



ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

1a Woodlands Avenue, Emsworth

-prepared on behalf of Mr C Falla –

The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

- 1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Mr Colin Falla** who owns the property at **1a Woodlands Avenue, Emsworth.**
- 1.2 My clients seek to obtain planning approval for the redevelopment of this site by extending and modifying the layout of the current dwelling and adding a new double garage in the front garden area (**Application Ref: APP/22/00821**).
- 1.3 There are on and off site trees of various species which will need to be catered for in this process.
- 1.4 I have been commissioned to prepare a report to satisfy the arboricultural aspects of this project in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations.

2.0 DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the Planning Layout drawings as prepared by the project Architects – **JB Architecture Design Ltd. :-**

- **Proposed Site Plan – PL.597.22 – 01 – Rev B - 1:500 @ A3 – April 22.**
- this drawing has been provided to me for the purposes of my work and I rely totally on its accuracy in terms of tree locations; applying crown spreads and setting out protective fencing.

3.0 TREE SURVEY & ROOT PROTECTION SCHEDULES & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 I visited the site on **14th October 2022** to undertake a tree survey exercise in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations (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
1	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	16	500 500 #	N 5 E 5 S 5 W5	2.5	M	Unable to access due to the fact that the tree is off site-bifurcated at 1m above ground-small diameter deadwood and dieback throughout which may be a combination of drought damage and aphid feeding-low crown density in upper reaches-very thin in the tops-has been pruned back in the past on the east side.	Not under the clients control	10-20	C1
2	Purple Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Nigra'	7	130 100 80	N 2 E 4 S 4 W3	1.5	M	Multi stemmed at ground level with tight forks and included bark-small diameter deadwood noted-previously reduced and reshaped in lower canopy area.	No works required at this time	20-30	B1
3	English Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i>	5	290	N 6 E 4 S 0 W2	2	Y	Leans north-suppressed by Laurels-crown weighted north-previously heavily cut back on west side by neighbours-contorted crown of crossing limbs.	Would benefit from crown reduction and reshaping to address balance and form issues	20-30	C1
4	Cherry Laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	6	170 x 3	N 6 E 5 S 5 W2.5	2	EM	Multi stemmed at ground level-fungal decay in two of the min trunks-small diameter deadwood noted-previously heavily cut back on west side by neighbours-dominates the Yew tree.	Would advise reduction and reshaping in view of the decay damage noted in the trunks	10-20	C1
5	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	20	500	N 6 E 3 S 8 W9	4	M	Ivy smothering the base and trunk-small diameter deadwood noted-some dieback and a few larger dead limbs (one lodged in main fork)-previously reduced and reshaped to east and south sides-Pigeon browsing damage throughout but no current evidence of Ash Dieback Disease.	Remove all deadwood for safety reasons + any broken and lodged limbs	20-30	B1
Hedge 1	Elaeagnus & Leylandii	2	70	N 0.5 E – S 0.5 W-	0	SM	Significant dieback in the conifers and very ragged in overall form.	No works required at this time	<10	U

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 Table1 Radial Protection Zone m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Polygon Area m ²
1	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	C1	500 500 #	8.5	226
2	Purple Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Nigra'	B1	130 100 80	2.2	15
3	English Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i>	C1	290	3.5	39
4	Cherry Laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	C1	170 x 3	3.5	39
5	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	500	6.0	113
Hedge 1	Elaeagnus & Leylandii	U	70	0.8	2

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

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 Zone m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Root Protect. Area m ²	Distance from Site Features (see key above)	Can Tree Be Retained
1	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	C1	500 500 #	8.5	226	9.75m to new rear extension to dwelling. 8m at closest point to existing dwelling.	YES
2	Purple Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Nigra'	B1	130 100 80	2.2	15	6.3m to new rear extension to dwelling. 2m at closest point to existing dwelling.	YES
3	English Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i>	C1	290	3.5	39	5.2m to new parking bays and parking forecourt 6m to existing dwelling 11.2m to new garage block	YES
4	Cherry Laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	C1	170 x 3	3.5	39	4.5m to new parking bays and parking forecourt 8.6m to existing dwelling 10.4m to new garage block	YES
5	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	B1	500	6.0	113	3.6m to new parking bays and parking forecourt 15m to existing dwelling 9.2m to new garage block	YES (1)
Hedge 1	Elaeagnus & Leylandii	U	70	0.8	2	0.8m to new garage block	YES

4.2 As illustrated above there will be no (0) tree loss as a result of the re-development of this site as proposed.

- 4.3 One tree (Tree 5 – Ash - moderate B grade) has an RPA overlap of the parking bays and parking forecourt area which means that mitigation measures will need to be applied to ensure its safe and healthy retention.
- 4.4 All surveyed trees can be fenced off from site works and safely retained and protected in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations.

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	Not under the clients control
2	Purple Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Nigra'	Prune to clear back from the building line.
3	English Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i>	Prune back lateral spread to the north side - to address balance and form issues regardless of any redevelopment proposals.
4	Cherry Laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Reduce and reshape overall to address issues of fungal decay and weakness in the main trunks.
5	Common Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	- Remove all large diameter deadwood and dieback. - Remove any broken and lodged limbs and tidy up the points of detachment.
Hedge 1	Elaeagnus & Leylandii	- Prune back on north side to clear from the new development. - Remove the end section of plants and reshape the remainder to allow for a widened access point.

6.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Generic Measures

- 6.1 Where tree works have been recommended they should ideally be undertaken by an approved and experienced tree contractor prior to any construction contractors commencing works on site.
- 6.2 Erect the protective fencing [and any other protection measures that have been specified] as 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 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 are to be located over impervious surfaces or over special catchment areas such that any leakage will be captured and cannot leak into the soil causing contamination.
- 6.5 The utility service links will either be tied in to existing pipework without the need to excavate new service trenches or where new trenches and manholes are proposed they will all be constructed outside of tree RPA's.

Site Specific Measures

6.6 Tree 5 – Ash

This tree has a radial RPA of 6m which is clear of the garage but overlaps the proposed access point and parking forecourt - therefore a ‘No Dig’ porous solution will be applied to overcome this without detriment to the ongoing health and vitality of the Ash tree.

- It is anticipated that there will be a need to construct the access drive; parking bays and parking forecourt area at the outset to provide a solid base and stable access for subsequent site traffic required to undertake the main build.
- **If** the work is carried out in the growing season then the first operation will be to spray the grass/vegetation with an approved chemical weed killer in a safe and controlled manner. **If** work is to be undertaken outside of this timeframe, then hand weeding will need to be undertaken.
- Skim the existing surface vegetation along the route of the drive/path/parking bay with hand tools ONLY to a maximum depth of 50mm.
- Backfill any voids and levels changes with washed sharp sand to achieve a basic level grade throughout the area to be worked on – tamp down lightly with hand tools only.
- Then cover the exposed ground [with a 50mm overlap on either side] with a geotextile membrane pegging the edges down to secure it in place.
- **Either** – set out treated pegged wooden boarding to define the edges of the area into which you then infill with washed gravel/aggregate to the top of the boarding and feather out any levels difference with high quality topsoil
- **Or** – Use Railway Sleepers or pinned Kerbing [see attached drawing] to define the edges of the area within the RPA of retained trees which are to be protected – into this zone lay 150mm minimum depth flexible cellular confinement system (*e.g. CellWeb or GeoCell*) and expand and peg out the cells ready to receive an infill of washed gravel/aggregate - this will be sufficient to absorb vehicular movements whilst permitting water and gaseous exchange - but if levels will permit and subject to client preference this could be topped off with a layer of porous brick setts (*e.g. Aquapave or Aquaflow*) bedded onto sharp sand – or just topped off with a layer of gravel as appropriate.
- The levels differences at the edges can then be adjusted and made safe by feathering out with high quality topsoil.
- See examples of No Dig porous surfacing detail at [Appendix BH3](#).

7.0 SITE MONITORING & SUPERVISION

- 7.1 A Pre-commencement site meeting is to be scheduled to take place between the development teams arboricultural consultant and the site manager and client representative where the protective fencing will be inspected to verify that it is 'Fit For Purpose' as shown on the **Tree Protection Plan at appendix BH3**. As this is a small project it would be acceptable for the owner or building contractor to take photographs of the protection measures and send these through to the project Arboricultural Consultant for verification.
- 7.2 There may be a need for one further site visit by the Arboricultural Expert to supervise the laying of the No Dig Porous Surfacing.
- 7.3 Lines of communication will be established with the Site Manager and a contact sheet prepared 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.
- 7.4 The details of the Protective Fencing works will be inspected by the Arboricultural Expert and photographed and the following reporting procedure will be adopted.

This is an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared. :-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – 1a Woodlands Avenue, Emsworth

- In accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement Report - 1272.bjh.Oct22 & Tree Protection Plan - BJH 03/04

Date of Inspection	Item	In Attendance	Notes/Observations From Inspection	Details Of Any Follow Up Action Required
tba	Pre-Commencement Checks - Protective Fencing	Site Construction Manager & Project Tree Consultant	The site was inspected and I can confirm that the tree protection measures carried out are 'Fit For Purpose' and meet with BS5837:2012 recommendations.	
tba	'Hand Digging' works	Site Construction Manager & Project Tree Consultant	The site was inspected and I can confirm that	

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

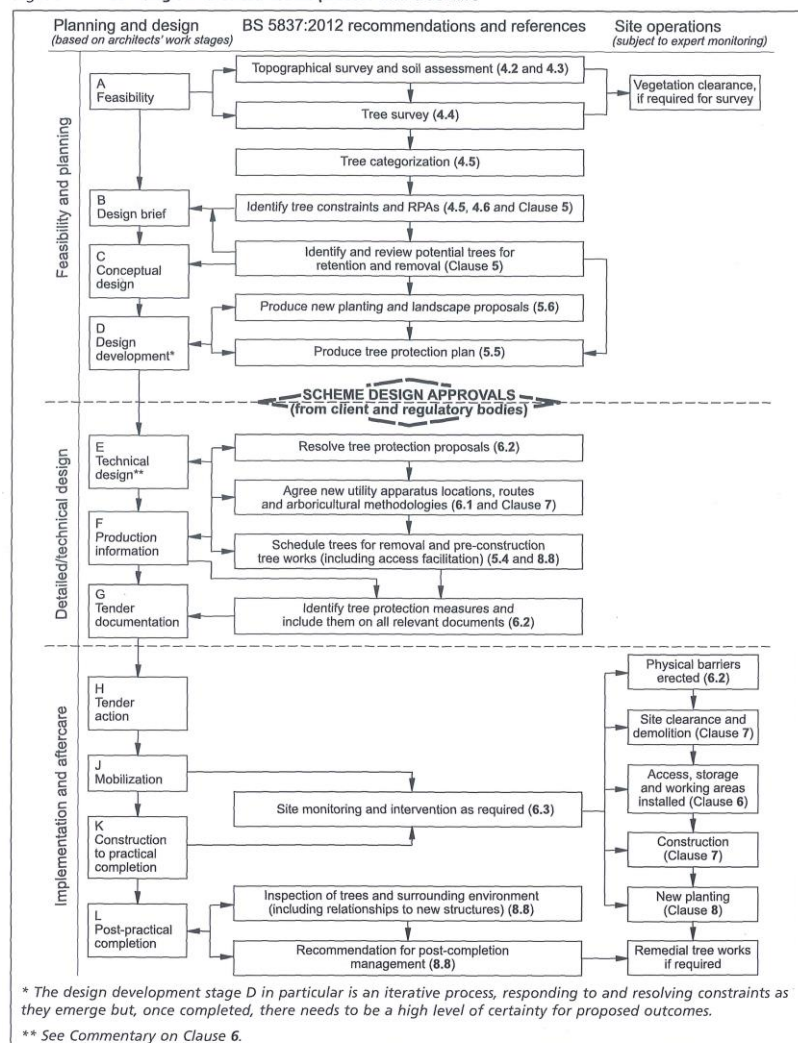
- There will be no (0) tree loss as a result of the re-development of this site as proposed.
- One tree (**Tree 5 – Ash**) has an RPA overlap of the parking bays and parking forecourt area which means that mitigation measures will need to be applied to ensure its safe and healthy retention. For details of the methodology to be employed please refer to Section 6.6 of this report.
- Provided that the methodology set out in this report is strictly adhered to in a carefully considered and phased and supervised manner then I would not foresee any detrimental impact taking place that might undermine the ongoing health and stability or visual amenity value of those trees shown for retention.



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

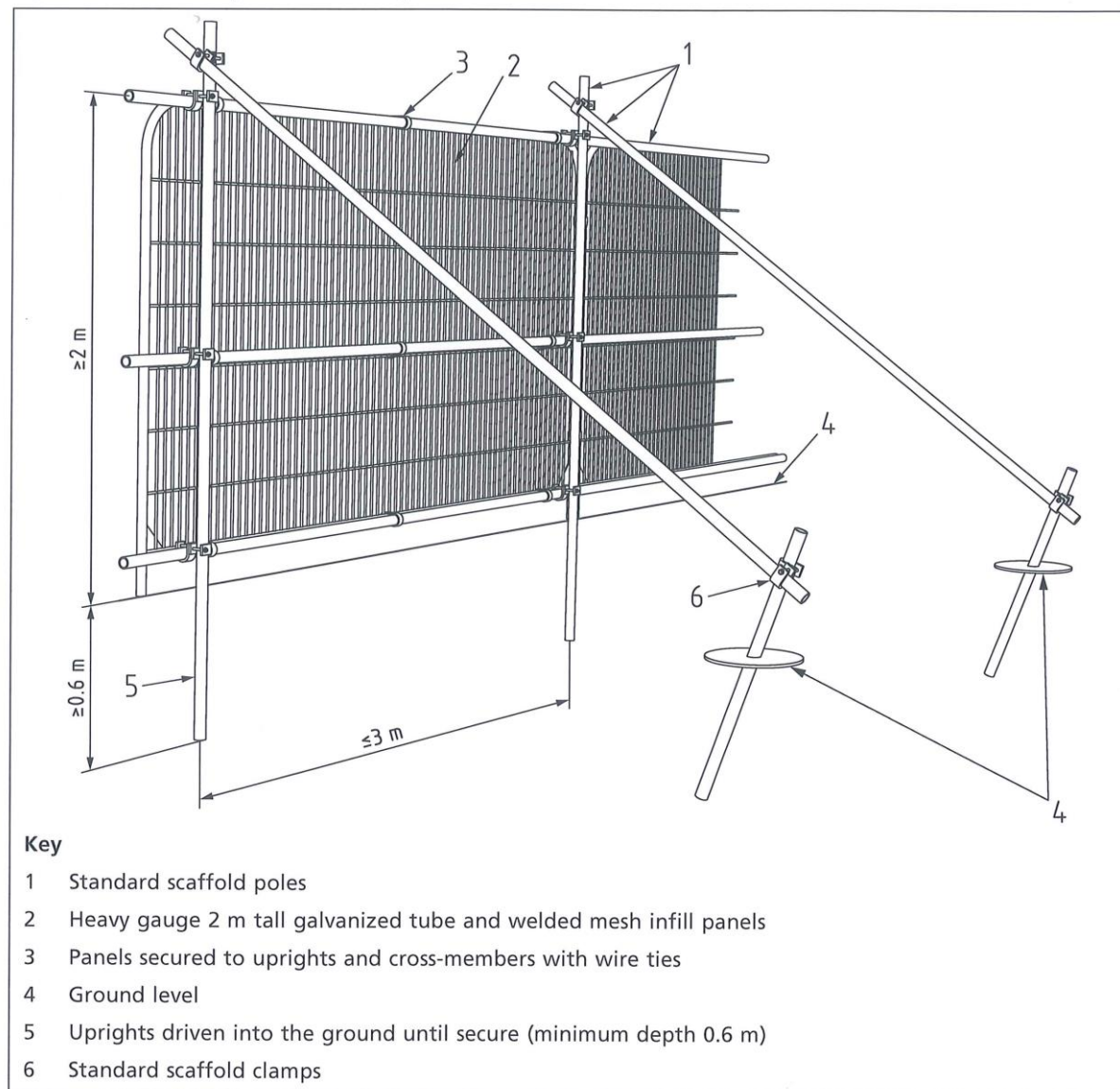


BH 3

Tree Protection Plan BJH 03/04

+ BS5837:2012 – Figure 2
+ Examples of ‘No Dig’ Porous Surfacing Detail

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-one (51)** 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.

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