

Simon Pryce, Arboricultural Consultant

Arboricultural report

Client: The Corporation of London

Site: Wildwood Road, Hampstead Heath, London, NW11

Instruction: Mr S Lee, Superintendent of Hampstead Heath.

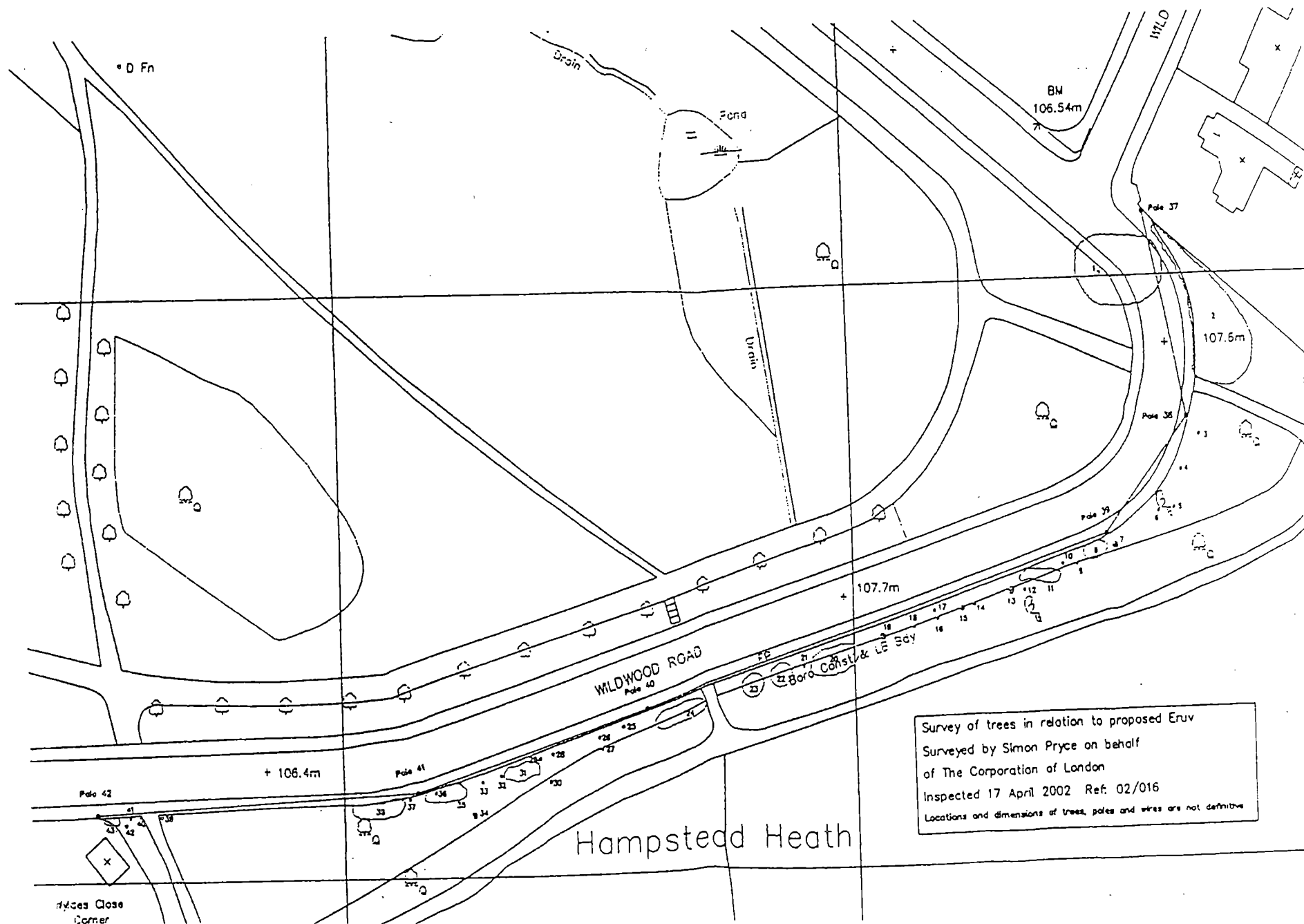
Brief: To inspect trees growing along the edge of the road and comment on the likely effects on them of the proposal to install Eruv poles and wires along the road.

Inspection date: 17 April 2002

Report date: 4 May 2002

Reference: 02/016

Author: Simon Pryce, B.Sc., F.Arbor.A, C.Biol, M.I.Biol.
Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant



Arboricultural report – Wildwood Road, London, NW11

1 Introduction

- 1.1 I am an independent arboriculturalist in private practice and am instructed by a wide range of clients including solicitors, developers, insurance companies, local authorities and private individuals. I am on the Department of Transport, Local Government and the Regions' panel of inspecting officers for tree preservation order appeals. I am reasonably familiar with this area of London through my work, but have no personal or religious connection with any of the parties involved in this matter. A summary of my qualifications and experience is appended.
- 1.2 The site was visited and an unaccompanied inspection made on 17 April 2002. Trees were inspected visually from ground level with the aid of binoculars where necessary. In addition a measuring pole was used to help determine precisely the likely effects on the trees.
- 1.3 Individual trees are described and listed in the schedule forming the second part of this report and general conclusions are summarised below. This report is concerned only with the arboricultural implications of the proposal, so any references to religious or legal matters or the terms of the licence should not be interpreted as comment or opinion on them.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Eruv is a defined area of religious significance. In places its boundaries use existing features, such as walls or fences, but any significant gaps or gateways, such as roads, have to be crossed or bridged physically. This is to be achieved by using nylon monofilament fishing line strung between poles.
- 2.2 The area with which this report is concerned is where the Heath abuts Wildwood Road between Wildwood Rise to the east and Wylde's Corner to the west. Most of the road runs east – west, bending acutely round to the north west at its eastern end, but for convenience the side on which the poles are proposed to be installed is referred to here as the south side.
- 2.3 The poles vary in height between 4.5 and 6.5m and are of hollow steel or wood, depending on the circumstances. In this location there are to be six poles, numbers 37 – 42 inclusive from east to west. The first two, 37 and 38 are to be 5.5m high, as the wire between them cuts across the bend above the carriageway, while the others are all 4.5m high. All the poles are to be of wood and it is assumed that they will be up to about 300mm in diameter, requiring a slightly larger hole to be dug in order to install them securely.
- 2.4 The poles are to be connected by nylon monofilament fishing line, which has been specified as:

"Drennan Special Matt Sub-surface Green Fly Leader 0.3mm in diameter or such other similar 0.3mm diameter monofilament line as agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority."

This has a breaking strength of 4 – 5 kg and is referred to in this report as wire, as the term is already in use, although the material is not metallic.

- 2.5 The Eruv has been granted a licence by Barnet Council and one of the conditions attached to this is that:

"No works to trees, including cutting or damage to branches or roots, shall be undertaken in implementing the approved development"

2.6 The main arboricultural concerns about the Eruv are that:

1. Excavation for the poles could damage tree roots.
 2. Installation of the poles and the wires could require the branches of trees to be pruned in order to maintain clearance, with possible adverse effects on their health or amenity value.
- 2.7 A letter from the London Borough of Barnet's Principal Engineer comments that the holes are to be dug by hand in the presence of an arboriculturalist from the Council and that the wires can be allowed to sag or can be threaded through vegetation where necessary

3 General comments

- 3.1 Significant damage to roots, for instance by excavation, can impair the stability of the parent tree and its ability to absorb water and nutrients from the soil. Some guidance on this is given in British Standard 5837: 1991, Trees in relation to construction, which specifies minimum distances that should be maintained between trees and any groundwork in order to avoid unacceptable levels of damage. The distances vary with the size, age and vigour of the tree and are noted in the individual descriptions where appropriate. This has some relevance here, but the standard is intended as a guide for construction sites where major work, such as trenching or significant level changes take place over wide areas. It is often possible to excavate small holes closer to trees with little damage, particularly if they are dug by hand. Trees growing near pavements and roads often root preferentially in the more open ground in other directions, with relatively few roots in the less favourable conditions under the hard surface, so small holes there often encounter few roots. Precise details of the wooden poles are not available, but it has been assumed that the holes for them would need to be at least 300mm across. Most roots are less than 600mm deep, so digging deeper than this would generally make little difference.
- 3.2 Most trees will tolerate light to moderate pruning of the top growth, but broadleaves in particular will respond by sprouting, often producing dense clusters of new shoots from around the pruning cuts. These often need to be cut back regularly in order to maintain the benefit for which the pruning was carried out. This can result in an unnatural appearance and in extreme cases can cause health and structural problems in the tree.
- 3.3 Threading the wire around or through tree branches would avoid the need for pruning in the first instance, but much of the growth concerned is the ends of slender branches, which will move significantly in the wind. This could cause problems as the breaking strain of the wire is relatively low and will reduce when wet so a combination of abrasion from branches and degradation by ultra violet light is highly likely to cause breakages. This could lead to pressure to prune trees.
- 3.4 There is a common law right to cut growth that overhangs boundaries, and roots that grow under them, although any cut material must be offered back to the owner. However this right appears to apply only to the owner of the overhung land [the Highway Authority in this case], not to other parties. If any pruning without the agreement of the tree owners were considered it would be advisable to seek a qualified legal opinion on this point.

- 3.5 Pruning of trees covered by tree preservation orders [TPOs] or growing in designated Conservation Areas normally requires the agreement of the local planning authority. Where trees are covered by TPOs explicit consent is needed, while in Conservation Areas the council must be given six weeks notice, which gives them the opportunity to make a TPO if they see fit. One exemption from this requirement is any work immediately necessary to implement a development that has full planning permission, as this is deemed to be included that permission. However one of the conditions here expressly prohibits any cutting of branches or roots.

4 Appraisal and discussion

- 4.1 The trees are described individually in the attached schedule, but some general points emerge from the survey. The species largely reflect what would be the natural woodland composition of this area; those near the road include mature oaks, some middle aged sycamores, hawthorns and hollies and numerous smaller individuals, mainly hawthorn, hazel and young ash, wild cherry and elm. They will be affected in different ways and in most cases this relates closely to the growth habits of the species concerned.
- 4.2 The older oaks and sycamores have fairly upright branch formations so, even where they are close to the road, the wires typically run below any significant branches so the installation is likely to cause few problems, although they might need to be threaded around some of the smaller lower branches. In most cases these branches could be removed back to the parent limb or trunk with few adverse effects on the tree's health or appearance. However one of the more significant oaks, tree no.7, is close to the site of pole no.39. Ideally the pole should be beyond the minimum distance recommended by BS5837: 1991 [5.3m in this case] although, in practice, careful hand excavation of a single hole slightly closer is unlikely to cause major damage, especially if it is possible to adjust the location slightly if major roots [over 50mm diameter] are encountered. Pole 41 is quite close to ash no.37, but it is smaller, younger tree, less likely to be adversely affected and more resilient if any significant roots are damaged.
- 4.3 Most of the ashes and wild cherries are young trees that will grow rapidly and develop relatively slender crowns, although many currently have some branch ends in line with the wire. It would be relatively easy to thread wires around these although they will move in the wind to a greater extent than the low branches of the larger trees, with a higher likelihood of abrasion and breakage. As the trees have a natural tendency to grow higher the complete removal of smaller lower branches would not affect their health or appearance unduly, apart from the few, such as no.29, that are leaning so heavily over the back of the pavement that they would need their entire tops removed to create clearance.
- 4.4 In theory the elms could also develop into tall trees with few low branches, but in practice they will almost inevitably be infected and killed by Dutch elm disease by the time they reach about 20 years of age and 8 – 10m in height. They have relatively narrow crowns when young, so are unlikely to have major conflicts with the wire in the mean time.
- 4.5 Potentially the greatest problem is with the lower growing bushy trees, especially the hollies and hawthorns. Some of these have dense crowns directly in line with the wires and, while they could be threaded, even minor movement in the wind is likely to cause abrasion and failure of the wire possibly leading to pressure for pruning in order to create complete clearance. The species concerned will tolerate quite heavy pruning but will respond by sprouting vigorously, so this would need to be repeated regularly in order to maintain any benefit. This would lead to some of the trees, especially holly groups 20 and 43, developing a clipped, hedge like appearance, which would be out of character with the existing semi natural appearance of the woodland edge.

- 4.6 Any treework should be carried out in accordance with BS 3998: 1989, Recommendations for Treework, and any other relevant standards. It is essential that the contractor doing the work has appropriate third party and public liability insurance.

5 Summary and conclusions

- 5.1 Apart from two sycamores the variety of tree species reflects the natural composition of woodland native to this area and it is natural looking.
- 5.2 One pole is close to a mature oak and another near a young ash. With reasonable care neither tree should be adversely affected by the excavation, although some roots will inevitably be encountered. The crown of the holly at the western end could hinder the erection of the pole, although there are likely to be few roots below the pavement.
- 5.3 Threading the wire around or through branches of larger trees or those capable of growing larger is unlikely to cause major problems and, if the need arose, this growth could be pruned without materially affecting the trees' health or appearance.
- 5.4 There are potentially more problems with the lower growing species as wire threaded through the crowns will be more susceptible to abrasion and breakage, possibly leading to pressure for pruning. The species concerned would tolerate this, but it would need to be repeated regularly leading to a trimmed appearance that would look incongruous on a woodland edge.
- 5.5 Any work on the trees, including cutting or damage to branches or roots would contravene a condition of the Eruv Licence.



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Inspection date:

17 April 2002 by Simon Pryce

Tree no.	Species	Age / vigour	Condition	Ht [m]	Spd [m]	Dia. [mm]	Distance [m]	Comments and implications of proposal
Trees are described in order, starting at the eastern end of the road and going to the west. Except for the first one they are all on the south side. Radial spread is from the trunk to the branch tips growing towards the line of the wire; Distance is the distance from the kerb edge to the trunk. From pole 39 onwards the wire is treated as running above the back edge of the pavement.								
Pole 37 [5.5m]								
1	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	MA/N	Good	18	10	600	1	On the far side of the road, but leans over it due to the proximity of various other trees to its west. The ends of some lower branches descend to about 4m above the road in the line of the wire. Wire could be threaded through, but the branch ends will move significantly in the wind, so it would be susceptible to damage. Suitable pruning to create clearance would have little effect on the tree's health or appearance.
2	Various	MA/N	Fair / good	5 – 10	3 av.	100 – 300	1 – 6	Dense shrubby growth of holly and others, with some larger trees, including a hazel and an alder set farther back. They are on the outside of an acute curve and well away from the line of the wire. Not affected unless a considerable number of poles is installed in order to make the wire follow the curve more closely.
Pole 38 [5.5m, next pole 4.5m]								
3	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	M/N	Fair	7	5	av. 200	3.2	Close to the site of pole 38 and leans towards it. Roots could be affected by excavation for the pole, which should be kept at least 4m from the trunk. Wires would need to be threaded through the crown, although suitable pruning to create clearance would not harm the tree unduly.
4	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	SM/N	Good	11	4	150 & 180	3	Healthy young tree. Some branch tips overhang the line of the wire, but are above it. No contact with wire at present, although it could occur as the tree grows. Could be pruned to give clearance without any significant problems.
5	Wild cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	YMA/N	Good	13	4	300	5	Healthy and capable of growing larger. Set well back and has a naturally narrow crown, so is highly unlikely to impinge on the wires.
6	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	M/N	Fair	10	5	300	2.5	Close to the back of the kerb, but the wire is some distance out here owing to the curve in the road. Some lower branches extend out at about 4.5m, but are unlikely to touch the wire.

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Tree no.	Species	Age / vigour	Condition	Ht [m]	Spd [m]	Dia. [mm]	Distance [m]	Comments and implications of proposal
7	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	M/N	Good	18	9	890	3.5	Healthy mature tree, any further growth will be slow. All significant branches are above the pole and wire, but excavation for the pole would be closer than the BS5837 minimum [5.3m]. If the pole location cannot be adjusted this is unlikely to cause much harm, provided it is done carefully under arboricultural supervision.
Pole 39 [4.5m]								
8	Various	SM/N	Fair	3 – 4	2	50 – 100	1 – 2	Group of young wild cherry suckers, young hawthorns and a few whitebeams, leaning over the road due to the shade from the trees behind. Currently below the wire, but will grow into it. Clearance could be maintained by trimming periodically and they would need some maintenance to keep the pavement clear. For both purposes selective removal of the more heavily leaning ones would be a better long term option.
9	Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	MA/N	Fair	15	3	250	4	Leans slightly otherwise good. Well back from the line of the wire and not likely to grow into it.
10	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	SM/N	Fair	12	4	200	2	Leans towards the road and much of the crown overhangs it from about 3m upwards. Wire would need to be threaded through the crown or it would need pruning to give clearance. This is unlikely to harm the tree significantly.
11	Elm group <i>Ulmus procera</i>	IM/N	Fair	12 av.	2 av.	10 – 150	1 – 3	Some lean towards the road and some side growth overhangs it, but most is above 4 – 5m. Wire could be threaded through. Likely to become infected with Dutch Elm Disease and need felling in the next few years.
12	Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	MA/N	Good	9	3	250	5	Healthy and capable of some more growth, but is set well back. Not in line with the wire at present and unlikely to grow that far.
13	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	MA/N	Good	20	7	670	3	Leans slightly towards the road, but the first branch that side is at about 7m. All growth is well above the line of the wire and the trunk is not near any of the pole locations.
14	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	MA/N	Fair	6	3	180	3	Branch tips just extend to the road, tree is capable of some further growth. Wire could be threaded through or round at present. Minimal pruning would be needed to create clearance at present, but it will grow.

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Tree no.	Species	Age / vigour	Condition	Ht [m]	Spd [m]	Dia. [mm]	Distance [m]	Comments and implications of proposal
15	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	MA/N	Fair	20	7	350 & 570	3	Leans towards the road, but the first main branches are 10 – 12m up. Minor lower branches could grow into the line of the wires, but they could be threaded around them. Pruning them off would not affect the tree's health or appearance significantly.
16	Cherry plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	MA/N	Fair	3	2	50	1.5	Leans due to the other vegetation, but could grow larger. At present the wires would pass above the tree, but in time the upper branches would grow into them and the tree will develop a dense crown at about this height. If it was pruned the work would need to be repeated regularly and the tree would look somewhat unnatural.
17	Ash saplings <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	IM/N	Fair	6	1.5 av.	10 – 50	1.5 – 2	Healthy young trees that will grow larger if kept. Some branch tips almost reach the line of the wire and will grow into it, but the trees will grow well above this height and would not be greatly affected if these branches were removed or shortened.
18	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	M/N	Fair	9	5	2 x 160	2	Healthy, one stem leans over the pavement. Most of the foliage over the pavement is just above 4.5m, so the wire would pass under it with little interference, although it could hang lower when wet. Pruning to create complete clearance would disfigure the tree.
19	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	M/N	Good	22	10	1200	2	Old tree, pollarded at about 5m when younger, has some decay at the base, otherwise sound. The main limbs all ascend steeply, well clear of the wire.
20	Holly group <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	M/N	Good	6	4	100 – 250	2 – 3	Healthy, vigorous group of trees. A dense section of the crown overhangs the pavement in line with the wires between 2.5 and 6m above ground. The wire could be threaded through, albeit not very easily. Pruning to create clearance would not harm the group greatly, but would involve removing a substantial proportion of the crown, so would not look very natural.
21	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	SM/N	Fair	9	3	150	3	Leans towards the road due to other trees. Has some lower branches in line with the wire. It could be threaded around them, but the tree will grow much higher, so they could be removed without affecting it unduly.
22	Hazel group <i>Corylus avellana</i>	M/N	Good	6	4	50 – 100	4	Coppice group. Some branch ends overhang the pavement into the line of the wire. The branches are small, but will move more in the wind than those growing from some of the trees, which could cause problems. End growth could be shortened to give clearance, but this would look somewhat unnatural.

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Tree no.	Species	Age / vigour	Condition	Ht [m]	Spd [m]	Dia. [mm]	Distance [m]	Comments and implications of proposal
23	Hazel group <i>Corylus avellana</i>	M/N	Good	8	5	50 – 150	4	Similar to the previous one, with some much larger stems. Wire could be threaded through the overhanging growth. Larger stems would look highly unnatural if cut back, but will move less in the wind than smaller ones.
24	Elm suckers <i>Ulmus procera</i>	IM/N	Fair	1 – 2.5	< 1	< 50	1 – 2	Healthy and could grow larger, but are likely to become infected by Dutch Elm Disease well before reaching full maturity. Could grow to wire height before being infected, but have naturally narrow crowns, so would not impinge greatly on the wire.
Pole 40 [4.5m]								
25	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	M/N	Fair	7	4	250	2	Healthy, leans slightly towards the pavement. Dense section of crown overhangs into the line of the wire, but it could be threaded through. Pruning to create clearance would not harm the tree unduly, but it would look unnatural.
26	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	YMA/ N	Fair	5	2	50	1.8	Leans towards the road due to the ash behind. Most of the crown is under the line of the wires, but it will grow higher. Wire could be threaded. Pruning to keep the crown under the wire would not harm the tree unduly, but would look unnatural.
27	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	SM/N	Good	11	4	180	3.5	Healthy young tree, capable of growing much larger. Lowest branch ends are just above the wire. They could hang lower when in leaf and wet, but would cause few problems. The tree will grow much higher and the branch could be removed with no significant effects on its health or appearance.
28	Elm <i>Ulmus procera</i>	SM/N	Fair	6	3	100	2	Healthy at present, but likely to become diseased in the foreseeable future. Leans heavily over the back of the pavement and likely to move considerably in the wind. Could break a wire threaded through it, but would have to have most of its top removed to create complete clearance.
29	Wild cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	SM/N	Fair	7	2.5	130	½	Healthy young tree capable of growing larger. Leans over the pavement. Wire would need to pass through the crown next to the trunk. Pruning to create complete clearance would remove the top of the tree.
30	Wild cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	M/N	Fair	17	270	7	7	More or less fully grown, wide spreading crown. One branch tip just overhangs the pavement. Not likely to cause problems if left, but could be pruned without affecting the tree unduly.

Tree no.	Species	Age / vigour	Condition	Ht [m]	Spd [m]	Dia. [mm]	Distance [m]	Comments and implications of proposal
31	Elm suckers <i>Ulmus procera</i>	IM/N	Fair	1 – 2.5	-	m/s	1 – 3	Young sucker shoots, healthy and vigorous at present. • Well under the wire, but likely to grow as high before becoming infected. Would need minor pruning to maintain clearance, which is unlikely to affect them unduly.
32	Elm <i>Ulmus procera</i>	SM/N	Fair	9	4	100	4	Healthy at present, leans towards the pavement due to the birch behind. • Branch tips would just touch the wire. Could be threaded or pruned back without major problems.
33	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	SM/N	Good	3	3	m/s	2	Healthy bushy young tree. • Below the wire at present but would grow around it. Could be threaded, regular pruning to maintain clearance would give it an unnatural trimmed appearance.
34	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	MA/N	Good	14	7	850	7	Healthy and has a wide spreading crown, capable of some further growth. • Branch tips extend as far as the pavement just above the previous tree and farther west. Could be threaded but are likely to move significantly in the wind. Pruning the ends growth would not affect the tree's health or appearance unduly.
35	Elms <i>Ulmus procera</i>	MA/D	Dead	8 – 10	2	50 – 120	½ - 2	Branches extend over the pavement from about 2m above ground. • Would extend around the wire, but will need to be felled soon in any event.
36	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	SM/N	Good	11	2	120	1.5	Healthy young tree. • Some lower branches extend over the pavement, but could be threaded or pruned without significant problems. Quite close to the site of pole 41, but should not be unduly affected provided the excavation is at least 2m from it.
Pole 41 [4.5m]								
37	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	SM/M	Good	13	4	270	1.5	Healthy young tree. • Lower branches extend over the pavement. Could be threaded or pruned without significant problems.. Excavation for pole 41 should be at least 2m away, ideally to the west in order to avoid the previous tree also.
38	Elms <i>Ulmus procera</i>	SM/N	Fair / poor	2 – 3	1 – 2	m/s	1 – 4	Quite healthy at present. • Under the wire at present, but will grow around it. Could be cut back to maintain clearance. This would give a trimmed, hedge like appearance, but they are likely to be infected and killed by Dutch elm disease in the foreseeable future.
39	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	SM/N	Fair	4	2	20	1	Healthy sapling. • Will grow around the wire, but could be threaded or pruned without difficulty.

Tree no.	Species	Age / vigour	Condi tion	Ht [m]	Spd [m]	Dia. [mm]	Distance [m]	Comments and implications of proposal
40	Wild cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	MA/N	Fair	16	6	300	0	Heavily covered in ivy but looks reasonably healthy. Leans over the pavement so the trunk will be in line with the wire, although the ivy prevented an accurate sightline being taken. Wire would have to be threaded around it, which could be facilitated by removing the ivy. This would also be prudent from a purely arboricultural point of view, as it would allow the tree's condition to be assessed more accurately. The only way to gain complete clearance would be to fell the tree.
41	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	MA/N	Fair	7	5	150	0	Somewhat suppressed, otherwise healthy. Most of the crown leans over the pavement. Wire would pass above much of it, but the only way to obtain complete clearance would be felling.
42	Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>	MA/N	Fair	6	4	m/s	2	Slightly shaded, otherwise good Leans towards the pavement with some branch tips in line with the wire. Could be threaded without undue difficulty or complete clearance obtained by relatively minor pruning.
43	Holly group <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	MA/N	Good	10	3	180 av.	0	Growing on the edge of the bank by the back of the pavement. - Crown is dense and much of it is in line with the wire. The wire could be threaded through, albeit not very easily. However this group is similar to item 20 in that pruning to create clearance would not harm the group greatly, but would involve removing a substantial proportion of the crown, so it would look unnatural. - The pole would be quite close to this group but it is growing in a high bank. Significant roots are therefore unlikely to be present under the pavement although the crown could hinder the erection of the pole.
Pole 42								



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Notes

Observations are made from ground level unless stated otherwise.

Trunk diameters are measured in millimetres at 1.5m above ground or at the narrowest point between the root buttresses and branch flare in bushy trees.

Multiple stemmed trees are indicated with diameters listed separately or as an average denoted by av.

Crown spreads are taken from the trunk centre to the end of the longest live branches in the direction indicated.

Protection zones for multiple trunked trees are normally calculated using the diameter of a single trunk that would have the same cross sectional area.

Tree ages are estimated as below, based on the normal life expectancy of a tree of the species concerned on the site:

Immature.	[IM]	Newly planted or self-set tree.
Semi mature	[SM]	Young tree that is established but has not yet attained the size or form of a fully developed example of its type.
Young middle aged	[YMA]	Between semi mature and middle aged.
Middle aged	[MA]	Between one third and two thirds of its estimated lifespan.
Mature	[M]	Over two thirds of its estimated life span.
Over mature	[OM]	Declining and/or approaching the end of its natural lifespan.
Dying/Dead	[D]	Dead/dying or so badly decayed that it should be removed without delay if a potential threat.

Vigour is assessed on the basis of what is normal for that the species concerned as:

High	[H]
Normal	[N]
Low	[L]
Dead / dying	[D]

Condition is an overall assessment of the tree's health, vigour and life expectancy. Intermediate grades are used where appropriate.

Good	[G]
Fair	[F]
Poor	[P]
Dead	[D]

Simon Pryce B.Sc., F.Arbor.A., C.Biol, M.I.Biol
Summary of qualifications and experience.

Qualifications

1977	B.Sc. [Honours] in Forestry from University College of North Wales, Bangor.
1984	Certificate in Arboriculture [Theory].
1989	Fellow of the Arboricultural Association.
1989 - 1992	Approved Contractor of the Arboricultural Association. As manager of Southern Tree Surgeons Ltd. Cirencester office.
1990	Food and Environmental Protection Act [1985] certificated, modules PA1 and PA6A.
1992	Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association.
1997	Chartered Biologist

Summary of professional experience

Present position.

Independent Arboricultural consultant.

October 1992 - February 1997.

Arboricultural consultant employed by Southern Tree Surgeons.

December 1988 - October 1992.

Area manager / arboricultural consultant for Southern Tree Surgeons Ltd, Windsor and Cirencester offices.

November 1985 - December 1988.

Self employed tree surgeon / arboriculturalist, mainly sub contracting to Southern Tree Surgeons Ltd.

December 1984 - November 1985.

Area manager. Southern Tree Surgeons [Ireland] Ltd.

December 1979 - December 1984.

Working head forester/tree surgeon, Corsham Court and estate, Corsham, Wilts.

December 1977 - December 1979.

Tree surgeon/climber/feller for Challoner & West Ltd, Freshford nr Bath.

June - December 1977.

Tree surgeon/climber with Norman Rowsell Tree Surgeons, Newton Stewart, Scotland.

Work

Arboricultural consultancy of all kinds, specialising in investigation of tree related subsidence and similar problems. Clients include local authorities, surveyors and planning consultants, businesses and private individuals. Includes preparation of reports and appearances at public inquiries and court cases. I have been instructed as a Single Joint Expert under the new Civil Procedure Rules.

Retained by various local authorities as arboricultural advisor, in particular London Borough of Hounslow, summer 1989, Stroud District Council, 1990 - 1992, Corporation of London, 1994, Bristol City Council, 1998.

Speaker at various seminars organised for Chartered Surveyors and Engineers and one organised by Westminster City Council as part of their officers' internal Continuing Professional Development programme. Have also addressed various horticultural society and club meetings.

While employed by Southern Tree Surgeons, general management duties as required. Management of large line clearance contract for Southern Electric plc, Summer 1993.

Other relevant work includes:

1993 - present.

Consultant Arboricultural Inspector for Tree Preservation Order Appeals for the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.

1993 - 94

Computerised survey of highway trees throughout Devon for the County Council.

1994 - 95

Setting up computer database and carrying out review of Tree Preservation Orders for Kennet District Council.

1996

Survey of trees at Hampton Court Palace gardens and park in collaboration with South Bank Systems Ltd, using STEMS computerised tree inventory system.

Started compiling database from my own involvement in tree related building subsidence cases to supplement the currently available published information.

Co opted member of Professional Committee of the Arboricultural Association

1997

Examiner for Professional Diploma in Arboriculture. This is run by the Royal Forestry Society and is the arboricultural industry's premier qualification.

Supervising computerised tree surveys for Lincoln City Council and Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council.

Member of Technical Committee planning Joint Millennium Arboricultural Research Conference held at Keele, 2000.

1999 - 2002

Lead assessor for candidates applying for inclusion on the Arboricultural Association's register of consultants. Set up reassessment scheme for existing consultants.

Member of the Technical Advisory Board for the B.Sc. in Arboriculture offered by Myerscough Agricultural College, Lancashire.

Published work etc.

Arboricultural Journal, Volume 8, no.4 , November 1984.
"Some noteworthy trees at Corsham Court"

Specialist adviser "Woodland and Forest" published by Moonlight publications, London 1992 for primary school aged children. ISBN 1-85103-147-2

Contributor to "Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management", 1999, by Dr. David Lonsdale, published by the Forestry Commission and Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions. ISBN 0 11 753355 6