

# TREE SURVEY REPORT

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## ***TREE SURVEY IN SUPPORT OF PLANNING APPLICATION***

*For*

### ***Al-Majid Centre***

***Parking Proposal***

***At the Former Whitley Library***

***Northumberland Avenue, Reading***

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A tree survey in accordance with British Standard 5837 : 2012.

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## **1. Terms of Reference**

- 1.1 We have conducted tree survey at Al-Majid Centre, Northumberland Avenue, RG2 7PX, Reading (Former Whitley Library), which is to be in line with B.S. 5837.
- 1.2 All trees within the curtilage of the proposed parking area have been inspected. Trees are dynamic living organisms, whose health and condition can be subject to rapid change, depending on a number of external and internal factors. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this report relate to the trees at the time of inspection.
- 1.3 This report, its appendices and any subsequent revisions, will form part of any formal planning application in respect of the proposed parking area of this site.

## **2. Survey Methodology**

- 2.1 The trees have been assessed using the current recommendations, as detailed in British Standard 5837:2012.
- 2.2 All surveyed trees have been given a notional identification i.e. T1 – T6. All collected survey data for individual trees is presented in the survey schedule which forms appendix 1 to this report. For the location of all trees see appendix 2.

### 3. Site Overview

- 3.1 The survey area comprises Whitley old library land to the immediate north of Cressingham Rd and east of Northumberland Av, and includes only 6 trees located at the front side of the Library building.



**Figure 1** - An image of the community centre (Former Whitley Library) shows all existing trees in the survey. No other tree at the back of the building.

### 4. Summary of Findings & Conclusions

- 4.1 A total of 6no. Individual trees have been surveyed. A breakdown of the numbers of trees in each retention category can be seen in the table below:

| Retention Category           | Individual Trees | Groups of Trees | Hedgerows |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| <b>A</b><br>High Quality     | 2                | n/a             | n/a       |
| <b>B</b><br>Moderate Quality | 4                | n/a             | n/a       |
| <b>C</b><br>Low Quality      | 0                | n/a             | n/a       |
| <b>R</b><br>(remove)         | 0                | n/a             | n/a       |
| <b>Totals</b>                | <b>6</b>         | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b>  |

**Table 1** - Tree Retention Category

4.2 All R Category trees should be removed for reasons of sound arboriculture practice or health & safety, irrespective of any development proposals. None to be removed for this site.

4.3 As regards the C category trees; under normal circumstances these would not normally be retained in a proposed context, unless in such a location that they do not represent a significant constraint on the development proposal. None of the surveyed trees are in category C.

4.4 All A & B Category trees will, under normal circumstances, be retained on development sites, and should influence and inform the street character of the site.

## **5. Recommendations**

6.1 All trees will be remained as they do not intervene with the proposed car parking area and they are well established and contribute to the street and landscape character of the site. Trees T3-4 has higher amenity value that will remain same like other trees.

## Appendix 1: TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE:

### KEY TO SURVEY CRITERIA & HEADINGS:

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Species</b>         | Botanical name with common name in brackets                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Age Class</b>       | Young trees – less than 1/3 normal life expectancy<br><br>Middle-aged trees – 1/3 to 2/3 normal life expectancy<br><br>Mature trees – over 2/3 normal life expectancy<br><br>Over-mature – beyond usually expected life span  |
| <b>Height</b>          | Estimated in metres                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Crown Spread</b>    | Crown spread (North / East / South / West ) measured from centre of trunk, in metres                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Crown clearance</b> | Approximate height between lowest branch and ground level (metres)                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Stem dia.</b>       | Trunk diameter (mm) measured at 1.5m above ground level, or ground level (gl), if multi-stem                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Vigour</b>          | Objective assessment of a tree's vigour (normal or low)                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Amenity</b>         | Subjective assessment of a tree's contribution to the amenity value of the area:<br>High to Low                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Water Demand</b>    | NHBC water demand category (High, Moderate, Low)                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Condition</b>       | Good, Fair or Poor, based on the general health and structural condition of the tree                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Recommendations</b> | Remedial works in order to facilitate retention, or recommendation to remove                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Ret.Cat.</b>        | Based on B.S.5837 Retention categories: A = Those of High Quality & Value<br><br>B = Those of Moderate Quality & Value<br><br>(Sub-categories 1,2,3 in brackets) C = Those of Low Quality & Value<br><br>R = Remove (or Fell) |
| <b>RPA</b>             | Root Protection Area, measured in metres from centre of tree.                                                                                                                                                                 |

| Tree No. | TPO Status | Species (common name)         | Age class | height | crown spread : |     |      |     | crown clearance | stem dia. | vigour | amenity  | water demand NHBC | Condition / Comments                                         | Recommendations   | Ret. Cat. (sub cat.) | RPA (m) |
|----------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|----------------|-----|------|-----|-----------------|-----------|--------|----------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------|
|          |            |                               |           |        | N              | E   | S    | W   |                 |           |        |          |                   |                                                              |                   |                      |         |
| T1       | N/A        | Betula Pendula [Silver Birch] | mature    | 16     | 2              | 2   | 1.75 | 4   | 5               | 1020      | normal | Low      | moderate          | Fair                                                         | no works required | B [1]                | 1.30    |
| T2       | TPO        | Prunus Spp [Cherry]           | mature    | 12     | 3.5            | 2   | 3.5  | 2   | 3               | 1100      | normal | Low      | moderate          | Fair                                                         | no works required | C [1]                | 1.70    |
| T3       | TPO        | Prunus Spp [Cherry]           | mature    | 13     | 3.75           | 3   | 3.25 | 3   | 4               | 1100      | normal | high     | moderate          | Good - twin stems from base                                  | no works required | C [1]                | 2.4     |
| T4       | TPO        | Prunus Spp [Cherry]           | mature    | 14     | 4.25           | 4.5 | 5.25 | 4   | 3.5             | 1500      | normal | high     | moderate          | Good                                                         | no works required | C [1]                | 2.10    |
| T5       | TPO        | Prunus Spp [Cherry]           | mature    | 13     | 3.5            | 4   | 4    | 3.5 | 3.75            | 1100      | normal | moderate | moderate          | Fair - previously crown managed due to proximity to the road | no works required | C [1]                | 1.5     |
| T6       | N/A        | Prunus Spp [Cherry]           | mature    | 16     | 3.5            | 3   | 3.25 | 3.5 | 5.5             | 1320      | normal | Low      | moderate          | Fair – Lines from BT pole running through the branches       | no works required | A [1]                | 1.30    |

*Table 2 - Tree Survey Table*

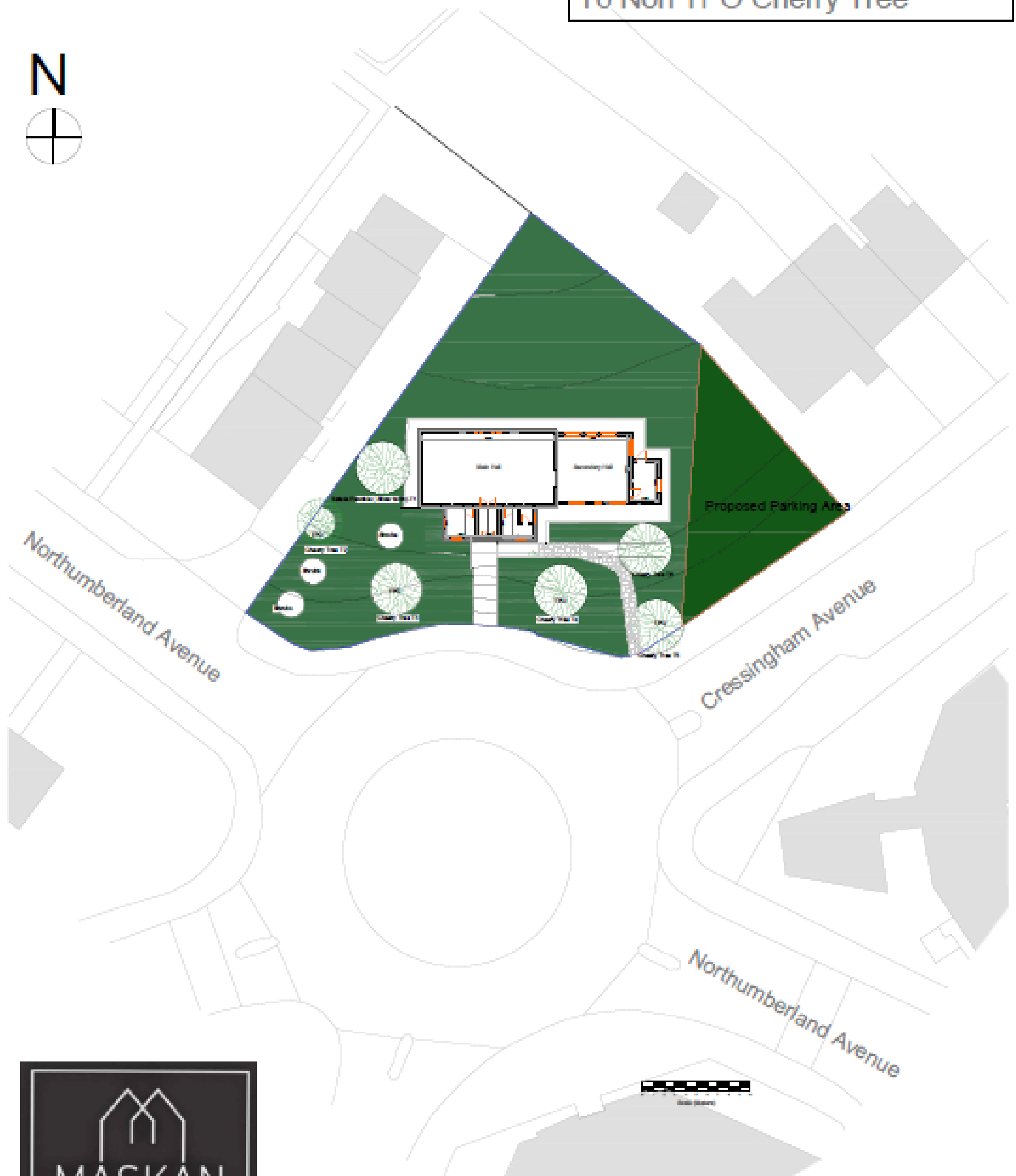
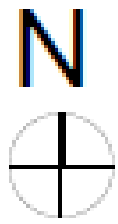
## Appendix 2: TREE LOCATION



Figure 2 - Tree Location and Identification

# Existing Trees Location Plan 1:500 @A4

- T1 Betula Pendula ( Silver Birch)
- T2-T5 Prunus Spp ( Cherry)
- T6 Non TPO Cherry Tree



Address: 205 Northumberland Avenue RG2 7PX  
 Project: Application to use former Whitley Library as Community Centre Space

## Appendix 3: BS 5837 TABLE 1

**BS 5837 TABLE 1 - CASCADE CHART FOR TREE QUALITY ASSESSMENT**

| TREES FOR REMOVAL                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Category and definition                                                                                                                                                                                | Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                      | Identification by T Number |
| <b>Category R</b><br>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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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)</li><li>Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline</li><li>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</li></ul> NOTE Habitat reinstatement may be appropriate (e.g. R category tree used as a bat roost: installation of bat box in nearby tree). |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                      | None                       |
| TREES TO BE CONSIDERED FOR RETENTION                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                      |                            |
| Category and definition                                                                                                                                                                                | Criteria — Subcategories                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                      | Identification on plan     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1 Mainly arboricultural values                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2 Mainly landscape values                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation                                                                                     |                            |
| <b>Category A</b><br>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)                                        | 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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or woodpasture) | T3-T4                      |
| <b>Category B</b><br>Those of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)                                         | 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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 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 | Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits                                                              | T1,T2,T5,T6                |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                 |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| <b>Category C</b><br>Those of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years 15 suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm | Trees not qualifying in higher categories                                                                                                                                                                            | 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 | Trees with very limited conservation or other cultural benefits | None |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 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. |                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                 |      |

*Figure 4 - BS 5837 TABLE*

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