

TREE SURVEY



Existing Landscape Features

The site presently is a grassed field which slopes from the existing carriageway down to the properties to the south.

The field has seven trees on the northern boundary line which appear to be the remnants of an old hedgerow, these are mainly mature to over-mature hawthorn. They are all in a fairly poor state with decay and failures evident in most crowns. One tree is presently exerting pressure on an overhead cable suspended between the two telegraph poles (noted as TP. on the supplied plan). There are also two street lighting columns just outside the proposed development site, these are noted as SLC on the sketch plan.

Four memorial oak trees have been planted some time ago away from the boundaries of this field. These have been restricted in growth due to the chemical restrictions of grass in the paddock not being controlled around their bases. There is some planting adjacent to the boundary in the south western corner adjacent to the dwellings. This is mixed planting which has achieved a height similar to the roof height of the houses.

Ground Work Treatment

No installation of surface treatment for parking areas or vehicle movements should be allowed where trees or hedges are to be planted. The areas for planting should not be used to store liquids, fuel, plant, equipment, soil or any other deleterious materials that could contaminate the soil. It may be prudent to install the new planting along the southern boundary and erect the post and rail fencing prior to surface treatments being laid. The new fence lines should protect the existing trees within the site and some limited formative pruning will allow the oak trees to develop whilst not restricting vehicle movements around the site. The prevention of compaction directly over the existing root zone will allow for root system growth and establishment given the positioning of the fencing.

Proposed Landscape Treatment

To facilitate the access / egress for vehicles to the site two of the hawthorn trees will have to be removed. Whilst the other five hawthorn trees have some wildlife and environmental benefits, the condition of them is not deemed conducive to parking cars and others vehicle beneath them due to their low crown heights and failing branches.

The people who paid for the memorial trees have stated they do not wish them to be relocated elsewhere within the site, therefore the car parking proposals will have to accommodate the trees where they are presently situated.

It is proposed to cultivate and plant a 10 metre wide strip adjacent to the full length of the southern boundary with whips planted at 1 metre centres. These whips will be a mixture of hawthorn, ash, cherry etc (to be agreed). A small number of standard specification trees will be inter-planted to achieve some initial

variation in height and interest. The whole of this area will then be mulched to a depth of at least 75 millimetres with wood chip.

A post and rail fence is to be installed along the length of this planted strip to prevent vehicle damage to the planting. This fence line will also protect the four memorial trees from vehicular damage and restrict compaction from vehicle movements over the root protection areas. The fence line around these trees will be at 2.5 metres from the stem. The two areas, as shown on the sketch plan provided, will then be planted with ground cover shrubs and the soil mulched to a minimum of 75 millimetres depth using wood chip.

A double staggered row of hawthorn hedging plants will be installed along the boundary with the doctor's surgery from the new fence along the planted strip up to the proposed new access point and then a second hedgerow established along the northern boundary from the access point to the north west corner. The hedge plants will be planted at 450 millimetre centres with the staggered row at a parallel 300 millimetres apart. These two new hedges will be mulched with wood chip to a minimum of 75 millimetres.

Any subsequent weed growth will be spot treated within the wood chip as and when necessary during normal maintenance operations.

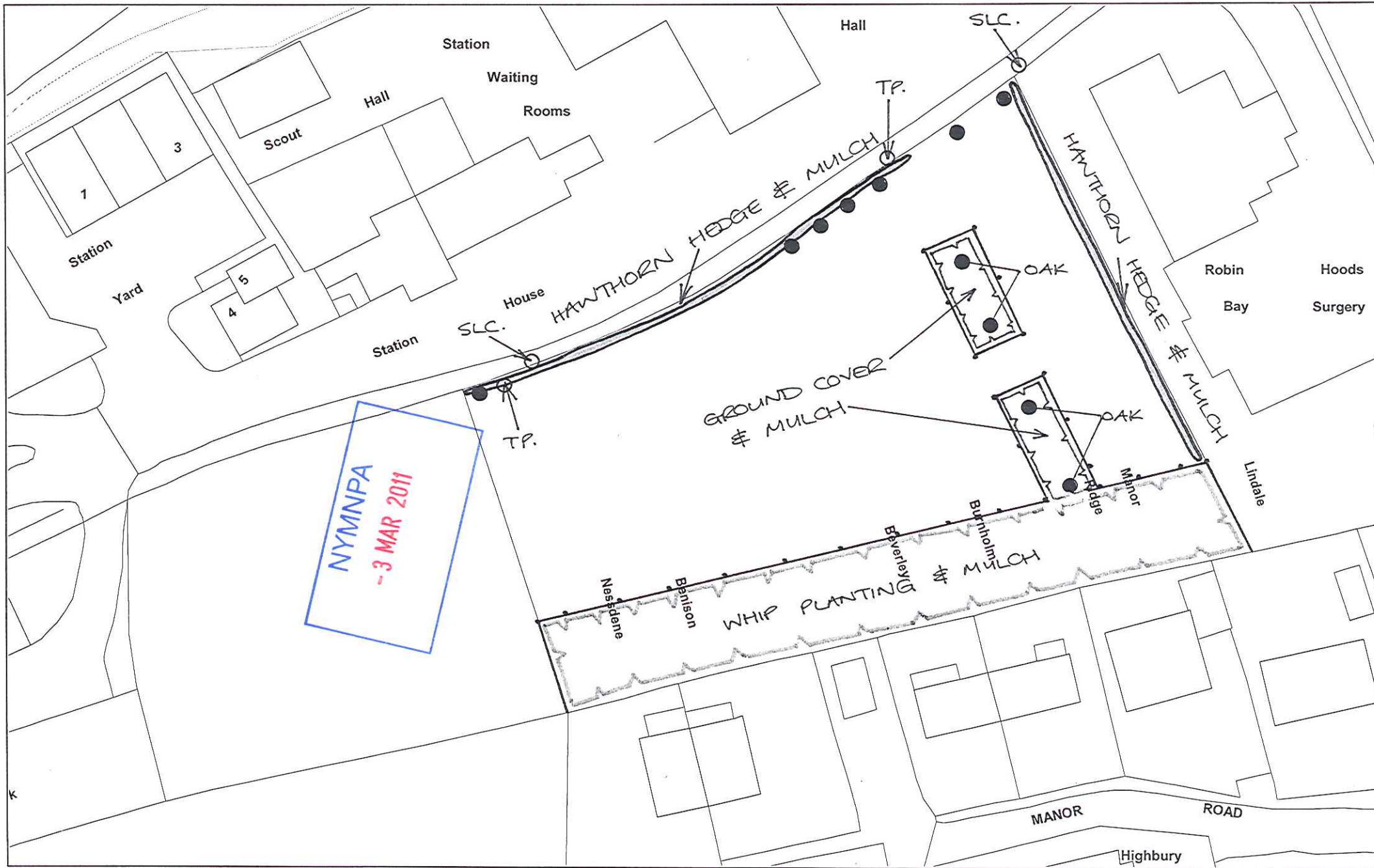
All plant material will conform to BS.3936:Part 1:1992. All horticultural operations will be carried out using current best practices. All wood chip used on site will be seasoned material to prevent scorching of newly planted whips / shrubs.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Once established, after four or five growing seasons, the planted belt adjacent to the houses can be thinned out by selecting the best specimen and then removing others to allow for unsuppressed growth. Potential overhanging branches will be trimmed away from the boundary to prevent nuisance being caused to the neighbouring properties. Sunlight levels will not be affected by the presence of this planting as they are to the north of the dwellings, and will therefore not cast a shadow into the gardens or across the houses. Daylight levels will be slightly reduced, but this will be controlled by careful pruning if required.

The four oak trees can develop without conflict or detriment to vehicles given the fence line distances and the formative pruning previously detailed.

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**PARKS AND COUNTRYSIDE SERVICES
TREE INSPECTION**

Not Set

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