



ARBORICULTURAL REPORT & Impact Assessment to BS5837:2012 at:

***Lidl,
Shawbridge Street,
Clitheroe,
BB7 1LZ.***

Prepared for:
FDA Landscape Ltd

Date: *February 2021*

Reference: AWA3637



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1. Introduction

1.1 Instructions and Brief

- 1.1.1 We have been instructed by FDA Landscape Ltd to visit the site and prepare our findings in a report.
- 1.1.2 The report is required in accordance with BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, to provide detailed, independent, arboricultural advice on the trees present, in the context of potential development.

1.2 Survey Details

- 1.2.1 The survey took place during February 2021.
- 1.2.2 The trees were surveyed visually from the ground using “Visual Tree Assessment” techniques and in accordance with the guiding principles of British Standard 5837:2012.
- 1.2.3 Any additional off-site trees that could impact a new development design have been included in the tree survey parameters.
- 1.2.4 The tree positions were plotted on an Ordnance Survey map base-layer using enhanced GPS technology (1-2m accuracy) and laser distance measurer.
- 1.2.5 This report has been prepared by Mr Adam Winson, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, MArborA, Principle and Director of AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.
- 1.2.6 The tree survey and data collection were carried out by Mr Tom Readman Cert Arb L3, Level 4 Forestry and Arboriculture, TechArborA, Arboriculturist at AWA Tree Consultants Ltd.
- 1.2.7 Full qualifications and experience are included within **Appendix 1**. Explanatory details regarding the survey methodology are included within **Appendix 2**. A full explanation of the tree data can be found at **Appendix 3**. Full details of all the trees surveyed are found in **Appendix 4**. For tree locations refer to the Tree Constraints Plan at **Appendix 5** and for detail of the impacts of the new development refer to the Tree Impacts Plan at **Appendix 6**.

2. The Site

2.1 Location and Description

- 2.1.1 The site is located in central Clitheroe, a town and civil parish in the Borough of Ribble Valley in Lancashire.
- 2.1.2 The site is a small car park to the rear of an existing Lidl food store. To the immediate north is the food store, to the east and south are residential dwellings, and to the west is the grounds of a school.
- 2.1.3 The approximate area of the survey is highlighted in the image below (Google Earth, 2020):



3. The Trees

3.1 Legal

- 3.1.1 An online search has been carried out with Ribble Valley Borough Council on 24/02/21 to ascertain whether any trees at the site are located within a Conservation area or are protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). As of this date no trees within the site are legally protected.
- 3.1.2 Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, before authorising any tree works a further check should be made with the Local Planning Authority to confirm if any trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or are within a Conservation Area. If either applies, then statutory permission is required before any works can take place. Statutory permission is not required for the removal of deadwood.
- 3.1.3 When appointing a tree surgeon, only properly qualified and experienced companies should be used, who have adequate Public Liability and Employer's Liability Insurance.
- 3.1.4 All tree work should be carried out according to British Standard 3998:2010 *Tree Work - Recommendations*.

3.2 Tree Survey Results

- 3.2.1 The tree survey revealed 8 items of woody vegetation, comprised of 6 individual trees and 2 groups of trees.
- 3.2.2 All trees and groups on site are retention category 'C' (explanatory details regarding the retention categories are included at Appendix 3).
- 3.2.3 Tree cover at the site is comprised of the trees and groups at the boundary of the current Lidl site, which is comprised of mixed broadleaf semi-mature to early-mature trees, and with a dense, mixed shrub understory.
- 3.2.4 There is little species diversity. The dominant species is Beech, with occasional Ash and Sycamore.
- 3.2.5 The most significant trees on site are within G1, a dense group of Beech trees along the southern edge of the site. The group appears to have been planted as a Beech hedge, but has not been managed as such, and is now a line of densely grouped tall stems. The trees have prominent stubs and pruning wounds at the east and west aspects where trees have been

pruned to clear the building and car park. The group provides some screening and softening for the existing Lidl store, although individual trees within the group have defects including cavities and bark staining that suggest trees within the group have more limited long-term value.

- 3.2.6 In the centre of the surveyed area is G2, a section of Beech hedging that has been unmanaged and allowed to revert from a hedge into a line of taller stems, and then more recently heavily reduced in height or 'topped'. This work has most likely been undertaken to avoid obscuring the Lidl food store logo. The group G2 has little amenity or screening value.
- 3.2.7 In addition to the two groups of Beech trees there are a small number of individual trees on site, T3 to T8. Of these trees, T3, T7 and T8 are Beech, and were likely part of a hedge group that was originally planted on site. T3 has been heavily reduced, but not topped to the extent of G2. T8 has a large pruning wound at the south west aspect, that appeared to have some decay.
- 3.2.8 Among these trees are Sycamore T4, and Ash trees T5 and T6. These are tall, little managed trees that are situated in line with the other trees on site. The individual trees on site are of limited value but do collectively provide some reasonable screening.
- 3.2.9 Many Ash trees in the wider region are being impacted by Chalara or Ash dieback disease. Once a tree is infected, the disease is usually fatal, either directly or indirectly. While the identified Ash trees may continue to provide landscape and wildlife benefits for some time, their long-term prospects are likely to be limited as a result of Ash dieback.
- 3.2.10 Some trees were covered in dense Ivy or were inaccessible (as detailed in Appendix 4). In such cases measurements were estimated and the condition values are indicative only.
- 3.2.11 The tree Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree has been plotted as a polygon centred on the base of the stem. Due to the presence of roads, structures, topography (and past tree management) the RPA is likely to be a simplified representation of the tree roots actual morphology and disposition. However, detailed modifications to the shape of the RPA would largely be based on conjecture and so have been avoided.

3.3 Photographs



Photo 1: The site, looking north east



Photo 2: Cavity on a Beech stem, in G1



Photo 3: Bleeding/staining on a Beech in G1



Photo 4: T3 to T8, at the northern extent of the site



Photo 5: The trees on site, viewed from the north



Photo 6: The trees on site, viewed from the south

4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

4.1 Proposed New Development

- 4.1.1 It is proposed to extend the existing Lidl food store. The development proposals have been provided by my client and inform this arboricultural impact assessment and the Tree Impacts Plan at Appendix 6.

4.2 Direct Impacts

- 4.2.1 From assessing the new development proposals, the removal of all trees on site will be required as they are situated in the footprint of the structure.
- 4.2.2 The trees to be removed are all retention category 'C'.
- 4.2.3 The trees on site have some limited value as a screening. However, beside this screening value they have little arboricultural value. Several of trees on site, including individual trees and some trees within groups, have defects including cavities, early decay and bark staining, that suggest more limited long-term prospects.

4.3 Suitable Mitigation

- 4.3.1 The development of the site provides an excellent opportunity to undertake new tree planting throughout the site as part of a soft landscaping scheme. As such, suitable new tree planting has the potential to mitigate for the required tree removals and, in the longer term, has the potential to improve the sites tree cover.

5. Signature

I trust this report provides all the required information.

Signed



.....

Adam Winson, Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, ACIEEM.

26th February 2021

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Chartered Foresters
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Appendices

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications and Experience

Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations

Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

Appendix 4: Tree Data

Appendix 5: Tree Constraints Plan

Appendix 6: Tree Impacts Plan

Appendix 1: Authors Qualifications & Experience

Mr Adam Winson Chartered Arboriculturist, MSc, BSc (Hons), MICFor, MArborA, ACIEEM, QTRA Registered

Adam is the company Director and Principle Consultant. He has a mix of the highest level academic qualifications and relevant work experience. He has worked within the tree care profession for over 20 years, and was awarded an MSc in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, with distinction. Adam is a Chartered Arboriculturist and a Registered Consultant with the Institute of Chartered Foresters, a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association and has original research published by the UK Forestry Commission. His work ranges from individual expert tree inspections to managing trees on major multimillion pound housing developments and infrastructure projects. His work often involves trees with preservation orders or litigation, and he has appeared as a tree expert, at planning appeal hearings up to the Crown Court.

Mr James Brown BSc (Hons) Arboriculture, MArborA, PTI (Lantra)

James has a BSc (Hons) in Arboriculture, attaining first class honours, as well as being awarded the Institute of Chartered Forester's Student award. He is a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association and an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Foresters. James previously worked in Europe's largest tree nursery and has experience of Local Authority tree officer work. His main work consists of tree surveys for development projects and preparing Tree Protection Schemes to BS 5837:2012.

Mr Dave Farmer FdSc (Arb), MArborA, PTI (Lantra)

Dave has a Foundation Degree in Arboriculture (with Distinction) and is qualified in Professional Tree Inspection. He is a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association and an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Foresters. Dave has many years of experience within the tree care profession, including lecturing in arboriculture. His work focuses on diagnosing potential tree risk problems, and recommending appropriate treatments and work programmes.

Dr Felicity Stout Ph.D, MA, BA (Hons), Cert Ed (Forestry), TechArborA, PTI (Lantra)

Felicity has worked in the tree care profession for the last 10 years. She has a Certificate in Higher Education in Forestry, with a focus on Urban Forestry. She has practical arboricultural contractor experience and is a qualified and experienced Social Forestry practitioner. Felicity has a PhD in History, with a particular interest in the history of woodland and tree management and has published in The Arboricultural Journal on this subject.

Mr Tom Readman Cert Arb L3, Level 4 Forestry and Arboriculture, TechArborA

Tom joined AWA from his previous role as a tree risk surveyor with Harrogate Borough Council, where he undertook tree risk surveys at a range of sites and prescribed suitable works. Tom also has extensive previous experience as a climbing arborist. Tom achieved at Distinction Star, and was recognised as the student of the year, in the Extended Diploma in Forestry and Arboriculture and is now completing a Foundation Degree in Arboriculture, while working at AWA. Tom's work focuses on tree risk surveys and accurate tree data collection for development projects to BS 5837:2012.

Appendix 2: Survey Methodology and Limitations of Report

The survey was undertaken in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*. The trees were assessed objectively and without reference to any proposed site layout. The trees were surveyed from the ground using 'Visual Tree Assessment' (VTA) methodology. VTA is appropriate and is endorsed by industry guidance. It is used by arboriculturists to evaluate the structural integrity of a tree, relying on observation of trees biomechanical and physiological features. Measurements are obtained using a diameter tape, clinometer, laser distometer and loggers tape. Where this is not practical measurements are estimated. Tree groups have been identified in instances as defined in BS 5837:2012. Shrubs and insignificant trees may have been omitted from the survey.

This report represents a BS5837 tree survey and should not be accepted as a detailed tree safety inspection report; however, tree related hazards are recorded and commented upon where observed, yet no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree. All recommended tree work must be to BS 3998:2010 - 'Tree Work: Recommendations'.

The findings and recommendations contained within this report are valid for a period of twelve months from the date of survey. The author shall not be responsible for events which happen after this time due to factors which were not apparent at the time, and the acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with these guidelines and terms.

Appendix 3: Explanation of Tree Descriptions

HEIGHT of the tree is measured from the stem base in metres. Where the ground has a significant slope the higher ground is selected.

CROWN HEIGHT is an indication of the average height at which the crown begins and includes information of the first significant branch and direction of growth.

STEM DIAMETER is measured at 1.5 metres above (higher) ground level. Where the tree is multi-stemmed at this point; the diameter is measured close to ground level or else a combined stem diameter is calculated.

CROWN SPREAD is measured from the centre of the stem base to the tips of the branches in all four cardinal points.

AGE CLASS of the tree is described as young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature, or over-mature.

PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair, poor, or dead. This is an indication of the health of the tree and takes into account vigour, presence of disease and dieback.

STRUCTURAL CONDITION is classed as good, fair or poor. This is an indication of the structural integrity of the tree and takes into account significant wounds, decay and quality of branch junctions.

LIFE EXPECTANCY is classed as; less than 10 years, 10-20 years, 20-40 years, or more than 40 years. This is an indication of the number of years before removal of the tree is likely to be required.

Retention Categories

A (marked in green on Appendix 5) = retention most desirable. These trees are of very high quality and value with a good life expectancy.

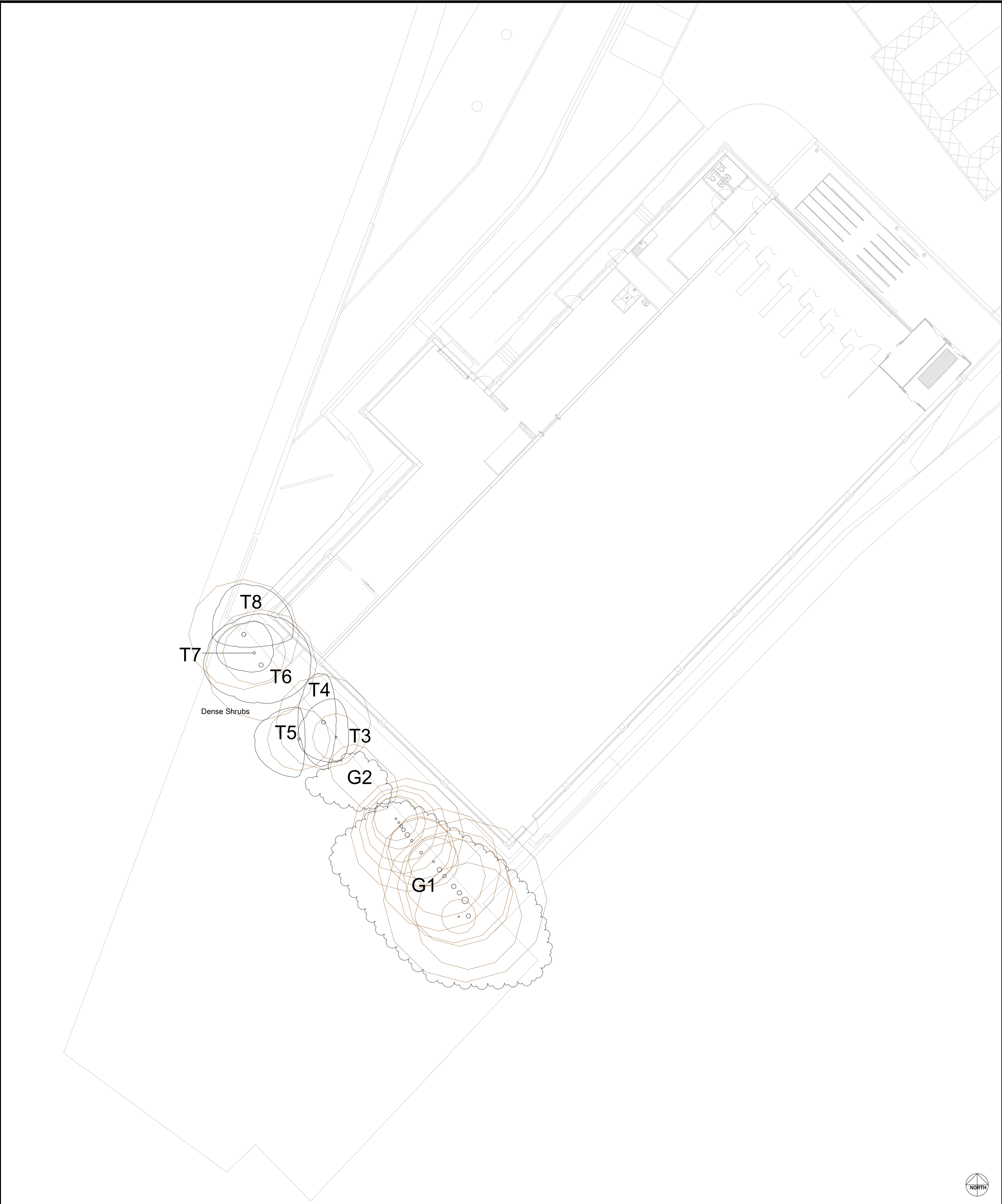
B (marked in blue on Appendix 5) = retention desirable. These trees are of good quality and value with a significant life expectancy.

C (marked in grey on Appendix 5) = trees which could be retained. These trees are of low or average quality and value, and are in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established.

U (marked in red on Appendix 5) = trees for removal. These trees are in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years.

	Tree Species			Measurements				Crown (m)				Tree Condition							Value		Management	
Tree ID	Common Name	Latin Name	Maturity	Height (m)	Stems	Stem Diameter (mm)	Estimated	Ave Height	N	E	S	W	Roots	Stem	Crown	Comments	Physiological	Structural	Life Expectancy	Amenity	Category	Works
G1	Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Early-mature	15	15	250 avg	Yes	3.5	See Plan				Linear Beech group, appears to be unmanaged former hedge, with some pruning for vehicle and building clearance. One large cavity in stem at southern aspect. Occasional bark staining. Occasional dense understory. Occasional ivy covered stem. Occasional minor deadwood and hanging branches. Individual RPAs calculated				Fair	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Moderate	C	Removal required to facilitate development
G2	Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Semi-mature	3.5	4	150 avg	Yes	3	See Plan				Dense understory of shrubs prevented acces and detailed insection. Topped section of linear Beech group. No growth toward building				Poor	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Low	C	Removal required to facilitate development
T3	Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Semi-mature	5.5	1	150	Yes	3	3	1	2	3	Limited access around base	Single stemmed, Vertical, Stubs, Old pruning wounds	Slightly unbalanced	Access prevented detailed inspection. End of former hedge. Heavily reduced at 5.5m, but not topped to same extent as G2	Fair	Good	20 to 40 yrs	Low	C	Removal required to facilitate development
T4	Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Early-mature	15	1	300	Yes	4	4	1	3.5	2	Limited access around base	Single stemmed, Vertical, Ivy covered	Old pruning wounds	Dense understory of shrubs prevented acces and detailed insection	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Low	C	Removal required to facilitate development
T5	Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Semi-mature	15	1	200	Yes	4	2.5	0.5	3	3.5	Limited access around base	Single stemmed, Vertical	Suppressed , Slightly unbalanced, Minor deadwood	Dense understory of shrubs prevented acces and detailed insection	Good	Good	20 to 40 yrs	Low	C	Removal required to facilitate development

Tree ID	Tree Species		Maturity	Measurements				Crown (m)					Tree Condition							Value		Management
	Common Name	Latin Name		Height (m)	Stems	Stem Diameter (mm)	Estimated	Ave Height	N	E	S	W	Roots	Stem	Crown	Comments	Physiological	Structural	Life Expectancy	Amenity	Category	Works
T6	Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Early-mature	16	2	250, 250	Yes	4	4	4	3	4.5	Limited access around base	Single stemmed at base, Twin stemmed at 1m, Vertical, Tight union, Ivy covered	Overhanging adjacent land, Minor deadwood	Dense understory of shrubs prevented acces and detailed insection	Good	Fair	20 to 40 yrs	Moderate	C	Removal required to facilitate development
T7	Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Semi-mature	10	1	200	Yes	3	2.5	1.5	1.5	3	Limited access around base	Single stemmed, Vertical, Crossing and rubbing branches , Partially included bark, Stubs, Old pruning wounds	Overhanging adjacent land, Suppressed	Dense understory of shrubs prevented acces and detailed insection	Good	Good	>40 yrs	Low	C	Removal required to facilitate development
T8	Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Early-mature	18	1	350	Yes	2	4	4	1	2.5	Limited access around base	Single stemmed, Vertical, Old pruning wounds, Minor decay	Overhanging adjacent land, Unbalanced, Suppressed , Old pruning wounds	Dense understory of shrubs prevented acces and detailed insection. Large pruning wound at south-west aspect, with some decay	Good	Fair	>40 yrs	Moderate	C	Removal required to facilitate development





Appendix 5:
Tree Constraints Plan
Lidl, Shawbridge St, Clitheroe, BB7 1LZ.
Ref: AWA3637

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2012
RETENTION CATEGORIES
Definitions of these categories can be found in Appendix 2 of the report.

SCALE: 1:200 PAPER: A2

	CATEGORY A: HIGH VALUE RETENTION MOST DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY B: MODERATE VALUE RETENTION DESIRABLE
	CATEGORY C: LOWER VALUE COULD BE RETAINED
	CATEGORY U: FOR REMOVAL
	RPA: ROOT PROTECTION AREA
	TREE STEM

