

42 Shurnhold, Melksham
Arboricultural survey to BS 5837: 2012

Dated 26th August 2025

Compiled by

Nick Cranston at Acer Tree Surgeons Ltd



Tree No. or Group no	Species	Height (m)	Dai. at 1.5m (mm)	Crown clearance from base (m)	Crown spread (compass points) (m)	Age Class	Phys condition	Structural condition	Tree management recommendations	Remaining contribution (yrs)	Category grading (see footer)	RPA (Radius from centre of tree) (m)
T1	Goat willow	13	M/S at 0.5m from ground into 6 stems: 220; 260; 200; 210; 160; 120	1.5	4 all round	M	Good	Compressed union at 0.5m where tree forks into 6 stems. Must be managed every 2-3 years to avoid major stem/limb failures.	Has been kept as an 8m pollard historically. Manage tree by re-pollarding every 2-3 years. Next cut would be within 12 months.	10+	B/C2	2.3

Tree location plan is shown below where the numbers relate to the table above.

M/S – Multi stemmed

A – High quality tree

B – Moderate quality tree

C – Low quality tree

U – Remove

1 - Mainly arboricultural values

2 – Mainly landscape values

3 – Mainly cultural/conservation values

V - Veteran

M – Mature

EM – Early Mature

SM – Semi Mature

Y - Young

D - Dead

For further information contact Nick Cranston

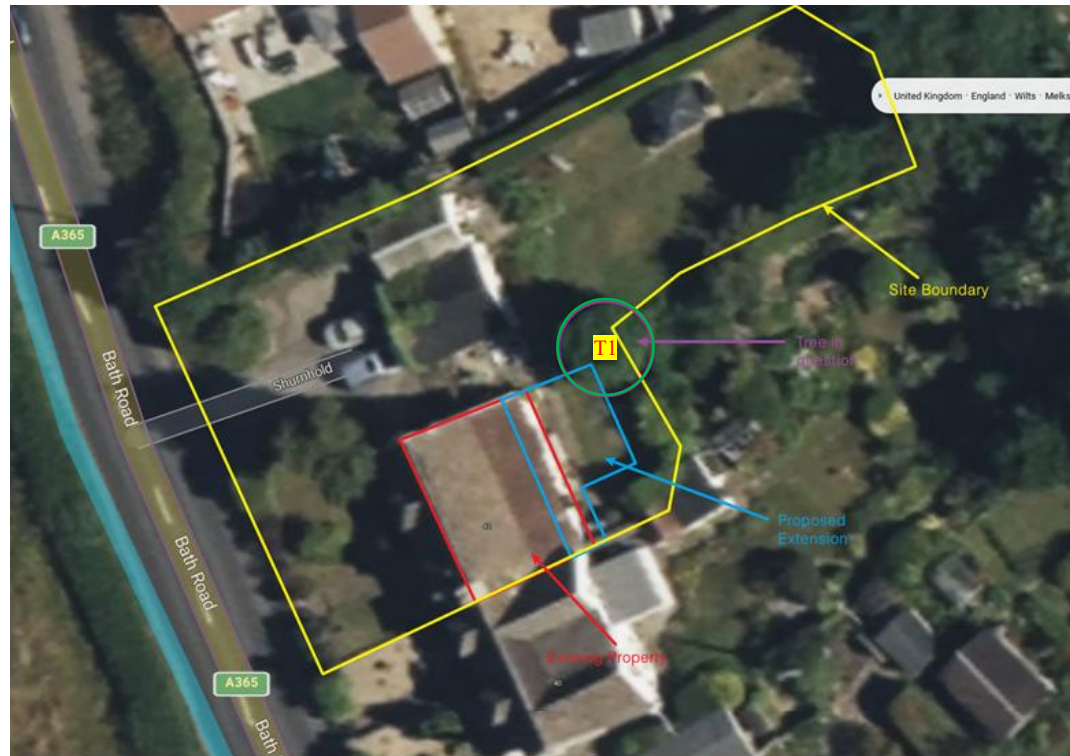
Acer Tree Surgeons Ltd on **07590986261**

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Summary of proposal with regard to the tree:

- It would be difficult to build foundations so close to the tree and not have an impact on both the tree and the feasibility of the foundations.
- The tree would become a potential hazard and long term annoyance to the extension in terms of shading, leaf & catkin drop, damp, mould and then ensuring the tree was pruned every 12 - 18 months to keep it in check.
- It would be unlikely the planners would allow it to go forward without vastly reducing the extension.
- It is a vigorous 'weed' type tree, holds little value in terms of species and longevity so if it was to be left for now and stated within the plans that it would be removed and replaced with another tree (further into the garden) it's likely the planners would be agreeable.
- To avoid any doubt pre-application about whether the planners would allow it or not, the tree could be removed now. There are no restrictions in terms of TPO or conservation area status, so you can do whatever you like with this tree currently.

Background and general info:

Recommendations for the safeguarding of trees in close proximity to development are set out in BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations.

We have, therefore carried out the assessment of the trees in accordance with that document.

Specifically, this report and the accompanying information are supplied in order to:

- Identify the constraints that trees on and adjacent to the site present to the development of the site, in order to inform the site design process.
- Present information regarding the above ground constraints (crown spreads) and below ground constraints (Root Protection Areas - RPAs).
- Recommend necessary remedial tree works to be undertaken to trees that will be retained prior to commencement of the demolition and construction phases of the development.

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- This report is based on a ground level assessment of the trees. Except where stated, all dimensions are estimated. We were not presented with any information on the soil type and no soil samples have been taken.
- Tree numbers have been noted on the plan. The following details were recorded for each tree and are included in the tree schedule and tree survey sheets accompanying this report:
 - Number: an identity number for each tree, prefixed with a 'T' which cross references locations shown on the plan with the tree survey sheets. Where a number of trees, normally of the same species, are located close together and are similar in character and requirements, they have been treated as a Group under a single Number, prefixed with a 'G'.
 - Species: common name only.
 - Tree Height: approximate height in metres (potential height in brackets)
 - Stem Diameter: diameter measured in millimetres, taken at 1.5m above ground. Where the tree is multi-stemmed the diameter is calculated in accordance with BS5837:2012
 - Crown spread: approximate spread in metres taken at the four main compass points N, S, E, W
 - Crown clearance: approximate height from ground to lowest part of canopy
 - Age class: Young, Semi-Mature, Early Mature, Mature, Veteran or Dead.

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- Structural condition: Good, Fair, Poor
- Physiological condition: Good, Fair, Poor, Dead
- Preliminary recommendations; recommended action to ensure the health and safety of the tree.
- Remaining contribution (years): <10, 10+, 20+, 40+
- BS Cat- category grading in accordance with BS 5837:2012

A - trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.

B - trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.

C - trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm

U - 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.

BS Sub Cat - sub-category grading in accordance with BS 5837:2012

1- Mainly arboricultural qualities

2- Mainly landscape qualities

3- Mainly cultural values including conservation

- RPA - Root Protection Area - measured in metres from the centre of the tree stem.

Report Limitations:

Trees are living, dynamic organisms that can be affected by external conditions. It is therefore not possible to state with any certainty that a tree is safe.

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No internal decay devices, or other invasive tools to assess tree condition, were used. No soil excavation or root inspection was undertaken.

This report has not considered the effect that trees or vegetation may have on the structural integrity of adjacent buildings or structures.

The survey contained within this report is not a tree safety inspection. It has been carried out in order to inform the planning process. Where clear and obvious hazards have been observed, these have been addressed in the recommendations. A full assessment of the levels of risk posed by trees would be informed by considering site use together with hazards present within the aerial parts of a tree(s). Changes in site use are likely to occur during, and result from, the proposed development. In the light of these changes, regular tree risk assessments are advised.

Tree condition can change rapidly, the recommendations contained within this report are based on the condition of the tree at the time they were inspected.

While this appraisal is not a tree risk assessment it nonetheless takes into account observed structural defects of the inspected trees in order to inform conclusions with regard to their retentive worth.

Legal duty

It is the responsibility of the tree owner to ensure that their tree(s) is in a safe and stable condition, including the effects of root activity, through duty of care in the Occupiers Liability Act (1957 & 1984).

The Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 makes it an offence to disturb a nesting bird or recklessly endanger a bat or its roost. Professional advice should be sought, where relevant, before undertaking any recommended works.

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For any further questions please contact:

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