ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT,

TREE PROTECTION PLAN &
ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Site address: Land at 42 Main Road, Lower Hartshay, Ripley

Prepared in accordance with **BS5837:2012 – Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations**

1. Instruction and Scope

This report has been prepared to accompany a planning application for the construction of a single dwelling on land currently comprising open grassland.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the methodology set out in BS5837:2012 and includes:

- Tree Survey Schedule
- Tree Categorisation Assessment
- Root Protection Area (RPA) Calculations
- Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)
- Tree Protection Plan (TPP)
- Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

The purpose of this document is to assess the potential effects of the proposed development on existing trees and to provide appropriate protection measures to ensure their successful retention.

2. Site Description

The site comprises open grassland intended for residential development.

A belt of mature boundary trees is located approximately 20 metres from the proposed development footprint. These trees comprise predominantly ash, sycamore and maple, with occasional birch. The trees form part of an established boundary feature and contribute to local amenity and landscape character.

The site is relatively level. No tree removal is proposed as part of the development.

3. Tree Survey

The tree survey was undertaken in accordance with Section 4 of BS5837:2012. Trees were inspected from ground level without invasive investigation.

3.1 Tree Schedule

Ref	Species	Height	Stem Diameter	Condition	BS5837 Category
T1	Birch / Maple (boundary grouping)	19m	500mm	Good	B2

All surveyed trees are located approximately 20 metres from the proposed dwelling.

4. Tree Categorisation (BS5837:2012)

Trees have been assessed and categorised in accordance with Table 1 of BS5837:2012.

T1 – Category B2

T1 is assessed as Category B for the following reasons:

- Trees are in good physiological and structural condition.
- No significant defects were observed at time of inspection.
- Trees exhibit reasonable life expectancy (estimated >40 years).
- They contribute positively to local landscape character and visual amenity.

Subcategory 2 reflects their landscape contribution as part of a boundary tree belt.

No Category A (high quality) or Category U (unsuitable for retention) trees were identified within influencing distance of the development.

5. Root Protection Area (RPA)

The Root Protection Area has been calculated in accordance with Section 4.6 of BS5837:2012.

Trunk diameter: 500mm
RPA radius = Stem diameter × 12
500mm × 12 = 6000mm

Therefore:

RPA radius = 6.0 metres

The proposed development is located approximately 20 metres from the nearest tree stem and therefore lies significantly outside the calculated RPA.

No incursion into RPAs is proposed.

6. Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Section 5 of BS5837:2012.

6.1 Direct Impacts

- No tree removals are proposed.
- No development within RPAs.
- No excavation within RPAs.
- No alterations to existing ground levels within RPAs.
- No service routes within RPAs.

There will be no direct impact upon retained trees.

6.2 Indirect Impacts

Potential indirect risks during construction include:

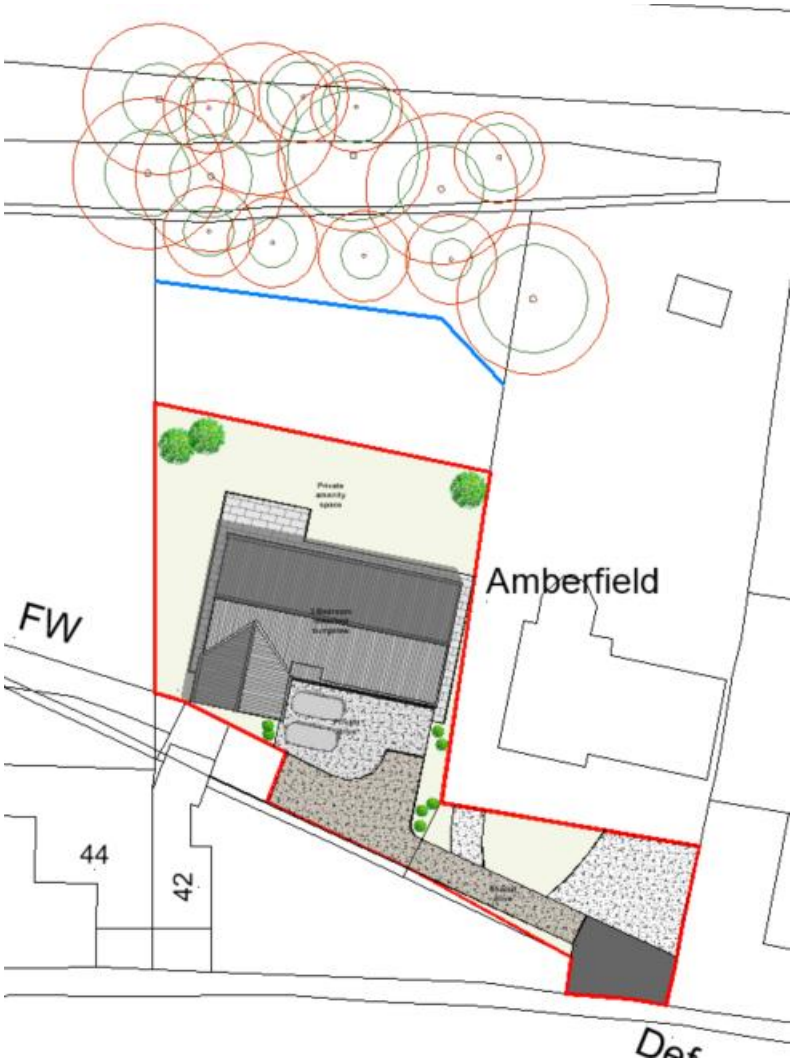
- Soil compaction from plant movement
- Mechanical damage to stems or branches
- Storage of materials within RPAs
- Cement washout contamination
- Changes in drainage patterns

Given the separation distance of approximately 20 metres, the risk of impact is low. Nevertheless, precautionary tree protection measures are proposed in accordance with BS5837:2012.

7. Tree Protection Plan (TPP)

A Tree Protection Plan accompanies this report and illustrates:

- Tree trunk positions (brown)
- Canopy spreads (green)
- Root Protection Areas (red – 6m radius)
- Protective fencing line



The protective fencing shall define the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ).

No construction activity shall occur within this zone.

8. Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

This Method Statement details the procedures necessary to safeguard retained trees throughout development.

8.1 Pre-Commencement Requirements

Prior to any site clearance, demolition, material delivery or construction works:

1. Protective fencing shall be erected at the outer edge of the RPAs.
2. Fencing shall be installed in accordance with Figure 2 of BS5837:2012.
3. Fencing location shall accord with the approved Tree Protection Plan.

No works shall commence until protective fencing is in place.

8.2 Protective Fencing Specification

Protective fencing shall comprise:

- Weld mesh panels (e.g. Heras or equivalent)
- Panels securely fixed to a scaffold framework
- Vertical and horizontal bracing to resist impact
- Stabilised feet or driven posts as required

Weatherproof signage shall be affixed stating:

“Tree Protection Area – Keep Out”

Fencing shall remain intact and effective for the entire duration of construction.

8.3 Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ)

Within the fenced RPA areas, the following activities are strictly prohibited:

- Excavation or trenching
- Storage of materials
- Site compounds
- Plant or vehicle access
- Cement mixing or washout
- Fuel storage
- Fires
- Alteration of soil levels

No works shall be undertaken within RPAs without prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority and under arboricultural supervision.

8.4 Site Management Controls

All contractors shall be made aware of tree protection requirements through site induction procedures.

The following additional precautions shall apply:

- No discharge of chemicals within influencing distance of retained trees.
- Careful routing of construction traffic to avoid canopy damage.
- Any accidental damage to retained trees shall be reported immediately to the project arboriculturist.

9. Implementation

The tree protection measures detailed within this report, including:

- The Tree Protection Plan
- Protective fencing installation
- Adherence to the Arboricultural Method Statement

shall be implemented prior to commencement of development and retained for the duration of construction.

The development shall thereafter be carried out in strict accordance with the approved arboricultural details.

10. Conclusion

The proposed development:

- Lies approximately 20 metres from retained trees
- Is well outside calculated Root Protection Areas
- Requires no tree removal
- Will not result in direct or indirect arboriculture harm

Subject to full implementation of the recommendations contained within this report, the proposal complies with BS5837:2012.

The development is therefore considered arboriculturally acceptable.