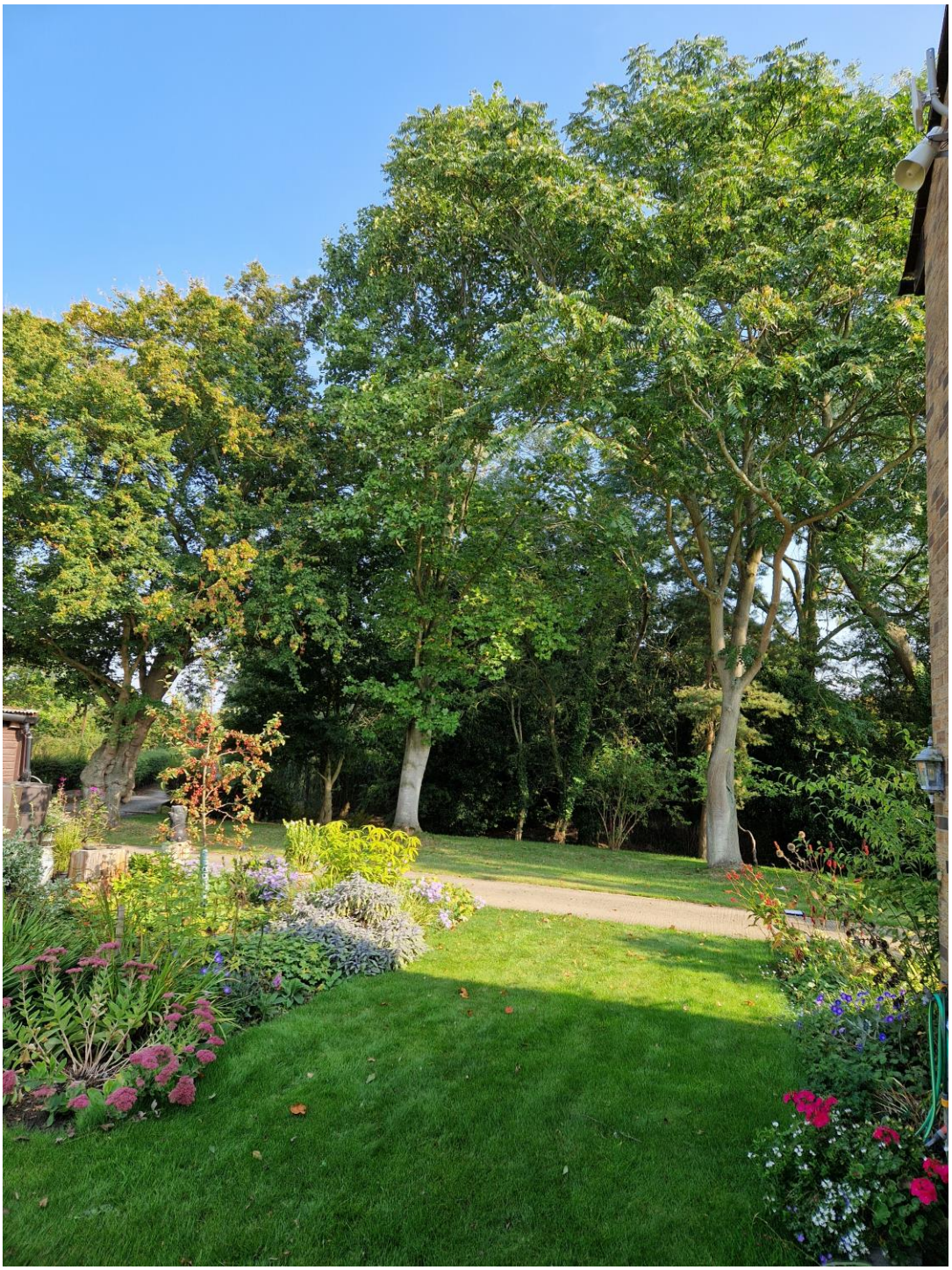
Arboricultural Report



For Bridge House, 63 Meadow Road, Great Gransden, SG19 3BB

Prepared by Cristian Pinta, MArborA, Bsc Forestry

on 5 October 2024

Introduction

I have been instructed to carry out an Arboricultural Report in respect of the development proposal at the Bridge House, 63 Meadow Road in Great Gransden, in light of the potential impact it may have onto the existing trees on this site.

This report includes:

1. Tree survey
2. Arboriculture Impact Assessment
3. Arboriculture Method Statement
4. Tree Protection Plan

This Arboricultural Report has been compiled in accordance to British Standards BS 5837 following the review of the existing plans and documents, the Visual Trees Assessment and the completion of relevant site measurements and studies.

Tree Survey

In order to enable easy identification of each tree included into this survey, they were both given an ID number which corresponds to their location on the map enclosed with this report.

Tree No.	Species	DBH (cm)	Height (m)	Category	Life stage &Condition	Notes
T1	Field Maple (Acer Campestre)	73	12	A	Mature Good	
T2	Tulip Tree (Liriodendron Tulipifera)	47	18	A	Mature Good	
T3	Tree of Heaven (Alianthus Altissima)	57	17	A	Mature Good	
T4	Bhutan Pine (Pinus Wallichiana)	15	8	B	Semi -Mature Good	
T5	Tulip Tree (Liriodendron Tulipifera)	49	19	A	Mature Good	
T6	Silver Birch (Betula Pendula)	56	16	B	Mature Good	
T7	Rowan (Sorbus Aucuparia)	17	5	C	Semi-Mature Fair	Supressed
T8	Cockspur Thorn (Crataegus Prunifolia)	12	4	C	Semi-Mature Fair	
T9	Silver Birch (Betula Pendula)	56	15	B	Mature Good	
T10	Rowan (Sorbus Aucuparia)	9	4	C	Semi-Mature Fair	
T11	Cockspur Thorn (Crataegus Prunifolia)	32	5	C	Semi-Mature Fair	
T12	Hawthorn (Crataegus Monogyna)	21	4	C	Mature Fair	Heavy lean

The tree protection plans

For the proposed extension:

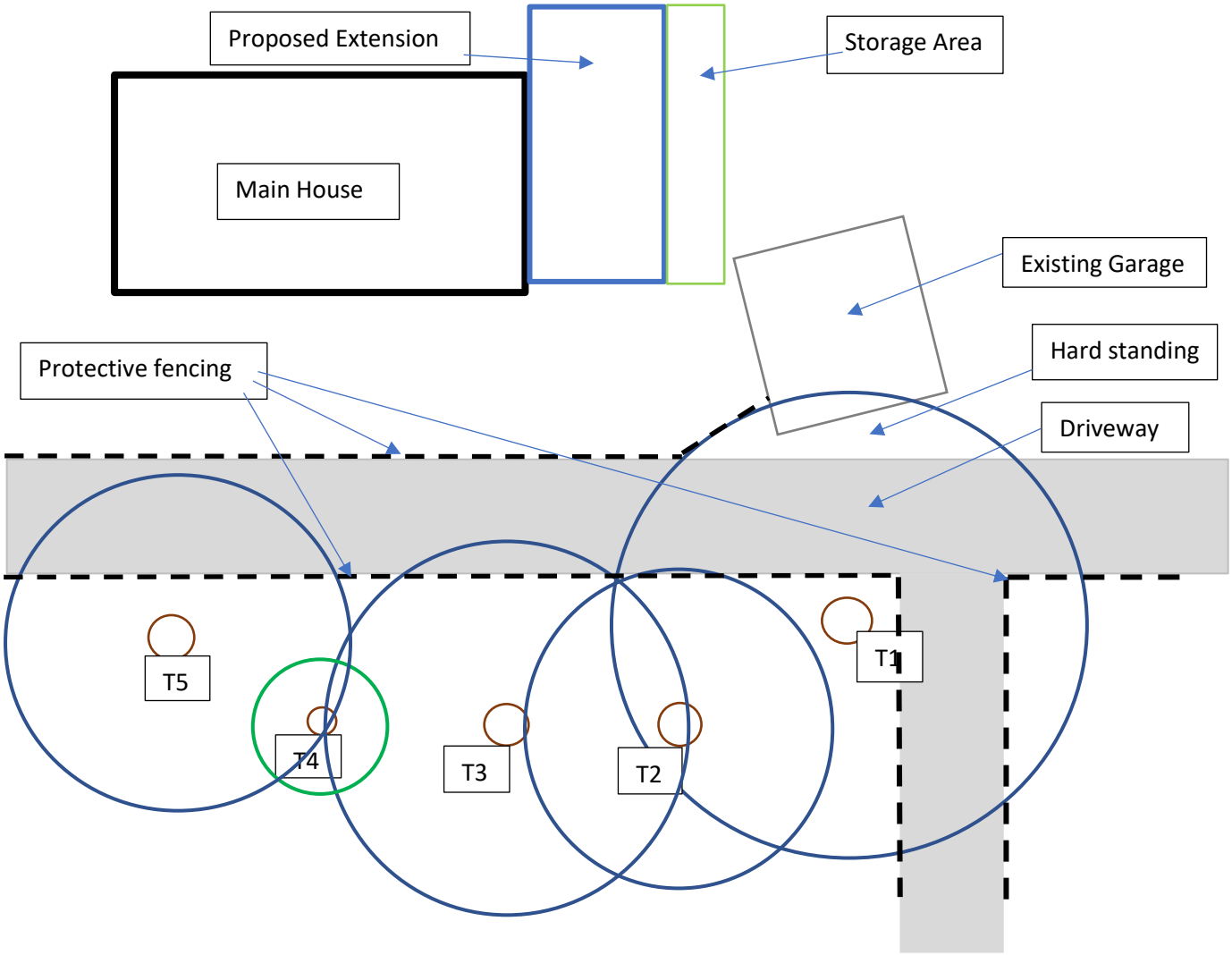


Figure 1. Tree location and protection plan

Legend

Category A tree canopy –

Category B tree canopy -

Category C tree canopy -

Category U tree- canopy-

For the proposed carport:

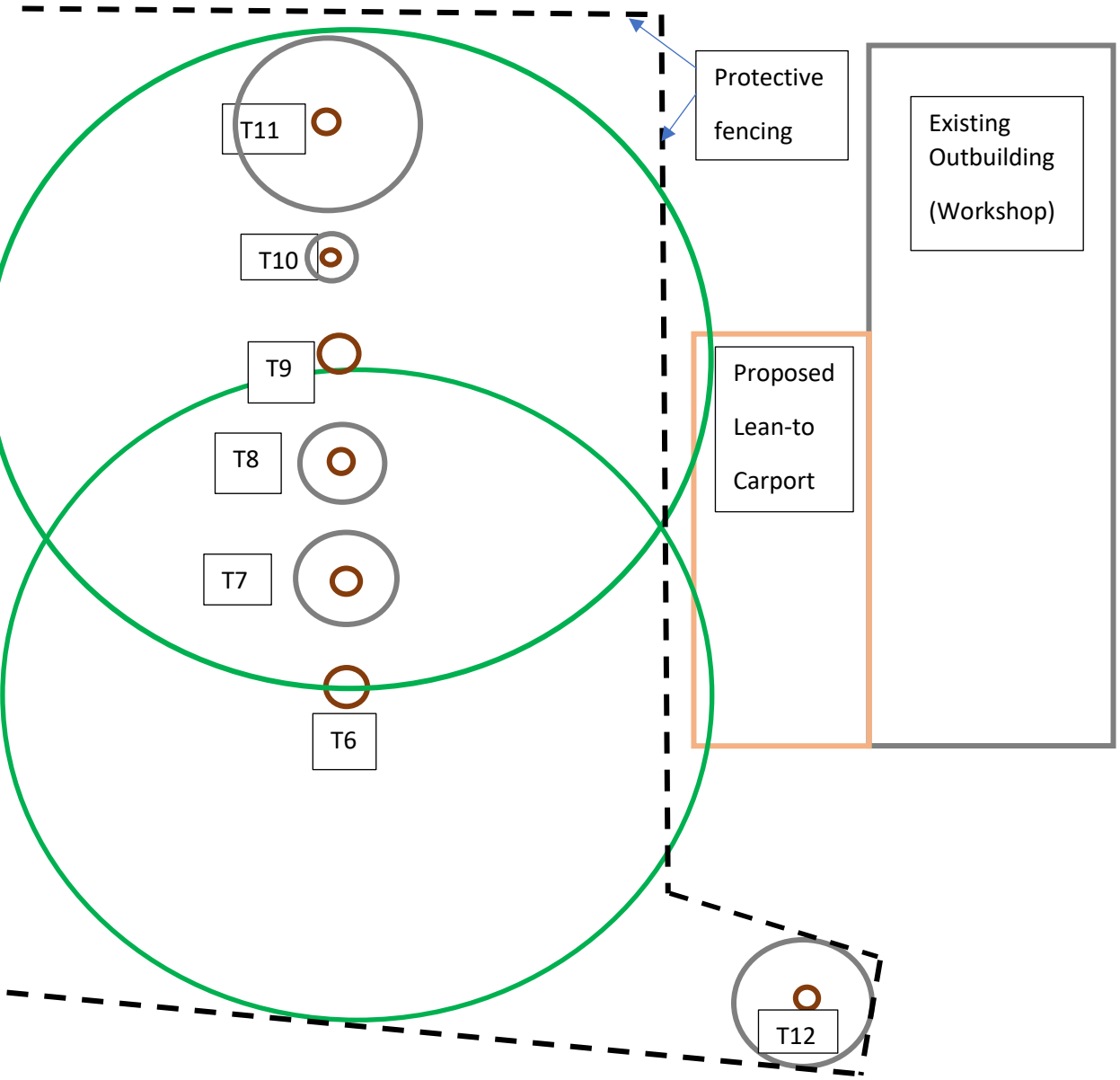


Figure 2. Tree location and protection plan

Legend

Category A tree canopy –

Category B tree canopy -

Category C tree canopy -

Category U tree- canopy-

Arboriculture Impact Assessment

In order to assess the impact of the proposed development onto the existing trees T1 to T12, located on this site, I carried out measurements with the help of a tape measure (on the ground) and a clinometer (for the aerial parts of the trees).

British Standards 5837:2012 recommends that the root protection area (RPA) for a single stem tree is calculated as an area equivalent to a circle with a radius of 12 times the stem diameter.

The proposed development poses two main concerns from a tree perspective; firstly the impact on roots due to any foundation *excavations and building activities* and secondly, the actual impact of the existing trees onto the proposed development.

Trees T1 to T5 are located nearest the proposed extension, therefore the construction impact upon their roots and future health will need to be addressed. Figure 1 above, shows the Root Protection Areas for all five trees. At a quick glance it would be clear that RPAs for trees T2 to T5 do not protrude beyond the current extent of the concrete driveway. This fact brings the reassurance that no construction materials stored within this area can cause root damage. Furthermore to prevent any potential storing of material or vehicular access within the soft ground RPAs, protective fencing has been recommended.

The only RPA which extends beyond the width of the current concrete driveway is the one of T1. However, this will be enclosed by protecting fencing as shown in Figure 1.

With regards to the second part of this development, the Lean-to Carport, the RPAs of nearby trees T6 to T12 are shown in figure 2 above. Out of all seven trees, the only two with the RPAs extending beyond the footprint of the carport are T6 and T9. However, the extent of the proposed building's overlap onto the RPAs is approximately 1% of their total area, making this an insignificant intrusion.

When considering the impact of the existing trees onto the proposed development, we discard any potential adverse effect onto the carport. Trees

T6-T12 are located at 6 metres distance, making physical encroachment unlikely, for the species present, whilst inconvenience such as shade is not a valid concern due to the carport not being a habitable building.

The impact onto the habitable extension, by the existing trees, T1 -T5 could present an issue. However, being rooted over 10 metres distance from the proposed extension, on its North-Eastern side, it reduces considerably any potential future encroachment, inconvenience or hindrance.

Arboriculture Method Statement

In order to minimise any adverse effect on trees during this project, the following measures will be applied:

1. All trees, T1 to T12 to remain on site to be adequately protected during construction and other operations in accordance with BS 5837 : 2012 "Trees in relation to Design, Demolition and Construction."

2. Protection fencing as per *Figures 1&2* shall be erected prior to any operations on site.

3. The fencing shall not be removed or breached during operations without prior consultation with an Arboricultural specialist and the approval of the Local Authority.

4. Herras Fencing will be securely installed with the help of non invasive supports, and with RPA warning signs attached. This fencing shall be erected in accordance with the drawings in *Figures 1, 2 and 3*.

5. No materials will be stored within the fenced-off area nor within the RPAs of either of trees on this site or its vicinity.

6. Notices should be erected on the fencing with such words as "Protected Area – no operations or materials within the fenced area."

7. Additional precautions outside the fenced areas should be taken to avoid damage to trees by materials such as cement, oils, bitumen or anything else likely to cause damage to tree roots.

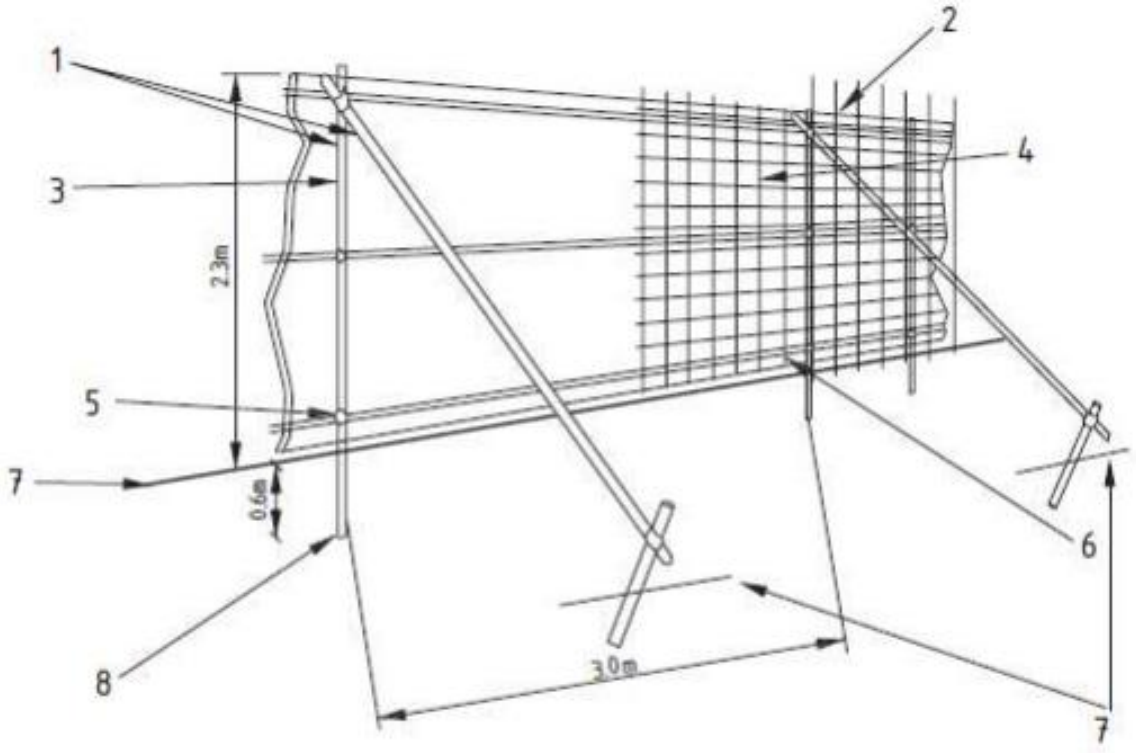


Figure 3. Protecting fencing. 1.Standard scaffold poles - 2. Uprights to be driven into the ground - 3. Panels secured to the uprights by wire ties or scaffold clamps - 4. Weldmesh wired to the uprights and the horizontals – 5. Standard Clamps - 6. Wire twisted and secured on the inside face of fencing to avoid easy dismantling – 7. Ground level – 8. Approx 0.6 m driven into the ground.

Conclusion

The proposed development has been shown above to be possible with minimal impact onto existing trees as long as the recommendations with this report are followed.

This carefully selected collection of mature trees appear to have been very well maintained and cared for by the current owners. Based on this observation and considering that the owners will continue to reside at the property, one has very little concern about their future protection, based on the level of care and dedication shown so far.