

**CS5 BATH & NORTH EAST SOMERSET**

**CORE STRATEGY**

**PRELIMINARY ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT – WHITCHURCH**



## **CS5 ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT**

### **Introduction**

**CS5.1** This chapter has been prepared by Hillside Trees Ltd.

**CS5.2** A site survey was undertaken on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

**CS5.3** The Whitchurch Core Strategy Sites are located to on the north-east and south-west fringes of Whitchurch.

The site to the north-east is defined by the boundary of Stockwood Lane to the east and the north-eastern fringes of Whitchurch to the west and south. The existing mature hedgerows enhance the boundary to the north (TN1 – see Section CS5.6 below). The retention and enhancement of these hedgerows would create valuable features to be included within any future development together with opportunities to establish strategic specimen trees with an integrated landscape.

The site to the south-west of the site is defined by the A37 Bristol road to the east and open countryside to the west beyond rugby pitches and club house (see Section CS5.7 below). The existing matrix of small pasture fields bisected by mature hedgerows adjacent to the A37 form a valuable extension of the rural fringe of Whitchurch to the village's western flanks. The potential for development in this area is limited by scale of economy if the mature hedgerows are to be retained. There are few mature trees within this area and development would not only lead to depletion of the existing hedgerow infrastructure but would restrict opportunities for increasing the tree stock to buffer and ameliorate an inevitable decline in landscape amenity.

### **Baseline information**

**CS5.4** The table below shows a summary of the baseline arboricultural information obtained for each Target Note Area. A total of 2 'Target Note' areas were identified. For each Target Note Area the following information was noted:

- Target Note Reference
- Location
- Key Species
- Age Class

- Site Notes
- Assessment of Visual Amenity

Table CS5.1- Baseline Arboricultural Information					
Target Note Reference Number	Location Central NGR	Species	Age Class	Site Notes	Assessment of Visual Amenity
TN1	ST 617 676	Hedgerow. Predominantly Hawthorn	Mature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mature hedgerow on northern margin of site create effective delineation between open pasture to north and area of potential development</li> </ul> <p>Enhancement of hedgerows with other native shrub species and occasional specimen tree would strengthen screening and visual amenity</p>	Moderate. Potential to become high if hedgerows are enhanced and maintained.
TN2	ST 615 671	Hedgerow. Predominantly Hawthorn with occasional Ash	Mature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hedgerows define the boundaries of the existing pasture adjacent to the A37 Bristol Road.</li> <li>Whilst there is a rugby club and field beyond the field, the aspect is predominantly rural and the hedgerows in TN2 are strong landscape features.</li> <li>The dimensions of the field do are not conducive to accommodating large-scale development.</li> <li>Development here would be intrusive and have a negative impact on the essentially rural character of the western fringe of this part of Whitchurch.</li> </ul>	High

**CS5.5** Appendix CS5.1 shows Target Note Location Plan 1 and 2.



Bath & North East Somerset. Core Strategy.  
Whitchurch.  
Target Note Location Plan 1



Bath & North East Somerset. Core Strategy.  
Whitchurch  
Target Note Location Plan 2

**CS5.6** Figure CS5.1 shows TN1 looking north-west from Stockwood Lane.



**Figure CS5.1**

**CS5.7** Figure CS5.2 shows TN2 looking north from A37 Bristol Road.



**Figure CS5.2**