ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

CONTENTS:

1. INTRODUCTION 2. TREE SURVEY

3. ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS & IMPACT ASSESSMENT 4. TREE PROTECTION

1. INTRODUCTION

Background: LSDP were appointed to prepare an Arboricultural Survey & Report to satisfy Local Authority requirements in respect to a site north of Stapleford, between Haverhill Road and Hinton Way. The site comprises approximately 39ha of agricultural land (predominantly arable, with a small section of pasture). The proposal is for a new retirement village to be developed on a land parcel to the south east. Bordering this area and extending through the entire site will potentially be the Cambridge Autonomous Metro, linking Cambridge Station with Granta Park.

2. TREE SURVEY

Generally: The site comprises open agricultural land and other than a small isolated conifer plantation to the north-west, all of the trees and hedgerows recorded in the survey are located around the site periphery; the majority of the vegetation relates to established agricultural boundaries and comprises mixed species native hedgerows, with occasional trees. The mixed hedgerows are traditional forms of enclosure that contribute to local landscape character and are mostly recorded as 'B2' category (moderate landscape value). The land is bordered in places by domestic curtilage and orchard and some of the vegetation in these areas is recorded as 'C2' category (low landscape value) due to it being immature or inappropriate species; the conifer plantation is also recorded as 'C2' category as it is of no special arboricultural, landscape, or cultural value and is not in keeping with the surroundings.

3. ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

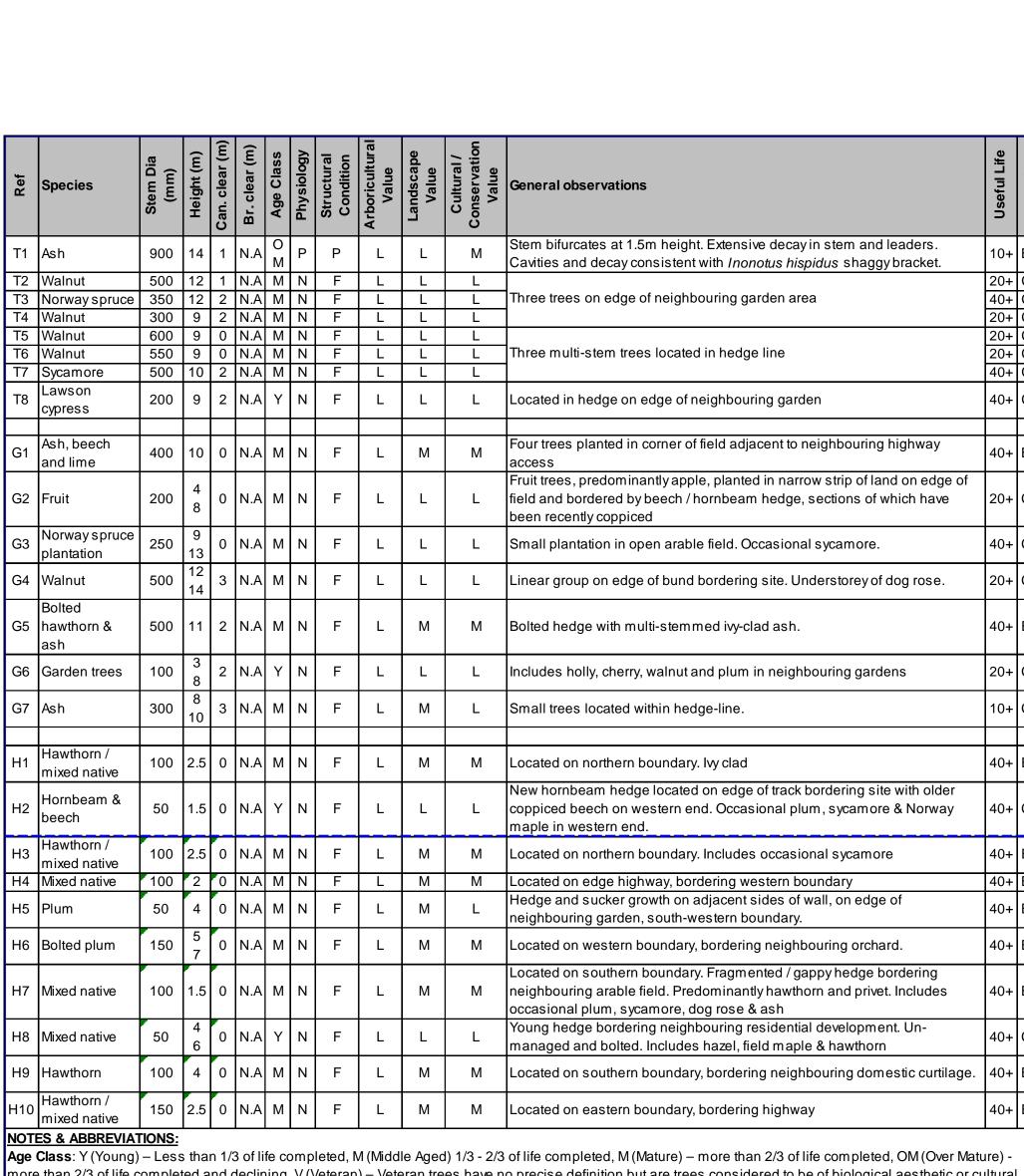
Preliminary Assessment: The existing vegetation is mostly associated with hedgerows located around the site periphery; there is a general absence of large or mature trees and the site is largely unaffected by arboricultral constraints.

The proposed site access and highway improvements will require the removal of the southern section of the H10 hawthorn hedgerow for a length of approximately 250m. A replacement length of new hedgerow will be planted behind the visibility to close the gap and mitigate this loss.

The indicative layout for the retirement village includes extensive landscape buffers to its periphery and as such is unlikely to pose any significant arboricultral implications on existing vegetation. The development proposal allows provision for further hedgerow and tree planting also for improved management / gapping up of existing hedge lengths to the south of the site, that are currently becoming fragmented.

4. TREE PROTECTION

Generally: A detailed scheme of tree protection shall be provided once the development proposals have been finalised.



more than 2/3 of life completed and declining, V (Veteran) – Veteran trees have no precise definition but are trees considered to be of biological aesthetic or cultural value because of their age.

Physiology: N - Normal, P - Poor, D - Dying. Given relative to species, age and location. Structural Condition: G (Good) – No, or remediable physical defects or decay. F (Fair) - Physical defects or decay present, risk of failure of stem or large limbs within twelve months considered to be low. P (Poor) - Physical defects or decay present, risk of failure of stem or large limbs within twelve months considered to be high.

