

ESL (Ecological Services) Ltd, 1 Otago House, Allenby Business Village, Crofton Road, Lincoln LN3 4NL

Tel: 01522 539325 Fax: 01522 539782 Email: enquiries@esl-lincoln.co.uk Web: www.ecologicalservicesltd.com

**ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:
SUTTON BRIDGE MEMORIAL PARK PLAYZONE**

**FINAL
DECEMBER 2025**

DOCUMENT CONTROL

TITLE: Arboricultural Impact Assessment: Sutton Bridge Memorial Park
PlayZone

VERSION: Final

DATE: December 2025

AUTHOR(S): John Pover Cert Arb L2 (ABC) Dip Arb L4 (ABC)

CHECKED BY: Dave Hughes MCIEEM

APPROVED BY: Dave Hughes MCIEEM

PROJECT REF: ES215

ISSUED TO: Natalie Battye
Senior Architectural Technologist
LK2
Studio One
Deepdale Enterprise Park
Deepdale Lane
Nettleham
Lincoln
LN2 2LL

Contents	Page
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 SCOPE OF WORK	1
1.2 LIMITATIONS	1
2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY	1
2.1 STANDARDS AND HARDWARE USED	1
3 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT	2
3.1 TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS AND CONSERVATION AREAS	2
3.2 SURVEY RESULTS	2
3.3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT	4
4 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT	6
4.1 CONTACT INFORMATION	6
4.2 AUDITING	6
4.3 PRE-COMMENCEMENT TREE OPERATIONS	6
4.4 BIOSECURITY	7
4.5 BARRIERS AND FENCING	7
4.6 ROOT PROTECTION AREAS	7
4.7 GROUND PROTECTION	8
4.8 DUST MANAGEMENT	9
4.9 FACILITIES	9
4.10 WORKING SPACE	9
4.11 SERVICES	9
5 POST-DEVELOPMENT	10
5.1 REMOVAL OF PROTECTIVE MEASURES	10
APPENDIX 1	11
APPENDIX 2	13

FIGURES

- 1 Tree Protection Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ESL (Ecological Services) Limited has been commissioned by LK2 on behalf of SIS Pitches to undertake an Arboricultural Impact Assessment regarding proposed works at the Sutton Bridge Memorial Park, Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire.

Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas:

- South Holland District Council's website was used to locate any Tree Preservation Orders or Conservation Areas. Tree Preservation Orders are a constraint; Conservation Areas are not.

Summary of potential impacts:

- The proposed works are in proximity to mature trees. There is the potential to impact the soil, roots, stems and canopies.

Summary of proposed mitigation:

- Protective measures will be implemented to mitigate impacts.

Summary of Impact Assessment:

- There will be no impact to any tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order or with Conservation Area status.
- Provided the advice in this report is followed, there will be no impact to the site's public amenity value.

ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT: SUTTON BRIDGE MEMORIAL PARK PLAYZONE

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE OF WORK

- 1.1.1 ESL (Ecological Services) Limited (ESL) has been commissioned by LK2 on behalf of SIS Pitches (the Client) to undertake an Arboricultural Impact Assessment in relation to proposed works at the Sutton Bridge Memorial Park off Bridge Road in Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire.
- 1.1.2 The proposed works comprise installation of a floodlit PlayZone with spectator area, lighting and connecting footpath.
- 1.1.3 The entire working area, together with its immediate surroundings, was surveyed on 28th October 2025.

1.2 LIMITATIONS

- 1.2.1 ESL does not conduct soil assessments or pronounce on the health of trees beyond the initial visual assessment.

2 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

2.1 STANDARDS AND HARDWARE USED

- 2.1.1 The survey was carried out with reference to the guidelines detailed in 'BS 5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations' (hereafter, 'the Standard').
- 2.1.2 Tree positions were recorded with a Trimble DA2 GNSS.
- 2.1.3 Stem diameters were measured using a stem diameter tape where practicable, otherwise by estimation, in accordance with Annex C of the Standard.
- 2.1.4 Tree heights were measured in accordance with Section 4.4.2.6 of the Standard.
- 2.1.5 Canopy spreads and other measurements were made by tape and/or Leica DISTO D110 where practicable, otherwise by estimation (also in accordance with Section 4.4.2.6 of the Standard).
- 2.1.6 A schedule of the trees, tree groups and hedgerows surveyed is given as Appendix 1.
- 2.1.7 Common names are used throughout this report with scientific names given in the schedule. Where species not listed in the schedule are mentioned, their scientific name is given at the first instance.

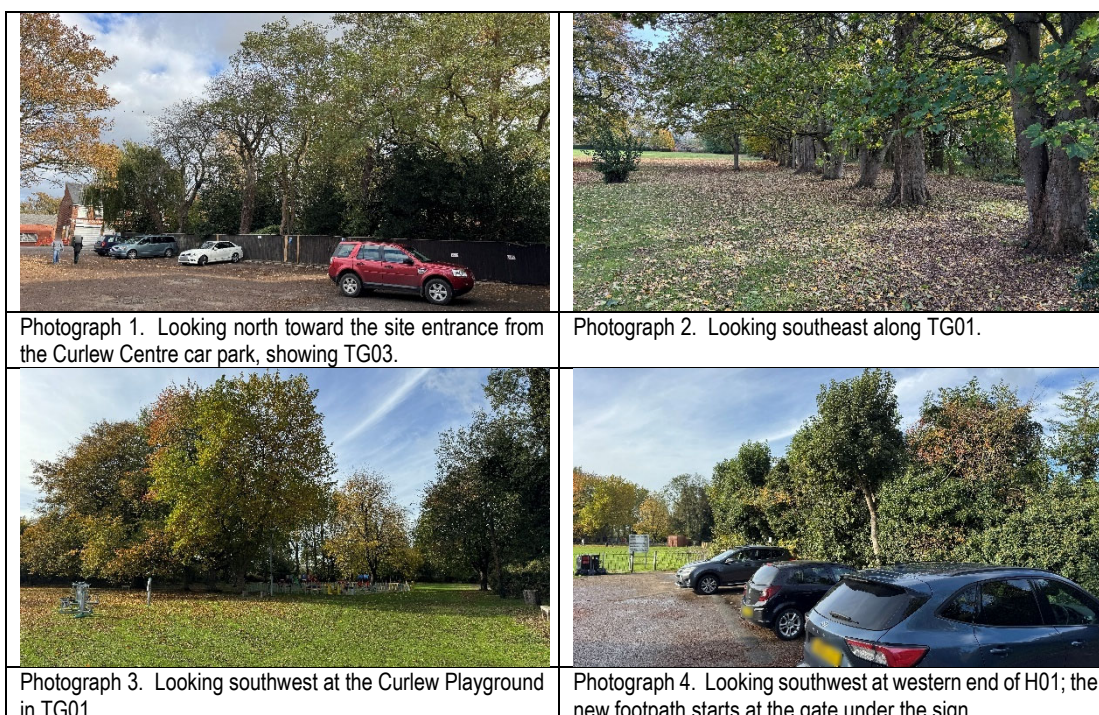
3 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS AND CONSERVATION AREAS

- 3.1.1 South Holland District Council's website was used to locate any Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) or Conservation Areas.
- 3.1.2 While there are no Conservation Areas to consider, there are several individual TPOs and one group TPO adjacent to the working area. A map showing their location is given as Appendix 2 and the significance of this constraint is discussed in Section 3.3 below.

3.2 SURVEY RESULTS

- 3.2.1 The Sutton Bridge Memorial Park is located south of Bridge Road in Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire (approx. grid reference TF 47711 21164). St. Mathew's church is to the east, a dismantled railway to the south and residential properties to the west. The site is accessed off Bridge Road through the Curlew Centre car park (Photograph 1).



- 3.2.2 The Park is flat and level (slopes are not a consideration) and comprises ca.3ha of amenity grassland with the Curlew Playground to the southwest corner and trees to the boundaries.
- 3.2.3 Tree group TG01 marks the southern boundary of the site and encloses the Curlew Playground. The group comprises a mix including ash, sycamore, plane, beech, poplar, oak, elm and lime over cherry, hawthorn, elder, dogwood, holly and plum. The group is in a generally good condition although some poplar monoliths are present and a cherry adjacent to the playground has extensive basal rot (Photographs 2 and 3). While not shown as part of the group TPO that

runs along the disused railway (southern boundary), TG01 forms a cohesive feature with this group.



- 3.2.4 Tree group TG02 comprises a mix of predominantly ornamental species (dogwood, birch, medlar, mahonia, winter daphne, laurustinus, hedge honeysuckle and kōhūhū) around a seating area adjacent to the car park. Hedgerow H01 (holly, elder, myrobalan plum, sycamore, cypress, hawthorn and ash) screens the car park from the residential properties to the north of the site (Photograph 4 above).
- 3.2.5 Tree group TG03 is off site, associated with the war memorial to the west of the car park entrance (Photograph 1 above). The group comprises a mix including false acacia, yew, holly, elm, cherry, sycamore, Japanese laurel, red horse chestnut, willow, walnut, birch and hazel, several of which are covered by TPOs. The group is in a generally good condition and its canopy overhangs the boundary fence.
- 3.2.6 Tree group TG04 screens the site from the adjacent church and comprises a mix including sycamore, false acacia, Scot's pine, cypress and birch over privet, elm, cherry, thorny olive, hawthorn, dogwood and apple (Photograph 5). The group is in a generally good condition and contains many of the trees subject to TPOs on site.
- 3.2.7 There are three free-standing trees on site: T01 is a large ash on the northern boundary, T02 a multi-stemmed sycamore to the west of the car park entrance (Photograph 7) and T03 is an oak on the southern boundary of the car park (Photograph 8). Tree T03 is subject to a TPO. Dense ivy cladding made a thorough inspection of T01 impossible but it appeared to be in a fair condition; trees T02 and T03 are in good condition.

3.3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 3.3.1 The majority of the TPOs on site are on the eastern boundary, ca.120m away from the working area. These are unlikely to be directly impacted by the proposed works. Tree T03 will be fenced off to protect it from direct impact. The fence in the car park will be located outside the drip line of the canopy as the hardstanding will protect any roots in this area while the fence in the amenity grassland will be located outside the Root Protection Area (RPA). If the fence needs to be relocated to facilitate the installation of the surface water drain, it must be kept a minimum 2.5m from the stem of T03.
- 3.3.2 Incursion into the RPA of T03 may be required for the installation of surface water drainage. As T03 is subject to a TPO, all relevant permissions will be obtained from the Local Planning Authority (LPA) prior to works commencing.
- 3.3.3 The incursion falls within the footprint of the carpark so ground protection will not be required. Excavation will be made using hand tools only, with major roots (roots with a diameter over 25mm) retained and protected as per the attached method statement. Spoil from the excavation will be stored outside the RPA and the backfill process defined in the attached method statement will be followed to ensure there is no significant impact to the tree's roots. All works will be conducted from the existing hardstanding; all construction activity is excluded from the grassland south of the tree that falls within the RPA to T03.
- 3.3.4 While TG01 is not within the boundary of the group TPO as shown in Appendix 2, it forms a cohesive feature so should be considered part of the Order. The group will be fenced off with the fence located outside the RPA for the group.
- 3.3.5 Provided the advice in this report is followed, there will be no impact to any tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order or with Conservation Area status.
- 3.3.6 There is currently no requirement to undertake any pre-commencement tree operations (e.g., access pruning). Should this change, consult the scheme arborist so a safe working method can be implemented before works commence.
- 3.3.7 All barriers and fencing will be in place prior to any works commencing on site.
- 3.3.8 There is no demolition phase and while it is considered unlikely the scheme will produce significant quantities of dust, a dust management protocol is given for completeness.
- 3.3.9 Site facilities will be located in the Curlew Centre car park. Care must be taken to ensure the overhanging canopies of TG03 are not impacted, although the clearance here is generally very good. Fencing should be installed outside the drip line of the trees and materials capable of contamination must be stored away from the boundary.
- 3.3.10 Working space is generally good but lifting operations in proximity to T01 must be carefully planned so as not to impact the tree.

-
- 3.3.11 Consideration must be given to any mitigation planting proposed in relation to this scheme (e.g., Biodiversity Net Gain). Any planting proposed within the RPA of any tree subject to statutory protection must be approved by the LPA.
- 3.3.12 The content of the following method statement must be communicated to all site staff and visitors, by way of induction or a toolbox-talk, to ensure everyone on site is aware of their responsibilities.

4 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

4.1 CONTACT INFORMATION

Report Author	Client/Agent
John Pover	Natalie Battye
ESL (Ecological Services) Limited	Senior Architectural Technologist
1 Otago House	LK2
Allenby Business Village	Studio One
Crofton Road	Deepdale Enterprise Park
Lincoln	Deepdale Lane
LN3 4NL	Nettleham
Tel: 01522 539325	Lincoln
e-mail: john_pover@esl-lincoln.co.uk	LN2 2LL
	Tel: 01522 750777
	e-mail: n.battye@lk2.co.uk

- 4.1.1 The Client may retain the services of a specialist to conduct specific tasks relating to this project (e.g., Access Facilitation Pruning); contact details for specialist contractors are available from the Client.

4.2 AUDITING

- 4.2.1 It is strongly recommended an auditable record of all protection measures be kept; this should include records of toolbox talks and inductions, together with the locations, specifications and inspection regimes for fencing, ground protection and any other measure implemented to comply with this Method Statement.

4.3 PRE-COMMENCEMENT TREE OPERATIONS

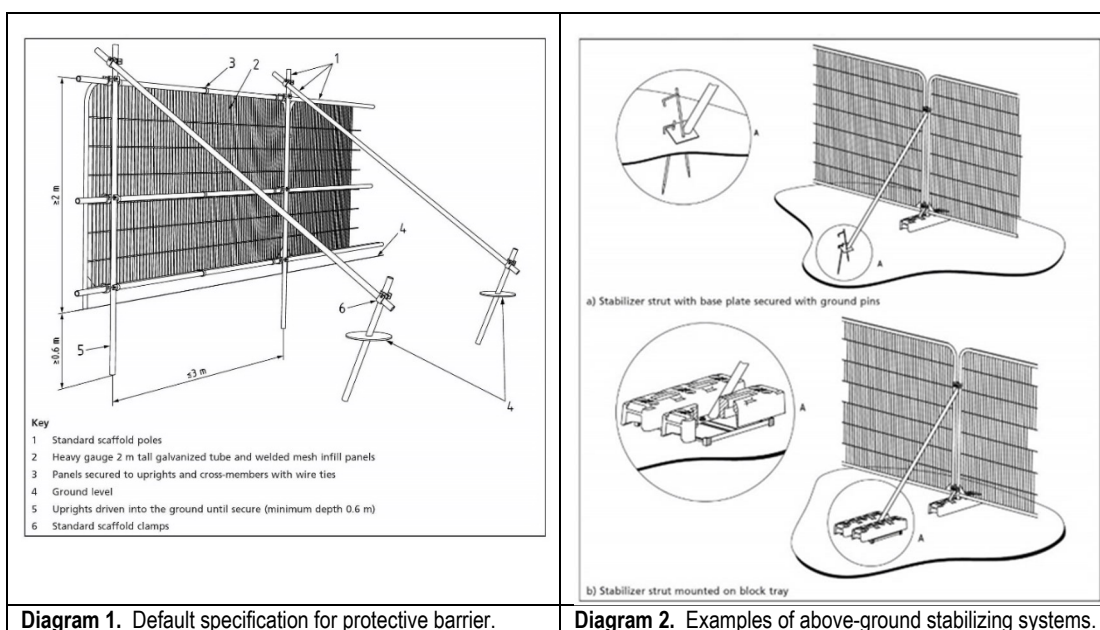
- 4.3.1 There is currently no requirement to undertake any tree works associated with this project. Should this change, advice must be sought from the scheme arborist prior to any operations commencing.
- 4.3.2 All tree related operations (e.g., access facilitation works) will be completed before works commence on site.
- 4.3.3 These operations will be undertaken by a suitably qualified arborist working to industry best practice (e.g., BS 3998). Method statements must be submitted prior to any proposed operations commencing.

4.4 BIOSECURITY

- 4.4.1 Good biosecurity practices must be used, such as disinfecting tools used on one tree before using them on another and cleaning soil/debris from vehicles, boots and clothing prior to leaving site.

4.5 BARRIERS AND FENCING

- 4.5.1 By default, protective fencing and associated signage will be installed outside the RPAs as shown on the Tree Protection Plan before works commence on site. Any installation within an RPA will be agreed with the scheme arborist in advance. The RPA defined in the schedule will be applied to the trees, tree groups and hedgerows and/or any remnant thereof. Restrictions regarding RPAs (as given below) will apply during all operations to install protective fencing.
- 4.5.2 Barriers must be fit for the purpose of excluding construction activity and appropriate to the degree and proximity of work taking place around the retained tree(s). They will be inspected by the site manager to ensure they remain effective throughout the duration of the works. Examples of protective fencing are shown in Diagrams 1 (default) and 2 (above-ground stabilising system).



4.6 ROOT PROTECTION AREAS

- 4.6.1 A Tree Protection Plan is given as Figure 1.
- 4.6.2 The following restrictions must be applied to all RPAs. By default, there must be:
- No access by foot- or vehicular-traffic into an RPA.

- No storage on or adjacent to an RPA of spoil, materials, chemicals, tools, vehicles or any other thing that could lead to compaction or contamination of the rooting environment or that could impact a tree's roots, stem or canopy.
- No changes to ground level within an RPA.

4.6.3 Additional precautions for outside RPAs:

- The site manager will safeguard against contamination of RPAs (e.g., wash-off or chemical/fuel spill).
- There must be no fires lit within 20m of an RPA (this includes areas designated for smokers). Always note wind direction before starting a fire so that debris (especially that capable of causing ignition) does not blow into an RPA.
- No sprayed herbicide will be used near to an RPA as overspray or drift could affect retained trees. Only use topical application and always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

4.6.4 Roots with a diameter less than 25mm must be cut with clean, sharp tools, leaving as small a wound as possible. Root clusters less than 25mm in diameter (including fibrous roots) must be preserved where possible and care must be taken not to damage the bark surrounding roots.

4.6.5 Roots greater than 25mm must be preserved. These roots must not be severed without first being assessed by the local authority tree officer or a suitably qualified arboriculturist. If pruning is unavoidable, it must be done with clean, sharp tools to minimise the wound.

4.6.6 If roots become exposed during work, care must be taken to avoid desiccation or exposure to temperature change, especially rapid changes in the temperature of the air surrounding them. Soil level must be restored (without compaction) as soon as possible. Until this is done, exposed roots must be covered with dry sacking or similar, especially overnight.

4.6.7 Within hardstanding/highway limits, backfill around the roots with inert granular material mixed with topsoil or sharp sand (not builder's sand) and avoid excessive compaction. Outside these areas, backfill with the excavated soil and compact lightly, leaving it slightly proud of the surrounding surface to allow for natural settlement. Other materials must not be added to this backfill.

4.7 GROUND PROTECTION

4.7.1 The minimum specification for ground protection is:

- For pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame to form a suspended walkway or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g., 100mm depth of woodchip) laid onto a geotextile membrane.
- For pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g., 150mm depth of woodchip) laid onto a geotextile membrane.

- For wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2t gross weight, an alternative system (e.g., proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.

4.8 DUST MANAGEMENT

- 4.8.1 Trees and hedgerows adjacent to the proposed works will be inspected on a regular basis (at least once every two weeks during the growing season) for signs of dust/debris deposition. If found, it will be washed off using clean water and a low-pressure delivery system. It must not be knocked or brushed off as this may cause damage to the tree/hedgerow.
- 4.8.2 Where practicable, operations likely to produce dust or flying debris should be located away from any RPA. If this is not practicable, protective screens will be erected to prevent impact damage to adjacent trees.
- 4.8.3 Dust will be managed by implementing a speed limit for all vehicles and damping down as required.

4.9 FACILITIES

- 4.9.1 Contractor parking, site huts/facilities and storage/working areas are restricted to the footprint of existing carriageways, hardstanding or on land outside the RPAs as shown on the Tree Protection Plan.
- 4.9.2 Areas used for storing, fuelling or maintenance of tools and equipment must be located away from RPAs. Where this is not possible, measures must be implemented (e.g., spill mats) to ensure there is no pollution of the soil within or adjacent to an RPA.

4.10 WORKING SPACE

- 4.10.1 Consideration must be given to working space required for construction. Operatives and materials must be able to move without entering/passing over an RPA or impacting adjacent trees. Care must be taken regarding the overhanging canopies. Where necessary, use a banksman.

4.11 SERVICES

- 4.11.1 All new services will be installed outside the RPAs as shown on the Tree Protection Plan. If this is not practicable, a safe-working method will be agreed with the scheme arborist prior to works commencing.

5 POST-DEVELOPMENT

5.1 REMOVAL OF PROTECTIVE MEASURES

- 5.1.1 Works to remove any protective measures (such as fencing) must be carried out in a way that respects the restrictions associated with an RPA.

- KEY**
- Cat A tree
 - Cat B tree
 - Approximate site boundary
 - Survey area
 - Protective fence
 - Cat A hedgerow
 - Cat A tree group
 - Cat B tree group
 - Cat C tree group
 - RPA/CEZ
 - Canopy

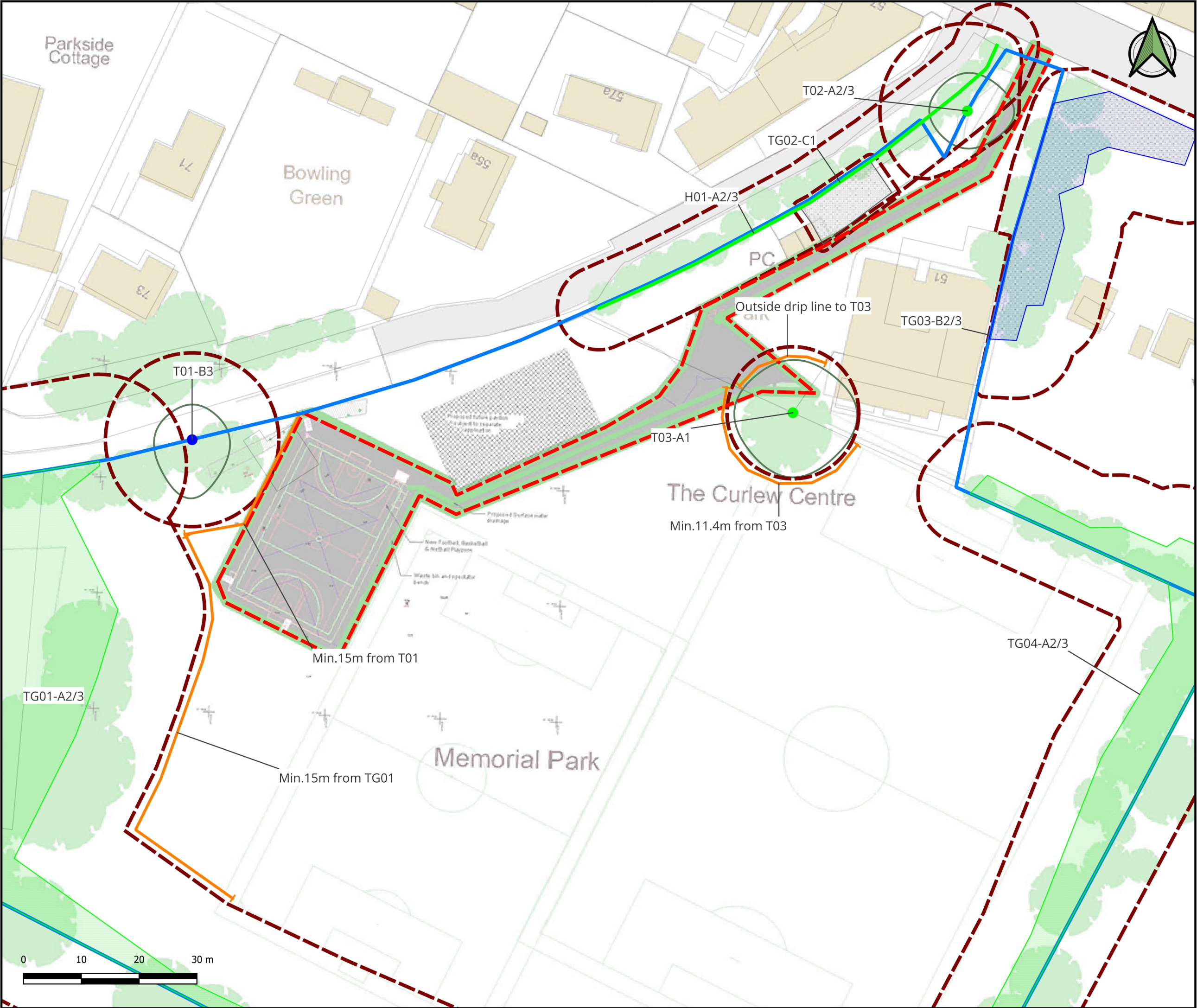


SITE NAME:
Sutton Bridge Memorial Park PlayZone.

DRAWING TITLE:
Tree Protection Plan.

Dwg no.: ES215-L282-002 Date: Dec 2025
Scale: 1:1,000 @ A3 Figure: 1-01

This product includes mapping data licensed from Ordnance Survey ®. © Crown copyright and/or database rights 2025. License number 100012108. The original of this drawing was produced in colour - a monochrome copy should not be relied upon.



APPENDIX 1

TREE SCHEDULE

Tree number		Species	Height	Stem type	Estimated	Stem Diameter	Branch spread - North	Branch spread - East	Branch spread - South	Branch spread - West	Height above ground - First significant branch and direction	Height above ground - Canopy	Life stage	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution	Category	RPA (m)	RPA (m ²)
T01	Fexc		N/A	S		1250	6.00	6.50	10.00	6.50	6S	6.00	Mature	Fair	Fair	None	20+	B3	15.00	707.00
T02	Apse		N/A	S		1100	6.50	8.00	6.40	6.50	5.5S	4.00	Mature	Good	Good	None	40+	A2/3	13.20	547.00
T03	Qrob		N/A	S		950	9.00	11.00	11.00	10.00	4S	2.00	Mature	Good	Good	None	40+	A1	11.40	408.00

Tree group number		Species	Stem type	Estimated	Stem Diameter	Height	Branch spread	Height above ground - First significant branch and direction	Height above ground - Canopy	Life stage	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution	Category	RPA (m)
TG01	Fexc Pave Cmon Snig Apse Phis Ffyl Csan laqu Lomb Qrob Uгла Tcor Pdom		S/MS		1250	N/A	9	2E	1.00	Mature	Good	Good	None	40+	A2/3	15.00
TG02	Csan Vtinu Uligu Ptenu Dodor Buti Mger Bbeal		S/MS		100	N/A	1.5	1.5S	1.50	Young	Good	Fair	None	10+	C1	1.20
TG03	Rpse Tbac laqu Uгла Pave Apse Ajapo Acar Sbab Jreg Bpub Cave		S/MA		700	N/A	5.5	2W	2.00	mature	Fair	Fair	None	20+	B2/3	8.40
TG04	Apse Love Uгла Pave Rpse Pfyl Claw Epum Cmon Bpen Csan Mdom		S/MS		750	N/A	6	2W	1.00	Mature	Good	Fair	None	40+	A2/3	9.00

Hedge row number		Species	Estimated	Stem diameter (average or max)	Height (average or max/min)	Width (average)	Life stage	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution	Category	RPA (m)
H01	Isqu Snig PcerN Apse Cley Cmon Fexc			600	6.00	8.00	Mature	Good	Fair	None	20+	A2/3	7.20

Code	Scientific name	Common name	Code	Scientific name	Common name
Acar	<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	Red chestnut	Pcer	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Myrobalan plum
Aiap	<i>Aucuba japonica</i>	Spotted laurel	PcerN	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Nigra'	Purple plum
Apse	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	Pdom	<i>Prunus domestica</i>	Plum
Bpen	<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch	Phis	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	London plane
Bpub	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downey birch	Psyl	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots pine
Buti	<i>Betula utilis</i>	Himalayan birch	Qrob	<i>Quercus robur</i>	English oak
Cave	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	Rpse	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False acacia
Claw	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i>	Lawson cypress	Snig	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
Cley	<i>x Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland cypress	Tbac	<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew
Cmon	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Tcor	<i>Tilia cordata</i>	Small-leaf lime
Csan	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	Uгла	<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Witch elm
Fexc	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	Vtinu	<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	Laurustinus
Ffyl	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	Ligu	<i>Lonicera ligustrina</i>	Hedge honeysuckle
laqu	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	Ajapo	<i>Acuba japonica</i>	Japanese laurel
Jreg	<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	Dodor	<i>Daphne odora</i>	Winter daphne
Mdom	<i>Malus domestica</i>	Orchard apple	Bbeal	<i>Berberis bealei</i>	Leatherleaf mahonia
Mger	<i>Mespilus germanica</i>	Common medlar	Ptenu	<i>Pittosporum tenuifolium</i>	Köhühü

Key to Tree Schedule

PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION

- Good – A tree in good health with no significant defects.
- Fair – A tree in generally good health that might require remediation for some issues.
- Poor – A tree in poor health having issues that cannot be remediated.
- Dead – A tree without sufficient live material to sustain life.

STRUCTURAL CONDITION

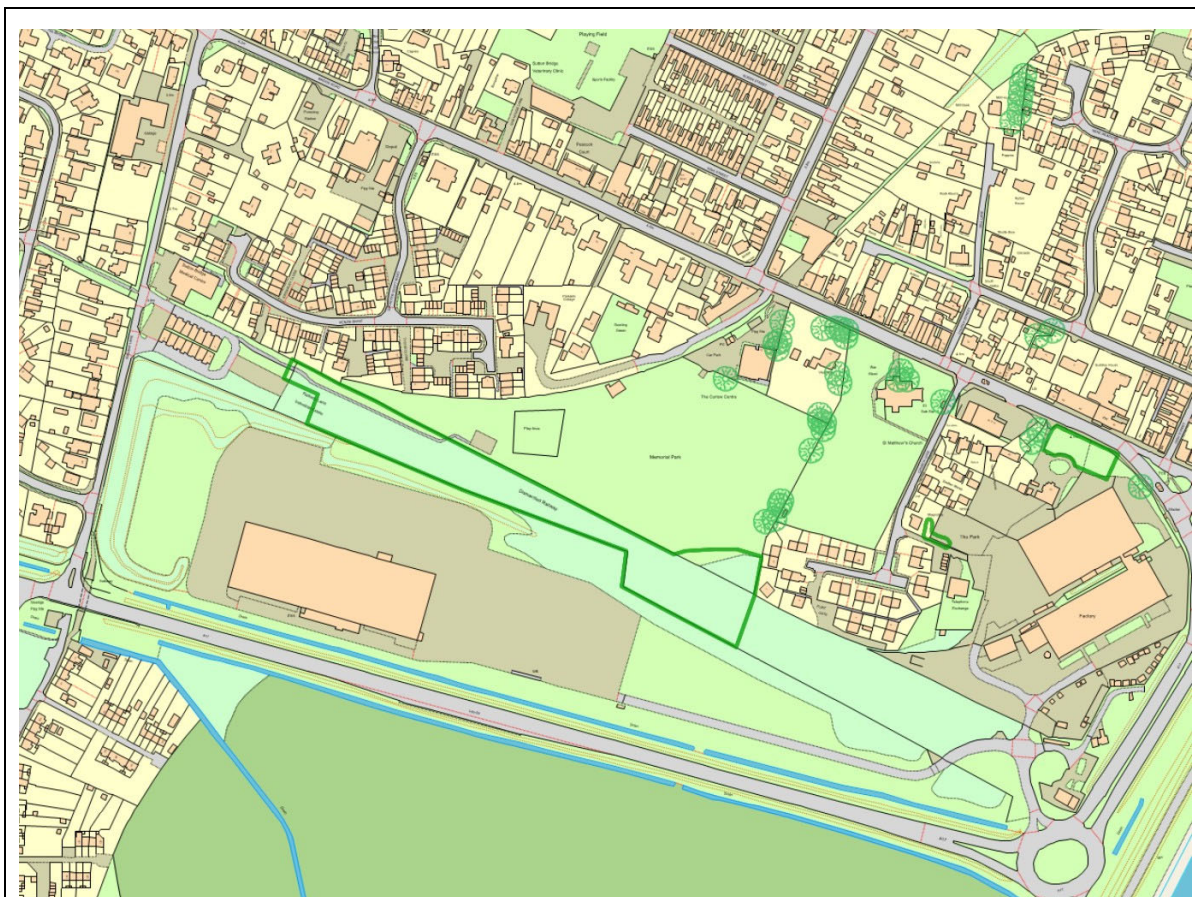
- Good – A tree with no obvious sign of defect.
- Fair – A tree with minor defects or defects that can be corrected.
- Poor – A tree with major defects or defects beyond remediation.

CATEGORY

- U – Trees unlikely to contribute beyond 10 years.
- 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 trees with a stem diameter of less than 150mm.

Appendix 2

TPO and Conservation Area search results



TPO and Conservation Area search results.