Visual Tree Assesment
&
Report

Tree on land of Burges Acres, West of Upper Loan Park , Lauder TD2 6TR On Behalf of Dr Crombie-Smith

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AERIAL TREE INSPECTION
&
REPORT

Location: Burges Acres adjacent to the B6362 Road to Lauder

Subject: Tree belt of mixed ages .

Survey Date: 22nd of August 2019

Survey Type: Ground based Visual Tree Assesment . No samples were taken and no decay mapping using invasive or non-invasive techniques took place.

Limitations: Findings and recommendations contained in this report relate to the trees and site as they exist at present. Trees are living organisms and are subject to change it is strongly recommended that they are inspected on a regular basis in the interest of safety.

Whilst every effort, within the limitations of a visual tree inspection, has been made to detect defects relating to the trees inspected no guarantee can be given as to the absolute safety or otherwise of any individual tree. Extreme climatic conditions can cause damage to even apparently healthy trees.

This report has been prepared for the sole use of Dr J Crombie - Smith and his appointed agents. Any third party referring to this report or relying on information contained within it does so entirely at their own risk.

Report Information:

General Findings & Comments:

Trees age class –

There is a mix of Ash Sycamore and Hawthorn trees of various ages throughout the field boundary and along the road side verge.. Most of the trees are of young age class are of self-seeded regeneration. Trees of note are listed below and their location marked on drawing appendix 1.

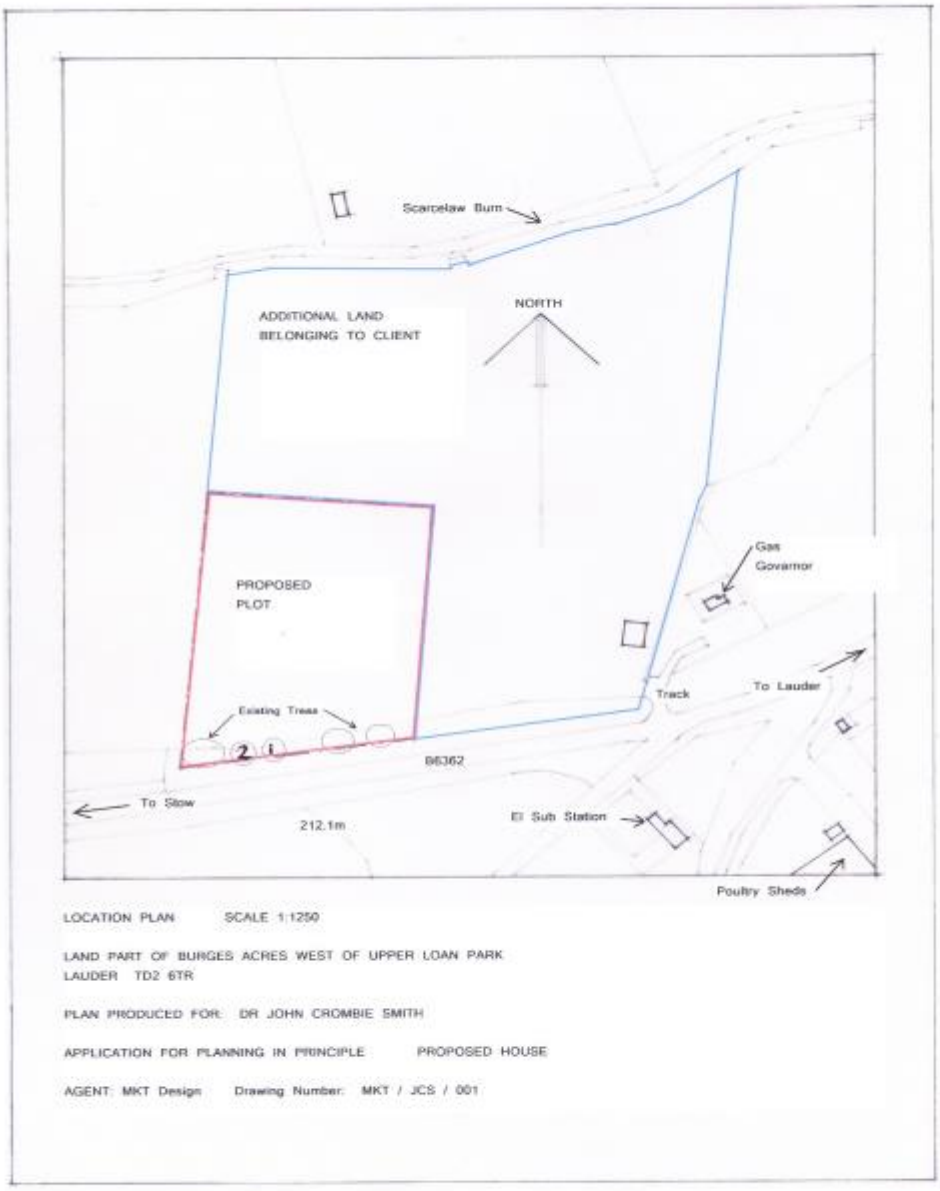
Trees of note are –

1. Ash – over mature approximately 14m in height with significant historical animal damage to base and stem of tree on field side. Approximately 50% of bark has been removed from the field side from ground level to 2m. There is decay pockets present in the exposed timber around the base. (see appendix 2) Heavy dead wood is present throughout the canopy with the upper canopy shown signs of heavy retrenching.

2. Ash – over mature approximately 10m in height with significant historical animal damage to base and stem of tree on field side. Approximately 50% of bark has been removed from the field side from ground level to 2m. There is decay pockets present in the exposed timber around the base. Heavy dead wood is present throughout the canopy. Inonotus Hispidus brackets are visible at 4m to 6m on branch unions moving up the stem. (see appendix 3) The upper canopy shown signs of heavy deadwood.

Both Trees are in a state of decline due to their age and large historical damage to the cambium layer. The trees generally pose a low threat to persons or property as the likely hood of total failure is low but there is a high target are within striking distance on the South side of the trees.

Appendix 1


Scarcelaw Burn
ADDITIONAL LAND
BELONGING TO CLIENT
NORTH
PROPOSED
PLOT
Gas
Governor
Track
To Lauder
Existing Trees
2
1
B6362
To Stow
212.1m
El Sub Station
Poultry Sheds
LOCATION PLAN SCALE 1:1250
LAND PART OF BURGES ACRES WEST OF UPPER LOAN PARK
LAUDER TD2 6TR
PLAN PRODUCED FOR: DR JOHN CROMBIE SMITH
APPLICATION FOR PLANNING IN PRINCIPLE PROPOSED HOUSE
AGENT: MKT Design Drawing Number: MKT / JCS / 001

Appendix 2

Appendix 3

Ongoing management :

Risk Management:
At present the trees pose a low risk and no work is required. However, in high wind conditions there is still the possibility of major limb loss.

I understand that there is a desire to obtain planning permission for a house on the land to the north of the trees mentioned within this report. It would be my recommendation that these trees were removed if the target risk was to be increase by increasing the use of the land within striking distance to the north of these trees. It may also require the removal of the some of the young self-seeded mix of Ash , Sycamore and Hawthorn along the road verge to allow for sight line to the proposed new site access.

Report prepared by:

Craig Douglas
Rfs Cert Arb, Lantra Professional Tree Inspection.

Signed:

Date: 27th of August 2019

Glossary of Terms

Abiotic; Pertaining to non-living agents (e.g. weather, pollution).

Biotic; Pertaining to living agents.

BS 3998; 2010 British Standard Tree Work; This standard gives general recommendations for tree work, for owners of established trees, for agents of the owners, and for those responsible for planning, specifying and undertaking work on maturing trees.

BS 5837; 2005 Recommendations For Trees in Relation to Construction; This standard provides guidance for architects, builders, engineers, land managers landscape architects and contractors those concerned with the care and protection of trees, and all others interested in harmony between trees and construction.

Cambium; Layer of actively dividing cells between bark and wood.

Canker; Collective term for a group of bark and wood disorders which can persist for one year (annual) or longer (perennial)

Cavity; Hole in a tree resulting from decay or damage.

Co-dominant; The first point from the ground where a tree divides into two stems.

Crown; The leafy canopy of a tree.

Crown Thin; Involves the removal of a proportion of secondary and small, live branch growth from throughout the crown to produce an even density of foliage around a well spaced balanced branch structure, should usually be confined to broadleaf species. Crossing, weak, duplicated, dead and damaged branches should be removed.

Crown Clean; Removal of dead, dying or diseased wood, stumps of broken branches, unwanted epicormic shoots, climbing plants (e.g. ivy) and any accumulated rubbish within the crown. Other objects such as wires, clamps or boards should also be removed when this can be done without inflicting undue damage on the tree concerned.

Crown Lift; Involves the removal of lower limbs wholly or in part to give a prescribed clearance from ground or a specified object to the lower canopy of the tree.

Dieback; The death of a plant, usually starting from distal point and often progressing in stages.

Disease; A malfunction in or destruction of tissues within a living organism, usually not taken to include mechanical damage; in trees, usually caused by pathogenic micro-organisms.

Fungi; Organisms of several evolutionary origins, most of which are multicellular and grow as branched filamentous cells (hyphae) within dead organic matter or living organisms (wood decay fungi are specialised form which have co-evolved with woody plants).

Hazard; A hazard is “the disposition of a thing, a condition or a situation to produce injury”, where as risk is “the chance of something adverse happening”.

Included bark; Bark of adjacent parts of a tree (usually in forks, acutely angled branches or basal flutes), which is in face contact, so that there is weakness due to the lack of a woody union.

Monoculture; An area of vegetation made up of primarily one or two species.

Non-invasive Cable; Recent innovations in tree support systems include cabling systems that do not require drilling holes in stems. Instead, the new systems support co-dominant stems, weak crotches, or cracked stems by looping a synthetic web sling around each stem to be supported.

Pathogen; Any agent that causes disease. Abiotic or non-living agents such as pollutants may cause disease. Biotic or living agents that are pathogens are usually a different species from the host.

Phytotoxic; Any substance that kills cells of a plant.

Pruning; The removal or cutting back of twigs, branches or roots; in some contexts applying only to twigs or small branches only, but more often used to describe all kinds of work involving cutting.

Sail Area; In arboriculture, a general term for the wind-intercepting area of a trees crown, which varies both with leaf cover and the orientation of leaves and twigs under different wind conditions.

Slime-flux; Watery, often fermenting, sometimes foul smelling, liquid issuing from a stem or branch, as a result of infection or injury.

Sound Wood; Wood that is not affected, decayed or damaged.

Stress; In plant physiology, a condition under which one or more physiological functions are not operating within their optimum range, for example due to lack of water, inadequate nutrition or extremes of temperature.

Tree; A highly compartmented, perennial, woody, shedding plant that is usually tall, single stemmed and long lived.

Vigour; A tree assessment, an overall measure of the rate of shoot production, shoot extension or diameter growth.