

BS5837: 2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction

Client : Mr Rob Bailey
Site : Swan House, Emsworth
Project : Proposed extension to rear of the property.

Relevant background information :

The trees is a mature Weeping Willow.

In 2010 an application was permitted by HBC [APP/10/00907 to reduce the existing canopy by 33%. It is unclear if the works were undertaken.

The Weeping Willow tree is identified on Helyer Davies Architects Plan.



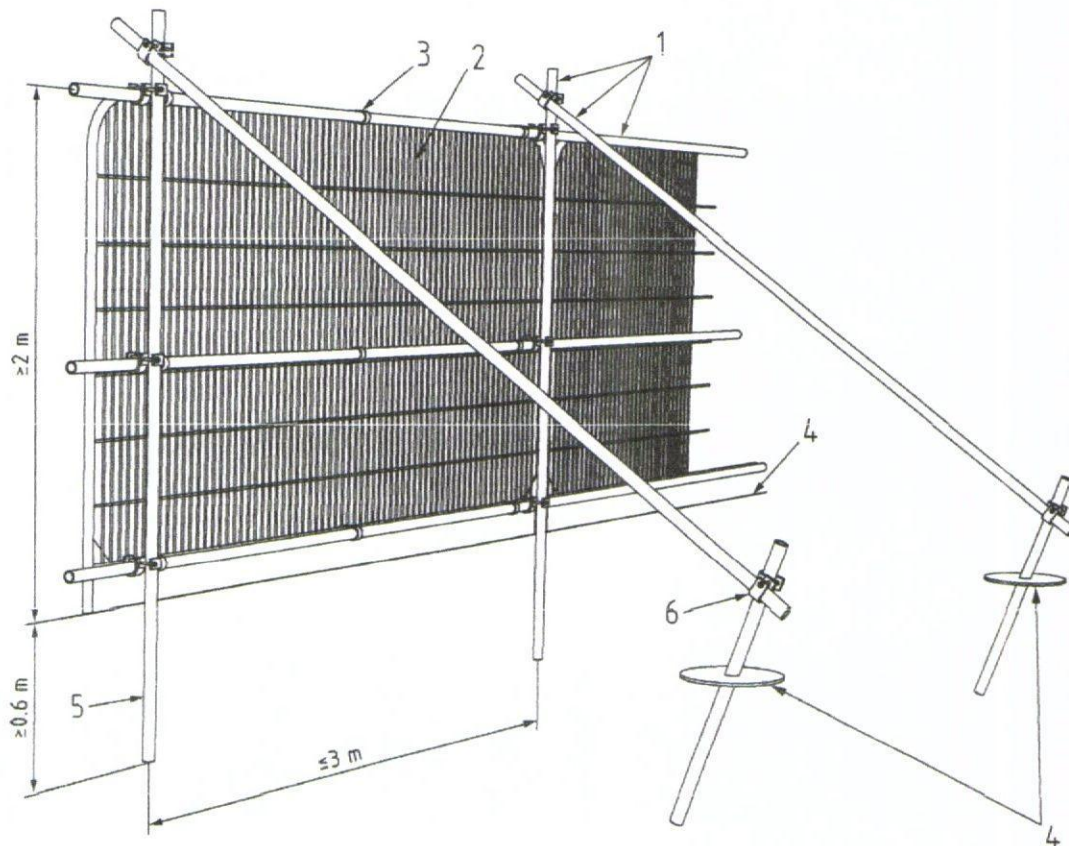
Fig. 1 Weeping Willow tree in distance.



Tree Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

The 'Root Protection Area' is the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability and where protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as priority

Default specification for Tree Protection Barriers (Fig 2 BS 5837 : 2012) are indicated below. However it is considered that Chestnut paling on stout posts may be sufficient for the small domestic scale of this project.

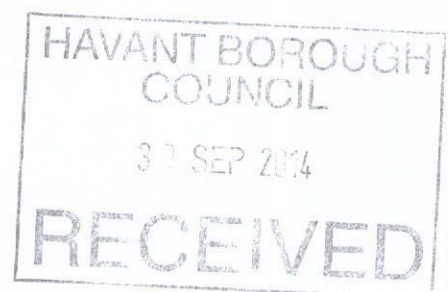


Key

- 1 Standard scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- 3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
- 4 Ground level
- 5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
- 6 Standard scaffold clamps

General Protection Measures. Root Protection Areas

The Root Protection Areas of retained trees should be regarded as sacrosanct. Access by construction activity is prohibited within the unprotected RPAs.



Soil Level Changes.

No machine excavation, soil stripping or site grading should be undertaken within RPAs to avoid root severance/disturbance.

Topography of the Site.

Care should be taken to avoid 'run off' from toxic fluids during construction, which may be harmful to trees i.e concrete mixings, diesel, oil.

Storage of construction materials

No construction materials or any material likely to be injurious to a tree i.e Oil, Bitumen, Cement (concrete mixing), should not be stacked or discharged within the Tree Root Protection Area or within 10m from a tree stem. Allowance should be made for any slope of the ground, so that damaging materials cannot run towards the trees. At no time should the Root Protection Area be breached for storage purposes.

Machinery/Equipment near tree canopy.

Great care should be exercised when using piling rigs, mobile cranes or similar equipment near the spread of the canopy of trees so as not to damage them in any way. The site supervisor should take responsibility for supervising the approach, exit and on site activities of delivery, muck-away vehicles and site machinery.

Fires

Fires should not be lit in a position where their flames can extend to within 5m of foliage, branches or trunk. Size of fire and wind direction should be taken into account.

Other Considerations**Building near trees :**

Foundations in proximity to trees should be specified by a structural engineer taking into account the potential for volumetric changes of some soil types and current guidance set out in National House Building Council Chapter 4.2 (Foundations) Building near trees.

Trees subject to statutory controls :

Consultation with the local planning authority will be required prior to any pruning works to trees covered by a tree preservation order or located in a conservation area.

