

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT AND TREE PROTECTION PLAN

Date: 14-01-2017

SITE INFORMATION

112 London Road
Cowplain
Hampshire
PO8 8HB

This Arboricultural method statement is to provide a protection strategy to trees within and adjacent to the site during development works

The works relate to planning approval APP/16/00311. The scope of the development is for the widening of the existing site vehicular entrance, construction of a new access road and construction of four detached houses.

An Arboricultural Survey and Tree Constraints Report was prepared by arboricultural surveyors Betts Ecology. Refer to Appendix for summary information.

The tree protection plan (TPP) which accompanies this application shows the area of proposal.

The trees requiring protection measures are:

- T1: Oak tree just outside the boundary near to the site entrance.
- T2: Yew tree adjacent to T1
- G4: Mixed broadleaf hazel and thorn – designated area to be managed and retained. Area of G4 as indicated on TPP to be removed.
- G5: Five Scots Pine trees just outside the site boundary.

A pre-commencement site meeting will be carried out by all involved in the construction & the supervising arboriculturist, to clarify tree protection measures.

ROOT PROTECTION AREAS

It is the responsibility of everyone engaged in the construction process to respect the tree protection measures and observe the necessary precautions within and adjacent to them.

Inside the exclusion area of the Protective Fencing, the following shall apply:

- No mechanical excavation
- No excavation by any other means without arboricultural site supervision.
- No hand digging without a written method statement having first been approved by the developers arboriculturalist.

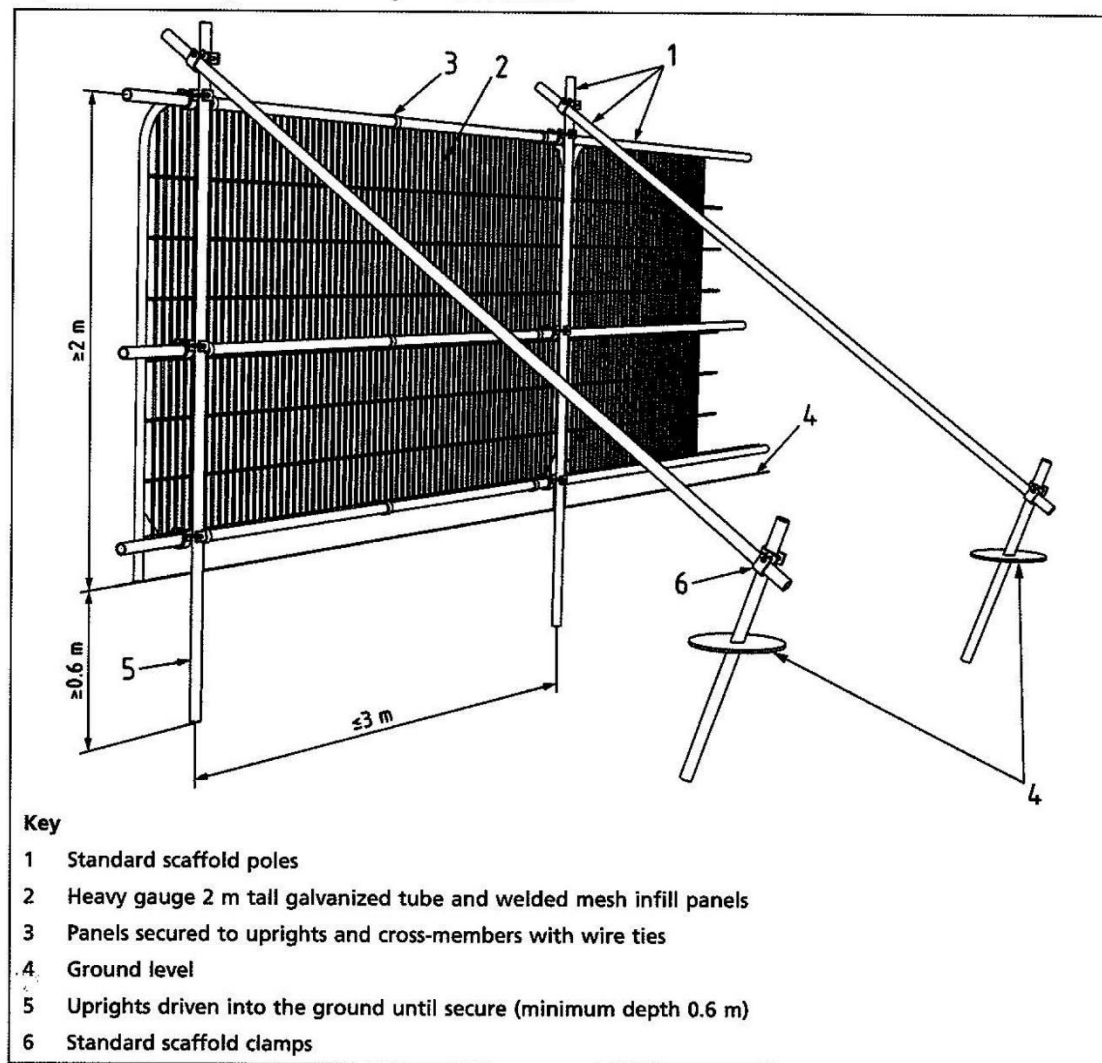
- No ground level changes without consultation of supervising arboriculturalist.
- No storage of plant, materials or debris arising from construction works.
- No storage or handling of any chemicals.
- No vehicular access.

TREE PROTECTION FENCING

The Tree Protection Plan (TPP) shows the position of the Tree Protection Fencing (TPF). This fencing comprises as detailed in below image in accordance with BS5837:2012.

Vertical barriers should be erected and ground protection installed before any materials or machinery are brought onto site and before any demolition, development or stripping of soil commences.

Tree Protection Fencing



Reproduced from BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, BSI Standards Institution 2012.

Once erected, barriers and ground protection will not be removed or altered without prior agreement of an arboriculturalist and approval of the local planning authority.

Barriers should be fit for the purpose of excluding constructive activity, and appropriate to the degree and proximity of work taking place around the retained tree.

The contractor should ensure that the barriers remain rigid and complete throughout the works.

All weather exclusion notices should be fixed to the barriers similar to the image 2.

Once the exclusion zone has been protected by barriers and/or ground protection, construction can commence.



Example signage

REMOVAL OF VEGETATION

As indicated on the TPP a designated area of G4 is to be removed.

Prior to carrying out the works, all trees recommended for tree work/removal including their immediately adjacent trees, will be inspected for bird nests (wholly and partially built ones). In the event nests are found, the tree work will not be carried out until the trees are found to be free of the nesting birds & their young. This is a requirement under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 & The Countryside & Rights Of Way Act 2000.

All tree work will be carried out in accordance with **BS3998:2010** & will be carried out without harming the adjacent retained trees.

UNDERGROUND SERVICES

The excavations for any underground services will (where possible) is to be routed outside any RPAs. Where this is unavoidable the trenches for the services will be excavated by hand or air-spade.

Any roots that span the trench during digging will not be cut, but will have damp Hessian sacking placed around them. Damaged roots of up to 2cm diameter will be cut cleanly and covered. Should any large roots (larger than 25mm diameter) become damaged or need to be removed, advice will first be sought from the supervising arboriculturist prior to any work being carried out on them.

If and when installing infrastructure for underground services, they will be done by hand within any RPA and care will be taken not to damage the exposed roots. Back-fill within an RPA will not be compacted and will possess the same soil profile as the surrounding soil. If there is a need to compact fill, in preparation for the reinstatement and/or installation of infrastructure within an RPA, then CU-Structural soil will be used for fill

The timing of any excavations for underground services will coincide with the arrival of materials to be used for the construction of the underground services, to minimise the time that roots are exposed. Roots will not be left exposed for more than 24 hours.

HARD SURFACE REMOVAL WITHIN RPA

The 'breaking up' of any surface may be carried out by low impact pneumatic tools, not breakers attached to diggers, unless required due to the nature of the surface and if so, only when agreed with the supervising arboriculturist, or by hand if possible.

Any exposed roots will be covered with damp Hessian.

LANDSCAPING

- No soil lowering will occur within the Root Protection Area of the retained trees.
- The existing soil levels will not be raised by more than 150mm within RPAs of retained trees without seeking advice from the appointed arboricultural consultant.

POST-DEVELOPMENT

Once all construction & landscaping works have been completed, the ground protection/protective fencing can be removed.

A detailed visual inspection of the retained trees on the site & RPA, will be carried out, to check for any signs of damage to both the trees and their rooting environment.

The supervising arboriculturist is to be consulted and will advise on any remedial action to be taken.

Appendix 1 – Betts Arboricultural Survey (March 2016) Tree surveys results and key table

Table 1: Tree Survey Results Table

See below for key to this Table

Tree	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	No of stems	Branch spread N (m)	Branch spread E (m)	Branch spread S (m)	Branch spread W (m)	Clear crown (m)	Age Class	Observations	Recommendations	ULE (years)	Retention category
T1	Oak	10	520, 470, 300, 100	4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	2	SM	None	None	40+	A1
T2	Yew	5	50, 120	2	1.5	2	1.5	2	0	Y	Tight forks with included bark	None	40+	C1
G3	Mixed broadleaf group	<8	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	SM	Forming boundary with highway and including ash and thorn	None	20+	C2
G4	Mixed broadleaf group	<8	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	SM	Forming boundary with neighbouring property and incorporating hazel and thorn.	None	20+	C2
G5	Scots Pine	<15	310	1	-	-	-	-	3	SM	Group of 5 scots pine on adjacent land.	None	20+	B2

Key to Tree Survey Results Table

		Age Class		Definition	Retention Category				
Stem Dia.	= Stem diameter (mm) at 1.5m above ground level	Y	Young	1st 1/3rd of life expectancy	Category (BS 5837)			Sub Category (BS 5837)	
C.C.	= Height of crown clearance above ground level	SM	Early Mature	2nd 1/3rd of life expectancy	A	High Quality & Value	1	Mainly arboricultural value	
U.L.E.	= Useful Life Expectancy of the tree in years	M	Mature	Final 1/3rd of life expectancy	B	Moderate quality & value	2	Mainly landscape value	
Stems	No of stems emanating below 1.5m above ground level	OM	Over mature	Beyond life expectancy & in natural decline	C	Low quality & value	3	Mainly cultural value	
(Ref)	Number and type of feature (T - tree, H - hedge, G - group, W - woodland)	V	Veteran	Great age & poss. high conservation value	U	No quality & value - Remove			
NB:		Estimated ultimate height and crown spread achievable at maturity if conditions are ideal are given (in brackets) next to actual measured dimensions							

Appendix 2: Betts Arboricultural Survey (MARCH 2016) Tree Constraints Plan



Figure 1: Tree Constraints Plan

