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Arboricultural Impact Assessment/Statement For 52 Christophers Way, Emsworth, PO10 7QZ.

1. Arboricultural Method Statement and Impact Assessment

The proposal for 52 Christophers Way Emsworth PO10 7QZ.

The following Arboricultural method statement is to provide a protection strategy for the trees adjacent to this proposal. The tree protection plan (TPP) shows the area of proposal. The site is an existing house with a new extension on the east side of rear garden. Trees in neighbouring garden at 54 Christopher Way T1 & T2 Conifers C Classifications, have root protection areas (RPA) identified within the proposal area on the plan. These specimens appear vigorous and are a species which have an historical ability to sustain some root disturbance. Both specimens have been severely ‘topped’ in the recent past however showing vitality their amenity value is diminished at present.

Both specimen RPA will be incurred in this proposal, a ‘Mini pile and beam foundation’ installation is recommended to reduce the impact on these specimens. Use ground cover ply boarding within RPA during construction, excavate pile holes by hand only appropriately to locate pile positions and avoid major roots, and adhere to restrictions as detailed in the AMS below. T1 RPA 92 sqm² estimated piles 4no.x 30cms x30cms= 3.6 sqm², less than 4%. T2 RPA 55 sqm² estimated piles 3no.x 30cms x30cms= 2.7 sqm², less than 4%. Therefore, the root damage will be minimal in these areas.

This method will be implemented as in the following statement to avoid damage to the RPA by reducing root compaction and allowing normal gaseous exchange.

The project should include a structured procedure of Arboricultural supervision these details should be available on site and conveyed to the construction contractors.

Tree Survey: Schedule

Method: Visual Tree inspection references, Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management by David Lonsdale and The body language of trees by Claus Mattheck and Helge Breuer. The Arboricultural Association guidance note 7 tree surveys a guide to good practice. Lantra award Professional tree inspection. BS5837: 2012 Tree in relation to design, demolition, and construction recommendations.

- **Tree Number: T1**
- **Species: *Cupressus leylandii***
- **Height: 5m**
- **Stem diameter: 450mm.**
- **Crown spread: N2m E2m S2m W2m**
- **Clearance: 2m>**
- **Root Protection Radius: 5.4m (as Annex D BS 5837:2012 table)**
- **RPA m² = 92m squared**
- **Age Class: Mature**
- **Physiological Condition: Poor recently been topped in half.**
- **Structural Condition: Poor recently been topped in half as hedging.**
- **Estimate Life expectancy: 20>**
- **BS5837 Category: C (TPO evident)**

Recommendation: 'Mini pile and beam foundation' installation is recommended to reduce the impact on these specimens. Use ground cover boarding within RPA, excavate pile holes by hand only appropriately to avoid major roots, adhere to restrictions as detailed in the AMS below.

- **Tree Number: T2**
- **Species: Cupressus leylandii**
- **Height: 5m**
- **Stem diameter: 350mm.**
- **Crown spread: N2m E2m S2m W2m**
- **Clearance: 2m>**
- **Root Protection Radius: 4.2m (as Annex D BS 5837:2012 table)**
- **RPA m2 = 55m squared**
- **Age Class: Mature**
- **Physiological Condition: Poor recently been topped in half.**
- **Structural Condition: Poor recently been topped in half as hedging.**
- **Estimate Life expectancy: 20>**
- **BS5837 Category: C**

Recommendation: 'Mini pile and beam foundation' installation is recommended to reduce the impact on these specimens. Use ground cover boarding within RPA, excavate pile holes by hand only appropriately to avoid major roots, adhere to restrictions as detailed in the AMS below.

Contacts:

1. Local Authority Arboricultural officer
2. Site Agent
3. Appointed arboriculturist

No contractors have been appointed at this stage. If there is a need to review any of the protection plans/method statements considering additional requirements identified by contractors, written approval for any such modifications will be obtained from the LPA prior to commencement of any work.

1.1.1 The methodology of the tree protection measures follows a logical sequence of development events. Variations to the sequence could significantly reduce the efficiency of the tree protection measures. Variations to the proposed development will require input prior to commencement of the variations, from the appointed arboriculturist and/or the LPA Arboricultural officer.

1.1.2 The LPA will be given notice in writing 5 full working days prior to the date of commencement of development to check all tree protection in place.

1.1.3 Works will be strictly in accordance with the Arboricultural method statement.

1.1.4 It is recommended that only agreed works within the RPA, will only be carried out under supervision by an arboriculturist. It is the responsibility of the client to appoint an arboriculturist prior to commencement of works. Details of the appointed arboriculturist will be forwarded to the LPA.

1.1.5 A schedule of activities that will require Arboricultural supervision at various stages has been produced. This should form the minimum site attendance by the appointed arboriculturist, as well as the Local Authority tree officer (where relevant).

1.1.6 Periodic reports, along with supporting evidence, will be submitted to the LPA on the tree protection measures, as well as the results of activities within the RPAs of retained trees.

1.2 Preliminary tree maintenance.

1.2.1 Prior to carrying out any tree work, 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.

1.2.2 All tree work will be carried out in accordance with **BS3998:2010** & will be carried out without harming the adjacent retained trees. **[Not applicable]**

1.3 Preliminary vegetation control.

1.3. • Kill ground vegetation using a systemic herbicide and gather organic material. Care must be used to select (by reading the label) a herbicide that will not affect the roots of the trees or vegetation. This operation must be carried out by an appropriately trained individual.

1.4 Preliminary tree protection methods.

1.4.1 Construction required of RPA fencing as stated on the Tree Protection Plan.

1.4.2 All or any preliminary tree work: None recommended

1.4.3 If necessary, ground protection of the type specified in the protection plan will be placed in the positions shown on the plan. The type specified will be determined by the assumed load expected. Any loading in excess of 1t will require the use of heavy-duty ground protection, as indicated. This will be supervised by the appointed arboriculturist.

1.4.4 Prior to commencing work on site, all contractors will be given an induction on the tree protection measures employed during the development project and on the potential consequences of disregarding them (pre-commencement meeting).

1.5 Arboricultural Methods and restrictions during all phases of development:

The following tree protection measures will be adopted throughout the life of the development:

1.5.1 No materials and/or plant will be stored within the designated root protection area of any of the trees and/or within the delimited construction exclusion areas. Any liquid materials to be stored on site, will be located where, in any event of spillage, will allow for natural run-off to be away from the designated root protection areas and buffer zones and/or stored within a pre-constructed spillage containment area.

1.5.2 The mixing of concrete and mortar will be performed outside any root protection areas, in such an area where in the event of any spills, any liquid will drain away from the root protection areas and any buffer zones and/or within a pre-constructed spillage containment area.

1.5.3 The use and movement of any cranes/heavy lifting arms/digger arms and booms of delivery vehicles will be carried out without damage to any part of the retained trees.

1.5.4 No dry construction materials will be stored within the RPAs of the retained trees, unless adequate ground protection (approved by the appointed arboriculturist), has been installed within the storage area.

1.5.5 No soil, demolition debris, or any other arisings will be stored within the RPAs or under canopies of the retained trees, whichever is the greater.

1.5.6 No ground level changes will occur (no grading/levelling/raising), within any RPAs of the retained trees, unless consented to by the LPA & supervised by the appointed arboriculturist. Changes to the ground levels within RPAs of retained trees will follow the advice of the appointed arboriculturist.

1.5.7 No additional tree work will be carried out unless consented to in writing by the LPA

1.5.8 the positions of all site welfare & storage areas will also be located outside any canopy areas & RPAs of any retained trees.

1.5.9 No fires will be lit within 20m of any RPAs or canopies of retained trees, whichever is the greater

1.5.10 for the purposes of this method statement, significant roots referred to, constitute individual roots of diameters of 25mm and above, as well as dense fibrous root masses. The significance of both will be determined by an appointed arboriculturist upon discovery of either.

1.5.11 If roots 20mm and smaller in diameter are damaged that belong to retained trees, these should be cut cleanly and covered in damp Hessian or soil. If roots 25mm and larger are damaged or if a large number of smaller roots are damaged, these should be covered in damp Hessian or soil & advice should be sought from the appointed arboriculturist prior to treating them.

1.6 Demolition/Preparation:

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

1.6.2 Tree protection measures will have been installed prior to any commencement of demolition site preparation.

1.6.3 No plant machinery will encroach on the RPA of the retained trees, unless the ground is adequately protected & the machinery is incapable of striking the canopy or tree stem. If plant machinery is to encroach on protected RPAs of retained trees, this will be supervised by the appointed arboriculturist.

1.6.4 Debris from any preparation work will not be stored within any RPAs of retained trees at any time.

1.7 Construction:

1.7.1 The tree protection measures will be retained in the positions specified on the Protection Plan.

Structure foundations within RPAs:

1.7.3 The foundations for the proposed encroach on the RPA. If roots are encountered, these will be cut cleanly. Excavations in this area will be supervised by the appointed arboriculturist.

1.7.4 Impermeable membranes will be used when pouring concrete for foundations, to avoid contamination of the soil & damage to any tree roots by wet cement, particularly within the RPAs of the retained trees.

Underground services:

None to be installed in the RPA area.

1.8 Landscaping:

1.8.1 Landscaping operations will commence only when all main construction work has ceased. The protective fencing will be removed immediately prior to commencing these operations.

1.8.2 No soil lowering will occur within the RPA of the retained trees.

1.8.3 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.

1.8.4 Excavations for planting within RPA of retained tree will be carried out by hand only. The same will apply for introduction of topsoil, plant transport & mulching.

1.8.5 All landscaping work within RPA of retained trees will also be carried out by hand only.

Footpaths/hard surfaces:

1.8.6 Any exposed roots will be covered with damp Hessian. Debris from the excavation will not be stored in this area but will be immediately removed from the RPA. No paving to be installed within the RPA.

1.8.7 General purpose topsoil to BS3882:2007 will be used to replace the previous hard surface. N/A

Boundary treatments within RPA:

1.8.8 Where new boundary fences are proposed to be installed within the RPAs of retained trees, this will be carried out using hand tools only. Excavations will be undertaken using hand tools only at proposed fence post locations to confirm the existence of significant or insignificant roots. If significant roots are found, then an alternate location will be sought using the same method.

1.9 Post-development tree Care and amelioration

1.9.1 Once all construction & landscaping activities have been completed, any remaining ground protection will be removed.

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

Appropriate remedial tree / soil work will then be recommended by an arboriculturist.

Any damaged branches will be removed or pruned cleanly in line with current good Arboricultural practice (BS3998:2010) and any specific Arboricultural advice. Any other remedial work will also be carried out as & when recommended.

1.9.3 An annual tree inspection regime will be implemented to monitor the health of the retained & replaced trees for an agreed period after the development project is complete. The appointed arboriculturist will provide reports to the client & the local authority tree officer at agreed times, on the condition of the retained trees & any remediation work recommended.

2. Site Supervision

BS5837:2012 recommends site supervision at regular intervals & many local authorities are requesting detailed schedules for site supervision, as well as the details of the supervising arboriculturist.

This concludes the method statement.

Kim Gifford Arboricultural Consultant.