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12th December 2023

Mrs T Menon
Development Manager
FirstPort Ltd
Georgian Court
Off Haverfield Road
Spalding
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PE11 2QT

Dear Tracy

TREES AT GEORGIAN COURT PHASES 1 & 2

Further to my visit to Georgian Court last Friday, I have pleasure in writing to confirm my verbal observations and recommendations relating to the trees that we discussed growing within the grounds of both phases of the development. The purpose of my visit was to carry out a routine inspection of the trees and make recommendations for any works considered necessary, either on safety grounds or in the interests of their continuing good management. This was a negative reporting inspection, whereby only those trees found to require specific attention or comment are documented.

I previously inspected the trees at Georgian Court in October 2022 and all of the works recommended at that time have been completed. The majority of the trees remain in good condition and have clearly been subject to regular maintenance; in view of this, I found that little work was required. My specific observations and recommendations are summarised below.

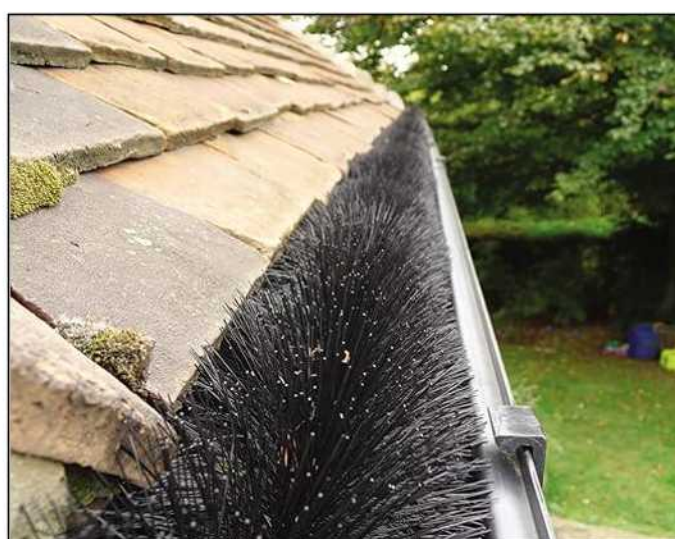
a) Georgian Court Phase 1

I did not identify any immediate work requirements for the trees on the Phase 1 section of the site. You mentioned that you had discussed some further pruning of the two Norway maples on the eastern boundary with the tree officer. These are regenerated pollards that are tagged 1060 and 1061 and are protected by the South Holland District Council [Spalding] Tree Preservation Order No.18, which was made in 1984. The trees' crowns were cut back to maintain the clearance from the building following my previous visit and there remains a reasonable degree of separation. However, some further thinning of the regenerated shoots could be considered.



Photograph 1: Norway maples viewed from the north

We also discussed the silver birch growing adjacent to the south-western corner of the building, which is a further tree protected by the preservation order (tag 3060). Whilst this has previously been pruned to increase the clearance from the building, the shedding of its leaves into the guttering remains an issue. As the tree's crown arches over the roof, away from the larger sycamore growing adjacent to the boundary, the extent of further pruning that the District Council are likely to sanction would be of limited benefit in reducing the amount of leaf litter fouling the guttering. As an alternative to further pruning, I suggest installing a length of hedgehog brush leaf guard in the affected section of the gutter.



Photograph 2: Hedgehog gutter brush leaf guard

b) Georgian Court Phase 2

~~The only tree I found to be currently in need of attention on the Phase 2 section of the site is an immature silver maple growing adjacent to the northern boundary and overhanging Haverfield Road. This has a crack developing from a major fork at a height of 4 metres, rendering the northern section of the crown susceptible to collapse onto Haverfield Road. As this issue cannot be satisfactorily remediated by pruning, I recommend that the maple be removed and a replacement tree of an alternative species planted nearby.~~

For ease of future identification, I attached an alloy number tag to the tree's trunk (tag no 969) and have indicated its position on the annotated site plan overleaf.



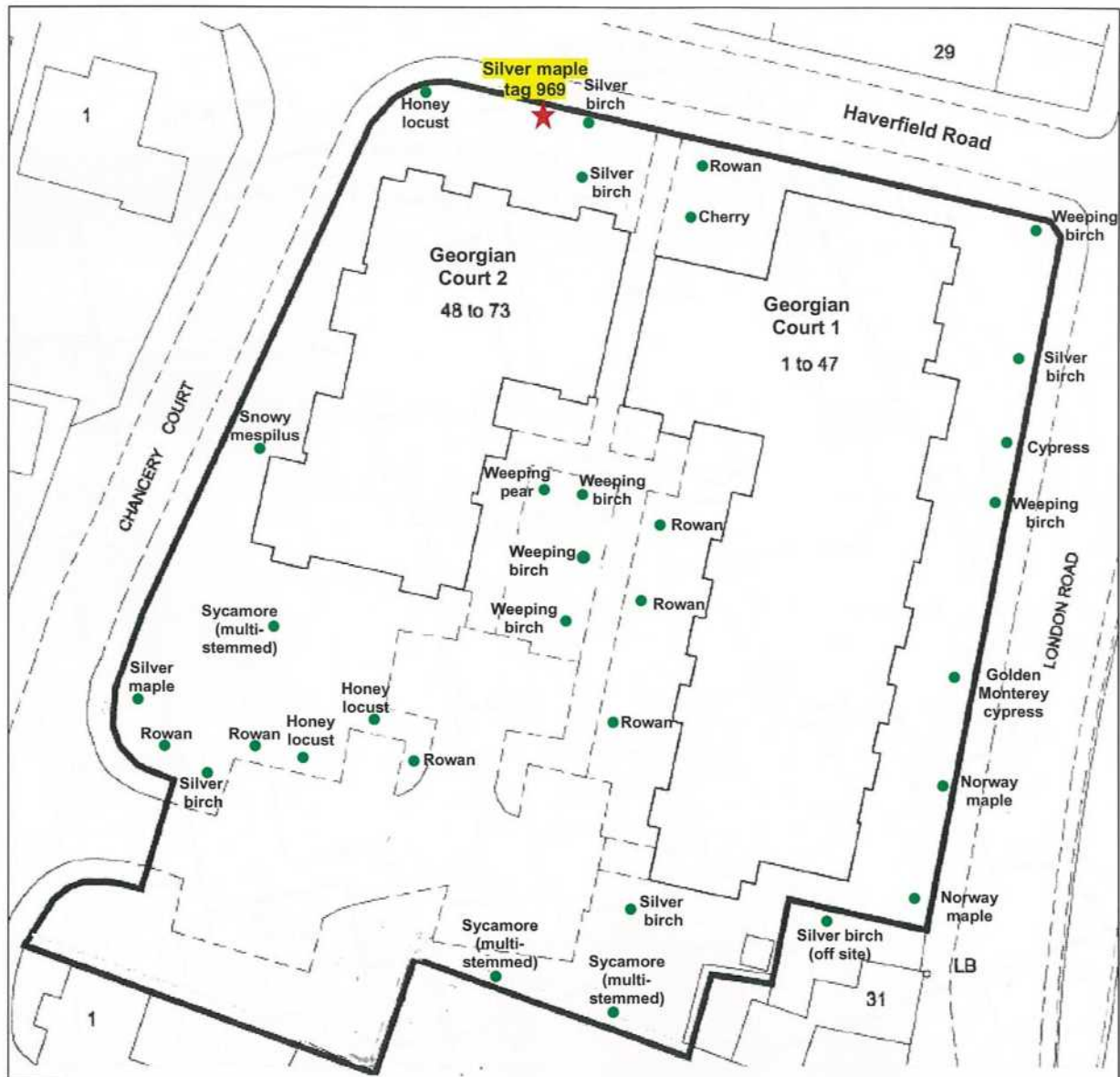
**Photograph 3: Silver maple tag 969
viewed from the east**



**Photograph 4: Crack developing from the
base of the main fork in silver maple tag 969**

Whilst the Silver maple is not protected by the tree preservation order it is growing within the conservation area and a Section 211 notice will therefore need to be submitted to the District Council six weeks in advance of the tree being removed. If any pruning is to be carried out on the Norway maples or other trees protected by the tree preservation order, an application will need to be made to the Council to obtain their prior consent for the work.

c) Annotated Site Plan



I trust that this information will prove helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or if I can be of further assistance.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely




Mick Boddy F Arbor A FICFor CEnv

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Date: 12th December 2023
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