**East Heath Road Car Park Planning Application Arboricultural Report**

**Reference:** Application number 2018/1767/P

**Report date:** 16th May 2017

**Location:** East Heath Road Car Park, Hampstead Heath,

**Prepared by:** Jonathan Meares, Trees and Conservation Manager

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Aerial photograph (Google Earth) of location of East Heath Car Park site

## Scope of this report

This report has been instructed by City of London's City Surveyors Team to update the earlier Arboricultural Report submitted with a previous application for the same site in 2012. The following information will be included in this report. Due to design changes and new drainage installations with associated excavations.

1. **Background information on the site**
2. **Tree Constraints Plan (TCP)**
3. **Arboricultural Implications Assessment (AIA)**
4. **Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)**
5. **Tree Protection Plan (TPP)**
6. **Additional tree schedule**
7. **Summary**

The Report follows industry guidance provided by BS: 5837 Industry guidelines

'Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction – Recommendations' 2012

**Report author:** Jonathan Meares

Position:

Highgate Wood, Conservation and Tree's Manager

Qualifications & Professional memberships;

BSc Environmental Conservation 1998
LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection 2009
ABC Technician in Arboriculture 2009

Arboricultural Association – Professional Member
London Tree Officers Association – Associate member

## 1. Background to East Heath Car Park.

A previous planning application was submitted in 2012 and this was accompanied by a Tree Report dated 15.03.2012. The works carried out included landscaping with native hedge planting, new rural post and rail gates and fencing, and a coxwell gravel surface with improved drainage. Unfortuately over the last 5 years the coxwell gravel has been subject to repeated erosion and deposition events after high rainfall on the East Heath Road, posing a danger to cyclists and motocyclists on the highway

In late 2017 funding was secured for a project to replace the bound gravel surface with tarmac with a rolled stone wearing course and further drainage improvements including a attenuation tank installed at the sothern end of the car park. A planning application has been submitted for this project reference 2018/1767/P.

This Report provides supplementary information on the 2012 report and also includes an updated plan showing Tree Root Protection areas which have changed over the succeeding five years, and recommendations on tree root damage mitigation.

## 2. Tree Constraints Plan (TCP)

See plan included with is report showing Root Protection Areas (RPA's) and additional trees to the south of the East Heath Car Park boundary. (Appendix 2)

## 3. Arboricultural Implications Assessment (AIA)

Principle impact to existing trees from new drainage construction are: T022, T019, T013, T012, T010 on the western side of the car park site will be impacted by proposed new construction and installation of an ACO drain system, and a combination of steel edging or curbing.

Simularily T005, T006, T007, T008, and T009 will be impacted by installation of ACO drain and also the installation of new service chamber and associated pipe work, with hydrobrake system.

T036 and T037 (not on 2012 Tree Schedule) will also be impacted by installation of new drain runs and new bypass separator.

T010 is also impacted by the construction of the new attenuation tank, which is being installed to hold back storm water.

## 4. Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

At a site meeting held on 12.04.2018 between representatives from City Surveyors, Stillwell Partnership and Hampstead Heath Management Team, discussions were held on the current design and the impacts on existing trees above were pointed out to the design team. The BS:5837 guidelines on Tree Root Protection Area (RPA's) were also discussed.

Root investigation: It was agreed that root investigation work would be undertaken by the Hampstead Heath Tree Team, using an air lance and mobile compressor unit, to determine rooting activity at all the principle impact areas.

(See table overleaf with findings and recommended action)

| Tree no | Root found (mm) | Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| T006 | 5/10mm | No action required |
| T012 | Up to 10mm | No action required |
| T013 | Up to 30mm | Hand dig with supervision |
| T019 | Up to 10mm | No action required |
| T022 | No information | Hand dig with supervision |
| T036 | Up to 40mm | Hand dig with supervision |
| | | |

It was also agreed that the design team would look at design changes to mitigate damage to tree roots where new drainage pipe work was transecting RPA's.

Design changes: these have subsequently been made including the relocation of the attenuation tank out of the RPA of T010.

An additional section of pipework and a new chamber wil be constructed in order to move the new drainage further out of the RPA of T036.

T007 remains at risk with major excavations within the RPA which are unavoidable. The tree will be subject to a reduction to compensate for potential severance of structural roots during the construction process.

An alternative edging contruction is currently being explored such as railway sleeper timbers rather than concrete curbing.

Where possible, decompaction work will take place around trees most effected by excavation and drainage installations.

**5.Tree Protection Plan (TPP)**

All trees within the construction area will be protected, where possible with fixed Herras type fencing. Where this is not possible tree's main stems will be protected from machinery impacts.

We also recommend that ground protection panels are used where machinery is tracking back and forth and operating for extended periods. This will reduce further compaction to RPA's.

Excavations in RPA's will be monitored closely especially those in T007, T013, and T036.

The Hampstead Heath Tree Team will monitor the site daily during the drainage construction period.

**6. Additonal Tree Schedule (see attached Appendix 1)**

## 7. Summary

The trees growing in the immediate area around the car park site have been subject to long term compaction due to the site being regulary used for funfairs and the more recent Afordable Art Fair (AAF). The car park works carried out in 2012/13 provided some remediation to a number of trees and notably T006 a London Plane has retrenched successfully despite a period of steady decline. We intend to carry out further remediation work after this project is completed which we hope will ensure the tree's long term survival.

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Appendix 1: Supplementary Tree Schedule

| | | | | Crown Spread (m) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tree no | Species | Height (m) | DBH (cms) | North | East | South | West | Crown clearance (m) | Age class | Physiological | Structural | Recommendations | Life expectancy | Retention category | Sub category |
| T036 | London Plane | 12 | 57 | 5 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 3 | Mature | Fair (Massaria) | Good | Deadwooding | 40+ | B | |
| T037 | White Willow | 11 | 70 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 2 | Over Mature | Fair | Fair | Monitor decay points, rebalance crown | 10 | C | |
| T038 | White Willow | 10 | 62 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 2 | Over Manture | Poor | Fair | Monitor decay points | 10 | C | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Appendix 2. As email attachment

| | | | | Crown Spread (m) | | | | | | | | | | | |
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