

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:P08/1699

Type of approval sought	Tree Preservation Order
Ward	Pedmore & Stourbridge East
Applicant	Mr G.C. Evens
Location:	THE CEDARS, 2, GREENFINCH ROAD, STOURBRIDGE, WEST MIDLANDS, DY9 7HY
Proposal	FELL 1 NO CHERRY TREE (T2) AND 1 NO SILVER BIRCH TREE (T1)
Recommendation Summary:	APPROVE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS

TREE PRESERVATION ORDER NO: D 224 (1987) T57& T60

SITE AND SURROUNDINGS

1. The trees subject to this application are a birch and cherry tree located within the rear / side garden of 2 Greenfinch Road. The birch tree is situated adjacent to Wollescote Road and is visible from the adjacent highway. The cherry tree is situated on the rear boundary of the property and whilst it can be seen, it is not prominent due to the presence of other trees. Overall the trees are considered to provide a moderate to low amount of amenity to the area.

PROPOSAL

2. Summary of proposals for the works as written on application form is as follows:
 - Fell 1 Cherry and 1 Birch Tree
3. The trees are marked on the attached plan.

HISTORY

4. There have been four previous Tree Preservation Order applications at this site.

<i>Site History</i>		
Application No	00/50633	17/04/00
Proposal	Pruning 5 Sycamore and 3 Cherry Trees	Approved with

		conditions
Application No.	P05/1723	04/08/05
Proposal	Prune Various Trees	Withdrawn
Application No	P05/1979	26/09/05
Proposal	Reduce Crown / Prune various trees	Approved with conditions
Application No	P07/1640	13/11/07
Proposal	Fell and Prune various trees	Approved with conditions

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

5. No representations were received.

ASSESSMENT

6. Tree(s) Appraisal

Criteria	Tree1	Tree 2
Species	Birch	Cherry
Height	9m	7m
Spread	4m	5m
Diameter	200m	250mm
Form	Poor – Previously Topped	Poor – Suppressed
Vigour	Moderate	Good
Approx Age	Early Mature	Mature
Pests / Diseases	None Evident	None evident
Canopy	Poor	Poor
% Deadwood	5%	1%
Cavities	None Evident	None evident
Bark	Good	Good
Roots	Moderate	Good
Overall Health	Moderate	Good
Visibility	Moderate	Moderate / poor
Amenity Value	Moderate / Low	Moderate / Low

Further Assessment

7. The applicant has proposed to fell the trees as part of the on going landscaping of their garden. The birch tree is proposed to be felled as it is a poor specimen that has been previously topped, and could be liable to failure in the future. The cherry tree has been proposed for removal as it is considered to be a poor quality tree, and its removal would improve the visual aspect of the garden.
8. On inspection the birch tree was found to be in a moderate state of health. There was evidence of slightly reduced vigour, which is thought to be the result of the tree's poor rooting area, adjacent to the pavement, and competition from other trees and shrubs.
9. The birch tree has been topped a number of years ago and has developed substantial re-growth since. Topping is an ill advised practice on most trees, but especially so on birch trees. Due to the poor decay defences of birch trees, the wounds caused by topping are liable to decay and become structurally compromised in the future, especially when the tree drops in vigour and has less resources available to lay down the required reaction wood around the topping wound.
10. Due to the tree's location adjacent to the pavement and a busy road, it is considered that the retention of this tree is inappropriate with a view to the likely future structural problems.
11. Behind the birch tree is an early mature silver maple tree. Currently this tree is unprotected, and the applicants have stated that rather than planting a replacement tree, they would prefer for this tree to be protected, and allowed to develop into a mature tree. This is considered appropriate, as any new tree planted within this area of the garden is likely to struggle as the result of shading and nutrient competition.
12. The Cherry tree subject to this application is situated along the rear boundary, amongst a line of sycamore / maple trees. The tree has been recently pruned following the previous application on the site, but the applicant's have now requested it be felled due to the poor quality of the tree.
13. On inspection the tree was found to be in a reasonable condition with no major defects present. Currently the tree is suppressed by two adjacent maple trees, and as such it has developed a poorly formed crown in order to make best use of the available light. Also due to its proximity to the boundary the branches on the eastern side serve to partially obstruct the side access to the rear garden of the adjacent property.

14. Whilst the tree is visible from various adjacent public areas, due to the surrounding trees it is not prominent or important to the amenity of the area. As such it is considered that the removal of this tree would be acceptable. A replacement tree would probably not develop well in the same location however the size of the garden would allow replanting in another location.

CONCLUSION

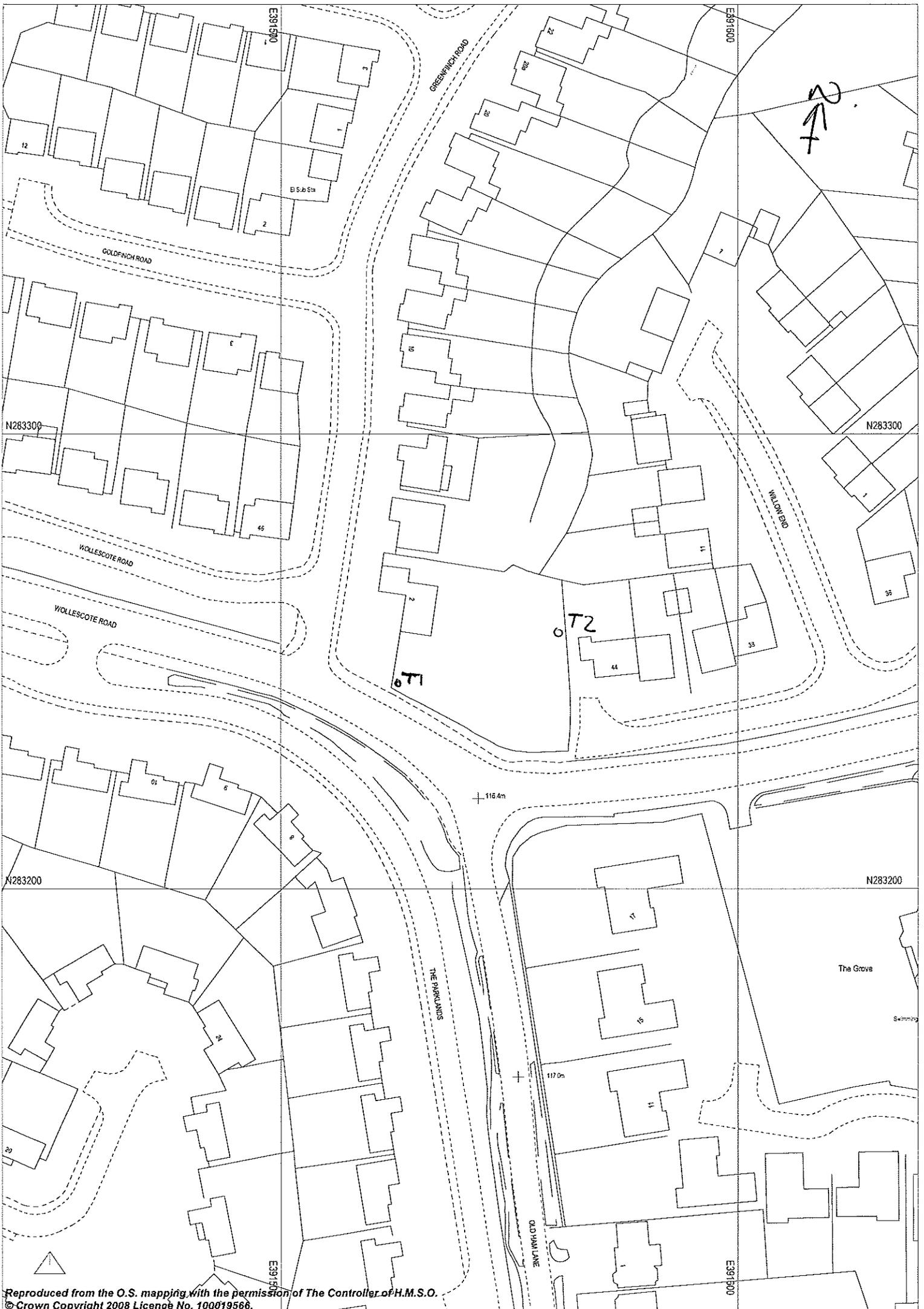
15. The birch tree has developed a poor form, as the result of being topped in the past. The resultant growth is now more liable to failure and due to its location it is considered that the removal of the tree is the most appropriate course of action.
16. The cherry tree has been suppressed and has developed a poor form. The tree is not considered to be important to the amenity of the local area and, subject to replacement planting it is considered that the removal is acceptable.

RECOMMENDATION

17. It is recommended that application is approved subject to the conditions set out below.

Conditions and/or reasons:

1. A replacement tree shall be planted between the beginning of November and the end of March, within 1 year of felling (and replanted if necessary) and maintained until satisfactorily established. The size, species and location of the replacement tree shall be agreed in writing with the Local Planning authority prior to the felling of the trees to which this application relates.
2. The tree works subject of this consent shall be carried out in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:1989 'Recommendations for Treework'.
3. The works hereby approved shall be carried out within 12 months of the date of this decision.

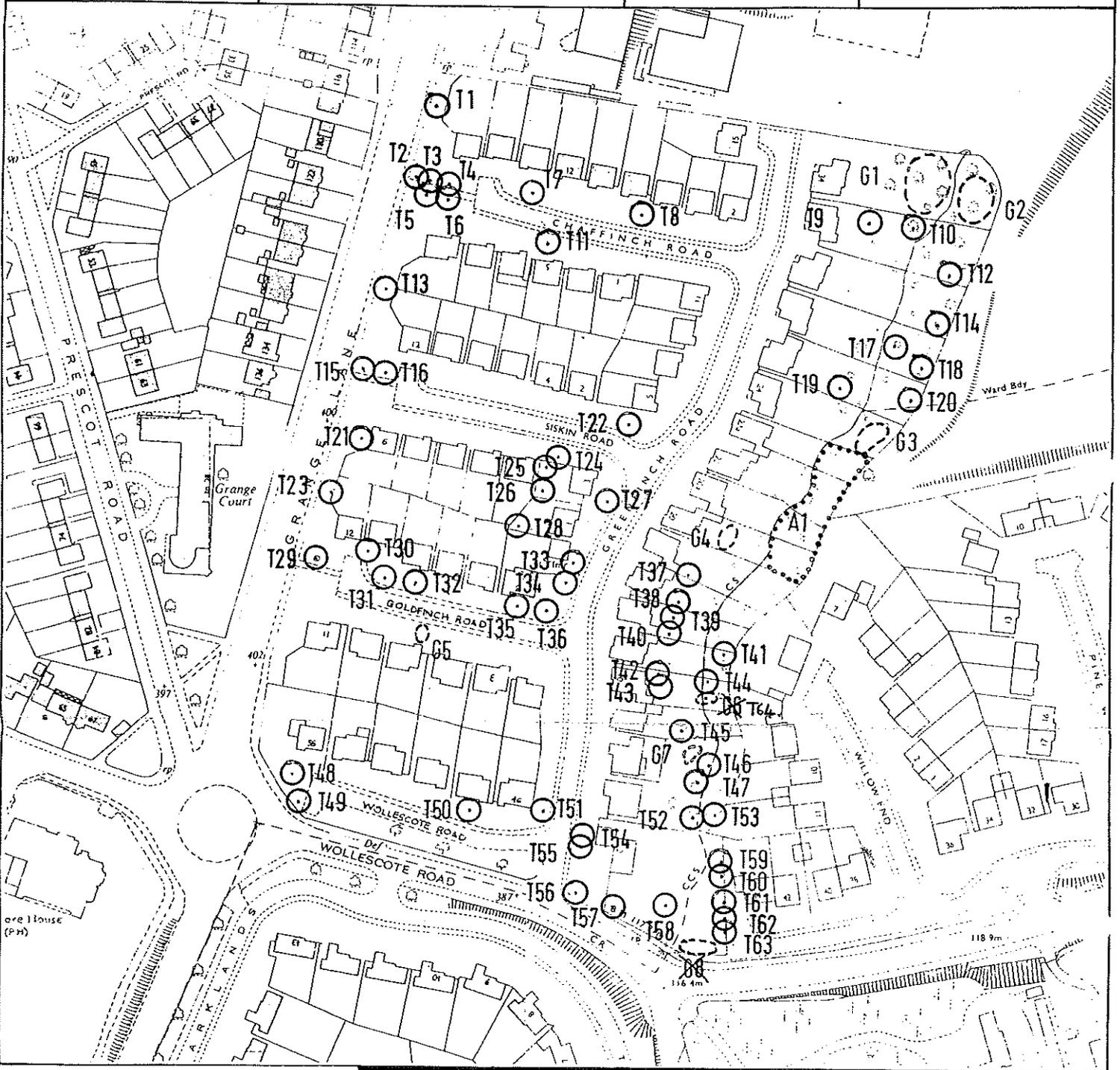


Grid Ref.
915 833

O.S. Sheets S.O.
Edition.

Scale
1 : 1250

Drg. No.
B/1507



Map referred to in THE BOROUGH of DUDLEY
GREENFINCH ROAD, STOURBRIDGE
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER 1987

The common seal of the Borough Council of Dudley was hereunto affixed this day
of 19..... in the presence of:

DIRECTOR of LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.

2284

FIRST SCHEDULE

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
T1	Sycamore	18 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T2	Birch	18 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T3	Birch	18 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T4	Birch	18 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T5	Birch	11 18 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T6	Birch	11 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T7	Mountain Ash	14 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T8	Cherry	8 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T9	Oak	32 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T10	Oak	32 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T11	Cherry	5 Chaffinch Road, Stourbridge
T12	Beech	32 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T13	Sycamore	12 Siskin Road, Stourbridge
T14	Oak	30 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T15	Birch	12 Siskin Road, Stourbridge
T16	Birch	12 Siskin Road, Stourbridge
T17	Yew	28 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T18	Oak	28 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T19	Sycamore	26 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T20	Oak	26 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T21	Sycamore	9 Siskin Road, Stourbridge
T22	Mountain Ash	5 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T23	Sycamore	12 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T24	Maple	3 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T25	Mountain Ash	3 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T26	Birch	3 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T27	Birch	3 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T28	Willow	1 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T29	Sycamore	12 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T30	Cherry	10 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T31	Cherry	10 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T32	Cherry	8 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T33	Cherry	2 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T34	Cherry	2 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T35	Cherry Crab Apple (<i>Malus SPP.</i>)	2 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T36	Mountain Ash	2 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
T37	Oak	18 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T38	Oak	16 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T39	Oak	14 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T40	Oak	14 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T41	Sycamore	12 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T42	Oak	10 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T43	Ash	10 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T44	Sycamore	10 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T45	Oak	8 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T46	Sycamore	4 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T47	Oak	4 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T48	Mountain Ash	56 Wollescote Road, Stourbridge
T49	Birch	56 Wollescote Road, Stourbridge
T50	Cherry	48 Wollescote Road, Stourbridge
T51	Laburnum	46 Wollescote Road, Stourbridge
T52	Oak	4 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T53	Sycamore	4 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T54	Cherry	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T55	Cherry	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T56	Whitebeam	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge

<u>No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
T57	Birch	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T58	Sycamore	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T59	Maple	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T60	Cherry	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T61	Cherry	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T62	Maple	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
T63	Cherry	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge

Groups of Trees

G1	7 Deciduous Trees	34 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
G2	9 Deciduous Trees	34 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
G3	1 Maple, 1 Holly, 1 Mountain Ash, 2 Sycamore	24 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
G4	4 Birch	20 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
G5	2 Birch	7 Goldfinch Road, Stourbridge
G6	1 Sycamore	10 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
G7	3 Sycamores	4 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
G8	4 Birch	2 Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge DELETED <i>SP</i>

Areas of Trees

A1	Several deciduous and evergreen trees situated within Area A1 of the Plan No. B/1507.	20, 20A, 22, 22A Greenfinch Road, Stourbridge
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