STONEY STREET POULTRY FARM MADELY

TREE REPORT

(Tree survey and Impact assessment)

ACD ENVIRONMENTAL

Ecology
Archaeology
Arboriculture
Landscape Architecture

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1.0 Executive Summary

1.1. This report provides survey information about the trees on the site at Stoney Street Poultry Farm, Madley, in accordance with the recommendations of BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. This is to identify the quality and value of existing trees on site, allowing an assessment to be made of the proposed constructions of eight chicken broiler units.

1.2. There are 10 groups of trees and 2 woodland areas that were included within the survey. The woodland belts were graded as graded as category B2, the groups as C2.

1.3. Trees of A and B category should be considered as constraints to development and every attempt should be made to incorporate them into any proposed development design. Trees of a category C and U will not usually be retained where they would impose a significant constraint to development. Category U trees are often in such a condition that they will be lost within 10 years, and may be removed as good arboricultural practice.

1.4. The proposal is acceptable in arboricultural terms as those trees highlighted for removal are category C & U. The two woodland compartments are being retained.

2.0 Introduction

2.1. ACD were Instructed by Ian Pick Associates, in May 2016, to survey and categorize the trees at Stoney Street Poultry Farm, Madley, in accordance with the British Standard[1], The survey includes all trees with a stem diameter greater than 75mm stem diameter at a height of 1.5m that are on site or close enough to pose a potential constraint to development.

2.2. Individual trees, groups of trees and woodlands have been assessed for their quality and benefits within the context of proposed development. The quality of each tree, or group of trees has been recorded by allocating to it one of four categories. A tree reference plan is provided in order to assist with the design of site layouts.

2.3. This report provides the data and advice outlined in the British Standard only. It must not be substituted for a tree risk assessment. Detailed tree inspection including decay mapping, aerial inspection, soil analysis, etc. was not undertaken. If further detailed inspection is deemed necessary, then it will be made clear within this report.

2.4. The Tree Reference Plan is based on the supplied OS base, aerial photography and the proposed layout.

2.5. Any questions relating to the content of this report should be directed in the first instance to: ACD Environmental, Courtyard House, Mill Lane, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1EY, 01483 425714, quoting the site address and report reference number.

[1] BSI, 2012. *BS5837 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction- Recommendations,* London: British Standards Institute.

3.0 Scope and Method of Survey

3.1. The survey schedule can be found in section 4 of this report.

3.2. The survey has been carried out following the recommendations of The British Standard and the trees are assessed objectively and without reference to any site layout proposals. Categories are based on each tree's health and condition, together with an assessment of its life expectancy if its surroundings were to be unchanged.

3.3. No discussions took place between the surveyor and any other party.

3.4. The reference numbers of surveyed trees and groups of trees are shown on the tree reference plan, which is appended to this report and based on the supplied survey drawing. The prefix G has been used to indicate a group of trees, and H for hedges. Stem locations within groups may be estimated, and indicative of canopy only.

3.5. The tree survey was carried out from ground level only, with the aid of binoculars as necessary, following the VTA tree assessment method[2].

3.6. Where trees are located on neighbouring land an estimated appraisal has been made of their quality and dimensions. All estimated dimensions are noted in the schedule comments.

3.7. Where stems or branches are obscured by ivy or other materials a full assessment of those parts will not be possible.

3.8. Tree heights were measured with a clinometer, or estimated in relation to those measured with the clinometer. If individual tree heights are of particular concern, for example in shading calculations, then they are measured using a clinometer.

3.9. Trunk diameters were measured or, where inaccessible, estimated. Single stemmed trees are measured at 1.5m above ground level.

[2] Mattheck, C. & Breloer, H., 1998. *The Body Language of Trees: A Handbook for Failure Analysis.* London:H.M.S.O.

Tree canopies, where markedly asymmetrical, were measured (or estimated by pacing) in four directions using a laser measure. Symmetrical canopies are measured in one direction only, with dimensions in the remaining directions assumed to be similar. For the canopies of groups of trees, the maximum radius for each compass point is measured (more complicated groups will have further notes taken and an accurate representation will be shown on the plan).

4.0 Discussion

4.1. The trees have not been included on a topographic survey of the site and are indicated on the appended site plan and in the following photographs. They comprise:

Number	Species	Ht	Stem	Life	Comments	ERC	BS Cat
G1	3x Betula pendula	6m	125/150/180	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
G2	2x Betula pendula	9m	190/180	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	1x Sorbus aucuparia	6m	m/s	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
G3	4x Betula pendula	12m	140-210	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	1x Alnus glutinosa	6m	140	SM	Screen group	<10	U
G4	5x Betula pendula	10m	150-240	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	2x Alnus glutinosa	5m	75-140	SM	Screen group	<10	U
	3x Sorbus aucuparia	6m	m/s	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
G5	4x Betula pendula	9m	110-210	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	2x Alnus glutinosa	6m	150	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
G6	4x Betula pendula	12m	110-360	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	1x Alnus glutinosa	4m	100	SM	Screen group	<10	U
	2x Sorbus aucuparia	5m	m/s	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	2x Sambucus nigra						
G7	4x Betula pendula	13m	120-310	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	2x Sorbus aucuparia	9m	m/s	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	1x Alnus glutinosa	6m	120	SM	Screen group	<10	U
G8	4x Betula pendula	11m	120-260	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	3x Sorbus aucuparia	5m	m/s	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	1 Alnus glutinosa	4m	100	SM	Screen group	<10	U
G9	5x Betula pendula	11m	110-250	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	2x Sorbus aucuparia	5m	m/s	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2

	1x Alnus glutinosa	6m	100	SM	Screen group	<10	U
G10	4x Betula pendula	8m	100-190	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
	2x Sorbus aucuparia	6m	m/s	SM	Screen group	10-20	C2
W11	Acer pseudoplatanus	16m	250-500	M	Shelter/screen	20-40	B2
W12	Acer pseudoplatanus	16m	250-500	M	Shelter/screen	20-40	B2

4.2. The site is a large agricultural complex, with four existing chicken sheds separated by a field in arable production, located north of an agricultural sales complex and south of a military installation.

4.3. None of the trees included in the survey are category A, but the woodland groups to the north and west are category B2, despite their lack of age diversity.

4.4. There are 10 groups that are category C: either due to their low inherent value due to low overall physiological vigour, or structural faults, or their diameter is less than 150mm at 1.5m above ground level.

View east showing G1

View west showing G5

View east showing G6

View west showing G9

View north along W11

Sycamore seedlings against unit, with W12 to rear