



# ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT IMPACT & TREE PROTECTION REPORT

ARDSHANAVOOLEY  
KILLARNEY  
CO. KERRY

**Project No.**

TARD006

**Project name**

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D

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## Summary

A total of 31 trees were assessed on the proposed development site at Ardshanavooley, Killarney, Co. Kerry on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2024. The trees are all located on the site boundaries and are a mixture of native species commonly found within agricultural settings. The locations of trees is shown on drawing TARD006-XX-DR-CMK-ARB-101.

The proposed development will necessitate the removal of 3 trees amounting to 9% of the total trees on the site. These trees fall within the moderate to low categories B & C. None of the high value category A trees are to be removed. The structure of the hedgerows is generally poor but where trees are to be retained these hedges will be retained.

The impact of the proposed development is outlined within drawing TARD006-B-DR-CMK-ARB-102.

Retained trees should be protected during the development of the site. The locations of tree protection fencing is shown on drawing TARD006-A-DR-CMK-ARB-102.

## 1. Client brief & Methodology

CMK Hort + Arb Ltd. were commissioned by Wrightwood Developments Limited. The fieldwork was undertaken on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 2024.

The survey methodology, supporting drawings and documentation follow the recommendations contained within BS 5837 (2012). The analysis of the trees was undertaken using the VTA methodology as developed by Mattheck and Breloer (1994).

## 2. General description of trees

The trees on-site are predominantly located along the boundary stone and earth ditches. These boundary ditches have recently been subjected to flail mowing as part of a vegetation management regime to control the thickets of bramble and other thorny vegetation growing between the trees.

The **northern boundary** features several mature, high-quality oak trees positioned centrally along this boundary line (image 1). Unfortunately, recent flail mowing operations have caused damage to several lower limbs on these trees. Additionally, smaller hawthorn specimens, remnants from a previously managed hedgerow, have been recorded here as well.

The **southeast boundary** contains two notable landscape feature trees, identified as specimens 0321 and 0323, consist of mature oak and ash, respectively (image 2). These trees contribute significantly to the site's landscape character. The remainder of the eastern boundary is devoid of trees.

The **southern boundary** contains a scattering of remaining in place following the removal of the original ditch to accommodate the Burr Ridge development to the south. Some of these trees show evidence of past height reduction and are exhibiting strong regrowth with vigorous shoot production (image 3).

Along the **western boundary**, there is a central cluster of mature ash and oak trees (image 4). Additionally, several sporadic hawthorn specimens are present, remnants of a lapsed hedgerow along the remaining western boundary.



**Image 1.** Oak trees on northern boundary, view north.



**Image 2.** Mature oak and ash on eastern boundary ditch, view southeast.



**Image 3.** Southern boundary trees, view southeast.



**Image 4.** Western boundary trees 0301-0307 clustered together.

A total of 31 trees were assessed and described. Individual tree descriptions is given within appendix I. Table 1 outlines the categorisations of trees. Tree locations are shown on drawing TARD006-XX-DR-CMK-ARB-101 Tree Survey & Constraints.

Tree Categories	Number	% of Total
A	5	16
B	19	61
C	7	23
U	0	0

**Table 1.** Tree Categories

### 3. Impact of the proposed development

The arboricultural impact of the proposed development is outlined on drawing TARD006-A-DR-CMK-ARB-102, table 2 and appendix i. The direct impact of the proposed development on trees is confined to small sections of the eastern and southern boundaries where site infrastructure directly conflicts with trees.

The treeline on the northern boundary will be retained and incorporated into the open space provision for the development as will the majority of trees on all other boundaries. The impact on trees will occur

A total of 9% of the trees are to be removed within the moderate to low categories (B & C). There will be no impact on the high category A trees.

Sections of the boundary hedges where retained trees are located will be will also be retained.

Tree Categories	Number	% of Total
A	0	0
B	2	6
C	1	3
U	0	0

**Table 2.** Arboricultural Impact

### 4. Tree Protection

The locations of tree protection fencing are shown on drawing TARD006-B-DR-CMK-ARB-101 Arboricultural Impact & Tree Protection. Tree protection fencing should be erected prior to the mobilisation of site plant and infrastructure and maintained for the duration of the project unless removed under the guidance of a suitably qualified arborist or landscape professional.

It is recommended that retained trees are assessed following the completion of the development to determine their condition and any maintenance work that required.

### 5. Limitations of Survey

This survey should be regarded as a preliminary assessment of the trees and deals with the current condition as identified during this survey only. Every attempt was made to identify hazardous trees in this report; however, this survey was carried out from the ground and therefore cannot be held to have identified elements of decay, which may be hidden out of sight within the crown or beneath ivy or other obstructions. To counter this limitation in the survey process it is vital that during tree works any additional defects found by the climbing arborist are communicated to the consulting arborist to allow appropriate action to be taken.

The details within this survey are based on the condition of the trees during the survey period only. The findings in this survey cannot be held to be valid after any site disturbance, man-made or natural, which may have an adverse effect on any trees present.

## 6. Relevant legislation

There are no Tree Protection Orders (TPOs) on any of the trees on this site. Trees may contain bats. Bats are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife Act 1976 and Schedule 1 of the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997. Professional advice from a licenced surveyor should be sought prior to any works commencing on trees.

## 7. Terminology

### Tree categories

- A Trees of high quality and value due to their size, age, condition, historical/visual merit and/or conservation potential (a minimum of 40 years).
  - A1 Mainly arboricultural values. Particularly good examples of species, essential components of groups or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features.
  - A2 Mainly landscape values. Trees, groups or woodlands which provide a definite screening or softening effects to the locality in relation to views into or out of site, or those of particular visual importance.
  - A3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation. Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, comparative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture).
- B Trees of moderate quality and value (a minimum of 20 years).
  - B1 Mainly arboricultural values. Trees that might be included in high categories but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of remedial defects including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage).
  - B2 Mainly landscape values. Trees present in numbers, usually as groups or woodlands, such that they form distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals but which are not, individually, essential components of formal or semi-formal features (e.g. trees of moderate quality within an avenue that includes better A category specimens) or trees situated internally to the site, therefore individually having little visual impact on the wider locality.
  - B3 Mainly cultural values including conservation. Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits.
- C Trees of low quality and value (a minimum of 10 years).
  - C1 Not qualifying in higher categories.
  - C2 Trees present in groups or woodlands but without conferring on them greater landscape value and/or trees offering low or only temporary screening benefit.
  - C3 Trees with very limited conservation or other cultural benefits.
- U Trees in such condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management. Trees that are dead, dying or showing immediate and irreversible decline.

## Terminology cont.

Comments: Refers to the tree's condition and suitability for the site.

Common name: Most widely used non-botanical name.

Co-dominant: Two branches assuming the role of leading shoots. When growing close together may form a weak attachment (included bark) at their point of contact. Trees with this defect may be in danger of splitting at this weak attachment.

Crown Spread: Measured in meters north, south, east and west.

Decay fungi: Refers to those species of fungi which degrade living wood and which may, depending on the degree of degradation, render the tree structurally unsound.

Defects: Refers to cracks, storm damage and any other damage mechanical or biological.

Diameter: Diameter of the trunk (millimetres) at 1.5m. M.S. after the measurement refers to the tree being multi-stemmed.

Genus & Species: Refers to the botanical names for the tree.

Height: Measured in meters.

Monitor: Refers to trees which need to be re-surveyed on a yearly basis to assess their condition. This timescale may be sooner where works or adverse weather conditions have impacted negatively on the trees.

Overhaul: A reference to standard tree surgery work which consists of the removal of deadwood, crossing branches and balancing where appropriate.

Recommendations: Indicates surgery work necessary for the retention or, where necessary, removal of the tree.

Tree No. Refers to numbered tag fixed to tree during survey.

## 8. References

BS 5837 (2012). Trees in Relation to Design Demolition and Construction

Mattheck and Breloer (1994). The body language of trees

## APPENDIX I. TREE CONDITION ANALYSIS AND ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT

Tag number	Species	Age Class	Vigour	Comments	Preliminary Recommendations	Arboricultural Impact	Category	Long-term potential (years)	Dbh mm	Height m	Spread m N, E, S, W
0301	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Co-dominant stems from base. Dense crown typical of species. Subdominant alongside neighbouring trees.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	100	5	1,2,2,2
0302	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Growing from base and beneath the canopy of neighbouring ash 0304. Subdominant tree but exhibiting good vitality.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	120	5	0,1,2,1
0303	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Early Mature	Good	A subdominant stem from neighbouring ash 0304. Clear stem to 6m, arching west with lightweight branch framework. Good vitality.	Monitor for ash dieback	Retain & Protect	C2	10-15	210	10	2,0,2,4
0304	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Mature	Fair	Open irregularly shaped crown. Heavy principal limbs from 2m and 3m west forming significant sections of the upper crown. Principal stem northwest with tight bark included union extending into neighbouring oak tree canopy.	Monitor for ash dieback	Retain & Protect	C2	10-15	820	15	4,5,4,4

Tag number	Species	Age Class	Vigour	Comments	Preliminary Recommendations	Arboricultural Impact	Category	Long-term potential (years)	Dbh mm	Height m	Spread m N, E, S, W
0305	Sessile oak (Quercus petraea)	Early Mature	Good	Subdominant stem from neighbouring oak tree 0306. Compact crown exhibiting good vitality.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	C2	10	120	4	1,1,2,2
0306	Sessile oak (Quercus petraea)	Mature	Good	Forked at 3-5m from which multiple lateral and upright limbs form crown. Subdominant stem from base east. Good vitality throughout.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	800	16	6,5,2,5
0307	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Early Mature	Good	Co-dominant upright stems from base. Previously topped at 3m, exhibiting vigorous regrowth of shoots which have matured to poles.	Monitor for ash dieback	Retain & Protect	C2	10-15	450	16	5,4,2,3
0308	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Dense crown, subjected to cyclical pruning to allow clearance for overhead power lines. Good vitality throughout.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	190	6	1,1,1,1
0309	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Dense crown, subjected to cyclical pruning to allow clearance for overhead power lines. Good vitality throughout.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	170	6	2,1,1,1

Tag number	Species	Age Class	Vigour	Comments	Preliminary Recommendations	Arboricultural Impact	Category	Long-term potential (years)	Dbh mm	Height m	Spread m N, E, S, W
0310	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Mature	Good	Multiple upright stems forming dense crown. Crown cut back hard on eastern side. Good vitality throughout with no obvious abnormalities	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	200	7	2,0,2,1
0311	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa)	Early Mature	Good	Lapsed hedgerow tree exhibiting good vitality throughout. Dense crown typical of species	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	150	4	1,1,1,1
0312	Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa)	Semi Mature	Good	Lapsed hedgerow tree/large shrub. Dense crown exhibiting good vitality.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	100	4	1,1,0,1
0313	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Trunk and lower crown engulfed in bramble. Irregular shaped crown with evidence of poor historic pruning. Good vitality.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	170	5	2,2,2,2
0314	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Semi Mature	Good	Co-dominant stems from base, dense crown exhibiting good vitality throughout.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	160	5	2,1,1,1
0315	Sessile oak (Quercus petraea)	Early Mature	Good	Good branch framework, exhibiting good vitality throughout with no obvious abnormalities observed.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	A2	>40	350	11	4,5,3,3

Tag number	Species	Age Class	Vigour	Comments	Preliminary Recommendations	Arboricultural Impact	Category	Long-term potential (years)	Dbh mm	Height m	Spread m N, E, S, W
0316	Silver birch (Betula pendula)	Early Mature	Good	Central leader stem not present. Storm damage may have removed it. Co-dominant upright stems forming crown. Exhibiting good vitality throughout with no obvious	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	210	11	2,1,2,2
0317	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Mature	Good	Good branch framework with abundance of live shoots. Poor historic pruning in lower crown creating veteran features.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	A2	>40	1040	16	5,6,6,6
0318	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Mature	Good	Co-dominant stems from base. Heavily colonised by ivy obscuring view of trunk and branch unions. Long lateral limbs in lower crown. Exhibiting good vitality throughout with no obvious abnormalities observed.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	A2	>40	1160	18	7,7,8,5
0319	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Mature	Good	Co-dominant stems from base. Dense canopy of foliage. Heavy ivy growth on eastern stem. Long lateral limb east at 2.5m, good union. Evidence of poor historic pruning, leaving significant wounds. Exhibiting good vitality throughout with no obvious abnormalities observed.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	A2	>40	460	16	5,8,6,5

Tag number	Species	Age Class	Vigour	Comments	Preliminary Recommendations	Arboricultural Impact	Category	Long-term potential (years)	Dbh mm	Height m	Spread m N, E, S, W
0320	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Engulfed in bramble and ivy. Sparse shoots of hawthorn visible.	Clear bramble and ivy from base of tree.	Retain & Protect	C2	10	150	6	2,1,1,1
0321	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Mature	Good	Co-dominant stems from base. Growing from elevated position on ditch. Long lateral limbs in all directions. Exhibiting good vitality throughout with no obvious abnormalities	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	A2	>40	1000	20	6,6,7,6
0322	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Semi Mature	Good	Self-seeded ash growing from ditch. Clear stem to 2.5m with lightweight branch framework exhibiting good vitality throughout.	Monitor for ash dieback	Remove	C2	10-15	190	7	2,2,2,2
0323	Ash (Fraxinus excelsior)	Mature	Good	Co-dominant stems from 2m, unions obscured by ivy growth. Long lateral limbs north, east and south. Dense branch framework with abundance of live shoots throughout crown.	Monitor for ash dieback	Retain & Protect	B2	40	870	17	5,6,6,4
0324	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Dense crown exhibiting good vitality throughout.	No action necessary	Remove	B2	40	180	6	1,3,1,1

Tag number	Species	Age Class	Vigour	Comments	Preliminary Recommendations	Arboricultural Impact	Category	Long-term potential (years)	Dbh mm	Height m	Spread m N, E, S, W
0325	Hazel (Corylus avellana)	Early Mature	Good	Compact crown exhibiting good vitality.	No action necessary	Remove	B2	40	100	4	2,3,2,1
0326	Holly (Ilex aquifolium)	Mature	Good	Upright central trunk with good branch framework. Canopy foliage being out competed by ivy growth in lower and mid crown.	Sever ivy at base.	Retain & Protect	B2	40	160	8	2,2,2,2
0327	Hazel (Corylus avellana)	Mature	Good	Co-dominant stems from base typical of species. Dense canopy of foliage. Crown extending south and west with ivy and bramble becoming established in lower and mid crown.	Sever ivy and bramble at base	Retain & Protect	B2	40	180	6	1,2,4,4
0328	Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus)	Mature	Good	Previously pruned back hard and exhibiting vigorous regrowth of upright shoots.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	200	13	2,2,2,2
0329	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Lapsed hedgerow tree exhibiting good vitality.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	150	6	1,1,1,2
0330	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Lapsed hedgerow tree exhibiting good vitality throughout with subdominant elder growing from base.	Remove elder	Retain & Protect	C2	10	180	6	1,1,1,1

Tag number	Species	Age Class	Vigour	Comments	Preliminary Recommendations	Arboricultural Impact	Category	Long-term potential (years)	Dbh mm	Height m	Spread m N, E, S, W
0331	Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna)	Early Mature	Good	Lapsed hedgerow tree exhibiting good vitality throughout.	No action necessary	Retain & Protect	B2	40	160	7	2,1,0,1