

Tree Survey

**Land off Gloucester Road
Reading**

Prepared by

Land and Landscape Management LTD

For

kiss house

November 2020

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The land is located off Gloucester Road, Reading and was formerly used as a children's play area. In addition to any trees found within the site, trees located in adjacent property close to the boundary of the site were also surveyed.
- 1.2 Land and Landscape Management Ltd were commissioned by kiss house to undertake a BS5837:2012 compliant tree survey.
- 1.3 Apart from a cherry covered with ivy and a large copied hazel the trees are naturally regenerated sycamore, thorn and hazel many of which appear to have been coppiced. All of the natural regeneration is fairly young and the trees are generally of poor form and quality.
- 1.4 Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the comments relating to the trees surveyed are accurate it must be noted that no climbing of trees, internal inspections or excavations of the root areas have been undertaken. As such this report should not be taken to mean or imply that any of the inspected trees should be considered as safe. No tree can be guaranteed as 100% safe, as some defects are not detectable by a visual, non-climbing, non-invasive inspection. Failure of an apparently healthy tree, either in part or totally, may occur as a result of physical or physiological stress.

2. Tree Survey

Survey Methodology

- 2.1 The site was surveyed on November 4th, 2020 from ground level. No invasive techniques such as tree boring were used. The survey methodology is based on that recommended in British Standard BS 5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations. The following information was recorded about each tree:
- 2.2 *Number.* A plan of the site was provided by kiss house. This plan showed the boundary of the site, the buildings and the play equipment located within the site. The plan did not show the location of any trees either within the site or in adjacent properties bordering the site. All trees surveyed were carefully located on the plan by reference to known fixed objects and were given a number.
- 2.3 *Species.* The English name of the tree species.
- 2.4 *Diameter at breast height - DBH.* The diameter of the tree at 1.5 metres above ground level was measured using a girth tape. The measurement is recorded in centimetres in the diameter tape column. Where more than one stem was present the diameter of each stem was measured and recorded. Where tree stems were covered in ivy an adjustment to the measured diameter was made by the surveyor and noted y the letters oi. No access to any trees located off the site was possible; in these cases the diameter of the trees was estimated by the surveyor and recorded in the 'Diameter Est.' column.
- 2.5 *Height.* The height of the tree in metres was estimated by eye.
- 2.6 *Height to Crown.* The height to the level of the underside of the tree crown in metres was estimated by eye and recorded.
- 2.7 *Crown Spread.* The crown spread was measured by pacing from the centre of the tree to the edge of the canopy at the four cardinal points of the compass. The distances in metres are recorded in the order north, east, south, west. For trees located off site the extent of the canopy overhang into the site was recorded.
- 2.8 *Maturity.* The tree was ascribed to one of five age classes as follows:
- Y Young. The first quarter of the estimated life expectancy.
 - SM Semi Mature. The second quarter of the estimated life expectancy.
 - EM Early Mature. The third quarter of the estimated life expectancy.
 - M Mature. The last quarter of the estimated life expectancy.
 - OM Over mature. Trees showing obvious signs of senescence and veteran trees.
- 2.8 *Life expectancy.* This is the estimated life expectancy of the tree.
- 2.10 *Category.* Each tree was assessed regarding its overall quality as an amenity tree according to British Standard BS 5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations. The trees were ascribed to one of four classes:

- A: Trees of high quality with an estimated life expectancy of at least 40 years.
- B: Trees of medium quality with an estimated life expectancy of at least 20 years.
- C: Trees of low quality with an estimated life expectancy of at least 10 years or trees with a stem diameter below 15 cms.
- U: Trees in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.

2.11 In addition the categorisation given to each tree was based, in the main, on one of the following three factors:

- 1: Arboricultural values
- 2: Landscape values
- 3: Cultural values

2.12 *Protection Zone Radius.* Using the formulae in BS 5837:2012 the radius of the Root Protection Area in metres was calculated.

2.13 *Root Protection Area - RPA.* Using the formulae in BS 5837:2012 the Root Protection Area in square metres was calculated.

Tree No	Species	DBH Est (cms)	DBH Tape (cms)	Ht (m)	Ht to Crown (m)	Crown spread (m) NESW	Life Stage	Remain (years)	Category	RPA (m ²)	Protection Zone radius (m)	Comments
1	Sycamore	15+20 +20		14	7.00	3.0 m into site	Y	40+	B2	46.4	3.8	The tree is three stemmed from the base and located outside the site near the edge of a retaining wall some 5.0 m high.
2	Sycamore		5+5+5+5 +8+10 +10+11	9	1.00	3,4,1,1	Y	40+	C2	19.7	2.5	A coppice stool.
3	Sycamore		8+10+10 +10+12+12	11	2.50	2,3,4,3	Y	40+	C2	29.0	3.0	The tree is six stemmed from c 0.5 m.
4	Sycamore		5+6+6+6 +8+8	9	1.00	2,1,2,3	Y	40+	C2	11.5	1.9	A coppice stool.
5	Sycamore, blackthorn, hazel		5	5	0.00	1.0 m all round	SM	40+	C2	1.1	0.6	a patch of young regenerating trees some of which appear to have been cut and have coppiced and some as single stems.
6	Hazel	40	at base	5	1.00	3,3,3,3	Y	40+	C2	50.3	4.0	A maturing coppice stool that has been coppiced at c 0.5 and 1.5 m but not at ground level. Due to the profusion of small stems the diameter at the base was estimated and multiplied by 10 to arrive at the RPA.
7	Sycamore		7	6	2.00	2,1,2,1	Y	40+	C2	2.2	0.8	A reasonable young tree.
8	Sycamore		7+7	6	2.00	2,1,2,1	Y	40+	C2	4.4	1.2	The tree is two stemmed from the base.
9	Sycamore		4+6+6	6	2.00	2,1,2,1	Y	40+	C2	3.1	1.0	The tree is three stemmed from the base.
10	Sycamore		7	6	2.50	1,1,1,1	Y	40+	C2	2.2	0.8	A reasonable young tree.

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11	Sycamore		7+9	6	2.00	4,2,1,2	Y	40+	C2	4.4	1.2	The tree is two stemmed from the base. The minor stem is likely to strip away at the base and should be removed if the tree is to be retained.
12	Sycamore		8	6	4.00	-,2,1,2	Y	40+	C2	2.9	1.0	The tree has a slight lean to the north.
13	Laburnum	10+10		5	3.50	4.0 m into site	SM	40+	C2	9.0	1.7	The tree is largely hidden behind a 2.0 m high closed boarded fence. The tree appears to be two stemmed from the base.
14	Sycamore	12		6	3.00	2.0 m into site	Y	40+	C2	6.5	1.4	The tree is largely hidden behind a 2.0 m high closed boarded fence but appears to be a reasonable young tree.
15	Sycamore	20+20 +25		14	6.00	4.0 m into site	SM	40+	B2	64.5	4.5	The tree is largely hidden behind a 2.0 m high closed boarded fence. The tree appears to be three stemmed from the base. Ivy hindered a full visual tree assessment but one stem has been damaged by rubbing on the top of the fence and a second stem is encircled by wire
16	Cypress	35+35		14	3.50	1.5 m into site	Y	40+	B2	110.8	5.9	Located in the adjacent property the tree appears to have two main stems from near to the ground plus two large branches now growing towards the vertical.

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17	Cherry	oi	18-2	11	4.50	5,2,4,-	EM	20+	C2	11.6	1.9	The tree is completely covered in very dense ivy apart from the last 2 metres of the canopy. The grading of C2 should be regarded as provisional and a further inspection undertaken once the ivy has been removed.

Plan 1. Tree Location Plan

