

ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

Proposed overflow car parking site

Lympne Castle
The Street
Hythe
Kent CT21 4LQ

Client: Lympne Castle Management Ltd

April 2025

Abi St Aubyn

MICFor MArborA DipArb L6 (ABC) MEng(Hons)

Ref: StA 5366a AIA AMS Lympne Castle Rev -



Executive Summary

This report provides an arboricultural impact assessment and method statement for a proposed overflow car parking site, adjacent to the Village Hall at Lympne Castle, The Street, Hythe, Kent CT21 4LQ. This report complies with the planning policies of Folkestone and Hythe District Council and with the recommendations of British Standard BS 5837: 2012, *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*.

A total of 22 individual trees, 1 group and 2 hedges were surveyed. Information about the survey methodology and the tree data recorded can be found at **Appendix 1**. The root protection areas (RPAs) table and the tree constraints plan can be found at **Appendix 2 & Appendix 3**.

From information on Folkestone and Hythe District Council's website, some of the trees adjacent to Castle Close are subject to tree preservation order (TPO), A2 of TPO 2 of 1959 – Beech T1, T7 & T8. This TPO covers all Ash, Beech & Sycamore that were present in 1959. A single off-site tree, Ash T25, is likely to be the subject of TPO 4 of 1995. These trees are labelled on the tree constraints plan and within the tree survey schedule. Part of the site is within the Lympne Conservation Area – see the magenta hatched line on the tree constraints plan.

The key arboricultural features of the site are:

- The category 'B' trees growing adjacent to the Aldington Road and along the entrance road to the Village Hall – Sycamore T16, T17, T18, T19, T20, T21 & G22.
- The category 'B' trees growing adjacent to Castle Close – Beech T1 & Scots Pine T9
- The category 'B' Sycamore T12 growing to the north of the existing market location.

The proposals have been overlaid with the tree constraints plan and the arboricultural impacts identified. The tree pruning plan can be found at **Appendix 5** and the tree protection plan at **Appendix 6**. No trees are required to be removed to enable the proposals. Minor pruning is required to allow adequate crown clearances over the car parking area and the path beneath the crown of Sycamore T12.

New hard surfacing is proposed in some areas within the root protection areas of retained trees – this will be constructed using a cellular confinement system in accordance with the methodology laid out in the method statement at Section 4.

Subject to the adherence to the recommendations within the method statement at section 4 of this report, I consider that the proposals would have a negligible impact on the health and longevity of the retained trees. Adherence to the method statement could readily be secured by an appropriate planning condition. The proposals represent a negligible impact on the character and appearance of the locality as far as this is contributed to by trees.



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1. Introduction

1.1. Scope of report

- 1.1.1 This report provides an arboricultural impact assessment and method statement for a proposed overflow car parking site, adjacent to the Village Hall at Lympne Castle, The Street, Hythe, Kent CT21 4LQ.
- 1.1.2 This report complies with the planning policies of Folkestone and Hythe District Council and with the recommendations of British Standard BS 5837: 2012, *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations* (the British Standard).
- 1.1.3 This report provides an impact assessment and an arboricultural method statement including a tree pruning plan and a tree protection plan.

1.2. Site description

- 1.2.1 The site is on the southern side of the Aldington Road, to the east is the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground, and to the north is Castle Close. To the west the site abuts the residential properties accessed from Castle Close.
- 1.2.2 A check of an online soil information resource¹ revealed the soils to be freely draining, slightly acid but base-rich soils.

1.3. Information provided

- 1.3.1 The following plans have been used to aid the preparation of this report:
 - Proposed plan Heard Landscapes Lympne Castle Village Hall Car Park Plan ref: BRO12_6_HL_2440_P-200

1.4. Limitations

- 1.4.1 This arboricultural impact assessment and method statement have been prepared for the proposals stated above, using the information available at the time of writing. Any subsequent amendments to the design or to the construction methods proposed, will need to be reviewed by the project arboricultural consultant to assess whether these changes might create additional or fewer arboricultural impacts and to see if additional measures are required or if some of the measures specified are no longer needed.

¹CRANFIELD SOIL AND AGRIFOOD INSTITUTE. (2021) Soil descriptions. [Online] Available from: www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/ [Accessed: 12th November 2025]



2. Tree survey

2.1. Findings

- 2.1.1 The trees on the site were surveyed on Tuesday 21st April 2026. Information about the survey methodology and the tree data recorded can be found at **Appendix 1** .
- 2.1.2 A total of 22 individual trees, 1 group and 2 hedges were surveyed. A summary of their British Standard categorisation is provided at **Table 1** below. The root protection areas (RPAs) table and the tree constraints plan can be found at **Appendix 2 & Appendix 3** .

Tree category	Individual tree	Group	Hedge
A	-	-	-
B	9	1	-
C	8	-	2
U	5	-	-
Totals	22	1	2

Table 1: Tree categorisation summary

- 2.1.3 The following structures have been considered to be root barriers:
- The high garden wall to the south of Sycamore T12.
 - The Aldington Road has been considered to be a root barrier – the root protection areas (RPAs) of T19, T20, T21, G22 & T23.
- 2.1.4 In both of the above cases all of the areas of their RPAs have been maintained, with the shapes of their RPAs modified to reflect the location of the road. The new outbuilding adjacent to Castle Close within the RPAs of T7, T8, T9 & T10 is assumed to have been constructed with standard foundations, which would have required root severance, therefore in these cases, the overall areas of RPAs have not been maintained.
- 2.1.5 The key arboricultural features of the site are:
- The category 'B' trees growing adjacent to the Aldington Road and along the entrance road to the Village Hall – Sycamore T16, T17, T18, T19, T20, T21 & G22.
 - The category 'B' trees growing adjacent to Castle Close – Beech T1 & Scots Pine T9
 - The category 'B' Sycamore T12 growing to the north of the existing market location.



- 2.1.6 These trees are readily visible in public views and are in keeping with the character and appearance of the locality.

2.2. Statutory protection

- 2.2.1 From information on Folkestone and Hythe District Council's website, some of the trees adjacent to Castle Close are subject to tree preservation order (TPO), A2 of TPO 2 of 1959 – Beech T1, T7 & T8. This TPO covers all Ash, Beech & Sycamore that were present in 1959.
- 2.2.2 A single off-site tree, Ash T25, is likely to be the subject of TPO 4 of 1995.
- 2.2.3 These trees are labelled on the tree constraints plan (**Appendix 3**) and within the tree survey schedule (**Appendix 1**).
- 2.2.4 Part of the site is within the Lympne Conservation Area – see the magenta hatched line on the tree constraints plan.

2.3. Other designations

- 2.3.1 A check of 'MAGIC'² map showed that there are no areas of ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) within or adjacent to the site. Ancient semi-natural woodland is any area that's been continuously wooded since at least 1600 AD.
- 2.3.2 The site is within the Kent Downs area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB).

² The DEFRA MAGIC map website provides authoritative geographic information about the natural environment across government: www.magic.defra.gov.uk



3. Arboricultural impact assessment

3.1. Overlay of the proposals to identify impacts

- 3.1.1 The proposals have been overlaid with the tree constraints plan and the arboricultural impacts identified. The tree pruning plan can be found at **Appendix 5** and the tree protection plan at **Appendix 6**. The arboricultural impacts are described below.

3.2. Tree removals

- 3.2.1 No trees are required to be removed to enable the proposals.

3.3. Pruning

- 3.3.1 A summary of pruning works required is provided at **Table 3** below. Most of the works are to create adequate crown clearance over the proposed car parking area.

Tree No.	Species	Works required	Reasons for works
T12	Sycamore	Crown lift from 2m to 3.5m over path	To allow adequate space for access beneath crown
T15	Holly	Crown reduce adjacent to access road	To enable the proposals
T16	Sycamore	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park	To allow adequate space for access beneath crown
T17	Sycamore	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park	To allow adequate space for access beneath crown
T18	Sycamore	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park	To allow adequate space for access beneath crown
G22	Sycamore	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park	To allow adequate space for access beneath crown
T25	Ash	Crown lift from 1.5m to 5.5m over footprint of car park	To allow adequate space for access beneath crown

Table 2: Summary of pruning (continued)

- 3.3.2 All tree works will be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS 3998: 2010, *Tree Work – recommendations*.

3.4. New hard surfacing within root protection areas (RPAs)

3.4.1 Pathway beneath crown of Sycamore T12

- 3.4.2 This area already has some cellular confinement system in place, which is filled with an aggregate, however it appears to have been laid over compacted ground and/or a fill material with fines. Within this area it is proposed the existing hard surfacing will be removed, the underlying soil will be decompacted using either a fork or compressed air injection, and new above soil surfacing will be laid within the proposed footprint of the path. The proposed extents of above soil surfacing within the RPA of Sycamore T12 is 23.5%.



3.4.3 Car parking spaces within the RPAs of Sycamore T16, T17, T18 & T19

3.4.4 The extents of proposed above soil surfacing within the RPAs of Sycamore T16, T17, T18 & T19 are 21.7%, 13%, 5% & <1% respectively.

3.4.5 The use of above ground cellular confinement systems to install surfacing near to trees has been used for over 20 years. This involves laying a geocell mat onto a non-woven geotextile laid on the surface of the ground (no excavation required), filling it with clean stone aggregate, and topping this sub-base with a wearing course. **Fig 1** below, from the latest good practice guidance on above soil surfacing near trees³, shows this in principle.

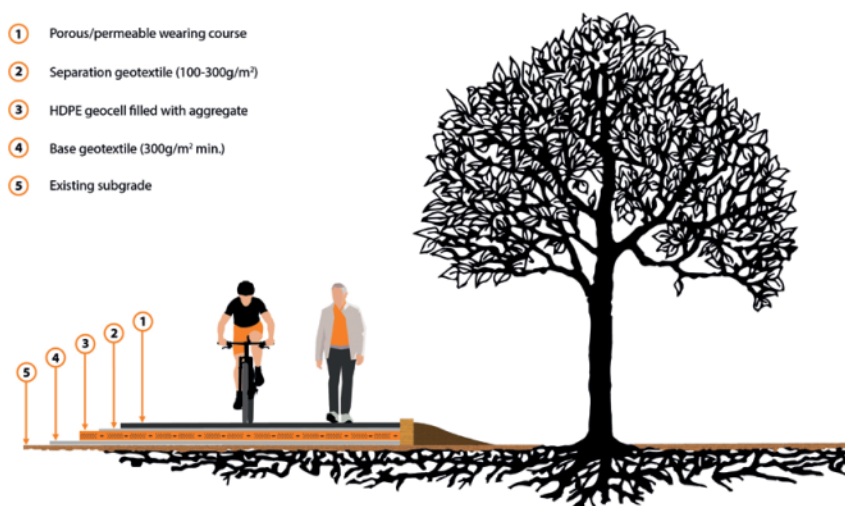


Fig 1: Excerpt from the best practice guidance on above soil surfacing²

3.4.6 This surface does not require excavation (other than tying into existing levels for example at the junction with a road) and it improves the bearing capacity of the soil by distributing stress over a wider area which prevents ground deformation.

3.4.7 The British Standard recommends an upper limit of 20% new hard surfacing within the RPAs of trees. However, in a couple of cases, the proposed extents of above soil surfacing exceed this recommended maximum.

3.4.8 In the case of the pathway beneath the crown of Sycamore T12, although the extent of hard surfacing exceeds the recommended maximum (23.5%), it represents a betterment to the existing situation, because currently there is a larger area of cellular confinement system covering its RPA and also decomposition measures are recommended which will be beneficial for the tree. In the case of T16, the extent of above soil surfacing is 21.7% which is only marginally above the 20% limit. Furthermore, the upcoming updated version of the British Standard removes this 20% limit, and as a species Sycamore are vigorous and are able to tolerate changes to their rooting environment. Therefore, subject to the recommendations within the method statement being adhered to, I consider the proposals would have a negligible impact to the trees' long term health and longevity.

³ Rose, B., 2010. The use of cellular confinement systems near trees; A guide to good practice. The Arboricultural Association: Gloucestershire.



3.5. Excavation within root protection areas (RPAs)

- 3.5.1 There are a couple of areas where excavation is required within RPAs of retained trees – Holly T15 and Sycamore T19. The extent of proposed excavation is 15% and <1% of their overall RPAs respectively. Holly T15 is a large shrub/small tree and in my opinion would be able to tolerate this. Subject to adherence to the recommendations within the method statement at Section 4, I consider the proposed excavation would have a negligible impact on the health and longevity of these trees.

3.6. Services

- 3.6.1 At this stage, exact details of the routing of services for the proposals are not available. It is intended that all services will be sensitively routed to minimise any excavation required within RPAs. At the detail design stage, once details of the routing of new services becomes available, prior to commencement, these will be reviewed by the project arboriculturist and advice provided about how to minimise any impacts to adjacent trees, and the method statement and tree protection plan updated accordingly.

3.7. Landscaping

- 3.7.1 The landscaping proposals are to be confirmed at the date of this report. However, it is anticipated that mitigation tree planting will be undertaken.
- 3.7.2 Where tree planting occurs within the RPAs of retained trees, in order to avoid damage to roots and compaction to soil, these works must occur sensitively as described in the arboricultural method statement at section 4 of this report. Any fencing within the RPAs of retained trees will need to be constructed using postholes rather than trenching. Also, the levels of any fences will need to follow existing ground levels as there must be no re-grading of levels within RPAs.

3.8. Conclusions

- 3.8.1 No trees are required to be removed to enable the proposals. Minor pruning is required to allow adequate crown clearances over the car parking area and the path beneath the crown of Sycamore T12.
- 3.8.2 New hard surfacing is proposed in some areas within the RPAs of retained trees – this will be constructed using a cellular confinement system in accordance with the methodology laid out in the method statement at Section 4.
- 3.8.3 Subject to the generic and specific tree protection measures recommended within the arboricultural method statement at section 4 of this report being adhered to, I consider that the proposals represent a negligible impact on the amenity of the locality in so far as it is contributed to by trees.



4. Arboricultural method statement (AMS)

4.1. Pre-start meeting

4.1.1 Before any works take place on site, the project manager will hold a pre-start meeting. This meeting will be led by the project arboricultural consultant and will be attended by the site manager and any other parties working close to the trees on the site. The LPA tree officer will also be invited to this meeting. At the pre-start meeting the project arboricultural consultant will:-

- explain the implications of the TPOs and the Conservation Area and the approved tree protection methodology.
- sign-off the pre-start tree works & the tree protection fencing.
- discuss any changes that may be required to the approved arboricultural method statement. These changes will either be agreed with the LPA tree officer at the time or if the LPA tree officer is not attendance, by exchange of email following the meeting.
- agree the arboricultural monitoring frequency and reporting required with the LPA tree officer if in attendance. Contact numbers will be exchanged and the methods of tree protection outlined in this statement will be explained.

4.2. Phasing of works

Works Order	Stage	Notes
1	Initial tree works	The approved tree works will be carried out in accordance with para 4.3.1 below.
3	Installation of tree protection fencing,	The tree protection fencing will be installed in the locations shown on the tree protection plan and to the specification described in this method statement.
4	Pre-start meeting	The project arboricultural consultant will explain tree protection measures at the pre-start meeting. The tree works and protective fencing will also be signed off. This meeting must occur before any plant activity, ground works or demolition/construction activities begin.
5	Demolition phase	Following the detail design, the demolition method statement will be reviewed and appropriate tree protection fencing.
5	Construction phase	The tree protection fencing must be maintained and the construction exclusion zone maintained throughout the construction phase.
6	Landscaping	Landscaping works will take place after the construction phase has been completed and all heavy plant has left site.

Table 3: Phasing of works



4.3. Tree works

- 4.3.1 The trees listed at **Table 4** below are to be pruned as specified. All tree works will be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS 3998: 2010, *Tree Work – recommendations*. Advice should be sought from an ecologist regarding the nesting bird season and any protected species prior to the works being undertaken.

Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Works
T12	Sycamore	12m	Crown lift from 2m to 3.5m over path
T15	Holly	3.5m	Crown reduce adjacent to access road
T16	Sycamore	13m	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park
T17	Sycamore	13m	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park
T18	Sycamore	15m	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park
G22	Sycamore	13m	Crown lift from 1m to 5.5m over footprint of car park
T25	Ash	17m	Crown lift from 1.5m to 5.5m over footprint of car park

Table 4: Tree removals and pruning

- 4.3.2 Plant machinery will not be used to scrape vegetation or grub out stumps within RPAs. Tree stumps and vegetation located within the RPAs of retained trees will be cleared with controlled hand tools (e.g. stump grinder/brush cutter).

- 4.3.3 No bonfires will be used to dispose of arisings.

4.4. Tree protection fencing

- 4.4.1 Retained trees must be protected by tree protection fencing before any materials or machinery are brought onto the site and before any demolition or development activities commence. The areas on the tree side of the protection fencing are construction exclusion zones and must be regarded as sacrosanct. There must be no storage of materials, no access for vehicles or people and no excavation or changes in soil level of any kind within the construction exclusion zones. The construction exclusion zones are shown as yellow hatching on the tree protection plan.
- 4.4.2 Following installation of the tree protection fencing it must not be removed or altered without prior recommendation by the project arboricultural consultant and, where necessary, approval from the LPA tree officer.
- 4.4.3 The location of the fencing is denoted by the continuous purple lines (I) or cyan lines (II) on the tree protection plan.
- 4.4.4 The fencing specification for both type I and II will be in accordance with para 6.2.2.3 and Fig 3 of the British Standard – as shown below:



Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems

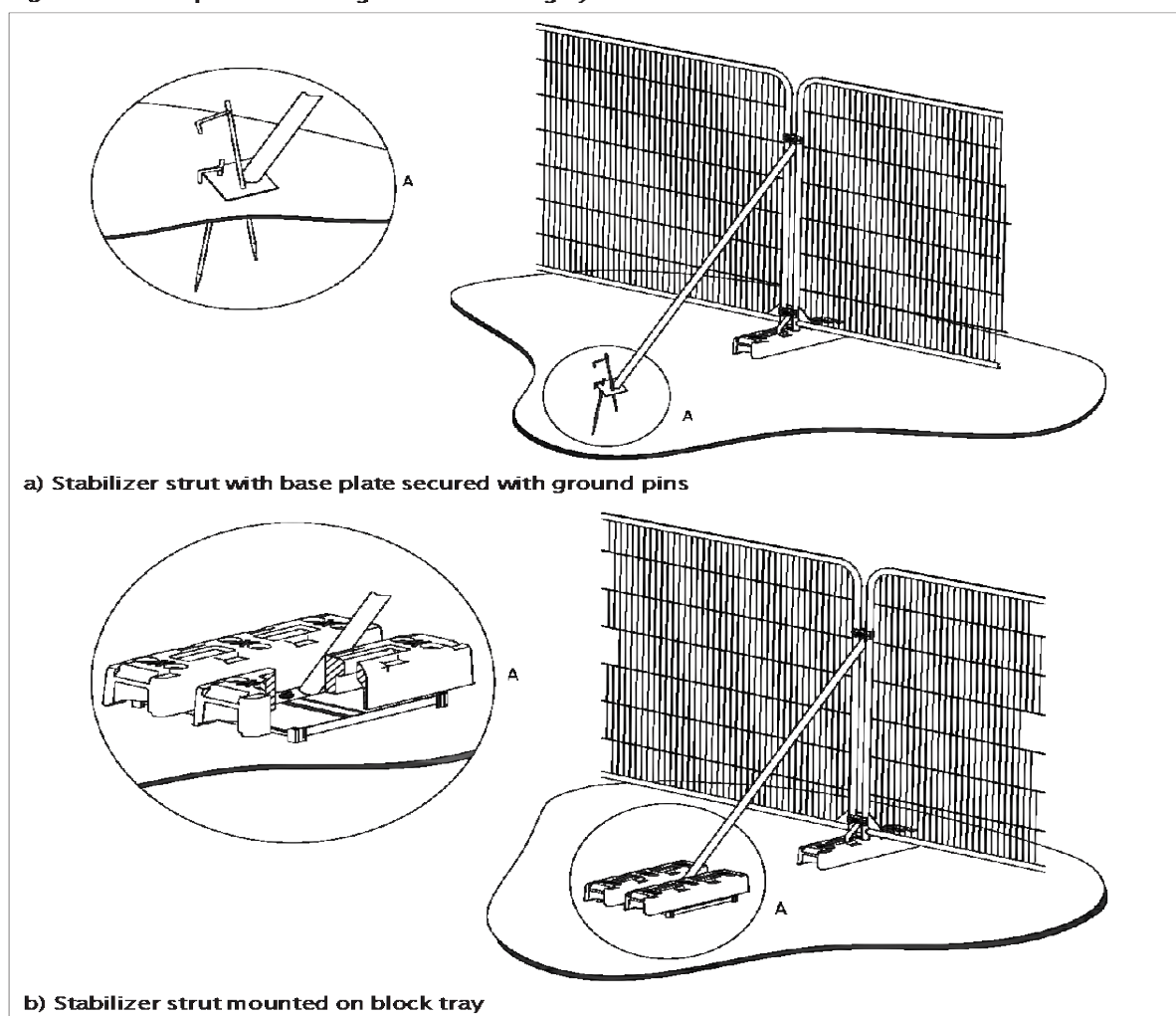


Fig 2: Fencing specification

- 4.4.5 The fencing specification will be 2m tall welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet. The panels will be joined together using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers, installed so that they can only be removed from inside the fence. The distance between the fence couplers will be at least 1m and will be uniform throughout the fence. The panels will be supported on the inner side by stabilizer struts, which will be attached to a base plate secured with ground pins (as per Figure 3a of the British Standard). Where fencing is to be erected on retained hard surfacing or it is otherwise unfeasible to use ground pins, e.g. due to the presence of underground services, the stabilizer struts will be mounted on a block tray (as per Figure 3b of the British Standard).
- 4.4.6 Notices stating “Tree Protection Zone – Keep Out” will be attached with cable ties to every third panel.
- 4.4.7 The contractors’ site huts may, where appropriate, may be incorporated into the protective fencing line. If this is to be the case, then their locations must be agreed in advance with the project arboricultural consultant and a method statement supplied that details how the huts are to be placed and supported without compacting the soil within the RPA. Details of the proposed hut locations will be supplied to the LPA tree officer in advance of their positioning on site for approval.



- 4.4.8 Areas for storing or mixing of fuels, oils or cement will be agreed at the pre-start meeting.
- 4.4.9 No structures will be attached to the trunks or branches of trees.
- 4.4.10 Where tall plant or equipment may pass close to the crowns of trees, timber uprights will be erected and attached to the protective fencing to prevent accidental damage to branches. Cross members between the uprights will be marked clearly with reflective tape to ensure high visibility.
- 4.4.11 When the installation of the protective fencing is complete, the project arboricultural consultant will be notified so that they can sign it off. If the protective fencing is accidentally damaged, it will be marked with high visibility tape or mesh fencing and replaced within 48hrs. This incident must then be reported to the project arboricultural consultant.

4.5. Construction of above-ground hard surfacing

- 4.5.1 The new hard surfacing beneath the RPA of Sycamore T12 and within the car parking areas within the RPAs of Sycamore T16, T17, T18 & T19 will be constructed using a cellular confinement system in accordance with section 7.4 of the British Standard and more recent best practice guidance⁴. This area is shown as red honeycomb hatch on the tree protection plan.

Removal of existing cellular confinement system within the RPA of Sycamore T12

- The existing cellular confinement system and underlying terram will be gently pulled back using a small excavator with a narrow bucket based on suitable ground protection if on exposed ground within the RPA, under close arboricultural supervision.
- Any aggregate will be removed using hand tools and a wheel barrow. Pedestrian access will also use suitable ground protection within the RPA.

Decompaction

- The new hard surfacing will be constructed during a period of dry weather when there isn't pooled water on the ground.
- The ground will be decompacted by inserting a fork into the ground at 0.5m intervals to a full depth and moving it to and fro or by using a compressed air injection system.
- Additional high quality topsoil will be added to fill in ruts. No releveling/excavation of the surface will take place other than to tie in levels within the existing surface of Castle Close. This will be carried out using hand tools only, under close arboricultural supervision.
- A 10cm depth of well composted wood chippings will be added within the RPAs of the adjacent trees to encourage root growth, and earth worm activity to aerate and improve the texture and structure of the soil.

Construction of above soil surface

- The proposed area of above soil surfacing will be marked out and existing vegetation removed with hand tools or sprayed with an approved non-residual herbicide.
- Any small hollows will be filled with clean sharp sand (not builders' sand) to a maximum depth of 100mm. A permeable geotextile membrane will be laid down prior to the installation of a cellular confinement system.

⁴ Rose, B., 2010. The use of cellular confinement systems near trees; A guide to good practice. The Arboricultural Association: Gloucestershire.



- An engineer should specify the appropriate depth of geocell to use for a specific location, as this will depend on the usage but also the bearing capacity and strength of the soil.
- The cellular confinement system will be laid out and backfilled, ensuring all cells are fully expanded and filled to capacity, with clean, angular, no-fines aggregate (20mm-40mm).
- Edge supports of appropriate size and strength will be set above ground level and will be secured either with steel pins driven into the ground, or with concrete haunching laid onto the existing ground level on an impermeable polythene membrane. The outer edge of the supports may be banked up with clean topsoil.
- A permeable geotextile membrane will also be laid on top of the cellular confinement sub-base to prevent fines and other debris filling the air spaces in the aggregate. The wearing course will be permeable such as porous tarmac or concrete setts with sand jointing.

4.6. Underground services

- 4.6.1 At the detail design stage the proposed underground services will either utilise existing service routes where possible, or will be routed to minimise impacts on the RPAs of retained trees.
- 4.6.2 The locations of proposed service routes will be reviewed by the project arboricultural consultant and shown on an amended tree protection plan to be submitted for approval to the LPA tree officer.

4.7. Landscaping

- 4.7.1 Following completion of the construction phase, a 10cm depth of well composted wood chippings will be added within the RPAs of all trees adjacent to the Events Hall and adjacent to the trees adjacent to the access point to the car parking field, to promote the future health of the rooting environment.
- 4.7.2 Whilst any landscaping is being carried out within root protection areas, the site manager will ensure that:-
- Any unwanted vegetation will be removed carefully using hand tools.
 - There will be no changes in existing ground levels.
 - No vehicles or plant will track across root protection areas.
 - No fuels or chemicals will be stored within root protection areas and nothing will be attached to trees.
 - Any approved excavation for fencing or other structures will be carried out using hand tools only. If roots are encountered, wherever possible the location of the excavation will be moved to a new location. If this is not possible then any roots with a diameter of less than 25mm may be cut cleanly using hand tools. Advice from the project arboriculturist is required if any roots are uncovered with a diameter greater than 25mm.



4.8. Review of the detailed design prior to commencement on site

- 4.8.1 Prior to the pre-start meeting, the project arboricultural consultant will review and where necessary provide input into the arboricultural impacts of the detail design including, the levels, services, drainage, demolition and the construction management plan. Where necessary, this method statement and tree protection plan will be updated as required and submitted for approval to the LPA tree officer.

4.9. Site monitoring

- 4.9.1 The site manager is responsible for giving adequate instructions about the approved tree protection measures and for giving a copy of this method statement to everyone who is working close to trees or who has control over others working close to trees. They are also responsible for ensuring that any works following the recommendations set out within this method statement are fit for purpose in relation to the development and comply with the health and safety policies of the site.
- 4.9.2 The site manager will provide a monthly update to the project arboricultural consultant including photographs to show that the tree protection fencing and ground protection are intact and that the construction exclusion zones are being observed. This will be forwarded to the LPA tree officer by the project arboricultural consultant.
- 4.9.3 The project manager will inform the arboricultural consultant if there is a change of site manager during the project. If this occurs, the arboricultural consultant will arrange a meeting with the new site manager to explain the remaining aspects of the method statement as a matter of urgency.

4.10. Arboricultural supervision

- 4.10.1 The project arboricultural consultant will provide arboricultural supervision for the following works:
- Removal of the existing cellular confinement system within the RPA of Sycamore T12
 - Construction of the above soil surfacing within the RPAs of Sycamore T12, T16, T17, T18 & T19.
 - Excavation within the RPAs of Holly T15 and Sycamore T19
- 4.10.2 The project arboricultural consultant will provide a short email summary with photos to the LPA tree officer on completion of each of the above stages.

4.11. Unforeseen damage to trees

- 4.11.1 If at any time during the construction process damage is inadvertently caused to a tree, the project arboricultural consultant must be contacted to advise on the process going forward. This will involve liaison with the LPA tree officer to agree appropriate mitigation and remedial measures. The damage could be caused by chemical or fuel spillage, mechanical damage to roots, trunks or branches, or fire or any other unforeseen circumstances.



Appendix 1 Tree survey schedule

Tree survey methodology

The site was surveyed on Tuesday 21st April 2026 by Abi St Aubyn *MICFor MArborA DipArb L6 (ABC) MEng(Hons)*. Weather conditions were clear, dry and bright. Trees were in partial leaf.

The trees within and adjacent to the site were surveyed using Visual Tree Assessment⁵ and following the recommendations of the British Standard⁶.

The survey information was recorded using *Axciscape* tree survey software. Heights and crown spreads were measured using a laser distometer or where inaccessible, these were estimated. Trunk diameters were measured using a diameter tape or where inaccessible, these were estimated.

Other tools used if needed were a nylon headed hammer to tap trunks to detect the difference in sound in degraded wood/cavities and a large screwdriver to determine the depth of cavities, within reach from ground level.

The assessment of the categories (A, B, C & U) for trees was carried out in accordance with the British Standard².

⁵Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) is a tree survey methodology established by **Mattheck & Breloer**, outlined within the *Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management* by **Lonsdale**, where external above ground visual signs of decay and of growth-related defects are recorded from ground level, using binoculars where necessary.

⁶BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations* (the British Standard). The survey methodology follows the British Standard apart from sub-categories have not been included and the first significant branch and direction of growth have been omitted. These adjustments are because the British Standard is nearly 10 years old and overdue a review, and in practice the omitted information is very rarely used to inform the design process or tree protection measures. However, if in a particular case this information is relevant, it will be included in the comments. Also, an additional category of 'collection' is used for new tree planting of a similar age, to supplement the recommended individual, group, woodland and hedge categories.



Tree survey schedule key

No	Sequential reference number. Individual trees are recorded as T, groups as G & hedges.
Species	Common tree name.
Height	Measured/estimated in metres as access allows.
Trunk diameter	Measured/estimated in millimetres as access allows.
Crown clearance	Height between the existing ground level, estimated in metres.
Radial crown spread	Either an average or at four cardinal points. Measured/estimated as access allows.
Life stage	Young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature, over-mature and ancient.
Physiology	Good, average, below average, poor, dead.
Structure	Good, average, below average, hazardous, dead.
Landscape value	High, moderate, low.
Lifespan	<10 years, 10+ years, 20+ years, 40+ years
Comments	Presence of any decay and/or physical defects, and/or preliminary management recommendations. Whether a tree is considered to be a veteran tree ⁷ , irrespective of its age.
Category	A – trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years B – trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years C – trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young tree with a stem diameter below 150mm U – trees unsuitable for retention due to their condition

⁷ Whist veteran trees typically provide a range of niche habitats, they are especially valuable if ancient, due to their scarcity and high habitat value for associated species of fungi, lichens and saproxylic invertebrates, including some which are rare or endangered and occur only where such trees have been continuously present for centuries. These trees, where present, will be of high value, category 'A'.



TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

No.	TPO	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Dia.	Crown Clear-	Radial Crown Spread (m)				Life Stage	Physiology	Structure	Landscape	Life-span	Comments	Category
						N	E	S	W							
T1	TPO 2 of 1959	Beech	23m	575mm	N 1.5m E 4m S 3.5m W 1.5m	7.5m	3m	6m	6.5m	Mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	Low level timber picket fence nailed to trunk; twin-stemmed from 2m; growing adjacent to Castle Close.	B
T2	-	Scots Pine	18m	435mm	17m	2.5m	1m	1m	2.5m	Over-mature	Poor	Below average	Low	<10	Fluted trunk with a strip bark wound on NE side from ground to 2m, differential sound when tapped with a nylon hammer, little wound wood development on edges, very small high crown; in terminal decline; of little potential.	U
T3	-	Scots Pine	16m	380mm	15m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	Over-mature	Dead	Hazardous	Low	<10	Dead tree; no live growth; trunk extensively decayed with loose bark; at risk of collapse; recommend removal irrespective of any planning application.	U
T4	-	Sycamore	4m	125mm	-	-	-	-	-	Semi-mature	Dead	Dead	Low	<10	Dead stem, no live growth, covered in dense ivy.	U
T5	-	Hawthorn	3m	25mm x6	0.5m	2m	1.75m	0.5m	1.75m	Semi-mature	Average	Average	Low	40+	Low level Hawthorn shrub; multi-stemmed growing in compacted ground with some rubble at base; dense ivy.	C
T6	-	Ash	20m	565mm	4.5m	9m	5m	6m	6m	Mature	Average	Average	Moderate	10+	Of short term potential only due to the threat of Ash dieback; characteristic open crown; high crown; ivy on trunk; growing in area of compacted ground with 5cm deep grid system over compacted hardcore; wrong time of year to assess Ash dieback.	C
T7	TPO 2 of 1959	Beech	14.5m	300mm & 285mm	13m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	Early-mature	Below average	Hazardous	Low	<10	Twin-stemmed from 0.5m; E stem extensively degraded, tapped with a nylon hammer and hollow on W side from 0.9m to 2m with an incipient vertical crack on E side of that stem from 0.5 to 5.5m; hazardous at risk of break out; small high crown originating solely from degraded stem; E stem truncated at 9m; poor form, growing adjacent to Castle Close and compacted ground at entrance to site office; recommend removal irrespective of any planning application.	U
T8	TPO 2 of 1959	Beech	9.5m	290mm	4.5m	2.5m	3m	0.5m	2.5m	Early-mature	Below average	Average	Low	20+	Growing on grassed verge adjacent to recently constructed building; trunk in contact with the truncated stem of T9; historic crown reduction over timber clad building to N; small crown with trunk leaning c.40' to W.	C
T9	-	Scots Pine	22m	270mm & 440mm	19m	5m	5m	5m	5m	Mature	Average	Below average	Moderate	40+	Twin-stemmed from 1.2m, E stem truncated at 4m, just above contact point with trunk of T8; high crown; growing on grassed verge adjacent to recently constructed building.	B
T10	-	Beech	15m	265mm	6.5m	3.5m	3.5m	3.5m	3.5m	Semi-mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	High crown; growing on grassed verge adjacent to Castle Close.	B
T11	-	Holly	2.5m	30mm x7	0.5m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	Semi-mature	Average	Average	Low	40+	Low level shrub growing in soft ground adjacent to rubble.	C
T12	-	Sycamore	12m	625mm @ 1.2m	2m	7.5m	4.5m	7.5m	7.5m	Mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	Cellular confinement system with aggregate around base; extensively crown lifted; excavation for services c.7.5m to SW; wall at 3.3m to S of c. 5.7m in height which is likely to be a root barrier to a large degree.	B



No.	TPO	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Dia.	Crown Clear-	Radial Crown Spread (m)				Life Stage	Physiology	Structure	Landscape	Life-span	Comments	Category
						N	E	S	W							
H13	-	Hawthorn	4m-5.5m	50mm x2	1.5m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	Semi-mature	Average	Average	Low	40+	Off-site; no access; low level native hedging.	C
T14	-	Cherry Plum	7.5m	150mm, 100mm x2, 125mm, 150mm, 100mm & 95mm	1.5m	4m	4m	4m	4.5m	Mature	Average	Average	Low	40+	Off-site; no access; small, ornamental tree growing in hedgerow.	C
T15	-	Holly	3.5m	50mm x2 & 30mm	0m	2m	2m	2m	2m	Semi-mature	Average	Average	Low	40+	Growing within the site adjacent to the fence, aggregate path covered with 5mm grid nearby, overgrown shrub.	C
T16	-	Sycamore	13m	440mm & 580mm	1m W 4m E	5.5m	6.5m	8.5m	7.5m	Mature	Average	Below average	Moderate	40+	Off-site; S limb has a strip cavity on upper side with good woundwood formation; dense ivy.	B
T17	-	Sycamore	13m	440mm & 390mm	1m W 4m E	4.5m	5m	5m	5.5m	Mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	Off-site; twin-stemmed from 0.25m with soil pocket at union; ivy into upper crown; localised small diameter cavity at 2m on S side of S trunk.	B
T18	-	Sycamore	15m	440mm & 390mm	1m W 4m E	6m	6m	6m	7.2m	Mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	Off-site; triple stemmed from 0.5-1m; ivy into upper crown.	B
T19	-	Sycamore	13m	180mm, 320mm, 200mm, 400mm, 220mm, 300mm x2 & 200mm x2	1m W 4m N & E	6.5m	6.5m	6.5m	5m	Mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	Off-site; multi-stemmed from 0.5-1m, ivy into upper crown.cc 4m over road.	B
T20	-	Sycamore	6m	85mm	3m	4m	4m	0.5m	4m	Young	Average	Below average	Low	40+	Off-site; small tree growing on top of bank, trunk leans to N.	C
T21	-	Sycamore	13m	420mm	2.5m	4.75m	4.75m	5m	4.75m	Mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	Off-site; growing at top of bank, on verge adjacent to road.	B
G22	-	Sycamore	13m	330mm	1m S 5.5m N	6.5m	6.5m	6.5m	6.5m	Early-mature	Average	Average	Moderate	40+	Off-site, closely grown line of trees; dense ivy into upper crowns.	B
T23	-	Ash	9.5m	235mm	2m	3m	3m	3.5m	3m	Semi-mature	Average	Average	Low	10+	Off-site; of short term potential only due to the threat of Ash dieback; growing at top of banked grass verge.	C



No.	TPO	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Dia.	Crown Clear-	Radial Crown Spread (m)				Life Stage	Physi-ology	Struct-ure	Land-scape	Life-span	Comments	Cat-egory
						N	E	S	W							
H24	-	Hawthorn	3m	25mm x3	0m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m	Young	Average	Average	Low	40+	Off-site; young hedge with gaps; short section.	C
T25	TPO 4 of 1995	Ash	17m	550mm	1.5m	9.5m	9.5m	3m	3m	Over-mature	Average	Hazardous	Moderate	10+	No access; off-site; extensive decay at base; no access.	U



Appendix 2 Table of root protection areas (RPAs)

The root protection areas (RPAs) table

The root protection area (RPA) of a tree is a layout design tool which shows the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.

The British Standard provides calculations for both single and multi-stemmed trees, which are based on mathematical formulae using the trunk diameter of a tree.

For single stem trees, the RPA, is calculated as an area equivalent to a circle with a radius 12 times the stem diameter. This is capped at a circle of 15m diameter or 707m². For trees with 2-5 stems and 5+ stems more complex calculations are required in accordance with the methodology recommended within the British Standard.

The RPA radius and nominal RPA area for each tree is shown at **Table 3** below.

The root protection areas (RPAs) for all trees are initially plotted on the tree constraints plan (**Appendix 3**) as a circle centred on the base of the stem/s. Where pre-existing site conditions (road, building foundations etc) or other factors (for example trenching) indicate that rooting has occurred asymmetrically, the standard circle has been modified to reflect the more likely root distribution. Although the shape of the RPA may be amended, no change will be made to its overall area, up to a maximum distance of a 15m from the stem. Beyond this, marginal decreases in RPAs might result if there are no other areas suitable for rooting within the 15m radius.

The trees' RPAs are shown on the tree constraints plan in the colour of their corresponding categories



Appendix 3 Tree constraints plan

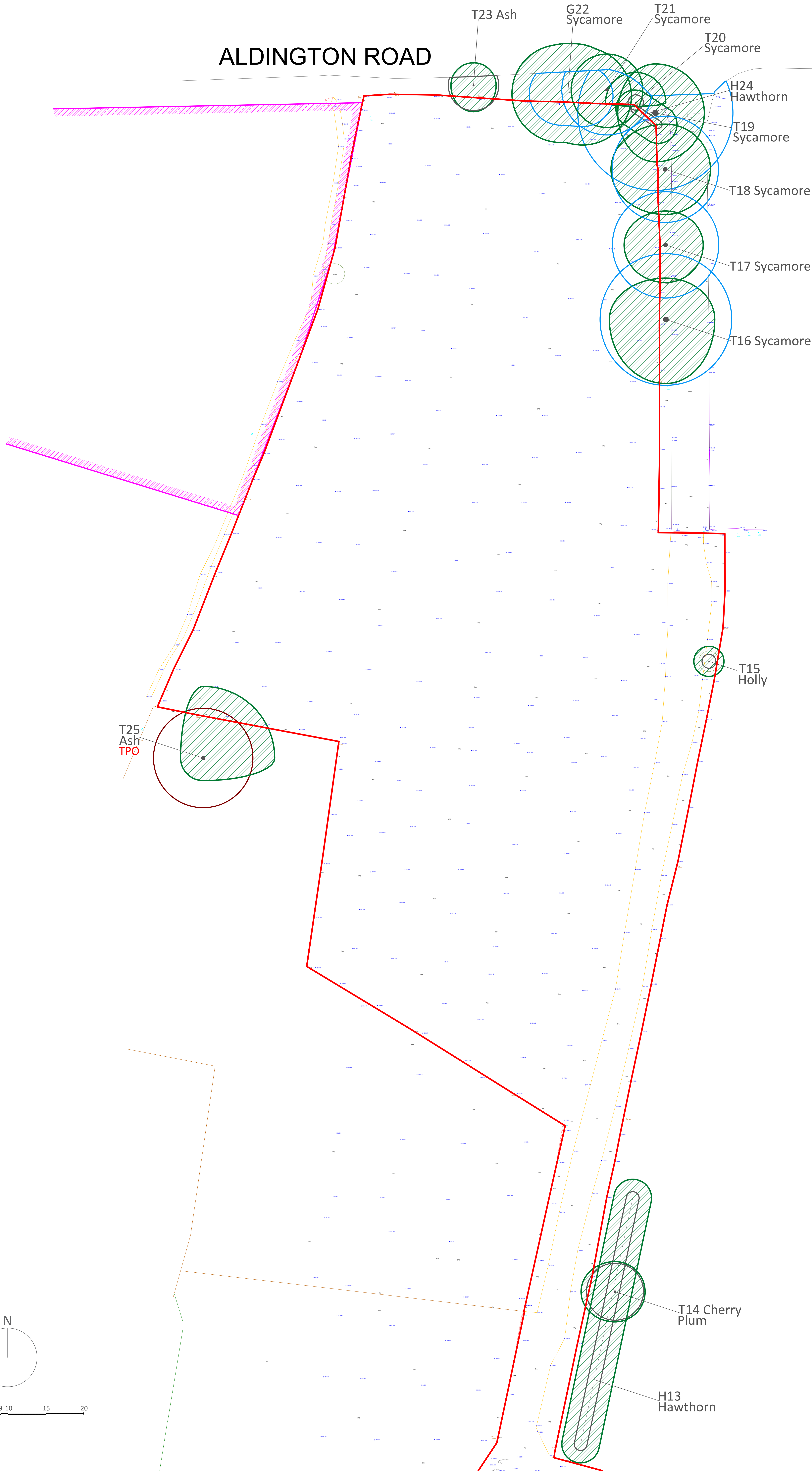


No.	Species	Cat-egory	RPA Radus (m)	RPA (m ²)
T1	Beech	B	6.9m	149.59m ²
T2	Scots Pine	U	5.22m	85.61m ²
T3	Scots Pine	U	4.56m	65.33m ²
T4	Sycamore	U	1.5m	7.07m ²
T5	Hawthorn	C	0.73m	1.67m ²
T6	Ash	C	6.78m	144.43m ²
T7	Beech	U	4.97m	77.61m ²
T8	Beech	C	3.48m	38.05m ²
T9	Scots Pine	B	6.19m	120.39m ²
T10	Beech	B	3.18m	31.77m ²
T11	Holly	C	0.95m	2.84m ²
T12	Sycamore	B	7.5m	176.74m ²
H13	Hawthorn	C	0.85m	2.27m ²
T14	Cherry Plum	C	3.79m	45.13m ²
T15	Holly	C	0.92m	2.66m ²
T16	Sycamore	B	8.74m	240.01m ²
T17	Sycamore	B	7.06m	156.61m ²
T18	Sycamore	B	7.06m	156.61m ²
T19	Sycamore	B	9.62m	290.77m ²
T20	Sycamore	C	1.02m	3.27m ²
T21	Sycamore	B	5.04m	79.81m ²
G22	Sycamore	B	3.96m	49.27m ²
T23	Ash	C	2.82m	24.99m ²
H24	Hawthorn	C	0.52m	0.85m ²
T25	Ash	U	6.6m	136.87m ²



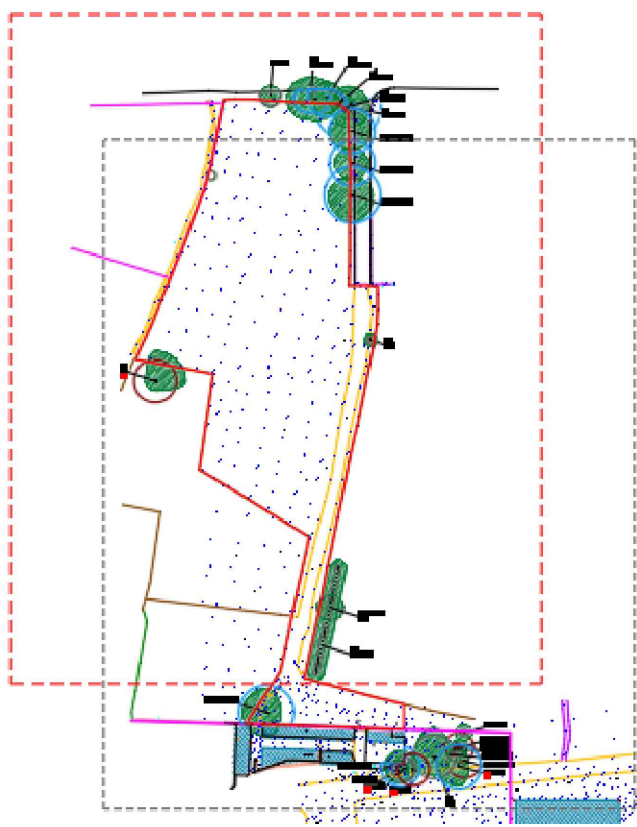
Appendix 4 Crown clearance plan





Key:

- Tree canopy - all categories
- RPA of a category 'A' tree - high quality
- RPA of a category 'B' tree - moderate quality
- RPA of a category 'C' tree - low quality
- RPA of a category 'U' tree - tree that cannot realistically be retained due to its condition
- T1 Tree (T), group (G) or hedge (H)
- TPO Tree/s subject to a TPO
- Conservation Area boundary



Notes:

- This drawing is based on topographical survey ref: CAD Surveys Ltd CAD/BO/01 T12/01/A April 2026. Some additional trees have been plotted by measurements taken on site.
- Please check if there are any Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) apply to trees before carrying out any works to trees - TPOs might have been made after the date of this drawing, or the online planning mapping service might not have been up to date at the date of this drawing. The Lympe Conservaton Area boundary abuts the boundaries of the red line of this planning application in a couple of places - see the magenta Conservation Area boundary line.
- The shapes of root protection areas (RPAs) have been modified where pre-existing site conditions (road, building foundations etc) or other factors (trenching) indicate that rooting is likely to be asymmetrical. For on site trees, no changes to the overall areas of RPAs have been made up to a maximum distance of 15m from their trunks. Beyond this, marginal decreases in the areas of RPAs might result if there are no other areas suitable for rooting within the 15m radius.
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Project
LYMPNE CASTLE - VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

Title
TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN - 1 OF 2

Scale
1:200 @ A0

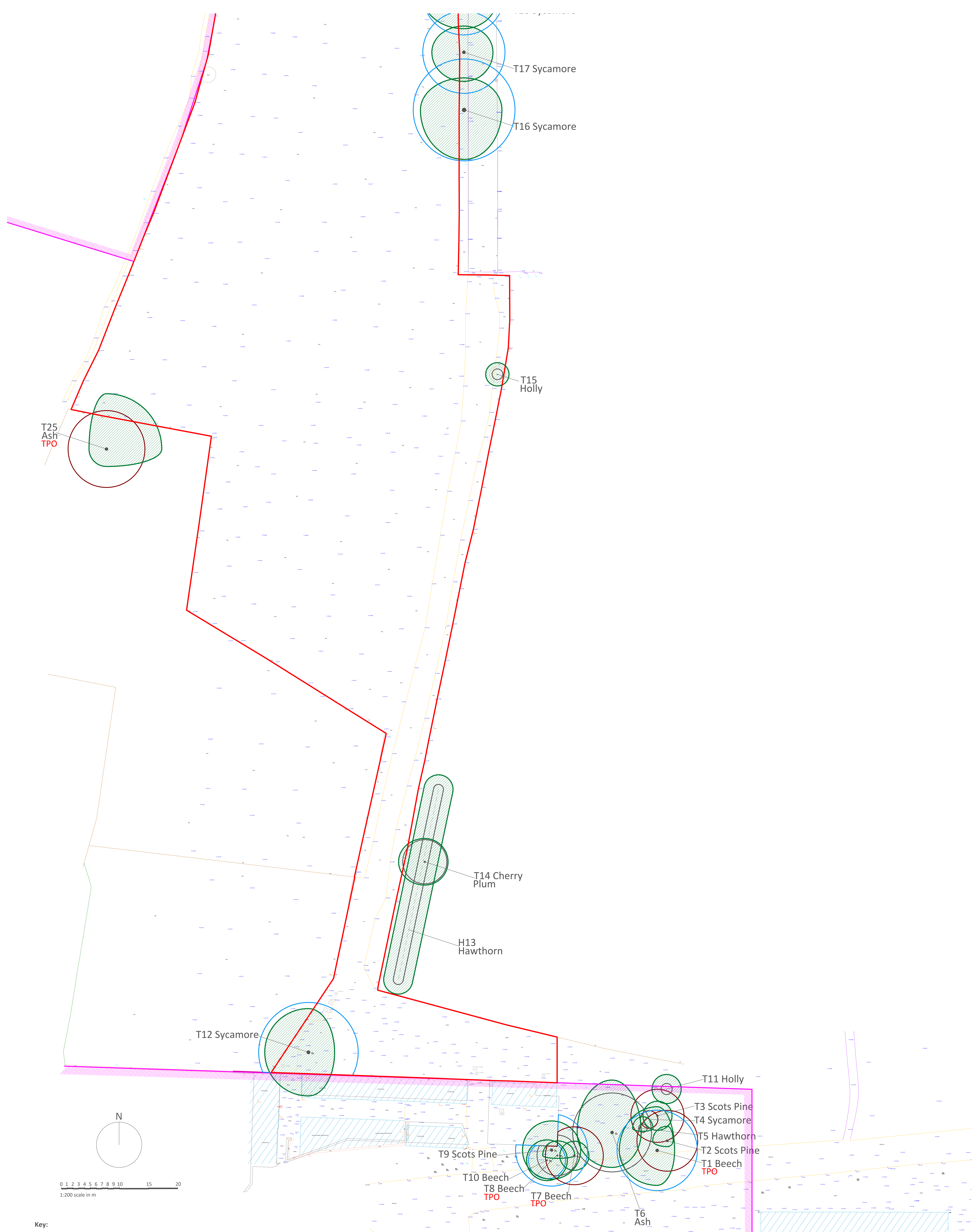
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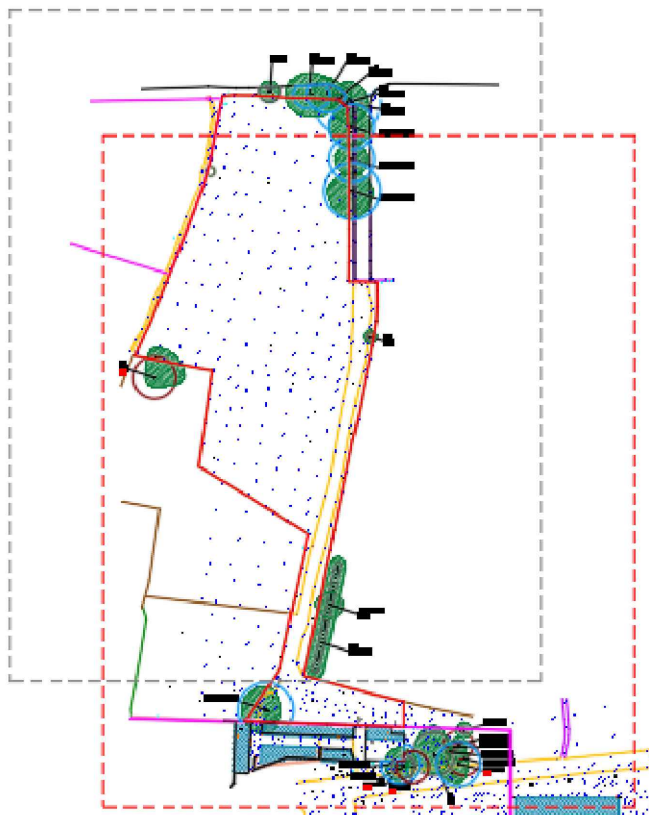
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Key:

- Tree canopy - all categories
- RPA of a category 'A' tree - high quality
- RPA of a category 'B' tree - moderate quality
- RPA of a category 'C' tree - low quality
- RPA of a category 'U' tree - tree that cannot realistically be retained due to its condition
- Tree (T), group (G) or hedge (H)
- Tree/s subject to a TPO
- Conservation Area boundary



Notes:

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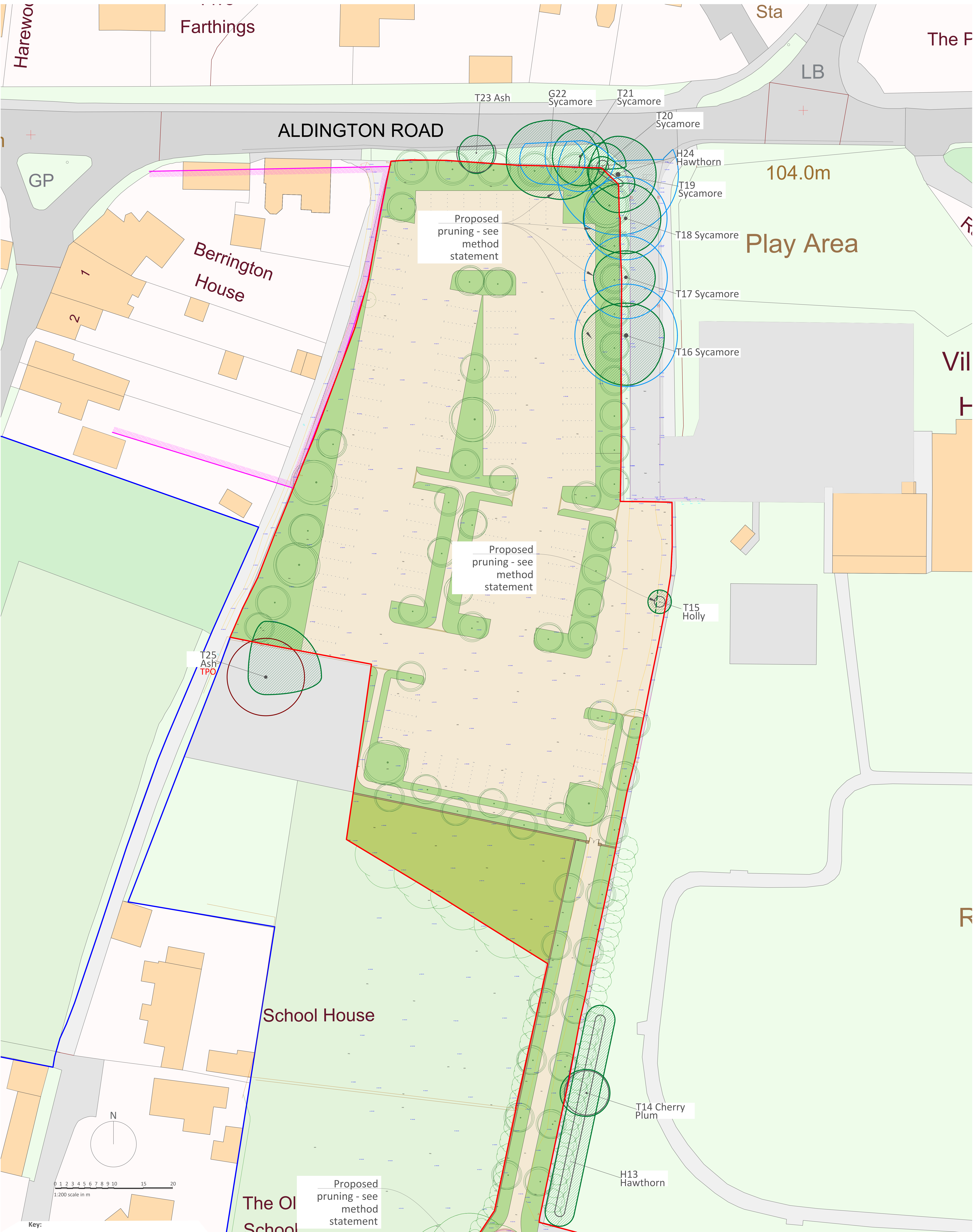
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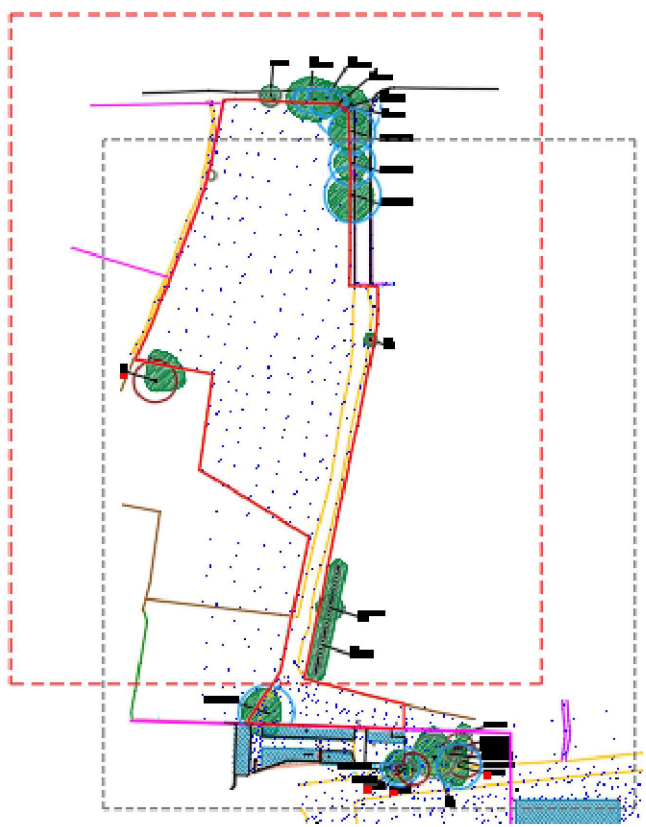
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Appendix 5 Tree pruning plan





- Key:
- Tree canopy - all categories
 - RPA of a category 'A' tree - high quality
 - RPA of a category 'B' tree - moderate quality
 - RPA of a category 'C' tree - low quality
 - RPA of a category 'U' tree - tree that cannot realistically be retained due to its condition
 - T1 Tree (T), group (G) or hedge (H)
 - TPO Tree/s subject to a TPO
 - Conservation Area boundary



- Notes:
- This drawing is based on St Aubyn Tree Consultancy Tree Constraints Plan ref: STA5366a TCP Lympe Castle Village Hall & Heard Landscapes Lympe Castle Village Hall Car Park Plan ref: BRO12_6_HL_2440_P-200.
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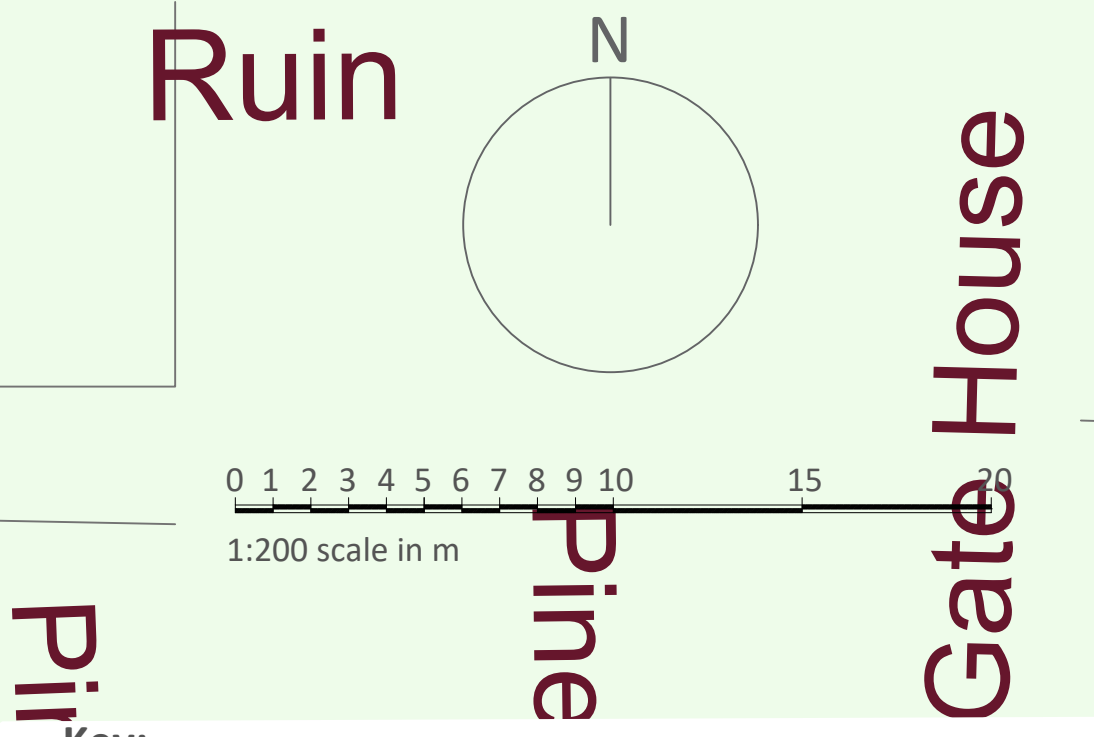
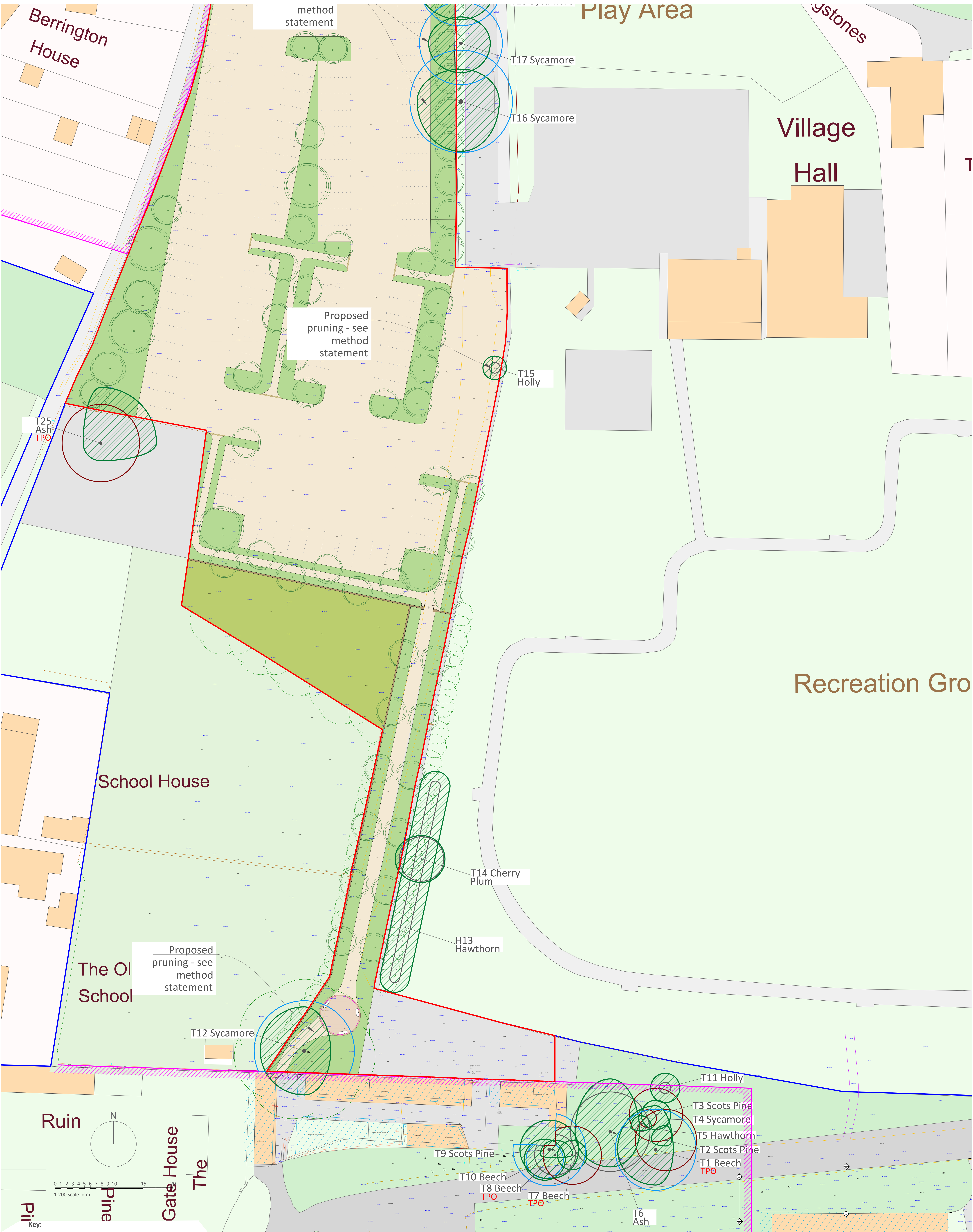
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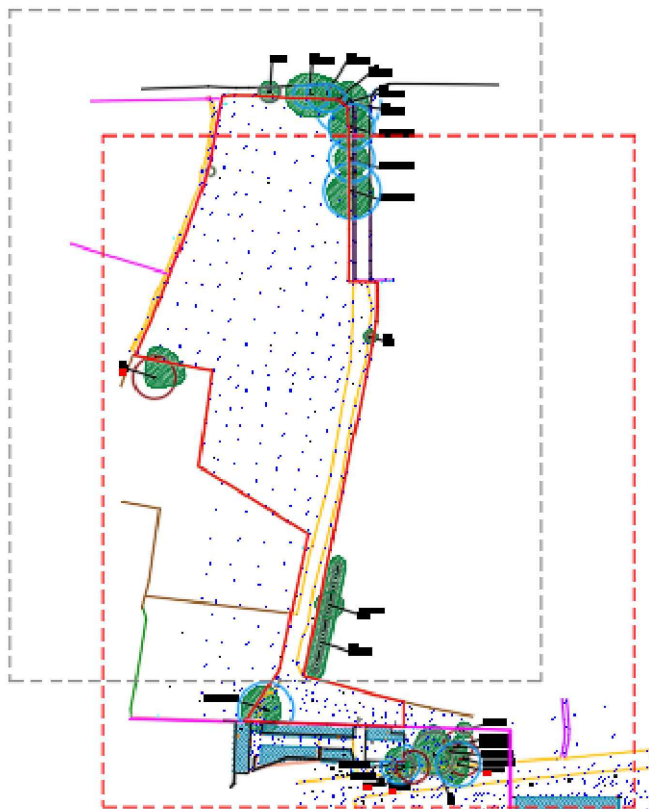
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- Key:
- Tree canopy - all categories
 - RPA of a category 'A' tree - high quality
 - RPA of a category 'B' tree - moderate quality
 - RPA of a category 'C' tree - low quality
 - RPA of a category 'U' tree - tree that cannot realistically be retained due to its condition
 - Tree (T), group (G) or hedge (H)
 - TPO
 - Conservation Area boundary



- Notes:
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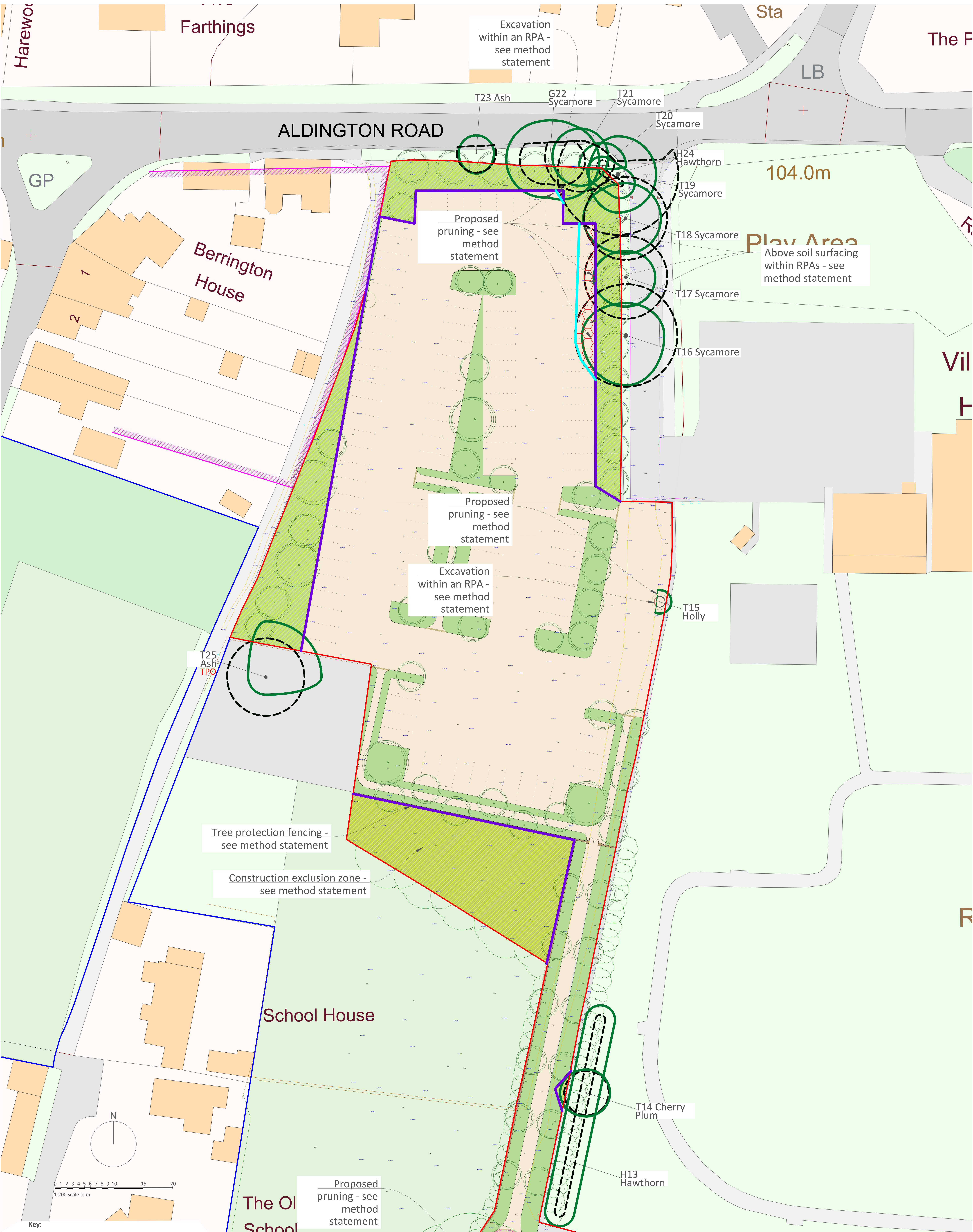
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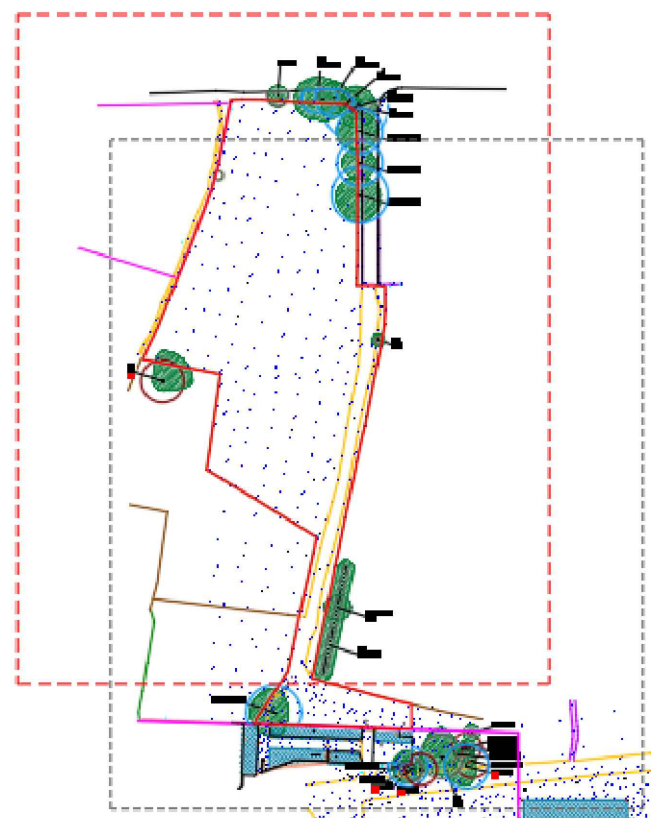
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Appendix 6 Tree protection plan





- Key:
- Tree canopy - all categories
 - Retained tree RPA - all categories
 - Tree (T), group (G) or hedge (H)
 - Tree/s subject to a TPO
 - Conservation Area boundary
 - Above soil surfacing
 - Excavation within an RPA
 - Existing hard surfacing returned to soft landscaping
 - Tree protection fencing I
 - Tree protection fencing II
 - Construction exclusion zone



- Notes:
- This drawing is based on St Aubyn Tree Consultancy Tree Constraints Plan ref: STA5366a TPRP Lympe Castle Village Hall & Heard Landscapes Lympe Castle Village Hall Car Park Plan ref: BRO12_6_HL_2440_P-200.
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TREE PROTECTION PLAN - 1 OF 2

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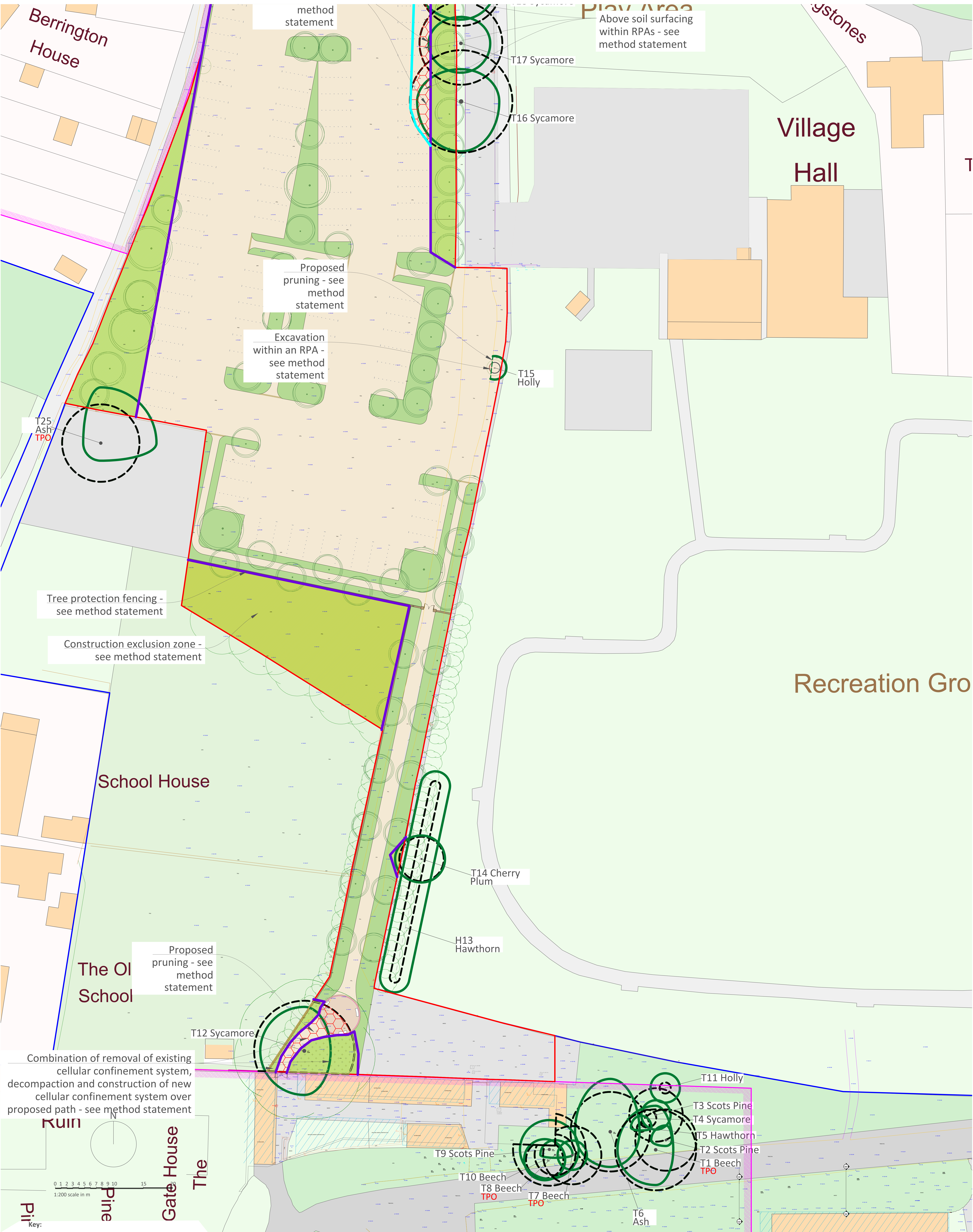
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Key:

- Tree canopy - all categories
- Retained tree RPA - all categories
- Tree (T), group (G) or hedge (H)
- Tree/s subject to a TPO
- Conservation Area boundary
- Above soil surfacing
- Excavation within an RPA
- Existing hard surfacing returned to soft landscaping
- Tree protection fencing I
- Tree protection fencing II
- Construction exclusion zone

Notes:

- This drawing is based on St Aubyn Tree Consultancy Tree Pruning Plan ref: STA5366a TPpP Lympe Castle Village Hall & Heard Landscapes Lympe Castle Village Hall Car Park Plan ref: BRO12_6_HL_2440_P-200.
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- The shapes of root protection areas (RPAs) have been modified where pre-existing site conditions (road, building foundations etc) or other factors (trenching) indicate that rooting is likely to be asymmetrical.
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Project: LYPNE CASTLE - VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

Title: TREE PROTECTION PLAN - 2 OF 2

Scale: 1:200 @ A0 Date: APRIL 2026 Drawn by: ASTA

Drawing Number: STA 5366a TPP LC VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK REV -

REV	Description	Date
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Contact Details

Project arboricultural consultant:

Abi St Aubyn
St Aubyn Tree Consultancy
01424 533216
abi@statrees.com

Local authority tree officer:

Mr T Bevan
Folkestone and Hythe District Council

Site manager:

tbc