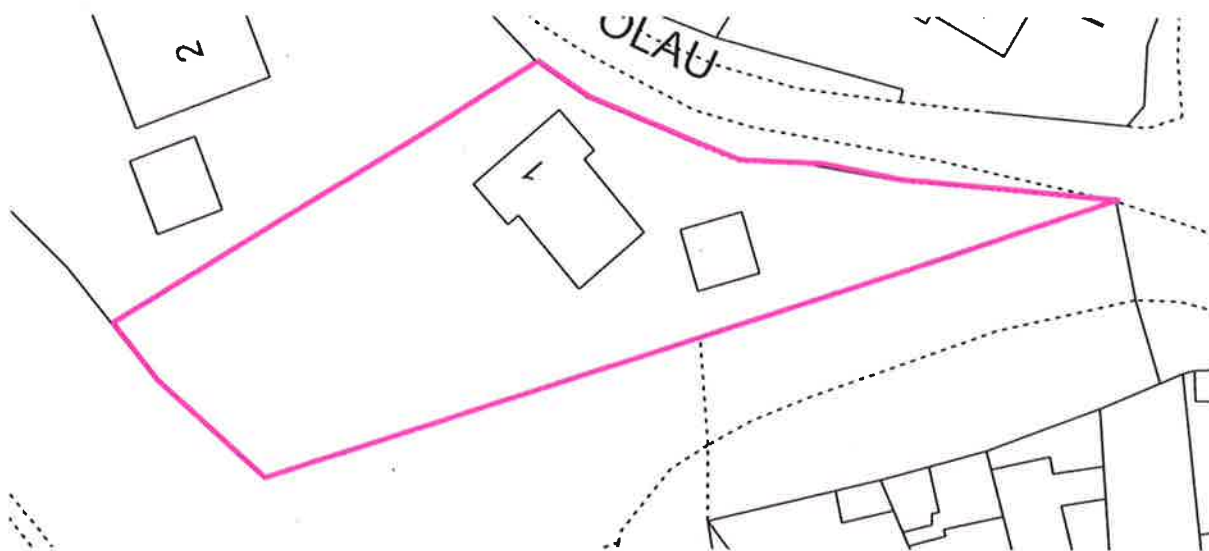


Tree Report

1 Wern Olau, Cilfrew, Neath. SA10 8LX

October 2019

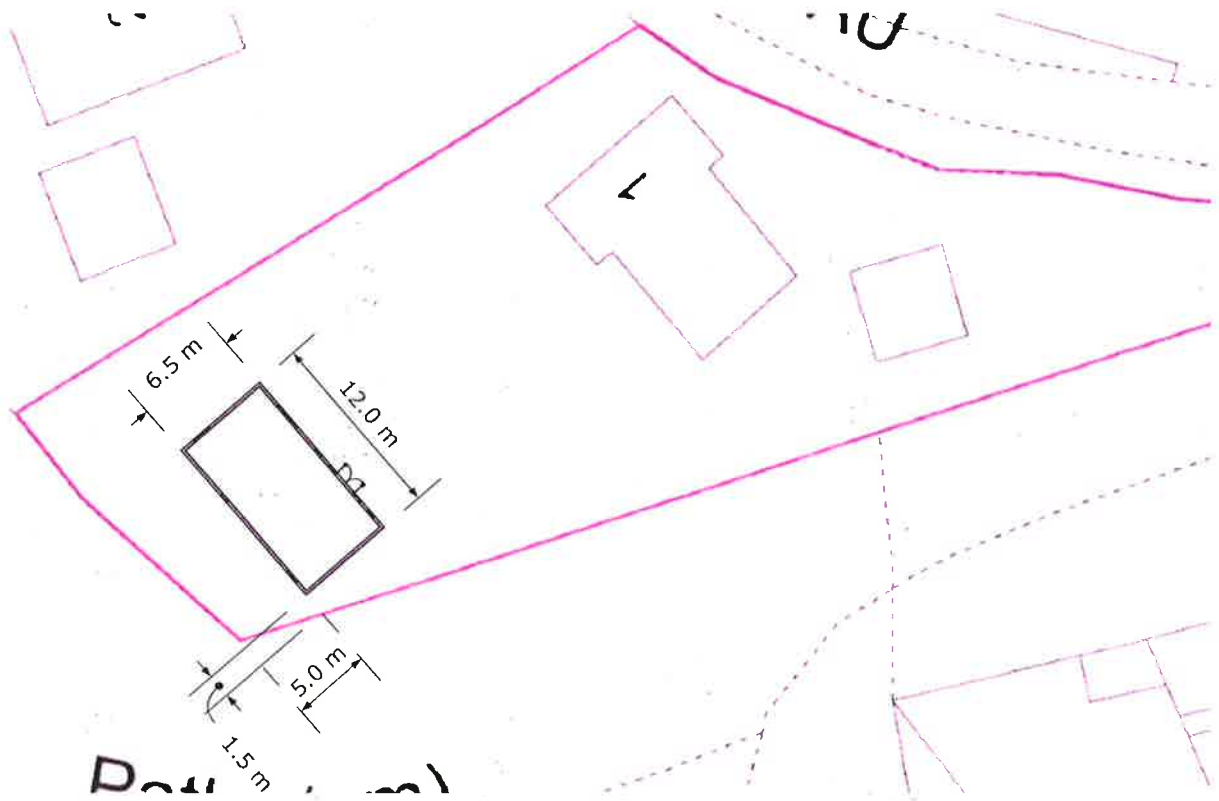


Prepared by
S G Hill RFS Cert Arb
118 Pen Y Bryn, Ystradgynlais, Powys.

Introduction

This report was compiled in October 2019 on the instruction of the property owners as they were concerned with the number of overhanging trees within close proximity of the property which pose a risk to the current building as well as a proposed Annexe structure.

An outline of the planning accepted (P2019/5076) for the proposed annexe can be found below. Construction of the annexe has begun during Autumn 2019.



Outline of Findings

The trees (numbered 1 to 14) on the boundary of the above property are mainly Sessile Oaks (*Quercus Petraea*) along with some Alders (*Alnus Glutinosa*). A young European Beech (*Fagus Sylvatica*) and some young Ash (*Fraxinus*) trees are at the end but not a problem at this time.

The trees numbered 3 to 12 are most likely all old hedge line trees and appear of a similar age, and as such they may have been planted and not natural regeneration from seed and as such could have a shallow root system with no tap root (oaks from seed will grow a tap root). There is a brook running alongside the tree line which can in some instances also compromise the root system, therefore they will need regular inspections for safety as they will always be at risk of being windblown.

Most of the trees are in a good condition, some work has been done on some of the trees but only removing some overhanging tips.

Tree 1

This tree has lost the crown and a 3-meter stump is remaining with some epicormic growth (figure 1). There is currently no risk to the property at this time but should be watched in future, as the new growth will be weak and prone to shear off onto the public foot path.

Recommended Action: Observe to ensure new growth does not pose risk to public footpath or property.

Tree 2

This is a large mature Sessile Oak. It has shed a number of branches common to this species of tree leaving some spurs and one scar which could be a sign of some decay (figures 2, 3, 4). This tree is overhanging the property, and if it should shed any more they would damage the new building to be constructed. The tree is leaning away from the land, so is unlikely to fall on to the property under normal situations (not accounting for any extreme weather condition).

Recommended Action: Crown reduction and thinning; and removal of any heavy overhanging branches as a safety measure. Removal of all branches overhanging the property boundary. There is also some difference in leaf cover in the crown therefore continuing monitoring for disease is required.

Tree 3

This Sessile Oak looks in good condition, leaning away from the property.

Recommended Action: Crown thinning by 20% as well as removal of all branches overhanging the property boundary.

Tree 4

This Sessile Oak looks in good condition, very close to the property.

Recommended Action: Continuing maintenance, removal of all branches overhanging the property boundary and consider removal at some time in future if any changes in condition or position.

Tree 5

This Sessile Oak is showing some loss of leaves which are pale; it has signs of wind damage (figure 5). It is also very close to the property.

Recommended Action: Ideally, due to the risk to property this tree should fell. If not, it requires removal of the damaged limb, removal of all branches overhanging the property boundary along with 30% crown thinning/reduction. Will need continued maintenances and observation to asses future risk to property.

Tree 6

This Sessile Oak is in condition good with good leaf cover. It is close to property boundary but not a problem at this moment in time.

Recommended Action: No work necessary at this time.

Trees 7, 8, 9 and 10

These trees are Alders which have had some work done to them in the recent months (some cuts are a little close to the joints so could be weak). There are two trees in the nearby wood which are showing signs of phitophoria (figure 6)) so these trees could also be at risk. They are close to property boundary.

Recommended Action: Removal of all branches overhanging the property boundary.

Tree 11

This Sessile Oak is leaning over the property and is at risk of landing on the drive opposite and would damage any cars parked on the drive.

Recommended Action: This tree should be fell.

Tree 12

This Sessile Oak in good condition.

Recommended Action: No work necessary this time but continued monitoring.

Tree 13

This Sessile Oak is an off shoot of tree 14.

Recommended Action: I would advise this is fell.

I would advise that all of the recommended actions above are followed within a timely manner to ensure that all risks of damage to the property are mitigated.

I am aware these trees are covered by a TPO and also do not belong to the house owner, and as such any work needs to be approved by the local authority and land owner. Under the Town and Country Planning Act the liability for these trees and any damage they cause falls to the land owner(s) and the issuing authority.

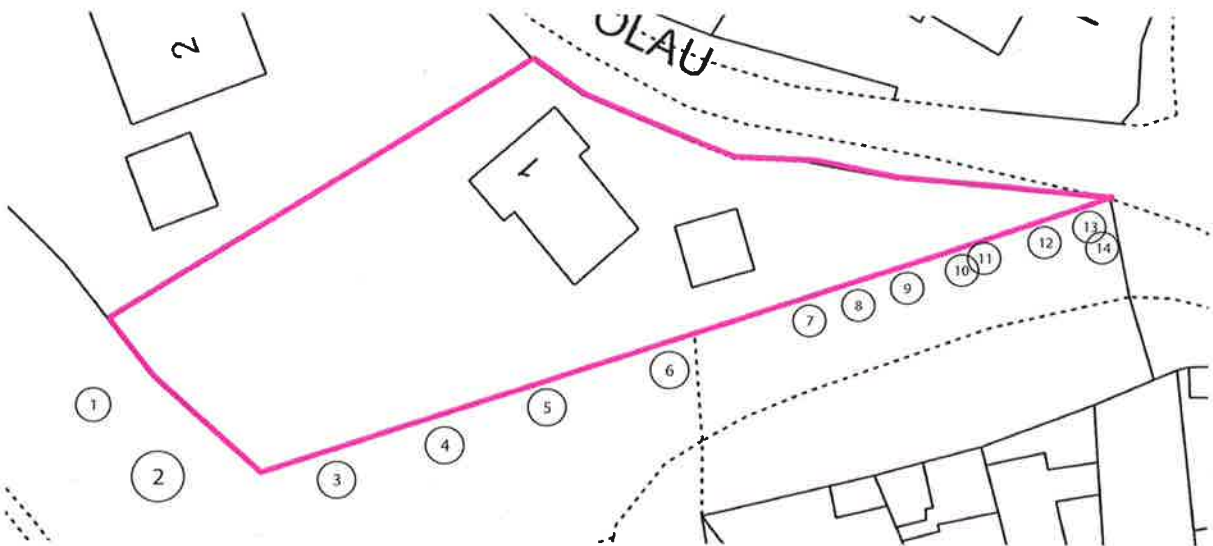
Table of Trees

Tree Number	Species	Condition
1	-	3-Meter Stump
2	Sessile Oak	Signs of Decay
3	Sessile Oak	Good Condition
4	Sessile Oak	Good Condition
5	Sessile Oak	Loss of Leaves which are pale
6	Sessile Oak	Good Condition
7	Alder	Some Pruning Taken Place
8	Alder	Some Pruning Taken Place
9	Alder	Some Pruning Taken Place

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10	Alder	Some Pruning Taken Place
11	Sessile Oak	Leaning over Property
12	Sessile Oak	Good Condition
13	Sessile Oak	Off Shoot of 14
14	Sessile Oak	Good Condition

Map of Trees



Figures



Figure 1: Tree 1

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Figure 2: Tree 2 - Top Scar



Figure 3: Tree 2 - Second Wound



Figure 4: Tree 2 – Example of Shedding

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Figure 5: Tree 5- Wind Damage



Figure 6: Signs of Phitophoria in Nearby Wood

