

Preliminary Tree Survey.

Bassetlaw Local Plan, Upper Morton.

Tree Survey Date: 10th October 2019.

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Tree Survey Scope: To assess on the ground, the proposed area as a new settlement of approximately 4000 dwellings, employment and associated infrastructure.

Report Scope: A single sheet, brief, outline to determine;

- If access from the public highway would be constrained.
- Future management requirements/implications.
- Potential for mitigation (if necessary)

Supporting Documents: Maps from Bassetlaw District Council.

SUMMARY: No major tree constraints.

- There is good access present already, with good potential for additional access without tree constraints. There is a constraint regarding the oak lined track at the Northern edge of the site, running from the A1, which will require further consideration.
- There are large mature trees present around the outbuildings at Upper Moreton, worthy of retention within future development. These will incur inspection regimes and management costs for public health and safety, as would any roadside trees and trees within public open spaces. Early mature lime trees are planted in the hedgerow either side of the road through the site. There are two very small blocks of woodland at Upper Moreton along with a long linear planting of pine trees running North to South close to the Eastern boundary of that site. This may work best becoming a natural boundary along the whole site, as in the Southern third.

- Hedgerows should be retained as much as possible to mitigate habitat loss.

Findings: Access is good from the B6420 off the A1/A57 roundabout. A large mature oak tree near the entrance is worthy of retention. Hedgerows on each side of access throughout the majority of the site, with young maturing lime trees lining the approach to Upper Morton. Opportunity is here for enhancement by further planting of limes to create an avenue of large shade bearing trees when mature.

Early mature English oak trees line the track on the outside edge of the Northern boundary from the A1 to the B6420. The continued spread of Oak Processionary Moth (OPM), no longer contained to the south of the country means that these could pose a public health issue in the future. Forestry Commission advice is to not remove oak trees as a control measure as this would be ecologically damaging. Adequate spacing of housing or facilities should be a consideration so people are not placed in close proximity if a solution takes more time to be reached. Several large oak trees are also present in the two small woodland blocks around the farm hangers. Forestry Commission advice should be sought for the future management options of these blocks.

The strip/belt of maturing pine trees looks to have been originally planted in four rows, no gaps are present although the thickness of the rows varies throughout. Whilst the trees individually are neither large or of special merit, they do make a significant contribution together as a landscape feature, particularly visible throughout the site and from a distance in both directions of the A1. These should be considered worthy of retention and make a natural boundary to the edge of the development at this stage.

Further enhancement to the site could be made with landscaping schemes and tree planting throughout, particularly alongside the A1. This could provide screening from road noise to some extent. There are ample opportunities to include multiple areas of public open space and recreation facilities as well as a cycle track towards Worksop.

