

MA Tree Surveys

Tree Survey Report

Date of survey: 20.01.2017

Site: Land off Gardners Lane, Neath

Client: Ron Bagshaw

Surveyor: Martin Appleby

Weather: Sunny

Tag No's: None

Notes:

1. The actual survey represents the condition of the trees in their present situation, and does not take into account the proposed changes to the site or surrounding area which may affect their health and life expectancy.
2. Where trees have more than one main stem each stem is noted and diameter for each shown.
3. Groups of young trees and large shrubs are shown as a single unit
4. Trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order are indicated by their TPO Ref. No. in brackets.

Category and definition Criteria Identification on plan

TREES TO BE REMOVED

Category R (DARK RED)

Those in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management

- Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other R category trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning)
- Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline
- Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby (e.g. Dutch elm disease), or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality

NOTE Habitat reinstatement may be appropriate (e.g. R category tree used as a bat roost: installation of bat box in nearby tree).

TREES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR RETENTION

Category A (LIGHT GREEN)

Those of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested)

Sub-categories

1 Mainly arboricultural values

Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)

2 Mainly landscape values

Trees, groups or woodlands which provide a definite screening or softening effect to the locality in relation to views into or out of the site, or those of particular visual importance (e.g. avenues or other arboricultural features assessed as groups)

3 Mainly cultural values, plan including conservation

Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)

Category B (MID BLUE)

Those of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)

Sub-categories

1 Mainly arboricultural values

Trees that might be included in the high category, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage)

2 Mainly landscape values

Trees present in numbers, usually as groups or woodlands, such that they form distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals but which are not, individually, essential components of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. trees of moderate quality within an avenue that includes better, 'A' category specimens), or trees situated mainly internally to the site, therefore individually having little visual impact on the wider locality.

3 Mainly cultural values, plan including conservation

Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits

Category C (GREY)

Those of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm

Sub-categories

1 Mainly arboricultural values

Trees not qualifying in higher categories

2 Mainly landscape values

Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary screening benefit

3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation

Trees with very limited conservation or other cultural benefits

NOTE: Whilst 'C' category trees will usually not be retained where they would impose a significant constraint on development, young trees with a stem diameter of less than 150 mm should be considered for relocation.

Tree report: General description and recommendations.

The Site:

This is an irregular shaped site of some 475 Square metres situated off Gardners Lane and backing onto the rear gardens of properties on Primrose Road, Neath. The site is a grassed area with no other vegetation apart from a single oak tree situated in the south east corner. All the remaining trees are within a line behind a 1.5 metre wooden fence along the south east corner of the site separating it from the garden of the adjacent property at 28 Primrose Road. Apart from the trees there is also extensive overhanging vegetation on approximately half of the south eastern boundary

The Trees:

There is a single mature oak within the site, and 1 mature cypress, 6 medium sized ornamental cypress, a heavily pollarded sycamore and extensive shrubbery comprising of cherry laurel, privet, bamboo and two further small ornamental cypress overhanging the site from the garden of 28 Primrose Road on the south eastern boundary .

T1 Oak

Height: 14 metres (Approx)

Stem diameter: 500mm

Spread (to nearest half metre): N 4.5m, S 3.0 m, E 4.0m, W 4.0m

Height to main canopy: 6.0m

Appraisal. This tree is situated in the north east corner of the site. It has a single trunk leaning slightly to the north east with a canopy from approximately 6 metres where the crown divides into two main stems.

There has been some raising of the crown in the past with 2 pruning stumps at 1.8 and 2.5 metres. These have healed over though there is epicormic growth on or close to the two stumps.

Though the crown is fairly evenly spread the lower canopy growth is primarily over the site to the north east with only limited growth to the south west

Category: B1

Recommendation: Removal of epicormic growth up to 5 to 6 metres

T2 Oak

Height: 12 metres (Approx)

Stem diameter: 280mm

Spread : (to nearest half metre): N 3.0m, S 4.0m, E 0.0m, W 4.5m

Height to canopy: 3.5m

Appraisal. Situated some 1.5 metres from T1 but the trunk is growing from the other side of the fence, outside the site. This is a semi-mature tree with a trunk angled to the south west away from the adjacent oak. The crown is fairly sparse and poorly developed being mostly beneath the shade of the latter. There are several long laterals from mid crown growing to the south and west.
Category: C3

Recommendations. The tree is of limited landscape or conservation value.

T3 Sycamore

Height: 9.0metres

Stem diameter: 230 and 260

Spread (to nearest half metre): N 2.5m, S 2.0, E 1.0, W 3.0m

Height to canopy: 1.m

Appraisal: Situated just outside the south east boundary of the site. This is a heavily pollarded twin stemmed tree. The two trunks have been pollarded at some 2 meters, with the smaller one forming three thin upright stems and the larger pollard forming eight thin upright stems. The lateral growth within the canopy is sparse, giving an open thin crown.

There is extensive decay in both pollards, but is more extensive in the larger stem.

Category: R

Recommendations: Outside the site but future growth would likely result in some collapse within the multiple stems, due to the decay within the pollards.

T4 Cypress

Height: 15metres

Stem diameter: 400mm

Spread (to nearest half metre): N 5.0m, S 4.5.0, E 4.0, W 5.0m

Height to canopy: 0.5m

Appraisal: Situated close to the south west corner of the site. A single stemmed upright form with a symmetrical shaped crown .

Category: C3

Recommendations: None.

Apart from the above trees there is also a line of 6 small, 2 metre tall ornamental cypress growing behind the fence on the south east boundary of the site. These are columnar in form with little lateral growth and are probably of a cultivar that are unlikely to grow to any great height or spread..