# **Robert Thackray Ltd.**



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# **Arboricultural Impact Assessment**

Proposed residential development

Land off Beccles Road

Loddon

Norfolk

Report reference: 16.06.06 AIA

March-2018

#### 1.0 Introduction.

- 1.1 This report has been prepared to identify and advise on the management options and precautions required in connection with the proposed residential development on land to the south of Beccles Road, Loddon, Norfolk ('the site').
- 1.2 The report is intended to supplement the planning application at the above site. It is not intended to be a health and safety assessment of the trees and shall not be used as such.
- 1.3 Plans have been provided through Parker Planning Services by David Futter Associates Limited (DFAL).
- 1.4 The report is limited to the state of the trees on the date the site was visited (8<sup>th</sup> August 2016) and allows for current site and weather conditions. However, should the trees be subject to changes in site use or ground conditions, storm force winds (Beaufort scale 9 or above) or heavy snowfall, re-inspection is recommended to check for deterioration of their structural condition.
- 1.5 Trees are dynamic living organisms and are therefore subject to constant change. The observations and advice given in the report are based on the condition of the trees at the time of inspection.
- 1.6 I have made no investigations to ascertain the legal protection of the trees. The Local Planning Authority (LPA) (South Norfolk Council) must be contacted to check for any restrictions before any tree work is undertaken.
- 1.7 The trees are surveyed with regard to the proposed planning application and the survey does not purport to establish ownership.

#### 2.0 The trees and the site.

- 2.1 The site is currently an area of mainly unused land. Surrounding land use is mostly residential, with a large new housing estate to the east.
- 2.2 The tree survey schedule, explanatory notes and the tree survey and indicative layout drawing 16.06.06 D2 can be found within appendix 1.
- 2.3 The trees on the site are of low quality and value when assessed as individuals. Five trees are recommended for removal because of their poor structures, health or condition. The remaining trees are mostly small, recently planted specimens.
- To the east of the site, down a steep bank and to the far side of a drainage channel there is a group of coppiced willows.
- 2.5 There are no trees of significance on the site.
- 2.6 The surveyed trees are collectively in a fair to poor condition and deemed to be Category C or U (BS5837).

#### 3.0 Proposed development.

- 3.1 It is understood that the proposal is being submitted as an outline planning application.
- 3.2 Sketch plans showing the proposed development have been provided indicating four properties with associated driveways, garaging and garden areas.
- 3.3 The proposed layout can be seen on drawing 16.06.06 D2 within appendix 1. It should be noted that the proposed layout was supplied as a scaled sketch drawing. The outline of the layout was copied onto my plans, therefore I consider all positions of the proposed dwellings, garages and driveways to be approximate.

#### 3.4 Table of recommended work

Tree No. &	5837	Recommended	Reason and justification
species	cat.	work	
S2 – hazel	C1	Re-coppice.	Poorly formed and becoming outgrown.
T3 – willow	U	Fell.	Suckering from base, growing from fallen and cut
			stump. Poor quality internal tree of little significance reaching the end of its life expectancy.
T4 – willow	U	Fell.	Previously failed at the base, suckering, multiple
			lopped limbs where overhanging neighbouring
			garden, split and dead bark to the south. Poor quality
			internal tree of little significance.
T5 – po plar	U	Fell.	Top has snapped out with consequent regrowth,
			suckering from the trunk. Poor quality internal tree
			of little significance.
T7 – purple plum	U	Fell.	Dying.
T13 – willow	U	Fell.	Poorly formed, partly failed and split tree growing
			from the bottom of the ditch, with maturing suckers
			growing towards the neighbouring property.

## 3.5 Proposed tree loss.

3.6 There are five on-site trees proposed to be felled. All these trees are deemed to be in such a poor condition that they should be removed irrespective of the proposed development. All the trees are of low quality and value, insignificant and internal trees and their loss will be of little consequence to the landscape.

### 3.7 Below ground constraints.

- 3.8 There are no infringements into any RPAs in order to allow the development.
- 3.9 The group of willows off-site to the east were not surveyed to ascertain their RPAs due to their position, being the far side of a drainage channel, approximately 2 metres below the ground level of the site. It is not expected that their root systems extend into the site due to the growing conditions and to pography.

#### 3.10 Tree protection.

- 3.11 Areas for protection are shown on drawing 16.06.06 D3, appendix 2. Fencing would need to consist of braced 2 x 3.5 metre HERAS panels.
- 3.12 It is considered that the scheme can be implemented without undue harm or damage to the trees.
- 3.13 It is vital that all protective fencing is suitably installed before any construction commences and remains in place until the construction is complete. The only work on site prior to the installation of tree protection is any tree work as cleared by the LPA.

#### 3.14 Service runs.

3.15 Details of service runs were not available at the time of writing. It is not anticipated that services will need to run within RPAs, given the peripheral position of the trees.

#### 3.16 Boundary treatments.

- 3.17 If it is proposed to erect new fences within the RPA of retained trees, any posts will need to be positioned so as to avoid significant roots and the holes should be dug by hand. No levelling or grading of soil should take place within RPAs as part of any fencing installation.
- 3.18 Where it is proposed to plant new hedges, shrubs or trees within any RPA, this should be done using hand tools, creating minimal disturbance to the ground.
- 3.19 Any fencing or planting works will need to be undertaken following the completion of the construction process, when there is no related machinery on site and the protective fencing may be dismantled to allow access within areas previously protected, for pedestrians and hand tools only.

## 3.20 Above ground constraints.

- 3.21 Drawing 16.06.06 D2, appendix 1, shows indicative future canopy spreads. Future growth of the trees is not considered to be a major constraint on any proposed development due to the position of the trees in relation to the proposed dwellings.
- 3.22 Potential shade patterns have also been plotted, with most of the limited shade being cast to the rear of the gardens. The shade pattern should be seen as indicative only, with shade being dappled and varied throughout the day. None of the trees potentially casting shade are evergreen, so light levels through the winter will not be heavily depleted by foliage cover.

#### 4.0 Future management

- 4.1 Any other new plantings will need regular maintenance during their establishment, including watering, formative pruning and weed control.
- 4.2 Depending on precise layouts, there may be a need to maintain the mixed planting G1 in order to provide sufficient clearance from any adjacent dwelling.

## 5.0 Summary.

- 5.1 The proposal does not require the felling of any significant trees.
- 5.2 Subject to recommendations within this report being followed, it is not anticipated that retained trees on or adjacent to the site will be unduly affected by the proposed development.
- 5.3 Above ground constraints are not considered significant given current proposals and recommendations.

Report written by Robert Thackray MArborA, Dip.Arb.(RFS) on behalf of Robert Thackray Ltd. September 2016.

# Appendix 1

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Explanatory notes for tree schedule\\ Tree schedule\\ Tree survey and indicative layout $-16.06.06$ D2 \end{tabular}$ 

# Explanatory notes for the tree schedule.

Tree No.	Gives the relevant tree number as shown on the enclosed site plans.
	T = tree S = shrub G = group
Species	Given in common or botanical terms.
Height	To the nearest meter as estimated.
Diameter	Of the trunk, to the nearest 10mm as measured. 'e' is an estimated
	figure. The measurement will be at 1.5 metres from ground level.
	Multiple stem trees where trunks originate below 1.5m will be
	measured individually and a combined diameter calculated. Should this
	prove impractical, a measurement at ground level (g/l) or at a stated
	height will be taken.
Branch spread	Of the trees crown, to the nearest 0.1 metre as measured or 0.5 metre
	as estimated. Given in compass quadrants from the trunk.
Height of crown	Clearance between the lowest point of the tree's crown and adjacent
clearance	ground level, as estimated.
Height of first	Height at which the first branch is attached to the trunk, as estimated.
branch	This will generally ignore minor and epicormic/sucker growth.
attachment	Orientation (if given) as N, E, S or W.
Age class	As estimated, <b>Y</b> = young, <b>SM</b> = semi-mature, <b>EM</b> = early mature, <b>M</b> =
	mature <b>OM</b> = over mature.
Health	An indication of the trees health and vitality, expressed as good,
	fair, poor or dead.
Structural	An indication of the tree's structural condition, expressed as good,
condition	fair, poor or 'D' indicating that the tree is dangerous in its current
	setting. Where dashes are present, the condition could not be
	ascertained, usually due to the presence of ivy, the tree being off-site or
	the subject was a small shrub or low hedge.
Preliminary	General comments, recommended works and areas requiring further
management	investigation, if any.
recommendations	
/ comments	
Estimated	Given in bandings, <10 = less than 10 years, 10+ = more than 10,
remaining	possibly less than 20, <b>20+</b> = more than 20, possibly less than 40 and <b>40+</b>
contribution	= more than 40 years.
Future growth	Expressed as <b>High</b> , ' <b>Med</b> ' for medium or <b>Low</b> . Estimated, based on
potential	current growth rates, present site factors, age and species.
RPA as a radius	Distance from the centre of the trunk, within which no ground
	disturbance will take place without prior consultation. This distance will
	be subject to specific site conditions and is intended as a guide.
Category grading	Assessed in accordance with BS 5837, Table 1, where <b>A</b> = high quality
	and value, such trees will be indicated on the site plan in green, <b>B</b> =
	moderate quality and value, in blue, $\mathbf{C}$ = low quality and value, in grey
	and $\mathbf{U}$ = remove due to current condition and situation, in red. Sub
	categories 1, 2 & 3 represent the context, where <b>1</b> = arboricultural or
	individual value, <b>2</b> = landscape or collective value and <b>3</b> = cultural value.

Date: 08.07.2016

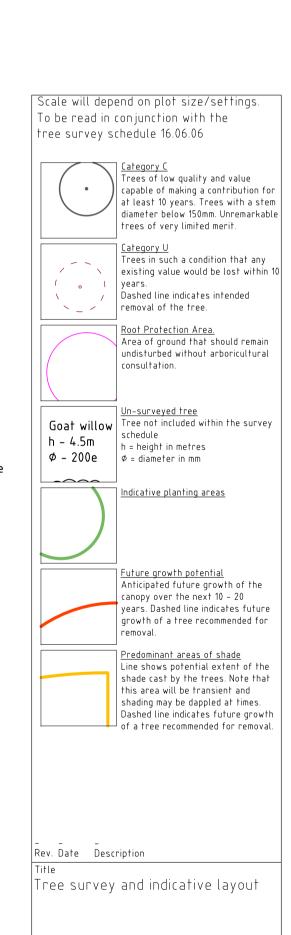
Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Diameter (mm)	Branch spread	(m)	Height of crown clearance (m)	Height of first branch attachment	Age class	Health	Structural condition	Preliminary management recommendations / comments	Estimated remaining contribution (years)	Future growth potential	RPA as a radius (m)	Category grading
G1	Various	Up to 6	Up to 150	N E S W	See plan	0	0	Y to M	Fair	Poor	Mixed group of recent planting, coppice stumps, high coppice hawthorn and 4 mature (but badly formed due to past competition) plums.	10+	High	1.8	C2
S2	Hazel	8	100, 70, 4x 50	N E S W	4 2 2 3	0	0	М	Fair	Fair	Multiple suckers, recommend re-coppicing	10+	Low	1.9	C1
G3	3x birch	5.5	70e	N E S W	1.5 1.5 1.5	2.0	-	Y	Good	-	Recent off site group planting	20+	High	0.9	C2
Т4	Goat willow	4.5	140	N E S W	2 2 2 1	0.5	1	EM	Fair	Poor	Suckering from the base of an old stump	<10	Low	-	U
T5	Willow	6	380	N E S W	4 2 2.5 2	0	0	М	Poor	Poor	Previously failed at the base, suckering, multiple lopped and topped limbs where overhanging the neighbours garden, split and dead bark to the south	<10	Low	-	U
Т6	Variegated poplar	8.5	290	N E S W	3 3.4 2.5 2.5	0	0	SM	Good	Fair To Poor	Lost top at 4m with consequent regrowth, suckering from the trunk, root suckers developing.	<10	High	-	U
Т7	Liquidambar	6	130	N E S W	2.2 1.7 1.9 2.1	0.5	1	Y	Good	Good	Small tree with good potential.	20+	High	1.6	C1

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Т8	Purple plum	4	130	N E S W	1 2.6 2.2 2.5	1	1.5	SM	Poor	Poor	Dying	<10	Low	-	U
Т9	Winter flowing cherry	5	130	N E S W	<ul><li>2.2</li><li>2.5</li><li>2.5</li><li>2.5</li></ul>	1.5	15	Υ	Fair	Fair	Spreading form	10+	Low	1.6	C1
T10	Red Norway maple	4.5	80	N E S W	1.7 2.2 1.9 1.5	1.5	1.5	Υ	Good	Fair	Would benefit from a formative prune	20+	High	1.0	C1
T11	Silver birch	10	300e	N E S W	4 4 4	1.5	2	EM	Good	-	Off site. Dense canopy	10+	Med	3.6	C1
T12	Field maple	5	110	N E S W	2.5 3.1 2 2.5	0.5	0.7	Υ	Good	Fair	Poorly formed	10+	High	1.4	C1
G13	2x corkscrew willow	5.5	180 170	N E S W	2 3.3 2.5 2.5	0	0	SM	Fair	Fair	Two trees within 150mm of each other	10+	Med	2.2	C1
T14	Grey poplar	7	180	N E S W	3.8 3.6 2.8 2.5	0.5	1	Y	Good	Fair	Top snapped at 4 metres, re-grown well, root suckers developing	10+	High	2.2	C1

Site: Land off Beccles Road, Loddon

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T15	Goat willow	10	2x 300e 200e 600e	N E S W	9 11 8 4	0	0	ОМ	Good	Poor	One stem growing from the bottom of the ditch has split and failed, multiple suckers growing towards neighbouring house, one stem on the eastern bank of the ditch has failed, split and layered	<10	Low	-	U
T16	Hawthorn	6	2x 150e	N E S W	1 3 3 3	0	0	М	Fair	Fair	Unable to view, growing within the failed willow canopy	10+	Low	2.5	C1
T17	Ornamental cherry	3.5	200e	N E S W	4 3 2.5 4	2	1.5	М	Fair	Fair	Off site. Small ornamental cherry	10+	Low	2.4	C1



Tree protection -16.06.06 D3