

DURAMEN CONSULTING LTD

CHARTERED FORESTERS

AND CONSULTING ARBORICULTURISTS

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Jamie Gargett
Tree Officer
Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road
HAVANT
PO9 2AX

18th July 2014

By email: jamie.gargett@havant.gov.uk

Dear Mr Gargett

Your Ref: APP/14/00680: 22 Oakmont Drive, Waterloo, PO8 8TH
Our Ref: 1466 - Mr Pouralli

Further to your phone call this week requesting further information on this application.

I can confirm details from the application on the tree:

Quercus robur (oak)

Height: 22 metres

Stem diameter: 113 cms. Thus BS 5837:2012 13.6 m radius (13.5-13.8m of Annex D)

Distance from property: 9 metres

The property has suffered differential movement of its foundations, focusing on the rear right hand corner nearest the tree. It is known that oak roots have been found to 2.5 metres depth beneath the foundations. The proposed works are therefore to eliminate the effects of tree root activity on the building by installation of a rehydration trench between the tree and the building. The feasibility study provided with the application provides the technical details of the trench, including depth (1m for the trench with 2m deep boreholes at 1m intervals along the trench). The trench will be the minimum necessary to install the root barrier and associated polypropylene cased material – nominally this is 0.5 metre.

Registered Office: Wren's Cottage, Charing Heath Rd, Charing Heath
ASHFORD, Kent, TN27 0AU

Co No: 0487 2475 VAT Reg: GB 874 5132 15

Telephone: **01233 713 466** Mobile **07810 610 712**

Email: jh@duramen.co.uk

The barrier is to be installed at a distance no closer than 5 metres from the tree. As the trench will be in a straight line the distance from trench to tree varies along the length of the trench.

Installing the trench requires cutting of tree roots on the tree side of the barrier. These are left cut cleanly to minimise any infection to the tree. In all cases so far where this method has been used at a reasonable distance from the tree roots are rarely above 2cm in diameter and thus a simple hand saw can be used for the final cut.

In order to minimise the risk of soil compaction on the tree side of the trench, boards are laid down either side of the trench and all earth removed is stored on the property side of the trench. Once the barrier is installed a significant proportion of the earth is replaced to the trench, whilst excess is removed from site.

The method does not require on site arboricultural supervision but an arboricultural adviser is available on call if any problems occur. To date, after more than 25 installations across the country including at properties within the London Borough of Westminster, Epping Forest Council and Warwick Council installation methods are tried and tested.

Yours sincerely



Jon Heuch BSc(For) PhD MArborA MICFor

Duramen Consulting Ltd

jh@duramen.co.uk

tel 01233 713 466

mob 07810 610 712

Disk Reference: 1466 - arboricultural statement for tree works application