growth is slowing, however it will still increase considerably in stem diameter and crown spread.

M – Mature – a tree with limited potential for further significant increase in size, although likely to have a considerable safe useful life expectancy

OM – Over-mature – a senescent or moribund tree with a limited safe useful life expectancy

V – Veteran – a tree older than typical for the species and of great ecological, cultural or aesthetic value.

4 Dia (mm)

Diameter of the stem in millimetres at 1.5m above ground level for single stemmed tree or in accordance with Annex C of BS 5837 for multi-stemmed trees or trees with low forks or irregular stems.

5 Stems

Number or stems. Multi-stemmed is m/s

6 Height (Crown height)

Height in metres from the ground to the top of the crown

(Crown height) – height of canopy above ground level

7 Ult ht (m)

Height in metres that could be reasonably expected for the species given its condition, past management and location.

8 NSEW

The crown spread from the trunk to the tips of the crown at the four cardinal points

9 Cond

Physiological condition. Good, fair, poor or dead

10 Life Exp

Estimated remaining contribution in years; <10, 10+, 20+ and 40+.

11 BS Cat

Category in accordance with Table 1 and section 4.5 of BS

U – unsuitable for retention. Existing condition is such that they cannot be realistically retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years. Note, category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which might be desirable to preserve.

A – high quality and value (non-fiscal) with at least 40 years remaining life expectancy

B – moderate quality and value with at least 40 years remaining life expectancy

C – low quality and value with at least 10 years remaining life expectancy, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm

A, B and C category trees are additionally graded into: 1 – mainly arboricultural values, 2 – mainly landscape values and 3 – mainly cultural values including conservation

12 RPR (m)

RPR – Root protection area radius (m)

13 RPA – Root protection area (m^2)

14 Comments

Detailed comments about the tree

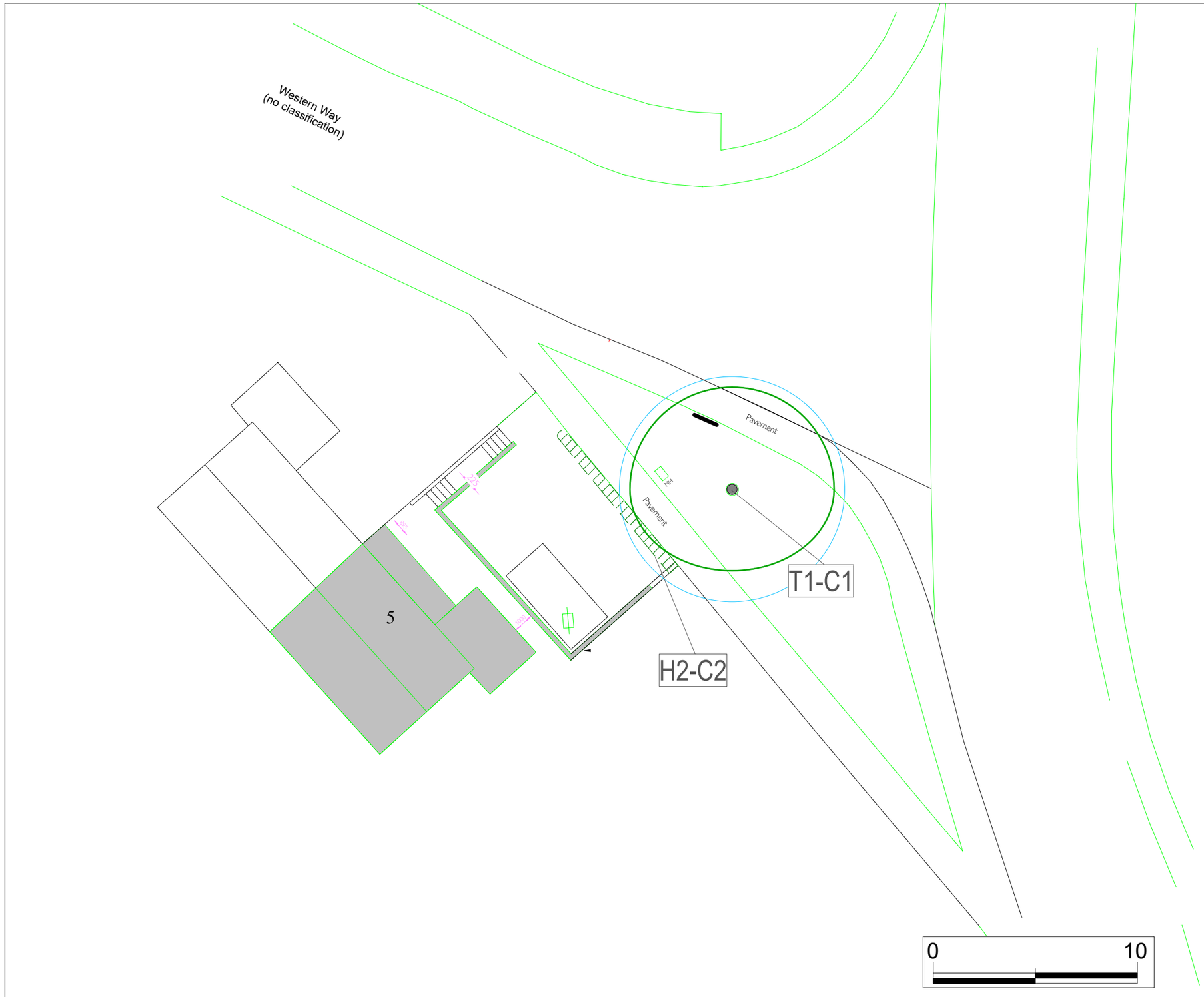
15 Preliminary recommendations

Recommendations based on the tree's conditions and its current surroundings.

Tree Number	Botanical Name (Common name)	Age	Dia (mm)	Stems	Height (crown height)	Ult ht (m)	N	E	S	W	Cond	Life Exp	BS Cat	RPR (m)	RPA (m^2)	Comments	Recommendations
T1	Prunus cerasifera (Cherry Plum)	M	460	1	6.5 (1.8)	7	5	5	4	5	Poor	10+	C1	5.5	95.7	Tree growing in grass verge between road and property, with pavements running around edges. Tree has previously had major limb removal on Eastern side. Brackets of decay fungus phellinus present on multiple limbs. Large gaps in crown due to limb loss and tree surgery. Twisted form at base.	Advise owner of condition as outside site ownership.
H2	Ligustrum vulgare (Privet)	SM	50	1	1.5 (0)	2	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	Fair	10+	C2	0.6	1.1	Low well maintained boundary hedge between footpath and garden, providing some screening and amenity.	None

Appendix 2

Tree Survey Plan TRA 0362 TSP and
Tree Protection Plan TRA 0362 TPP



Crown spread

Group of trees

RPA - root protection area
as defined by Table 2
BS 5837:2012

T1-C Category C tree - Low quality and value

Notes

1. Contractors to check all dimensions on site
2. Discrepancies must be reported to the Arboricultural Consultant before proceeding
3. The original of this drawing was produced in colour, a monochrome copy should not be relied upon.
4. It is the responsibility of the contractor to ensure necessary consents for tree works are in place
5. This drawing is copyright
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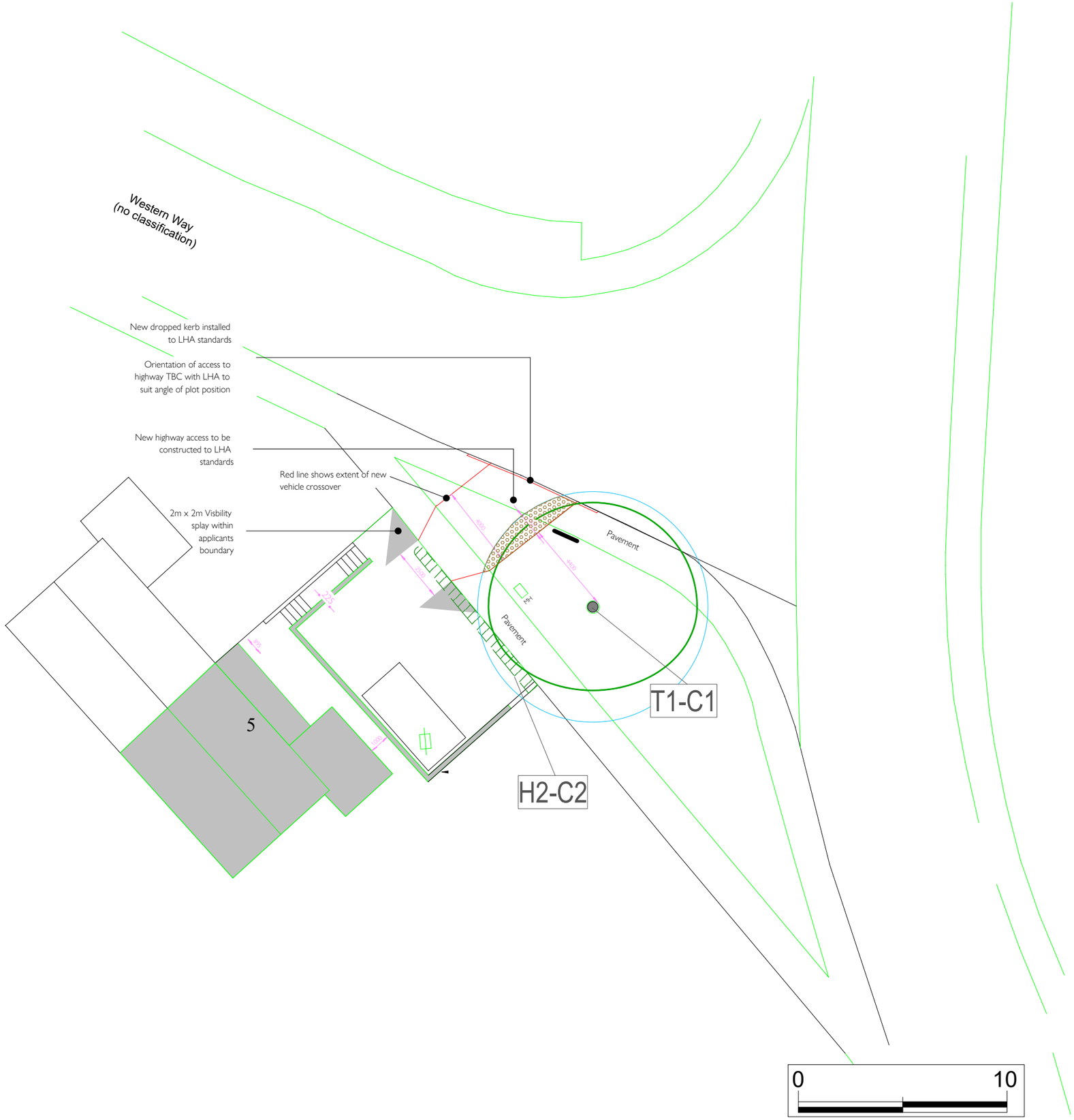
Mr T. Smith

Site Address

5 Western Way,
Salisbury SP2 9DP

Drawing Title	Orientation	Drawn	Authorized
Tree Survey Plan		IL	KL

Date	Drawing Number	Scale	Drawing Status
30.08.2023	TRA 0362 TSP	1:100@A3	For Issue



Crown spread

Group of trees

RPA - root protection area as defined by Table 2 BS 5837:2012

T1-C Category C tree - Low quality and value

Area requiring supervised excavation

Notes

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Drawing Title	Orientation	Drawn	Authorized
Tree Protection Plan		IL	KL

Date	Drawing Number	Scale	Drawing Status
30.08.2023	TRA 0362 TPP	1:100@A3	For Issue

Appendix 3

Tree surgery schedule

Tree surgery schedule

All works to be carried out in accordance with BS 3998:2010 'Tree works – Recommendations'. All pruning cuts to be made at suitable growing points in the line with the principles of 'Natural target pruning'. An ecological check is required by a competent person prior to tree works being carried. Works should not take place until planning permission is granted, and all pre-commencement conditions are discharged.

Tree no.	Species	Proposed works	Reason
T I	Cherry plum	Advise owner of condition.	To allow them to make assessment as part of their duty of care.
H2	Privet	Fell and grub out stumps.	To facilitate construction of driveway.

Appendix 4

Tree protection specification

Due to the restrictions on space, the short duration and the works being carried out in the public highway, standard Heras protective fencing is not suitable to protect the RPA of T1. Instead, the area will be marked with spray paint and the significance highlighted during the site set up to ensure that all workers on site are aware that no materials or machinery are permitted within the grass verge.

Ground protection during demolition and construction

Should temporary access be needed within the root protection area during the works, this must be agreed ahead of the commencement of works and ground protection measures are required. This is to prevent root damage and soil compaction.

The ground protection might comprise of one of the following: (section 6.2.3.3 of BS)

A) For pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
B) For pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 tonnes, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;
C) For wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2 tonnes gross weight, an alternative system (e.g. proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.

Appendix 5

Statement of methodology and reference material

Methodology

Tree survey undertaken by Ian Lee on 23rd August 2023. On-site meeting with the client.

Received material:

Extract of feedback from Wiltshire Council's Tree Officer

Proposals on topographical layout.

Reviewed text:

BSI. BS 3998:2010 Tree work-Recommendations.

BSI. BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations

R.G.Strouts and T.G.Winter 'Diagnosis of ill-health in trees' TSO 1994

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council website

C. Mattheck 'The body language of trees' 2015

Percival, G (2017) 'Controlling tree diseases: Thinking outside the box' *Arboricultural Association Newsletter page 42 - 46*

Appendix 6

Tree related legislation

Tree preservation orders and Conservation Areas

The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012.

It is not known if the site is located within a conservation area but it is believed that the trees are not the subject of a Tree Preservation Order. A check should be made prior to undertaking any works to H2 to ensure all necessary consents have been obtained.

Ecological considerations

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended, The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, provide statutory protection to species of flora and fauna including birds, bats and other species that are associated with trees.

Occupiers Liability Act 1957 and 1984

The Occupiers Liability Act (1957 and 1984) places a duty of care to ensure that no reasonably foreseeable harm takes place due to tree defects. Therefore, this report includes recommendations within the tree tables for work required for safety reasons. 'Common sense risk management of tree (National Tree Safety Group 2012)' states that *'The owner of the land on which a tree stands, together with any party who has control over the tree's management, owes a duty of care at Common Law to all people who might be injured by the tree. The duty of care is to take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions that cause a reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to persons or property'.*

Appendix 7

Caveats and exclusions

Specific report caveats

1. At the time of writing this report, the protected tree status is believed to be correct. However, this can change. Therefore, I advise that a further check is made with Wiltshire Council before any works to the tree takes place and that confirmation is received that the council consider all pre-commencement conditions to be discharged .
2. No internal diagnostic equipment was used other than a sounding mallet and probe and all inspections were from ground level only, with the aid of binoculars where necessary.
3. The survey is concerned solely with arboricultural issues.
4. Any changes in ground level, or excavations near to tree roots not discussed within this report are not permitted. Should any such works be needed this report must be updated accordingly to ensure that the tree can safely be retained and the works agreed with Wiltshire Council.
5. As trees are a dynamic living organism this report is only valid for a period of 12 months, in respect to their health and condition.
6. Only the tree listed in this report has been examined.
7. The tree information is from the time of the survey. Some pests, diseases and fungi only appear seasonally, therefore it is possible not all issues that may affect the health of the trees could be observed.

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Appendix 8

My experience and qualifications

PROFILE: Ian Lee

MICFor MArborA BSC (Hons) Tech Cert (Arbor A)

Ian has seventeen years' experience as an arboricultural consultant in the private and public sector. Ian is a professional member of the Arboricultural Association and has a degree in Forestry. Ian has considerable expertise in problem solving in relation to trees and the planning process and complex construction issues.

Ian has a deep understanding and knowledge on the operation and interpretation of TreeRadar © and has carried out two research and development visits with Sharon Hosegood Associates in 2016. This research continues with international colleagues.

Ian has managed a team delivering volume tree surveys and has produced woodland management plans.

Specialities

- Trees in relation to development, including appeals and planning hearings
- Tree root investigations, including TreeRadar©
- Tree hazard evaluation
- Tree preservation orders
- Manager of volume tree surveys

Professional bodies:

- Chartered member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF)
- Professional member of the Arboricultural Association

Qualifications:

- Arboricultural Associations Technicians Certificate
- BSc (Hons) Forestry and Forest Products
- Lantra Visual Tree Assessment

Appendix 9

Glossary

Arboriculture	Formerly all aspects of the culture of trees, especially for forestry. Latterly, the art and science of cultivating and managing trees as groups and individuals, primarily for amenity and other non-forestry purpose**.**
Arboricultural method statement	Methodology for the implementation of any aspect of development that is within the root protection area, or has the potential to result in loss of or damage to a tree to be retained.
Arboriculturist	Person who has, through relevant education, training and experience in the field of trees in relation to construction.
Architecture	In a tree, a term describing the pattern of branching of the crown or root system.
Biodiversity	The variability among all living organisms of an ecological complex.
Biomechanical	Pertaining to the mechanical functions and properties of living organisms, such as trees.
Body language	In trees, the outward display of growth responses and/or deformation in response to mechanical stresses.
Branch	A limb extending from the main stem or parent branch of a tree.
Branch bark ridge	The raised arc of bark tissues that forms the acute angle between a branch and its parent stem
Branch collar	The swelling or roughened bark often found at the base of a branch which should be left intact if the branch is to be pruned off.
Canker	A lesion in which bark and cambium have been killed, sometimes exposing the wood and often showing a swollen appearance owing to the encircling growth of new tissues.
Cambium	Layers of meristematic cells in the cells peripheral to the phloem that give rise to bark.
Canopy	The topmost layer of twigs and foliage in a tree.
Co-dominant	In trees, a similarity between two or more stems or branches with regard to their size and their position within the canopy.
Column	In the wood or phloem of a tree, an axially elongated zone of tissue that is distinguished form the surrounding tissue; e.g. Live verses dead or decayed versus non-decayed.
Construction exclusion zone	An area based on the root protection area from which access is prohibited for the duration of the project.
Coupe	An area of woodland that has been (or is about to be) selectively clear-felled or coppiced.
Crown	In arboriculture, the main foliage-bearing portion of a tree.
Crown lifting	The removal of shortening of the branches that form the lower part of the crown of a tree.
Crown reduction	Pruning in order to reduce the size of the crown of a tree.
Crown thinning	Pruning inside the crown of a tree in order to reduce its density.
Defect	In relation to tree hazards, any feature of a tree which detracts from the uniform distribution of mechanical stress, or which makes the tree mechanically unsuited to its environment.
Dieback	The death of part of a plant, usually starting from a distal point and often progressing proximally in stages.

Direct damage	Direct physical damage to a structure of surface from pressure exerted by the trunk or growing roots.
Dormant bud	An axillar bud which does not develop into a shoot until after the second season following its formation. Many such buds persist through the life of a tree and develop only if stimulated to do so.
Ecosystem services	The benefits that a particular species or range of species bestow upon others (including humans) though ecological relationships. Such services can sometimes be estimated in a form that allows them to be included in financial accounting.
Epicormic	Pertaining to shoots or roots which are initiated on mature woody stems; shoots can form tin this way from dormant buds or they can be adventitious.
Failure	In connection with tree hazards, a partial or total fracture within woody tissues or loss of cohesion between roots and soil.
Flush cut	A pruning cut close to the parent stem which removes part of the branch bark ridge.
Foreseeable	In hazard assessment, pertaining to failure and associated injury of damage which are predictable on the basis of evidence from a tree and its surroundings.
Fungi	Organisms of several evolutionary origins, most of which are multicellular and grow as branched filamentous cells within dead organic matter or living organisms.
Hazard	A thing, a process or a potential event that has the potential to cause harm.
Heartwood	The dead or predominantly dead central wood of various tree species whose outer living wood, sapwood, has a finite and pre-determined lifespan.
Independent in the landscape	Point at which a newly planted tree is no longer reliant on excessive or abnormal management intervention in order to grow and flourish with realistic prospects of achieving its full potential contribute to the landscape.
Level arm	A mechanical term denoting the length of the lever represented by a structure that is free to move at one end, such as a tree or an individual branch.
Landscape character	A distinct, recognisably and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that make one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.
Mulch	Material laid down over the rooting area of a tree or other plant to help conserve moisture, suppress weeds and encourage a beneficial microflora.
Mycorrhizal	Pertaining to an intimate symbiotic association between plant roots and specialised fungi.
PICUS	The Picus Sonic Tomograph is a non-invasive tool for assessing decay in trees. It works on the principle that sound waves passing through decay move more slowly than sound waves traversing solid wood. By sending sound waves from a number of points around a tree stem to a number of receiving points, the relative speed of the sound can be calculated and a two-dimensional image of the cross-section of the tree can be generated
Pollard	A term for a pollarded tree

Pollarding	The complete or partial removal of the crown of a young tree so as to encourage the development of numerous branches; also, further cutting to maintaining this growth pattern.
Probability	A statistical measure of the chance that a particular event (e.g. a specific failure of a tree or specific kind of harm to persons or property) might occur.
Resistograph	The IML-RESI system is based on the measurement of drilling resistance. The IML-RESI operates in a similar manner to a normal drill. A drilling needle with a diameter of 1.5mm is inserted into the wood under constant drive. While drilling, the resistance is measured as a function of the drilling depth of the needle. The data is printed and stored electronically at a scale of 1:1 simultaneously. Although invasive the relatively small needle diameter causes very little damage, testing is normally only undertaken to confirm the remaining stem wall thickness in decaying trees.
Retrenchment	Progressive reduction in the size of the crown of an old tree, by means of the dieback of breakage of twigs and small branches, accompanied by the enhanced development of the lower or inner parts of the crown.
Risks	The likelihood of the potential harm from a particular hazard becoming actual harm.
Root protection area	A layout tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority. BS 5837:2012 *'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations'.*
Root flare	Thickened and expanded base of s tree stem at ground level form which buttress roots form.
Rootplate	The central part of the root system of a tree, consisting of the large-diameter main roots and a dense mass of smaller roots and soil.
Service	In construction, any above-or below-ground structure o apparatus for utility provision.
SULE	Safe useful life expectancy of a tree (Barrell)
Stag-headed	In a tree, a state of dieback in which dead branches protrude beyond the current living crown.
Stress	In plant physiology, a condition under which one or more physiological functions are not operation within their optimum range, for example owing to lack of water, inadequate nutrition or extremes of temperature.
Stub cut	A pruning cut which is made at some length distal to the branch bark ridge.
Target pruning	The pruning of a twig or branch so that tissues recognisably belonging to the parent stem or branch are retained and not damaged.
Targets	In tree hazard assessment, persons or property or other things of value which might be harmed by mechanical failure of the tree or by objects falling from it.
Tree Preservation Order	In Great Britain, an order made by a local authority, whereby the authority's consent is generally required for the cutting down, topping or lopping of specified trees.

Tree protection plan	Scale drawing, informed by descriptive text where necessary, based upon the finalized proposal, showing trees for retention and illustrating the tree and landscape protection measures.
Utility	An undertaker by statute that has a legal right to provide customer services (e.g. communication, electricity, gas and water).
Veteran tree	*'A tree that has passed beyond maturity and is old, or aged, in comparison with other trees of the same species'.* Ancient Tree Guide No. 4 (ATF, 2008).
Vigour	In tree assessment, an overall measure of the rate of shoot production, shoot extension or diameter growth.
Vitality	In tree assessment, an overall appraisal of physiological and biomechanical processes, in which high vitality equates with near-optimal function, in which high vitality equates with healthy function.
Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)	In addition to the literal meaning, a system expounded by Matteck and Breloer (1995) to aid the diagnosis of potential defects through visual signs and the application of mechanical criteria.
White-rot	Various kinds of wood decay in which lignin, usually together with cellulose and other wood constituents, is degraded.
Wound	Injury caused to a tree by a physical force.

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

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SITE

5 Western Way,

Salisbury,

SP2 9DP

CLIENT

Mr T. Smith

IAN LEE
MICFor MArborA BSC (Hons) Tech Cert (Arbor A)
Chartered Arboricultural Consultant

DATE: 31.08.2023

OUR REF: TRA 0362 AMS

CONTACT DETAILS: Office: 01622 435929
Mobile: 07980 281261
Ian@traconsulting.co.uk

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www.treeradaruk.com www.TRAConsulting.co.uk