

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

WC-416.1a

Moorgate Farm, Moor Lane,
Netherthong, Holmfirth HD9 3UP



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Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1. SCOPE OF REPORT	4
1.2. SITE DETAILS	4
1.3. SITE TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION	5
1.4. DESK BASED STUDY AND PLANNING CONTEXT	5
1.5. DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS.....	5
2. METHODS.....	6
2.1. SURVEY DETAILS	6
2.2. SURVEY PERSONNEL	6
2.3. SURVEY METHODOLOGY.....	6
2.4. CONSTRAINTS.....	7
3. SURVEY RESULTS	8
3.1. TREE STOCK OBSERVATIONS.....	8
3.2. TREE CATEGORISATION.....	8
4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT.....	9
4.1. TREE REMOVALS	9
4.2. FACILITATION PRUNING.....	9
4.3. TREE ROOT PROTECTION AREAS (RPAs).....	9
4.4. SHADE ANALYSIS	10
4.5. SERVICES AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS	10
5. RECOMMENDATIONS	11
5.1. TREE WORKS.....	11
5.2. LEGAL CONSTRAINTS.....	11
5.3. TREE PROTECTION.....	11
5.4. MITIGATION TREE PLANTING.....	12
5.5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....	12
TABLES AND FIGURES	
FIGURE 1.1: AERIAL IMAGERY SHOWING THE APPROXIMATE BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE	4
FIGURE 1.2: INDICATIVE PLAN SHOWING THE LOCATIONS OF GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS	5
TABLE 2.1: <i>BS 5837: 2012</i> CASCADE CHART	6
TABLE 3.1: SUMMARY OF <i>BS 5837: 2012</i> TREE CATEGORIES RECORDED AT THE SITE	8
APPENDICES.....	13
APPENDIX 1: TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE	13
APPENDIX 2: IMAGES OF TREES.....	16
APPENDIX 3: OUTLINE ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT (AMS)	18
APPENDIX 4: TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN	23
APPENDIX 5: TREE PROTECTION PLAN.....	24



Executive Summary

Woodsage Consulting Ltd have been instructed by Mr. and Mrs. Rushworth to prepare an Arboricultural Impact Assessment for the land at Moorgate Farm, Moor Lane, Netherthong, Holmfirth HD9 3UP, in relation to the proposed development of the site.

The development proposals are to erect a new padel court at the site.

According to information which is available on the website of Kirklees Council, there are trees at the site which are subject to a tree preservation order.

The site survey identified a total of eight individual trees and two groups of trees with the potential to be impacted by the development proposals. These include eight category B trees of moderate-quality, and two category C groups of low-quality.

The development proposals do not necessitate removal of any of the existing trees.

Six category B trees will require pruning to facilitate the development.

The RPAs of the retained trees are to be suitably protected throughout the development process by temporary tree protection fencing and ground protection.

Providing the recommendations made within this report are followed, the development is considered achievable, with minimal impact in arboricultural terms to the site and surrounding area.



1. Introduction

1.1. Scope of Report

1.1.1. Woodsage Consulting Ltd have been instructed by Mr. and Mrs. Rushworth to prepare an Arboricultural Impact Assessment for the land at Moorgate Farm, Moor Lane, Netherthong, Holmfirth HD9 3UP, in relation to the proposed development of the site.

1.1.2. The purpose of this report is to allow the local planning authority (LPA) to assess information regarding trees at the site as part of the planning submission, and to demonstrate to the LPA that appropriate consideration has been given to the subject of trees as part of the development proposals.

1.1.3. In accordance with *BS 5837: 2012*¹ this report sets out to:

- assess the quality and value of the trees on and immediately adjacent to the site;
- identify trees for removal and/or retention, in consideration of the development proposals (where feasible, removals will be restricted to the less significant specimens on site);
- prescribe tree protection measures where necessary, which will ensure the successful retention of the retained trees at the site - in accordance with *BS 5837: 2012*, these measures will be further detailed in an outline Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS); and,
- where necessary, provide preliminary recommendations for mitigation tree planting.

1.1.4. The contents of this report are concerned with arboricultural issues alone; although other disciplines such as engineering and ecology may be referenced, it is important to gain advice from an appropriate expert on these matters.

1.2. Site Details

1.2.1. The application site - hereafter referred to as 'the site' and shown in **Fig. 1.1**, below - is located in the village of Netherthong, approximately 4.4 miles to the south of Huddersfield town centre. The site is accessed north off Moor Lane.

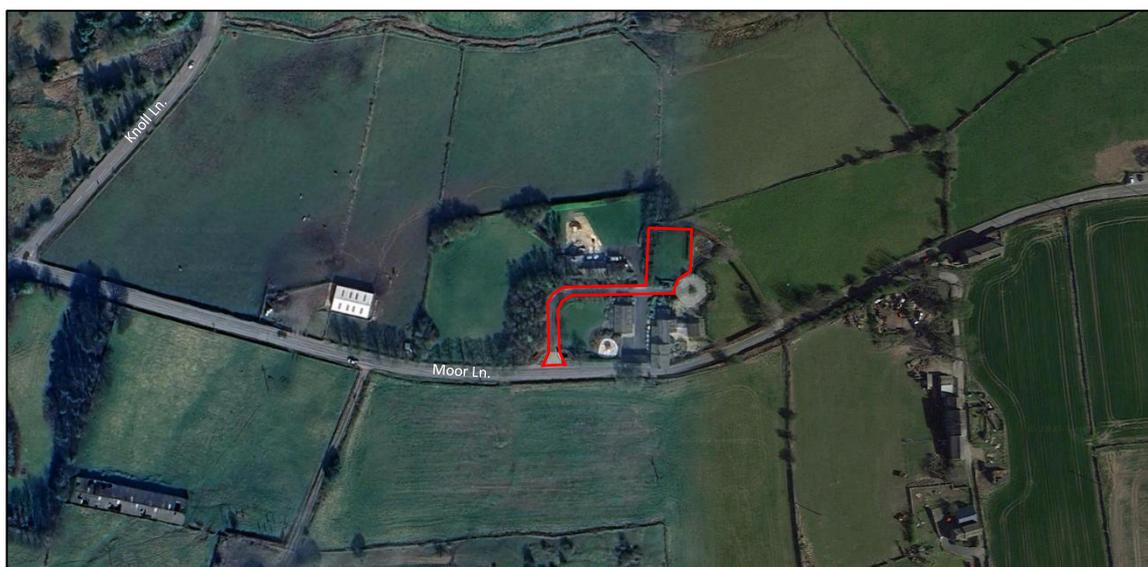


Figure 1.1: Aerial imagery showing the approximate boundaries of the site, outlined in red²

¹ British Standards (2012). *BS 5837: 2012 - Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction: Recommendations*. London: British Standards Institute.

² Google Earth Pro (2025). *Google Earth* [online]. Available at: > www.google.co.uk/earth < [accessed 19th August 2025].



1.2.2. The site covers approximately 0.1 ha and is centred on OS Grid Reference SE 12950 09478.

1.2.3. The site comprises an existing residential driveway and lawn.

1.3. Site Topography and Elevation

1.3.1. The site lies at an altitude ranging between 250 - 260 m above ordnance datum (AOD).

1.3.2. The general topography of the site and surrounding area falls away from the south-west to the north-east. There is a retaining wall along the western boundary of the site.

1.4. Desk Based Study and Planning Context

1.4.1. Cranfield University³ states that the soils at site and surrounding area consist of *Soilscape 6*; these are slightly acidic and loamy soils, that are freely draining. No further detailed soil analysis was carried out as part of the survey.

1.4.2. According to information which is available on the website of Kirklees Council⁴, there are trees at the site which are subject to a group tree preservation order (ID: 66/92/g2).

1.4.3. **Fig. 1.2**, below shows the approximate locations of TPOs on and adjacent to the site.

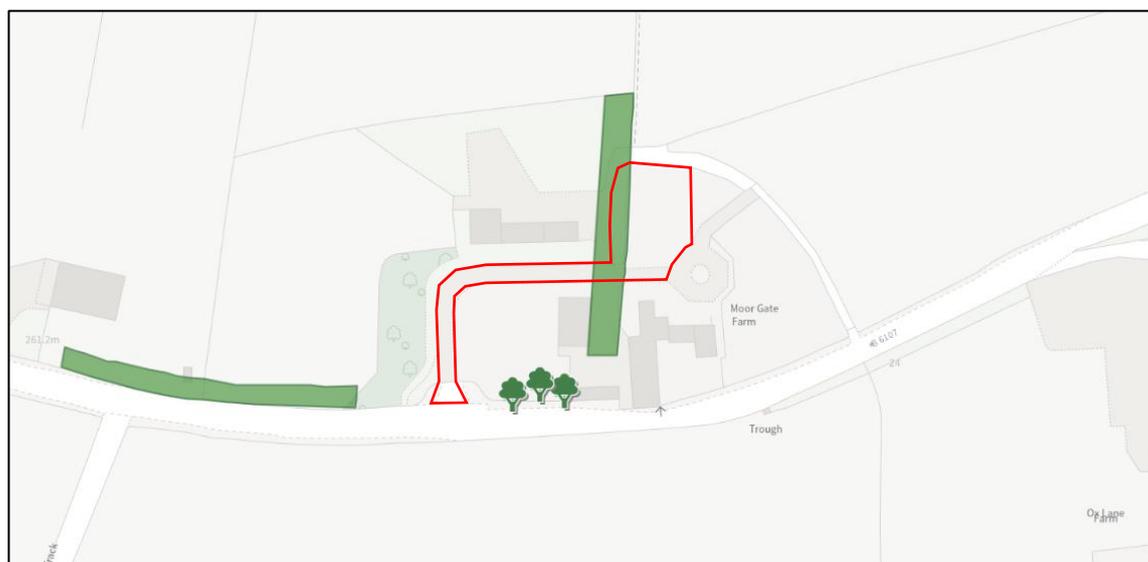


Figure 1.2: Indicative plan showing the locations of group TPOs (shaded green) and individual TPOs (tree icons)⁴.

1.5. Development Proposals

1.5.1. The development proposals are to erect a new padel court at the site.

³ Cranfield University (2025). *Soilscales* [online]. Available at: > www.landis.org.uk/soilscales < [accessed 19th August 2025].

⁴ Kirklees Council (2025). *TPO and Conservation Area Maps* [online]. Available at: > www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/trees-listing-and-conservation/tree-preservation-orders < [accessed 19th August 2025].



2. Methods

2.1. Survey Details

- 2.1.1. The site survey was carried out on Thursday the 26th of June 2025.
- 2.1.2. The weather at the time of the survey was fine and dry; the visibility of the trees was not impeded.

2.2. Survey Personnel

- 2.2.1. The survey was carried out by Jack Delaney. Jack is a Chartered Arboriculturalist (Member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters), and has worked in the arboricultural sector for over 15 years. Jack holds an FdSc in Arboriculture with distinction, and is a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association. Jack is also a LANTRA qualified Professional Tree Inspector, and is a trained and registered user of Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA).

2.3. Survey Methodology

- 2.3.1. Only substantial trees with a stem diameter of 75 mm or above were included as part of the survey, as is recommended in *BS 5837:2012*.
- 2.3.2. The trees were inspected from ground level, using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)⁵. Although notable defects of trees were recorded, the site survey did not constitute a full tree safety assessment. No specialist decay detection equipment was used as part of the survey, though sounding and probing tools were used where necessary.
- 2.3.3. Tree information was collected in accordance with *BS 5837: 2012*, and includes species, height, diameter at breast height (DBH), crown spread, crown clearance, age class, condition, vitality, and safe useful life expectancy (SULE).
- 2.3.4. Trees were allocated to one of four categories (U, A, B or C) as defined in **Tab. 2.1**, below, to reflect amenity value and suitability for retention, in consideration of the development proposals.

Table 2.1: *BS 5837: 2012* cascade chart (adapted from *British Standards, 2012*).

<i>BS 5837: 2012</i> Category	Definition	Retention	Colour code
Category A	Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years; trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual.	Highly desirable	Light green
Category B	Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years; trees lacking the special quality to merit category A designation.	Desirable	Dark blue
Category C	Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining contribution of at least 10 years, or trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm; unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.	Feasible, but should be removed if posing a constraint to development	Grey
Category U	Trees that have serious, irremediable, structural and/or physiological defects, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees.	Unfeasible	Red

- 2.3.5. Subcategories 1, 2 and 3 were also given to trees, and reflect arboricultural and landscape qualities, and cultural values, respectively.

⁵ Mattheck, C., Breloer, H. (1994). *The Body Language of Trees, a Handbook for Failure Analysis*. Her Majesty's Stationary: London.



2.3.6. Tree dimensions were determined as follows:

- Tree heights were measured from the base of the main stem to the top of the crown, using an electric clinometer, to the nearest 0.5 m up to 10 m, and to the nearest 1 m over 10 m
- Crown radiuses were measured at each cardinal point, using a laser distometer, to the nearest 0.5 m up to 5 m, and the nearest 1 m over 5 m

2.3.7. The DBH of trees was measured using the methods detailed in *Annex C of BS 5837:2012*, and were rounded to the nearest centimetre. The DBHs were then used to calculate tree root protection areas (RPAs) using the following equations:

1. For single stem trees, the RPA was calculated as a circle with a radius 12 times the DBH
2. For trees with 2-5 stems, the combined stem diameter was first calculated using the formula:

$$\sqrt{(\text{Stem 1 DBH})^2 + (\text{Stem 2 DBH})^2 + \dots (\text{Stem 5 DBH})^2}$$

3. For trees with 6 or more stems, the combined stem diameter was first calculated using the formula:

$$\sqrt{(\mu \text{ DBH})^2 \times \text{number of stems}}$$

2.3.8. Where access to trees was obstructed or obscured, DBH, height, and crown spread measurements have instead been estimated

2.4. Constraints

2.4.1. The survey was constrained by the season in which it took place; certain tree pathogens and/or defects, for example, the fructifications of decay fungi, are only visible at specific times of the year.

2.4.2. A topographical plan of the site was not provided for the purpose of the survey. The locations of the trees shown in the *Tree Constraints Plan* in **Appendix 4** have therefore been determined using a combination of land features, manual measurements, and GPS.

2.4.3. There are trees on and adjacent to the site which are situated within dense areas of understorey vegetation. Whilst such trees were surveyed insofar as was reasonably practicable, the accuracy of such data cannot be guaranteed.



3. Survey Results

3.1. Tree Stock Observations

- 3.1.1. The survey identified a total of eight individual trees and two groups of trees with the potential to be impacted by the proposed development.
- 3.1.2. The surveyed trees comprise a total of three species, three genera, and three families.
- 3.1.3. The prevalent tree species at the site is sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*. Additional tree species which were recorded within groups include European beech *Fagus sylvatica* and laurel cherry *Prunus laurocerasus*.
- 3.1.4. The surveyed trees are all located around the boundaries of the site:
 - G002, T007, and T008 are located on land immediately to the north of the site;
 - T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, and T006 are all early-mature sycamore which are located on top of a retaining wall along the western boundary of the site; and,
 - G001 is a laurel cherry hedge which is located along the eastern boundary of the site.
- 3.1.5. T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, T006, T007, and T008 are all category B trees of moderate-quality. T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, T006, and T007 are subject to a group TPO (ID: 66/92/g2), and as such, these are anticipated to present the main arboricultural constraint to the proposed development.

3.2. Tree Categorisation

- 3.2.1. The surveyed trees include eight category B trees of moderate-quality, and two category C groups of low-quality.
- 3.2.2. There were no category A trees of high-quality or category U trees with SULEs of less than 10 years identified at the site.
- 3.2.3. A summary of the BS 5837: 2012 categories of trees at the site is given in **Tab. 3.1**, below.

Table 3.1: Summary of BS 5837: 2012 tree categories.

Category	Description	Tree/Group Ref.	Line Totals
A	Trees of high-quality, which should be retained throughout the proposed development	-	-
B	Trees of moderate-quality, which should where possible be retained throughout the proposed development	T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, T006, T007, T008	8 Trees
C	Trees of low-quality, which if removed to facilitate the development can be easily mitigated for	G001, G002	2 Groups
U	Trees of such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	-	-
Totals:			8 Trees 2 Groups

- 3.2.4. The full results of the survey can be viewed in **Appendix 1: Tree Survey Schedule**. Images of the trees can be viewed in **Appendix 2: Images of Trees**. Tree locations, and the above and below ground constraints posed by trees, can be viewed in the **Tree Constraints Plans** in **Appendix 4**.



4. Impact Assessment

4.1. Tree Removals

4.1.1. The development proposals do not require any of the existing trees to be removed.

4.2. Facilitation Pruning

4.2.1. The crowns of T002, T003, T004, T005, T006, and T008 all overhang the proposed location of the padel court. As such, the following facilitation pruning work will need to be carried out to these trees prior to development works commencing:

- Branches extending east from T002 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
- Branches extending east from T003 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
- Branches extending east from T004 should be reduced by approximately 2 m
- Branches extending east from T005 should be reduced by approximately 2 m
- Branches extending east from T006 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
- The crown of T008 should be lifted so that the lowest branches measure approximately 5 m from ground level

4.3. Tree Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

4.3.1. The RPA of T008 will be encroached onto by the proposed padel court, by approximately 17.8 m². This impacted portion of the RPA amounts to roughly 5.1% of the total RPA of T008 (346.4 m²).

4.3.2. Since the impacted portion of the RPA of T008 is within tolerable limits - as is defined in *Section 7.4.2 of BS 5837: 2012* - construction of the proposed padel court is considered feasible, providing that the following mitigation measures are implemented during construction, which will help to minimise disturbance to tree roots:

- The use of concrete slab foundations within tree RPAs can result in extensive root loss and should be avoided within tree RPAs. The design shall therefore not require excavation into the soil (including through lowering of levels and/or scraping), other than the removal, using hand tools, of any turf layer or other surface vegetation.
- The padel court will be constructed upon a suspended slab, with a ventilated air space between the underside of the slab and the existing soil surface (to enable gas exchange and venting through the soil surface). The slab will be supported by pile foundations - of the smallest feasible diameter - which will reduce the possibility of striking major tree roots.
- The pile type should be selected bearing in mind the need to protect the soil and adjacent roots from the potentially toxic effects of uncured concrete; for example, sleeved bored or screw piles.
- Site investigation should be carried out within tree RPAs, by means of hand tools or compressed air soil displacement, to a minimum depth of 60 cm, to determine the optimal location of piles in relation to tree roots.
- The smallest practical piling rig should be employed during installation of the piles. The piling rig should be operated upon a piling mat, which should conform to the parameters for temporary ground protection which are provided in **Section A3.7** of the **Outline AMS** in **Appendix 3**.

4.3.3. The temporary tree protection fencing and ground protection - which are detailed in **Sections A3.5** and **A3.7** of the **Outline AMS** in **Appendix 3**, and are illustrated in the **Tree Protection Plan** in **Appendix 5** - will ensure that the RPAs of the retained trees are suitably protected from development activities.



4.4. Shade Analysis

4.4.1. The development proposals are for recreational use only; therefore, shade analysis has not been carried out.

4.5. Services and Other Considerations

4.5.1. At the time of writing, details of proposed drainage routes and/or soakaways have not been provided. If there are aspects of these which conflict with tree RPAs, then these should first be reported to the Project Arboriculturalist, so that appropriate measures may be taken. It is imperative that no excavations are to be carried out within tree RPAs.



5. Recommendations

5.1. Tree Works

5.1.1. Prior to development works commencing:

- Branches extending east from T002 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
- Branches extending east from T003 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
- Branches extending east from T004 should be reduced by approximately 2 m
- Branches extending east from T005 should be reduced by approximately 2 m
- Branches extending east from T006 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
- The crown of T008 should be lifted so that the lowest branches measure approximately 5 m from ground level

5.2. Legal Constraints

- 5.2.1.** According to information which is available on the website of Kirklees Council⁴, T002, T003, T004, T005, and T006 are subject to a group TPO (ID: 66/92/g2). The proposed works to T002, T003, T004, T005, and T006 should therefore only be carried out once full planning permission has been granted, or after a works to protected trees application has been submitted and approved in writing by Kirklees Council.
- 5.2.2.** Killing or damaging a protected tree is a criminal offence and can result in an unlimited fine.
- 5.2.3.** All tree works, including tree removals, should be carried out by a fully insured and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor who is able to comply with *BS 3998: 2010*⁶.
- 5.2.4.** Trees provide valuable habitat for wild birds, bats, and many other forms of wildlife. The risks posed to these should be suitably assessed before the recommendations within this report are completed.
- 5.2.5.** Under the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981:
- it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or destroy at a nest containing eggs or young; and,
 - it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy a bat roost site, even if the roost is not occupied at the time.

5.3. Tree Protection

- 5.3.1.** Construction, and any other works involving excavations, can cause irreversible damage to trees - particularly those which have reached maturity - which are far less capable of adapting to alterations in their surrounding environment. Whilst above-ground injuries are usually obvious, root damage is often concealed, though can have equally devastating impacts to tree health.
- 5.3.2.** Direct root damage includes root severance, which can be caused by digging of trenches and ditches, and the stripping of topsoil. Indirect damage may involve the raising of soil levels, alterations in drainage patterns, the laying of impervious surfaces, and soil compaction.
- 5.3.3.** Compaction of soils is a common cause of death or damage to retained trees on development sites. Soil compaction reduces soil pore space, which in turn reduces soil air, the passage of water

⁶ British Standards (2010). *BS 3998:2010 - Tree Works: Recommendations*. British Standards Institute: London.



and available nutrients. These anaerobic conditions prevent root growth and the proliferation of soil microbes essential to tree health. Symptoms in trees may include crown die-back, sparse and small foliage, and poor extension growth; however, these are usually not evident until well after the occurrence of compaction. Even one pass of a vehicle in wet conditions can cause irreparable soil compaction.

- 5.3.4. To avoid both direct and indirect damage to the roots of the retained trees, temporary tree protection fencing and ground protection should be installed prior to the development commencing, in the locations shown in the ***Tree Protection Plan***, which can be viewed in ***Appendix 5***.
- 5.3.5. It is recommended that development works follow the ***Outline AMS*** provided in ***Appendix 3***. This includes the specifications for the temporary tree protection fencing, ground protection, and other protective measures to be adhered to throughout the development.
- 5.3.6. As aspects of the development may be subject to change, the ***Outline AMS*** should be reviewed by the Project Arboriculturalist prior to the commencement of development works.

5.4. Mitigation Tree Planting

- 5.4.1. The development proposals do not require any of the existing trees to be removed; therefore, replacement tree planting will not be carried out upon completion of the development.

5.5. Additional Information

- 5.5.1. All visual observations and recommendations specified within this document relate to the condition of the trees and surroundings at the time of the survey. As such, any subsequent changes to landform in the proximity of the trees could invalidate the advice given.
- 5.5.2. Trees are dynamic living organisms, and their condition can change rapidly; the information given in this report is therefore valid for a period of 12 months. This period may be reduced if significant changes occur to the trees, or the ground conditions, which surround them.



Appendices

Appendix 1: Tree Survey Schedule

Table Key					
Tree/Group Ref: Reference numbers, as illustrated in the <i>Tree Constraints Plan</i> in Appendix 4			DBH: Diameter at breast height (1.5 m), in millimetres		
Height (Ht.): Overall height of tree, measured to nearest metre			SULE: Safe useful estimated life expectancy of tree, in years		
Crown Spread (CS): Radius of crown to N, E, S, and W aspects, measured to nearest metre			Crown Clearance (CC): Clearance from ground level of lowest branch, measured to nearest metre		
Structural Condition (SC): An assessment of structural condition. G = Good; F = Fair; D = Decaying; C = Collapsing; PD = Physical Defect			Physiological Condition (PC): An assessment of vitality and vigour F = Fair; P = Poor; D = Dead		
Species: Common (and <i>binomial name</i>)			#: Denotes estimated value		
Age	Young (Y): Newly planted or self-seeded tree		Early-mature (EM): Trees in second-third of life expectancy for species type		Over-mature (OM): Mature trees which have entered stages of natural decline
	Semi-mature (SM): Trees in within first-third of life expectancy for species type		Mature (M): Trees in final-third of life expectancy for species type		
BS 5837: 2012 Categories	Category A: Trees of high-quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years, and that are particularly good examples of their species type			Category C: Unremarkable trees of low-quality offering limited arboricultural merit and/or of such impaired condition that they do not warrant in higher categorisation	
	Category B: Trees of moderate-quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years, though lacking the necessary qualities to warrant Category A designation			Category U: Trees which display serious, irremediable, structural and/or physiological defects	

Individual Trees

Tree Ref:	Species	Age	SULE	Ht.	DBH	CS				CC	Comments	PC	SC	BS 5837: 2012 Category	Recommendations
						N	E	S	W						
T001	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	EM	40-80	13	360 380	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	3	Bifurcates at 0.5 m into two co-dominant stems; the angle of this branch union is < 25°, and therefore, it may potentially contain included bark. Dense ivy <i>Hedera helix</i> established on main stems up to 5 m, which obscures tree features and potential defects. Positioned on retaining wall top, approx. 1.5 m above the site levels, which will have impacted the morphology and disposition of roots.	F	F	B2	No works recommended
T002	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	EM	40-80	12	340	3	4.5	2.5	3	4.5	Dense ivy <i>Hedera helix</i> established on main stems up to 5 m, which partially obscures tree features and potential defects. Positioned on retaining wall top, approx. 1.5 m above the site levels, which will	F	G	B2	Reduce branches extending east by approx. 1 m



Tree Ref:	Species	Age	SULE	Ht.	DBH	CS				CC	Comments	PC	SC	BS 5837: 2012 Category	Recommendations
						N	E	S	W						
											have impacted the morphology and disposition of roots.				
T003	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	EM	40-80	13	380	3	5	2.5	5.5	3	Dense ivy <i>Hedera helix</i> established on main stems up to 6 m, which partially obscures tree features and potential defects. Positioned on retaining wall top, approx. 1 m above the site levels, which will have impacted the morphology and disposition of roots.	G	F	B2	Reduce branches extending east by approx. 1 m
T004	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	EM	40-80	13	390	3.5	6	3	5	3	Dense ivy <i>Hedera helix</i> established on main stems up to 6 m, which partially obscures tree features and potential defects. Positioned on retaining wall top, approx. 1 m above the site levels, which will have impacted the morphology and disposition of roots. Minor deadwood < 100 mm in diameter scattered throughout the crown	F	G	B2	Reduce branches extending east by approx. 2 m
T005	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	EM	40-80	13	400	4	5.5	2.5	6	3	Bifurcates at 1 m into two co-dominant stems; the angle of this branch union is < 25°, and therefore, it may potentially contain included bark. Dense ivy <i>Hedera helix</i> established on main stems up to 6 m, which partially obscures tree features and potential defects. Positioned on retaining wall top, approx. 0.5 m above the site levels, which will have impacted the morphology and disposition of roots. Minor deadwood < 100 mm in diameter scattered throughout the crown	F	F	B2	Reduce branches extending east by approx. 2 m
T006	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	EM	40-80	14	350	2	4.5	4.5	5	6	Dense ivy <i>Hedera helix</i> established on main stems up to 6 m, which partially obscures tree features and potential defects. Positioned on retaining wall top, approx. 0.5 m above the site levels, which will have impacted the morphology and disposition of roots. Minor deadwood < 100 mm in diameter scattered throughout the crown	F	G	B2	Reduce branches extending east by approx. 1 m



Tree Ref:	Species	Age	SULE	Ht.	DBH	CS				CC	Comments	PC	SC	BS 5837: 2012 Category	Recommendations
						N	E	S	W						
T007	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	EM	40-80	15	440	4	4	3.5	6	8	Dense ivy <i>Hedera helix</i> established on main stems up to 6 m, which partially obscures tree features and potential defects. Minor deadwood < 100 mm in diameter scattered throughout the crown	F	G	B2	No works recommended
T008	Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>)	M	40-80	19	660 570	8.5	9	9	4	3	Bifurcates at 0.5 m into two co-dominant stems; the angle of this branch union is acute, with slight lateral broadening of parent stem directly beneath the point of bifurcation. Asymmetrical form due to proximity with adjacent trees.	F	PD	B1	Crown lift to 5 m

Groups of Trees

Group Ref:	Species Composition	Age	SULE	Mx. Ht.	Mx. DBH	Approx. No. of Stems	CC	Comments	V	SC	BS 5837:2012 Category	Recommendations
G001	Laurel cherry (<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>)	SM	20-40	2.5	100	50#	0	Linear group of trees positioned along eastern boundary of the site, forming hedge. No obvious significant defects, though of limited arboricultural merit, and lacks the necessary qualities for higher BS 5837 categorisation.	G	F	C1	No works recommended
G002	European beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>)	Y	40-80	3	100	30#	0	Linear group of trees positioned along northern boundary of the site, forming hedge. No obvious significant defects, though of limited arboricultural merit, and lacks the necessary qualities for higher BS 5837 categorisation.	G	G	C1	No works recommended



Appendix 2: Images of Trees



Plate 1: T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, & T006 (left to right)

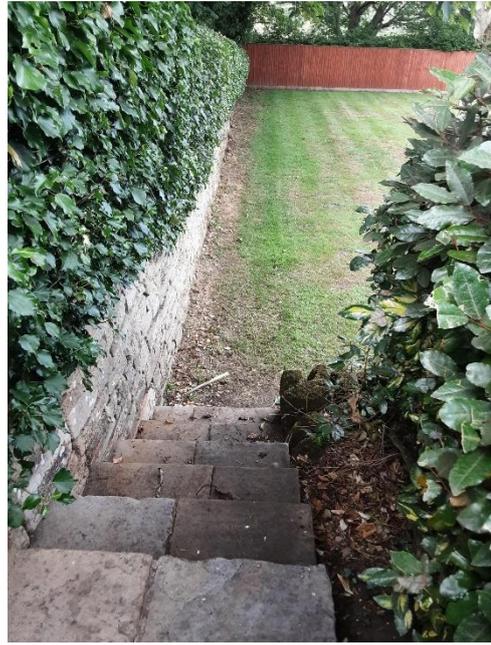


Plate 2: Current site access and retaining wall along western boundary



Plate 3: T001



Plate 4: T002, T003, & T004 (left to right)



Plate 5: T005, T006, & T007 (left to right)



Plate 6: T008



Plate 7: G001



Plate 8: G002



Appendix 3: Outline Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

A3.1 Introduction

- A3.1.1** Woodsage Consulting Ltd have been instructed by Mr. and Mrs. Rushworth to prepare an Outline AMS in relation to the proposed development of the land at Moorgate Farm, Moor Lane, Netherthong, Holmfirth HD9 3UP.
- A3.1.2** The development proposals are to erect a new padel court at the site.
- A3.1.3** This Outline AMS should be read in conjunction with the Arboricultural Impact Assessment (Ref: WC-416.1a).

A3.2 Timing of Works

- A3.2.1** It is not the Project Arboriculturist's role to determine the timing and implementation of works on site however, an input into the process can avoid issues once work is underway.
- A3.2.2** The phasing of works should be carried out in accordance with **Tab. A3.1**, below.

Table A3.1: *Timing of Works.*

Stage	Works
1	Site induction.
2	Carry out the facilitation pruning specified in Section A3.4 of this AMS .
3	Install the temporary tree protection fencing and ground protection to the specifications detailed in Sections A3.5 and A3.7 of this AMS , in the locations shown in the Tree Protection Plan .
4	Inspection of tree protection measures by the Project Arboriculturalist.
5	Carry out development works: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Precautionary measures detailed in Section A3.6 of this AMS to be adhered to throughout the development Padel court base to be formed off a suspended slab, bearing onto mini pile foundations, following the guidance provided in Section A3.8 of this AMS
6	Remove temporary tree protection fencing and ground protection once development works have been completed, and carry out any soft-landscaping which cannot be completed with the tree protection measures in place.
7	Final inspection by the Project Arboriculturalist.

A3.3 Site Supervision

- A3.3.1** Prior to works commencing, it is the responsibility of the main contractor, or assigned agent, to ensure that details regarding tree protection are understood and adhered to by all site personnel.
- A3.3.2** During the site induction, the final AMS and a copy of the **Tree Protection Plan** - which can be viewed in **Appendix 5** - should be made available to all contractors attending the site.

A3.4 Tree Works

- A3.4.1** Prior to the development commencing:
- Branches extending east from T002 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
 - Branches extending east from T003 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
 - Branches extending east from T004 should be reduced by approximately 2 m
 - Branches extending east from T005 should be reduced by approximately 2 m
 - Branches extending east from T006 should be reduced by approximately 1 m
 - The crown of T008 should be lifted so that the lowest branches measure approximately 5 m from ground level



- A3.4.2** According to information which is available on the website of Kirklees Council, T003, T004, T005, and T006 are subject to a group TPO (ID: 66/92/g2). The proposed works to T002, T003, T004, T005, and T006 should therefore only be carried out once full planning permission has been granted, or after a works to protected trees application has been submitted and approved by Kirklees Council.
- A3.4.3** All tree works, including tree removals, should be carried out by a fully insured and suitably qualified arboricultural contractor who is able to comply with *BS 3998: 2010*.
- A3.4.4** Trees provide valuable habitat for wild birds, bats, and many other forms of wildlife. The risks posed to these should be suitably assessed before the recommendations within this document are completed.

A3.5 Temporary Tree Protection Fencing

- A3.5.1** The temporary tree protection fencing shall be installed prior to the commencement of development works, and should be fit for the purpose of excluding site personnel and machinery. The default specification should be in accordance with *BS 5837: 2012 - Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction: Recommendations*.
- A3.5.2** **Specification:** Barriers shall be a minimum 2 m high, and should consist of a vertical and horizontal scaffold framework, well braced to resist impacts, as illustrated in **Fig. A3.1**, below, and **Fig. A3.2**, on the next page.
- A3.5.3** The vertical tubes shall be spaced at a minimum interval of 3 m and driven securely into the ground. Onto this framework, welded mesh panels should be securely fixed.



Figure A3.1: Examples of scaffold framework temporary tree protection fencing in-situ

- A3.5.4** All-weather notices shall be attached to the barriers at 9 m intervals with the words 'TREE PROTECTION ZONE - NO ACCESS' clearly visible.
- A3.5.5** **Location:** The temporary tree protection fencing should be installed prior to development works commencing - in the locations shown in the **Tree Protection Plan** - and shall remain in place until the development is completed.
- A3.5.6** The protected areas should be regarded as sacrosanct, and once installed, tree protection fencing should not be removed or altered without prior consultation with the Project Arboriculturist.



A3.5.7 If any breach in the tree protection fencing occurs, it is the Site Manager's responsibility to report this to the Project Arboriculturalist, so that appropriate measures may be taken. Any breach which results in death or damage to the trees could result in a criminal offence being committed.

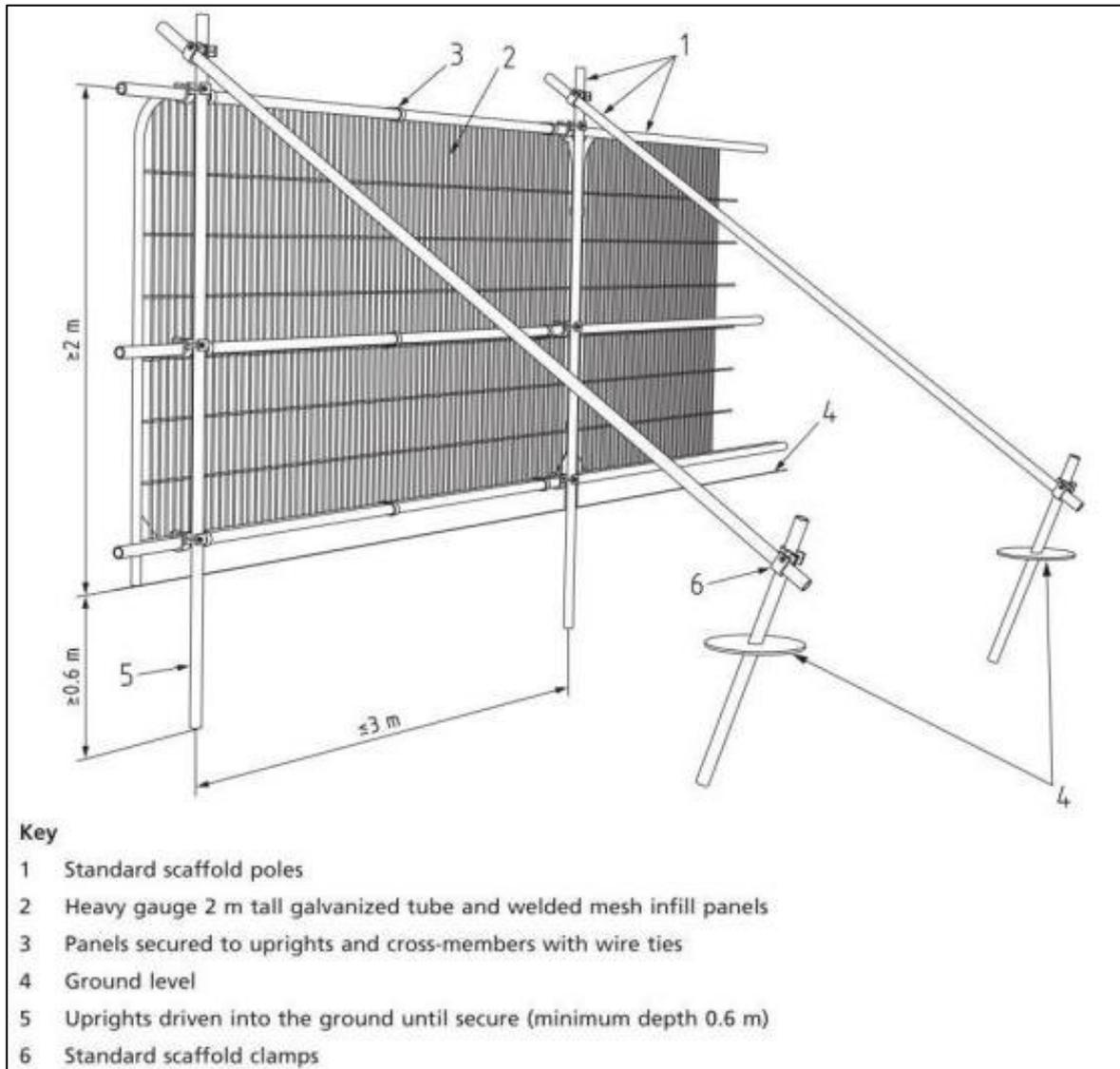


Figure A3.2: Temporary 2 m steel protective fencing.

A3.6 Further Precautionary Measures

A3.6.1 No materials hazardous to tree health, such as oil, bitumen or cement should be stored within the temporary protective fencing. Where possible, this area should be extended to 10 m away from the fencing.

A3.6.2 Where there is a risk of polluted water runoff into root protection areas (RPAs), heavy duty plastic sheeting and sandbags must be used to contain any spillages and prevent contamination. No fires should be lit within 20 m of the protective fencing.

A3.6.3 As the majority of tree roots are typically found within the first 100 cm of ground level - particular attention should also be paid to existing levels - which should be observed and maintained within tree RPAs.



A3.6.4 Any unavoidable excavations into the soil within tree RPAs should be carried out using compressed air soil displacement or hand-operated tools, and only under prior approval of the Project Arboriculturalist. If roots are encountered which occur in clumps or which are greater than 25 mm in diameter, these should not be severed without first consulting the Project Arboriculturalist.

A3.7 Temporary Ground Protection

A3.7.1 Due to site constraints, and to allow for suitable working space, the temporary tree protection fencing adjacent to T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, T006, T007, and T008 will be setback from the default *BS 5837:2012* positioning. As a result, soft-landscape within the RPAs of these trees will be exposed to development activities.

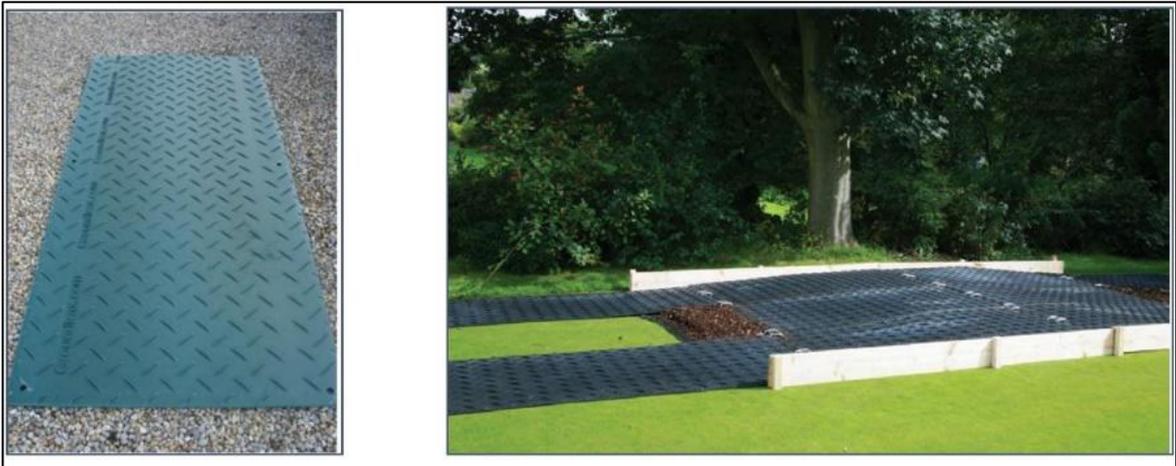


Figure A3.3: Examples of ground protection panels.

A3.7.2 Temporary ground protection should therefore be installed throughout the exposed RPAs of T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, T006, T007, and T008 - in the locations shown in **Tree Protection Plan** - and shall remain in place until the development is completed.

A3.7.3 The temporary ground protection should consist of inter-linked boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip) which are laid onto a geotextile membrane, as illustrated in **Fig. A3.3**, above.

A3.7.4 Any vehicles, plant, or machinery operating within the RPAs of T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, T006, T007, and T008 must ensure it does so upon the ground protection at all times.

A3.8 Installation of Footings within Tree RPAs

A3.8.1 The proposed padel court will encroach onto the RPA of T008. To minimise disturbance to tree roots, the following mitigation measures should therefore be implemented during construction:

- The use of concrete slab foundations within tree RPAs can result in extensive root loss and should be avoided within tree RPAs. The design shall therefore not require excavation into the soil (including through lowering of levels and/or scraping), other than the removal, using hand tools, of any turf layer or other surface vegetation.
- The padel court will be constructed upon a suspended slab, with a ventilated air space between the underside of the slab and the existing soil surface (to enable gas exchange and venting through the soil surface). The slab will be supported by pile foundations - of the smallest feasible diameter - which will reduce the possibility of striking major tree roots.



- The pile type should be selected bearing in mind the need to protect the soil and adjacent roots from the potentially toxic effects of uncured concrete; for example, sleeved bored or screw piles.
- Site investigation should be carried out within tree RPAs, by means of hand tools or compressed air soil displacement, to a minimum depth of 60 cm, to determine the optimal location of piles in relation to tree roots.
- The smallest practical piling rig should be employed during installation of the piles. The piling rig should be operated upon a piling mat, which should conform to the parameters for temporary ground protection provided in **Section A3.7** of this **AMS**.
- If tree roots are encountered during installation of the piles which occur in clumps or that are greater than 25 mm diameter, then these should not be severed without first consulting with the Project Arboriculturalist. If roots under this diameter are present, then these can be pruned using an appropriate sharp pruning tool, such as pruning saw or secateurs.
- Any tree roots which are temporarily exposed should be covered with sharp sand or dampened hessian sacks to prevent desiccation.

A3.9 Responsibility and Site Management

A3.9.1 It is the responsibility of the main contractor or assigned agent to ensure that details regarding tree protection are understood and followed by all site personnel.

A3.9.2 Inspections by the Project Arboriculturalist are to be undertaken at the following stages:

1. Once the temporary tree protection fencing and ground protection have been installed - in the locations shown in the **Tree Protection Plan** - and prior to development works commencing
2. Upon completion of the development works

A3.9.3 After each inspection, a letter should be submitted by the Project Arboriculturalist to the LPA Arboricultural Officer, to confirm if the method statement has been followed correctly, and if trees have not been adversely affected by development works.

A3.10 Project Arboriculturalist Contact Details

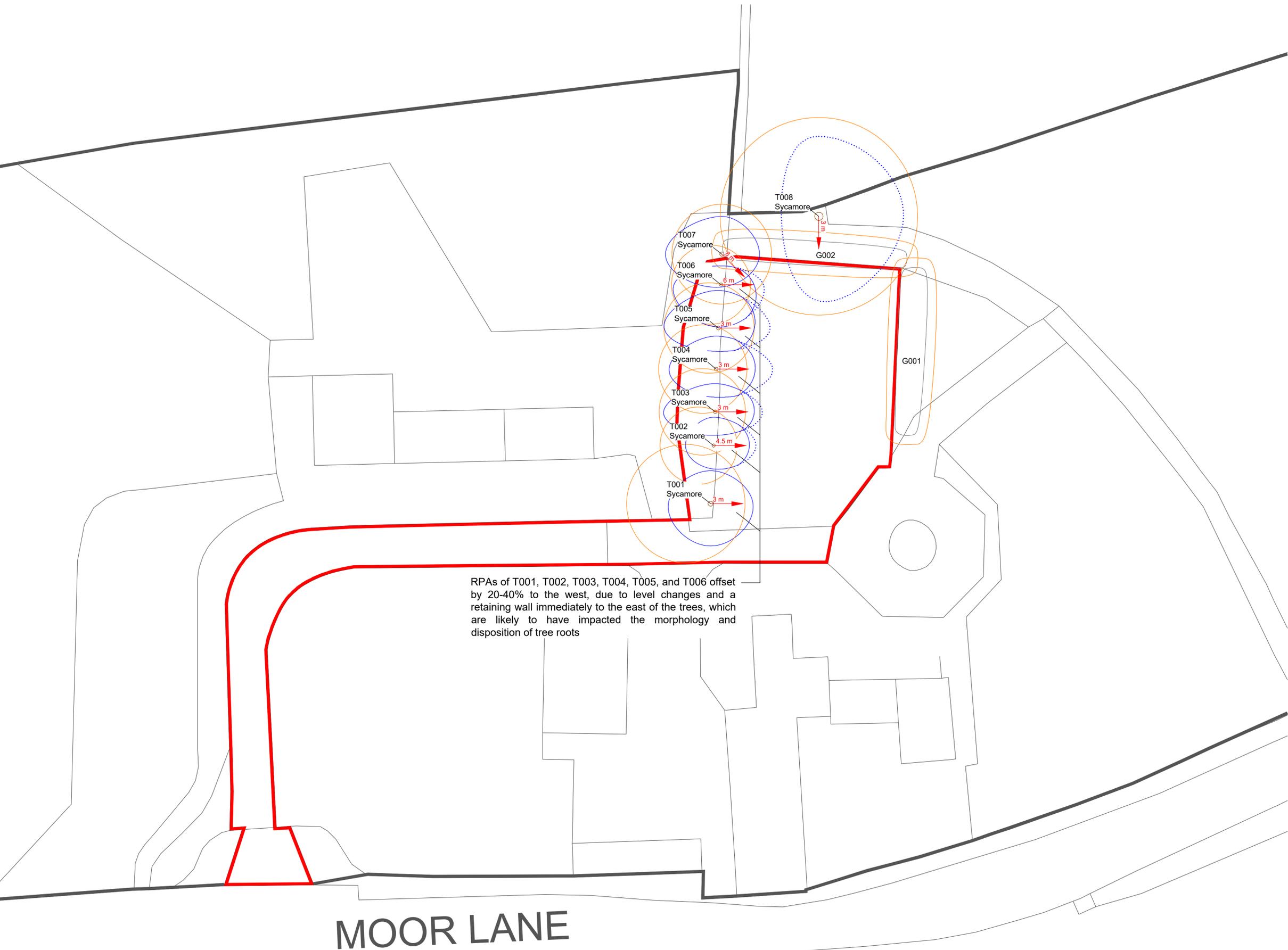
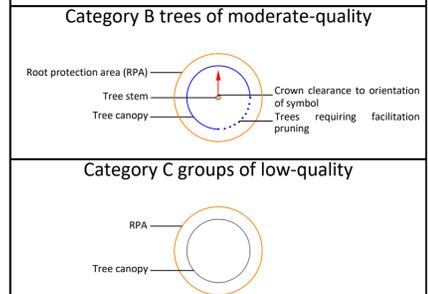
Mr Jack Delaney MICFor
Woodsage Consulting Ltd
Unit 2, Hey End Farm,
Shield Hall Lane,
Luddendenfoot,
West Yorkshire HX2 6JN
Tel: 07962401997
Email: jack@woodsage.co.uk

Appendix 4: Tree Constraints Plan

Project:	Moorgate Farm, Moor Lane, Holmfirth HD9 3UP
Drawn by:	Jack Delaney
Date:	17th September 2025
Scale:	1:200 @ A1
Drawing Number:	WC-416.1a.4

Do not scale off this drawing - to be reproduced in colour only

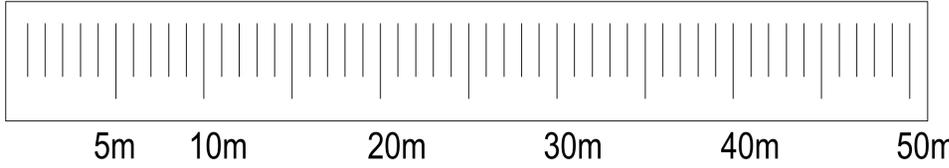
Map Key:



RPAs of T001, T002, T003, T004, T005, and T006 offset by 20-40% to the west, due to level changes and a retaining wall immediately to the east of the trees, which are likely to have impacted the morphology and disposition of tree roots

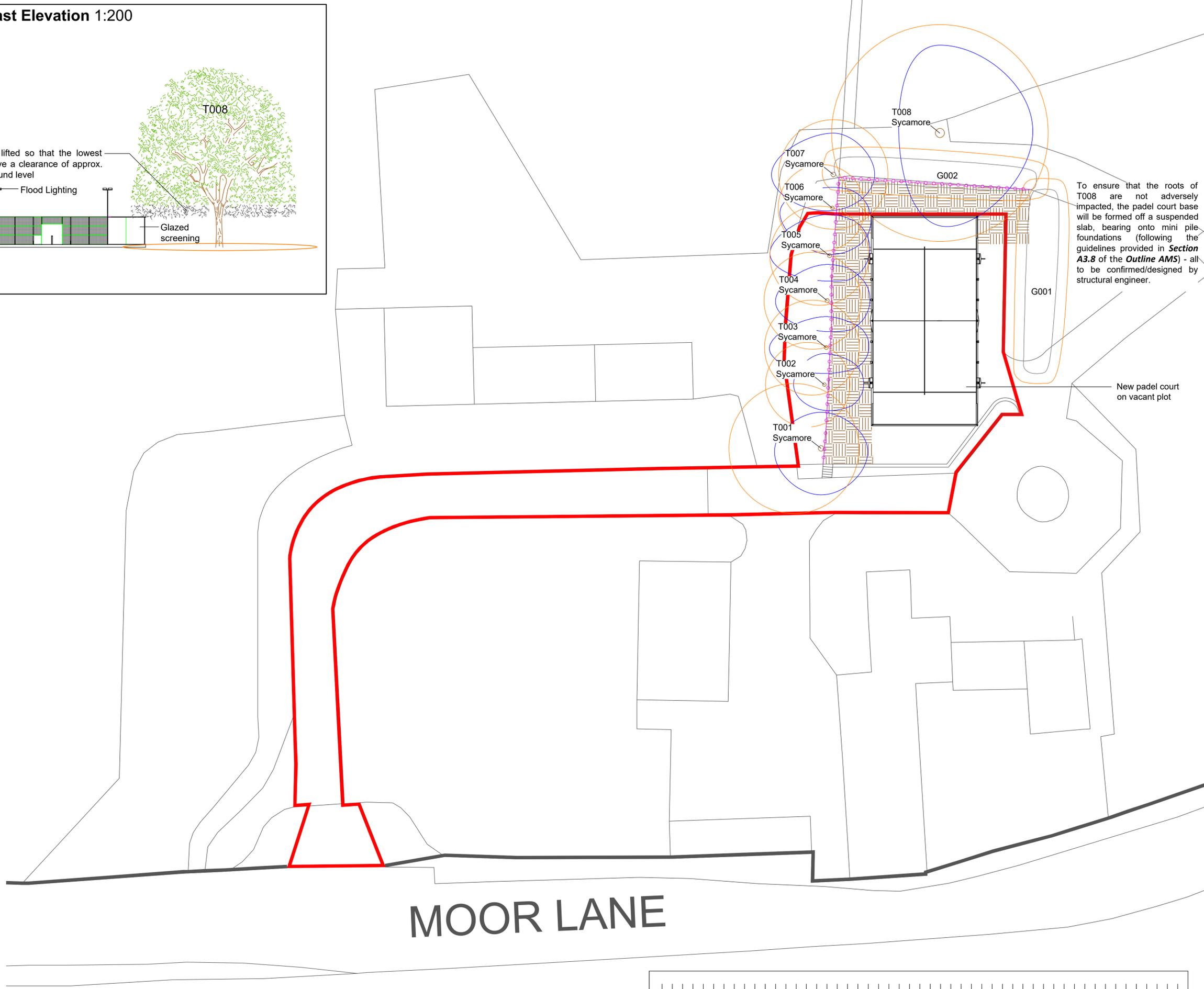
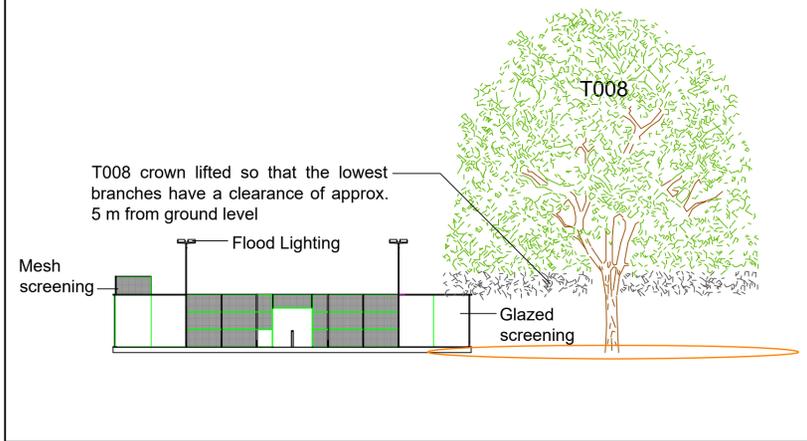
MOOR LANE

1:500



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Proposed East Elevation 1:200



To ensure that the roots of T008 are not adversely impacted, the padel court base will be formed off a suspended slab, bearing onto mini pile foundations (following the guidelines provided in **Section A3.8** of the **Outline AMS**) - all to be confirmed/designed by structural engineer.

Appendix 5: Tree Protection Plan

Project:	Moorgate Farm, Moor Lane, Holmfirth HD9 3UP
Drawn by:	Jack Delaney
Date:	17th September 2025
Scale:	1:200 @ A1
Drawing Number:	WC-416.1a.5

Do not scale off this drawing - to be reproduced in colour only

Map Key:

Category B trees of moderate-quality

Root protection area (RPA)

Tree stem

Tree canopy

Category C groups of low-quality

RPA

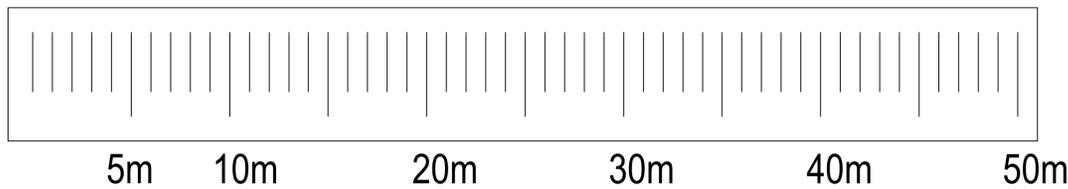
Tree canopy

Temporary tree protection fencing, to BS 5837: 2012 specification, as detailed in Section A3.5 of the **Outline Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)**.

Temporary ground protection, to BS 5837: 2012 specification, as detailed in Section A3.7 of the **Outline AMS**



1:500



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