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Re: Land off Sutherland Road Longsdon ST9 9QD – BS5837 Statement

The proposed development area is a plot / small glade approximately 0.1h in size surrounded by mixed broadleaf and evergreen woodland copse. A total of 26No. early mature / mature trees comprising of mixed broadleaf and evergreen species (oak, birch, pine), predominantly around the perimeter of the development area of the site have been marked accurately on the survey plan utilising GPS technology and accurate / scaled root protection areas (RPA) and approximate canopy spreads (to scale in to the site) have been indicated on the plan.

The first tree of any significance when entering the site access off Sutherland Road is T5 larch, this is a healthy mature tree, which offers a degree of visual amenity for local residents and users of the adjacent highway. The calculated Root Protection Area (RPA) for this tree is 6m, which would put the protection zone within the existing access road.

I suggest the RPA could be safely offset by 20% and if the access can be slightly re-sited more towards the north perimeter of the site by approximately 1m (towards the neighbouring boundary stone wall) and suitable construction methods particularly adjacent to this tree (i.e. no dig methodology and / or consideration given to geotextile surfacing etc.), the access can be suitably upgraded to meet engineering requirements without compromising the future health of the tree.



T5 larch and existing access to the site



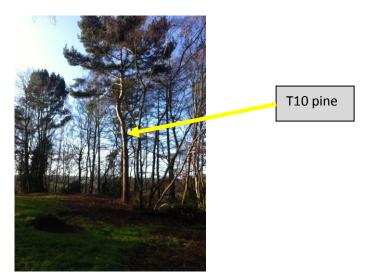




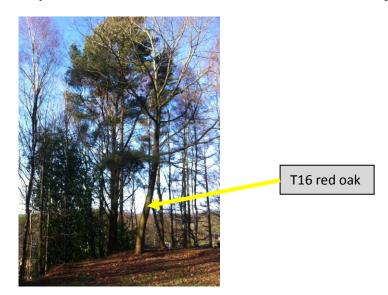




T10 pine is the next significant tree where the calculated RPA extends most into the development area but could be slightly offset by 20%, which would reduce the RPA radius by almost 1m.If the construction exclusion zone (CEZ) is delineated just outside of this and suitable protective fencing erected as per BS5837 criteria, the tree would be adequately protected and would not be significantly affected by development pressure.



T16 is a mature red oak (as per pic below) that has a lean in the main trunk in towards the site and is also heavily suppressed by adjacent trees leading to the canopy extending into the plot to the east by about 8m, which may mean that this tree may have to be considered for removal to facilitate the development.



The RPA of trees T25 & T26 at the top of the "driveway" (access into the site) is at 3.5m, which means that if the construction exclusion zone (CEZ) is delineated just outside of this and suitable protective fencing erected, the trees would be adequately protected and there would be sufficient room for the access into the site.

A full Arboricultural implications assessment, constraints plan / report has not been provided at this stage, which would look to provide details of shading etc if subsequently requested by the client.

The trees were inspected from ground level and findings are based purely on a visual tree assessment (VTA); recommendations discussed in this report are valid for a period of one year from the date of inspection, following which it would be prudent to reassess this advice.

All of our reports are covered by Professional Indemnity Insurance to the value of £1,000,000

Yours Sincerely

Tim Ashburner Consultant Inspector / Surveyor