

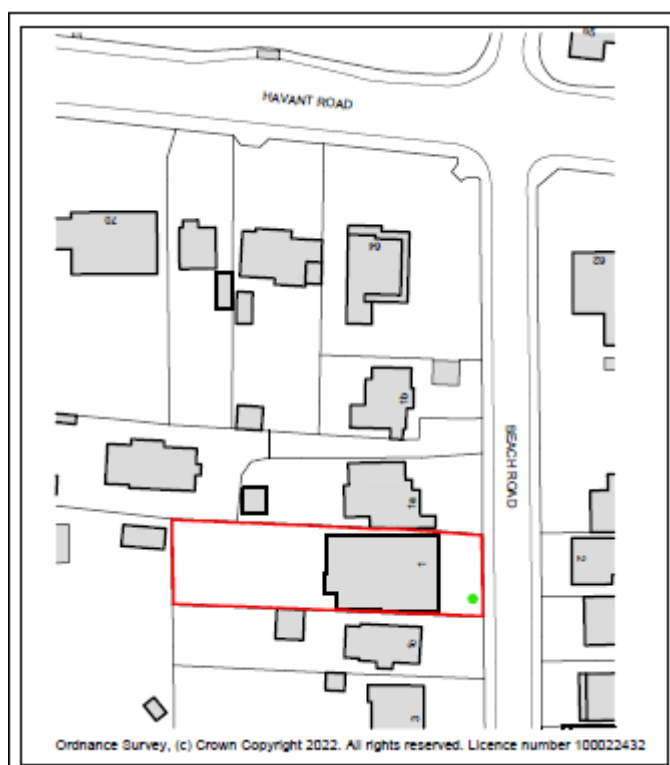
Arboricultural Method Statement

Site Address:

1 Beach Road, Emsworth, Hampshire, PO10 7JS

Tree in Question:

Existing Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*), located on the front driveway.



Tree outlined in green





Existing brick edging around tree to be retained.



Existing crazy paving driveway surface to be removed by hand and refurbished with gravel.
Existing subbase will be retained.

Proposed Works:

- Hand removal of the existing crazy paved driveway surface within 6m radius of silver birch tree.
- Installation of a permeable gravel aggregate topping.

Objective:

The purpose of this AMS is to outline a safe method for the removal of the existing paved surface without causing damage to the root system of the Birch tree and to ensure that the new surface is permeable, allowing water and air exchange to the root zone.

Scope of Works

This statement outlines the methodology for:

1. Protection of the Birch tree's root zone.
2. Safe hand removal of the existing crazy paved surface.
3. Installation of a permeable gravel aggregate topping.

Tree Protection Measures

1. Root Protection Area (RPA):

- The Birch tree has an approximate RPA radius of **6 meters** (based on a trunk diameter of 0.5 meters at 1.5 meters above ground level).
- The RPA will be marked on site using temporary fencing, consisting of stakes and high-visibility tape.
- No vehicular or heavy machinery access will be permitted within the RPA during resurfacing works.

2. Tree Protection Barrier:

- A tree protection barrier will not be necessary at the works involve the removal of the existing crazing paved driveway surface that abuts up to a brick edge border that surround the tree.
- The removal of the existing surface directly around the tree will be by hand and therefore the risk of machinery miss use mitigated.

3. Ground Protection:

- There will be no need for ground protection as the existing surface area being removed will be by hand and the topping material applied will be by hand. There is no need for an excavated dig as the driveway levels will not be changed.

Methodology

1. Removal of Existing Crazy Paved Surface

- **Preparation:**
 - A toolbox talk will be conducted to ensure all personnel understand the tree protection measures and the sensitive nature of the works.
 - The work area will be cleared of any debris or obstacles before commencing so a clear and safe area is apparent.
- **Surface Removal:**
 - The existing crazy paved surface will be removed **by hand** to minimise disturbance to the underlying soil and root system.
 - Using hand tools (e.g., spades, pry bars), the paving stones will be carefully lifted.
 - No mechanical digging or use of powered tools will be required as the existing surface is already loose and can be easily removed this is due to the surface being damaged over years of being used as a driveway.
 - If roots are encountered:
 - Roots smaller than **25mm in diameter** can be pruned with sharp cutters
 - Roots larger than **25mm in diameter** must not be pruned without consultation with the project arborist.

2. Surface Preparation

- The existing sub-base layer will be reused there is no need for excavation or disturbance.

3. Installation of Permeable Gravel Aggregate

- A **geotextile membrane** will be laid over the existing sub-base to separate the soil from the new aggregate and prevent weed growth, while still allowing permeability.
- A **permeable gravel aggregate** (e.g., 10mm angular gravel) will be spread evenly to a depth of **50-75mm**.
- The gravel surface will be levelled by hand, ensuring a uniform finish while avoiding compaction of the underlying soil.

Monitoring and Supervision

- The site supervisor will be present during the removal of the crazy paving and the preparation of the sub-base. The site supervisor has 20 years of experience in construction and specialises in ground works.
- Any issues related to root damage or unexpected site conditions will be reported immediately to Jamie Gargett for further advice.
- Regular inspections of the tree protection measures will be carried out throughout the project to ensure they remain in place and effective.

Post-Works

- On completion of the works, any precautionary tree protection measures will be removed, and the Birch tree will be inspected for any visible signs of damage or stress.
- The permeable gravel surface will be maintained to a satisfactory standard to ensure that weed infestation is not apparent.

Emergency Contact

- **Project Arborist:** Ben Toach – 01283 763249
- **Site Manager:** Dan Failes - 07850539512
- **Local Authority Tree Officer:** Jamie Gargett - 07827070635

Prepared by:

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Date: 08/11/2024