



ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Manor Farm, Lower Road, Bedhampton

-prepared on behalf of **Bargate Homes –**

The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS

mob: 07875 520881 - email: bernieharverson@gmail.com - VAT Reg No 881 5056 16

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

- 1.1 I am instructed by **Bargate Homes** who as the owners of the land seek to obtain planning approval to convert this site from agricultural land to a residential development.
- 1.2 There are trees both on and off this site of various species which will need to be catered for during this process.
- 1.3 I have been commissioned to prepare a report to satisfy the arboricultural aspects of this project to meet planning requirements.
- 1.4 My work is to be compiled in accordance with the recommendations contained within BS5837:2012.

2.0 DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I have been provided with the **Terra Firma Consultancy** Landscape Drawings which are superimposed onto the Planning Layout Drawing base plan :-

- **1860-TF-00-00-DR-L-1002 – PO8 – 1:200 @ A1 scale – 28.10.20 [based on 17.043.102 proposed Site Layout Rev U]**

These have been provided to me for the purposes of my work and I rely totally on the accuracy of these drawings in terms of tree location; applying crown spreads and setting out protective fencing.

3.0 TREE SURVEY & ROOT PROTECTION SCHEDULES & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 I visited the site on **8th June 2018** and carried out a tree survey exercise in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations & recently verified.
(see also the explanatory tree survey notes [at appendix BH1](#)).

Tree No.	Species	Ht m	Diam mm	Brch Sprd m	GC m	LS	Comments	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Rem Con yrs	Cat
Group 1	Sycamores (<i>Acer</i>) Elderberry (<i>Sambucus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	3 to 8	Av 300	N - E - S - W-	0	SM	Self - sown Sycamores arising from an informal hedgerow of Hawthorn-poor quality trees	No work required at time of survey	20-30	C2
Hedge 1	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	2	Av 200	N 1 E - S 1 W-	0	EM	Crown shaped dictated by group pressure-merged crowns-linear flail maintained hedge-choked with climbers and weeds in places	Remove competing plants to encourage hedgerow to regenerate	30-40	B2
Shelt 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis</i>	12 to 14	Av 300 x 3	N - E 6 S - W6	2 to 4	EM	Multi stemmed at ground level-crown shape dictated by group pressure-merged crowns-dieback from <i>Seridium</i> canker-small diameter deadwood-major deadwood and stubs-storm damaged with broken branches and hangers-a lot have broken and retained side shoots/leaders-crown lifted to 2m to clear above farmers field-abundance of broken limbs on ground below crowns due to failure caused by cankers –majority have apical dieback	Limited life expectancy-consider early removal and replacement	<10	U
Group 2	Birch (<i>Betula</i>) x 2 Alder (<i>Alnus</i>) x 2 Balsam Poplars (<i>Populus</i>) x 2	10 to 18	350 to 450	N 4 E 4 S 4 W4	2	EM	Ivy smothering base, trunk and through crowns-small diameter deadwood	Sever ivy	30-40	B2
Group 3	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) x 2 Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>) x 2	3 to 8	Av 400 x 2	N 5 E 5 S 5 W5	2	SM	Unable to access-off site trees-atop railway embankment with crown overhang of the site	No work required at time of survey	>40	B2
1	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	8	200 x 3	N 5 E 5 S 5 W5	2	SM	Unable to access- off site tree-multi stemmed at ground level	No work required at time of survey	30-40	B1

3.2 A Tree Root Protection Schedule has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations (see Plans BJH 01 & 02 at [appendix BH2](#))

Tree No.	Tree Species	Cat	Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Radial Protect. Zone m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Root Protect. Area m ²	Is An Offset Required To Cater For Existing Rooting Pattern Restrictions
Group 1	Sycamores (<i>Acer</i>) Elderberry (<i>Sambucus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	C2	Av 300	3.6	41	NO – fairly free rooting to all directions
Hedge 1	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	B2	Av 200	2.4	18	NO – fairly free rooting to all directions
Shelt 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis</i>	U	Av 300 x 3	6.2	122	NO – these trees would be removed for health and safety reasons regardless of any redevelopment proposals.
Group 2	Birch (<i>Betula</i>) x 2 Alder (<i>Alnus</i>) x 2 Balsam Poplars (<i>Populus</i>) x 2	B2	350 to 450	4.2 5.4	55 92	NO – fairly free rooting to all directions
Group 3	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) x 2 Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>) x 2	B2	Av 400 x 2	6.8	145	NO – fairly free rooting to all directions – both down and along the embankment and into the adjacent field
1	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	B1	200 x 3	4.2	54	NO – fairly free rooting to all directions

4.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT & TREE PROTECTION MEASURES RECOMMENDED

4.1 The finalised planning layout drawing has been provided to me and an assessment made as to the viability of retaining trees as part of this layout in order that they meet the RPA requirements of BS5837 - the data is presented here in tabular format:-

Key: **NO-RSAM** = Remove for sound arboricultural management reasons **NO-RTFD** = Remove to facilitate development **UF** = under footprint of proposed development

YES = Yes can be retained and fully protected

YES (1) = Yes can be retained subject to mitigation measures being applied

Tree No	Species	Cat	Stem Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Radial Protection Area m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Root Protect. Area m ²	Distance from Site Features (see key above)	Can Tree Be Retained
Group 1	Sycamores (<i>Acer</i>) Elderberry (<i>Sambucus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	C2	Av 300	3.6	41	The end two trees are under the footprint off new access arrangements for pedestrians and Farm machinery	2 trees NO-RTFD 5 trees YES
Hedge 1	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	B2	Av 200	2.4	18	There will be a pedestrian and vehicular access point cut through the front boundary hedge line but the majority will be retained and covers the site frontage as well as the western boundary	YES
Shelt 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis</i>	U	Av 300 x 3	6.2	122	This feature will need to be replaced in the long term due to its very poor condition - but in the short term it will be pruned back and protective fencing erected at the prescribed distances to protect it	YES
Group 2	Birch (<i>Betula</i>) x 2 Alder (<i>Alnus</i>) x 2 Balsam Poplars (<i>Populus</i>) x 2	B2	350 to 450	4.2 5.4	55 92	There may be a need to maintain a public footpath route and Farmers field access route through this feature and thus a need for a gate in the protective fencing but it can be retained and all trees fully protected	YES
Group 3	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) x 2 Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>) x 2	B2	Av 400 x 2	6.8	145	Mostly off-site trees but they have an RPA overhang of the site so a protective fence will be erected at the prescribed distance to protect tree roots.	YES
1	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	B1	200 x 3	4.2	54	An off-site tree with an RPA overhang of the site - protective fencing will be erected at the prescribed distance to protect tree roots. Essentially the protective fencing erected for Hedge 1 fulfils this function	YES

4.2 SUMMARY

	YES	YES (1)	NO-RTFD	NO-RSAM
	Can be retained and fully protected in accordance with BS5837 recommendations - see Tree Protection Plan BJH.03/04 at appendix BH3	Can be retained and protected in accordance with BS5837 recommendations (see Tree Protection Plan BJH.03/04 at appendix BH3) - subject to adherence to the methodology prescribed in this report – see Section 6 for full details.	Recommended for removal in order to facilitate development proposals	Recommended for removal on sound arboricultural management grounds [health and safety grounds] regardless of any redevelopment proposals
A	-	-	-	-
B	Tree 1 & Hedge 1 Grp 2 & Grp 3	-	-	-
C	maj Grp 1 (off site)	-	Grp 1	-
U	Shelt 1	-	-	-

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
Group 1	Sycamores (<i>Acer</i>) Elderberry (<i>Sambucus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	- Remove the end two trees as shown on the Tree Protection Plan - Grind out the stumps to minimise the root impact on other trees within this grouping
Hedge 1	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus</i>) Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>)	- Remove all Brambles and Ivy and other competing weeds that are choking this hedge line - Remove any dead and dying sections or areas of dieback down to living growth material to help regenerate the hedge - Plant by ‘Gapping Up’ with whips where necessary.
Shelt 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis</i>	- Remove all major dead limbs - Remove all storm damaged and lodged branches - Remove all major areas of dieback to reinvigorate - Reduce lateral spread on both sides of the screen by between 1.5m to 2m relative to the amount of growth on each individual limb - Consider crown reduction by 2m overall to stabilise
Group 2	Birch (<i>Betula</i>) x 2 Alder (<i>Alnus</i>) x 2 Balsam Poplars (<i>Populus</i>) x 2	No works required at this time
Group 3	Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) x 2 Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus</i>) x 2	Off-Site trees not under clients direct control No works required at this time
1	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Off-Site tree not under clients direct control No works required at this time

6.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Generic

- 6.1 All of the recommended tree works should be undertaken by an approved and experienced tree contractor prior to any construction contractors commencing works on site.
- 6.2 Erect the protective fencing as specified and shown on the **Tree Protection Plan BJH03/04** at [appendix BH3](#). Barriers are to be 'Fit For Purpose' to exclude construction activity and must be maintained to ensure that they remain rigid and complete and in the original setting out positions. These checks will need to be incorporated into a schedule of site monitoring visits to be agreed with the clients subject to phased development operations and subsequently copies of these site visit reports will need to be copied in to the Council.
- 6.3 A copy of the Tree Protection Plan is to be pinned up in the offices/mess hut on site for all site staff to see. The area within the fenced off exclusion zone is to be regarded as **sacrosanct** and the fencing shall not be taken down or relocated at any time without the prior written approval of the monitoring arboriculturist or local authority tree officer, unless this has already been agreed as part of the planning application consent process and is detailed in writing and shown on a plan.

The following prohibitions shall apply within the area enclosed by the Tree Protection Fencing [**Construction Exclusion Zone**]:-

- **No** mechanical digging or scraping once the initial ground cover vegetation has been cleared and the site fenced off.
- **No** storage of plant, equipment or materials
- **No** vehicular or plant access
- **No** fire lighting
- **No** handling, discharge or spillage of any chemical substance, including cement washings
- **No** action likely to cause localised water-logging
- **No** change in ground levels

- 6.4 All site works storage areas and compounds/welfare units/toilet blocks and any mixing areas will be located outside of and well clear of retained trees.
- 6.5 All Utility Service connections should be able to be connected through the existing systems but in the event that there is a need to install new ones within the trees RPA then the principles of Hand Digging of trenches under Arb Expert supervision and strict observance of the recommendations contained in NJUG 10 are to be followed and a Mini Method Statement and plans will be submitted seeking approval prior to installation.

7.0 SITE MONITORING & SUPERVISION

BS5837 recommends that wherever trees on or adjacent to a site have been identified on the Tree Protection Plan as requiring special protection measures, there should be an auditable system of arboricultural site monitoring. This should extend to direct arboricultural monitoring whenever demolition/construction and development activity is to take place within or adjacent to any RPA.

- 7.1 A Pre-commencement site meeting is to take place between the development teams arboricultural consultant and the site manager and client representative where the tree protection measures will be inspected to verify that they are 'Fit For Purpose' and have been installed as shown on the **Tree Protection Plan**.
- 7.2 Lines of communication will need to be established with the Site Manager and a contact sheet prepared and circulated so that in the event that an incident occurs involving the retained trees that requires urgent advice and guidance from the project Arboricultural Expert this can be easily organised.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

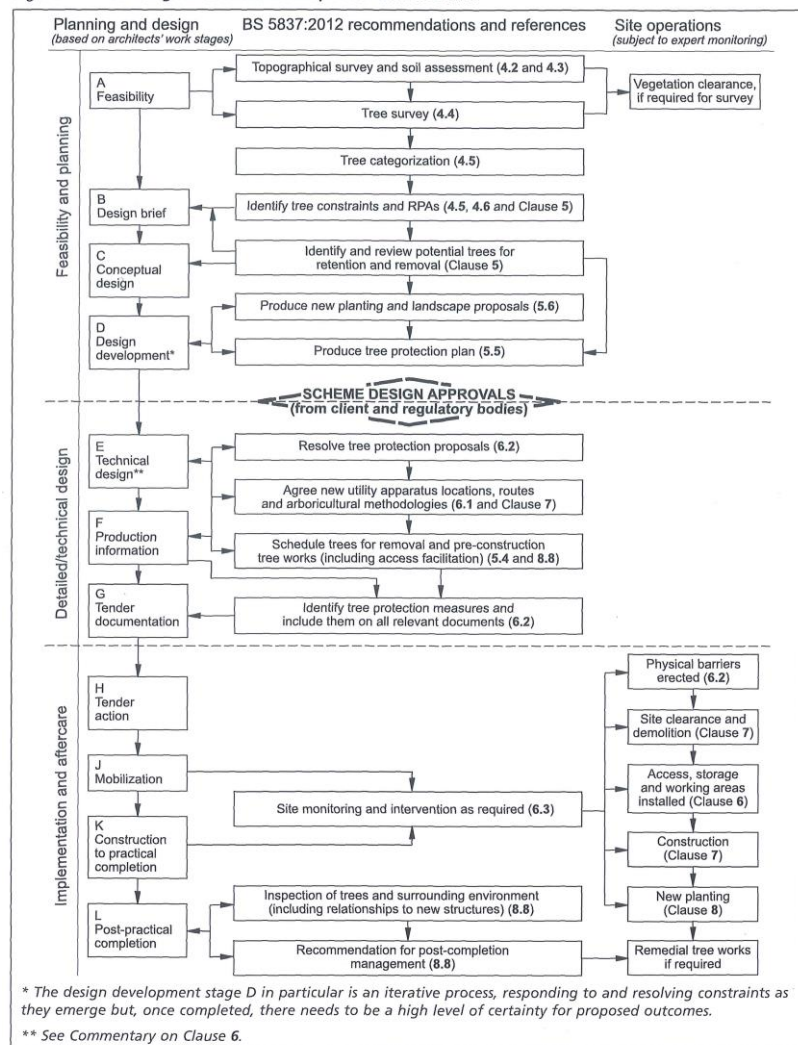
- With the exception of two very poor quality self-sown trees from **Grp 1** no other trees will need to be removed to facilitate development.
- Major tree works will need to be undertaken on **Shelterbelt 1** but this would have been necessary in any event for safety reasons regardless of any redevelopment proposals. Extensive new planting will be undertaken on the east side to eventually allow for this Shelterbelt to be removed (as it is in a state of overall decline due to fungal/bacterial infection).
- Provided that the above methodology is strictly adhered to in the carefully considered and phased manner proposed then I would not foresee any detrimental impact taking place that might undermine the ongoing health and stability or visual amenity value of the retained trees.



BH 1

Figure 1 - Flow Diagram
& Tree Survey Notes

Figure 1 The design and construction process and tree care



TREE SURVEY NOTES

These Tree Survey Notes have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of **British Standard 5837:2012** and they define the criteria for pre –development tree surveys.

- Each tree/group/hedge/shelterbelt/woodland has been allocated a unique number (**No.**), where specifically requested and appropriate fees are agreed small durable numbered metal tags can be applied to each tree/group surveyed.
- The tree species (**Species**) is provided in both English and Latin name formats.
- Height assessments (**Ht**) are estimated in metres. This will be adequate for the majority of cases, but where accurate heights become a critical issue it may be necessary to return to site, as a separately commissioned exercise, to collect accurate measurements with the aid of optical instruments.
- Trunk/stem diameters (**Diam**) are measured in millimetres **at 1.5m above ground level** – where the tree is inaccessible the diameter is estimated as indicated by suffix #
- Radial crown spread assessments (**Brch Sprd**) are estimated in metres from the centre of the trunk/group to each of the four primary points of the compass (**N**-north; **E**-east; **S**-south and **W**-west) in order to achieve a representation of the crown shape which will be shown on the accompanying tree survey plan. These provide a general guide as to the main bulk outline of a tree/groups crown but **are not tape measured dimensions**. These would only be undertaken as part of a separately commissioned exercise, where precise dimensions are critical to the project at hand.
- Both the canopy ground clearance (**GC**) and the height & compass direction of the lowest major branch (**LMB**) are estimated and shown in metres
- An assessment of a tree/groups 'life stage' (**LS**) is made in terms of its site specific maturity as part of the surrounding landscape, taking into account its overall shape and form in that setting, and is recorded thus :-
Y - Young tree/group; **SM** - Semi-Mature tree/group; **EM** - Early-Mature tree/group;
M – Mature tree/group; **OM** - Over – mature tree/group
- Data on the structural condition (**Condition Comments**) of the tree/group is provided to give its visual appearance and any significant health and safety issues.
- Details of any recommended tree works required at the time of survey is given under the heading – **Preliminary Management Recommendations**.
- An estimate of a tree/groups remaining contribution in years (**RC**) is made and is recorded thus :-
0-5; 5-10; 10-20; 20-30; 30-40 or **>40** years.
- The category grading (**Cat**) for each tree/group is assessed according to the criteria provided within **BS5837:2012**. The assessment is made of the tree/group in its current condition and within the environment encountered bearing in mind its suitability for retention as part of any future proposed

development; although the exact layout detail of any specific scheme will not be known at the time of surveying. The trees have been classified into one of four categories and colour coded as BS5837 recommends :- **U** (dark red); **A** (light green); **B** (mid-blue) and **C** (grey). Please note that suffixed numerical sub-categories are also applied for guidance only and do not carry any cumulative or increased value for the tree/group. This colour coding scheme will be applied to all drawings provided.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria			Colour on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.	- Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) - Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline - Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve.			Dark Red
Trees to be considered for retention				
	Criteria – Subcategories			
	1	2	3	
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and /or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	Light Green
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in the category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	Mid Blue
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	Grey



BH 2

Tree Survey & Root Protection Plans

BJH 01/02

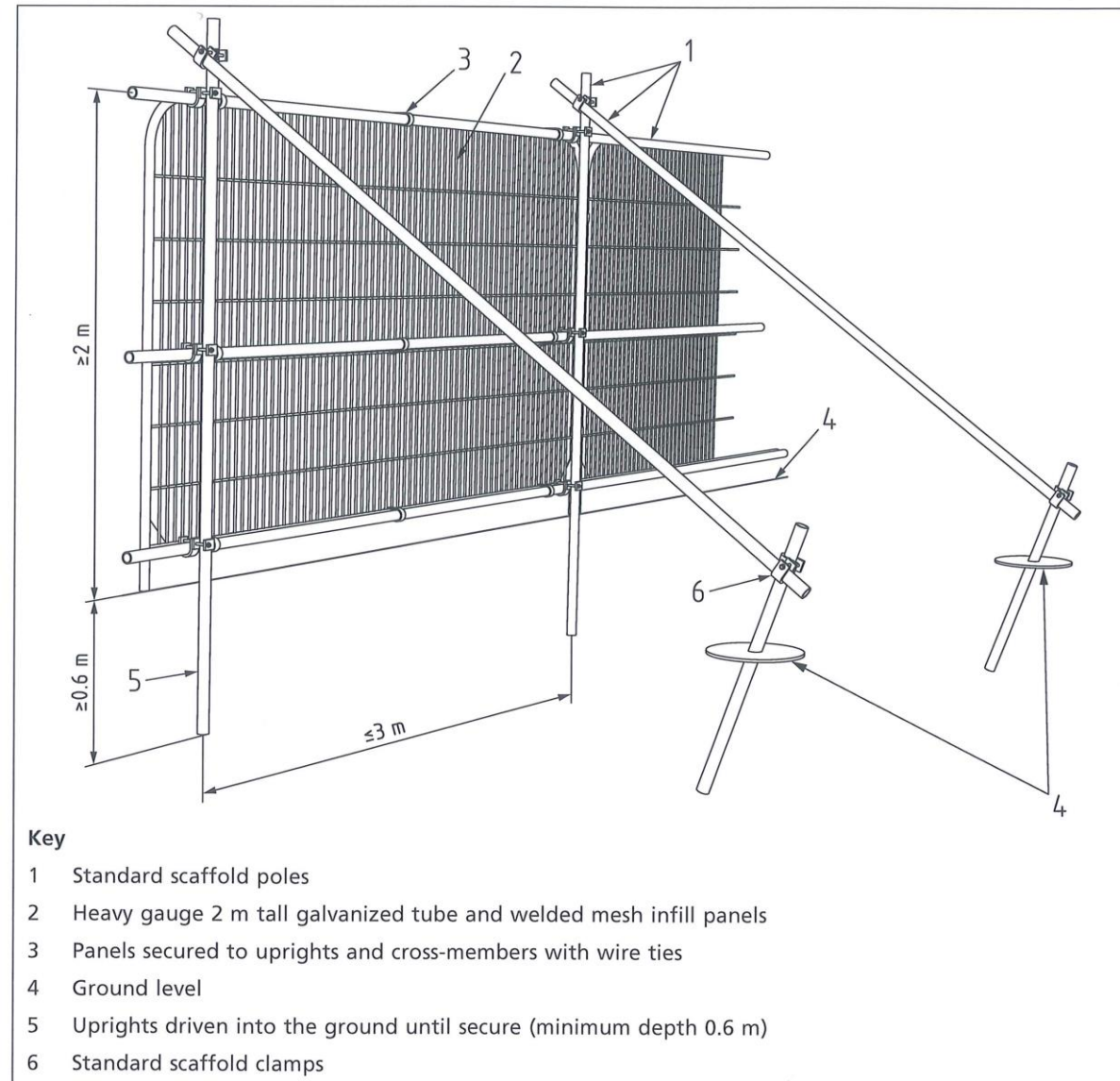


BH 3

Tree Protection Plans BJH 03/04

+ BS5837:2012 – Figure 2

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier





BH 4

Qualifications & Experience



QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- My name is Bernie Harverson and I am a self employed independent arboricultural consultant in private practice. I take instructions primarily in the South of England but also on occasions work nationwide and abroad and have offices at : –

The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS

- I hold the following arboricultural qualification – **National Diploma in Arboriculture (Royal Forestry Society – 1976)**
- I have **fifty (50)** years of practical and managerial experience in the Arboricultural industry - including periods in both the public and private sectors.
- My Local Government sector experience comprises one year as a tree surgeon with Brighton Parks and nine years spent in Arboricultural Officer posts with both Westminster City Council and Portsmouth City Council.
- My past practical experience in the private sector includes two years at Tilhill Forest Nursery and over ten years for various companies as a Climbing Arborist/Tree Surgeon.
- Managerial work in the private sector includes two years as manager of Beechings Tree Surgeons and twelve years with CBA Trees as Managing Director & Senior Arboricultural Consultant.
- As an independent self employed Arboricultural Consultant I now provide a comprehensive range of services including :-
tree surveys, appraisals, assessments and inspections with particular reference to planning and development and tree safety audits with a service offered as a climber to undertake full climbing inspections to better understand the condition of a given tree before prescribing a management strategy.
- I also undertake litigation work appearing as an Expert Witness in Court Actions and at Planning Appeals, Hearings and Public Local Inquiries.

The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS

- **mob: 07875 520881 - email: bernieharverson@gmail.com - VAT Reg No 881 5056 16**