

Proposed new bungalow at
45 Hulbert Road, Bedhampton

Arboricultural Method Statement

Under the proposals outlined in this application there will be no loss of trees on the application site. However, there are 2 trees within close proximity to the proposal which will require protection throughout the construction works. These being an apple and ash tree located west of the application building, minimum 6 metres away (apple tree). Although the trees themselves are far enough away, the following measures will be implemented to protect the area around the roots (RPA)*:

The following precautions are to be taken within the RPA:

- Fencing should be erected before any development commences on site or any materials or machinery associated with development is brought onto the site.
- The fencing shall remain and be maintained for the duration of the development in accordance with the approved plans and particulars. Unless otherwise agreed by the Local Planning Authority.
- There should be no materials, chemicals, machinery or fuel stored within the RPA for the duration of the development.
- Unless prior agreement is sought from the Local Authority, and/or in accordance with the approved plans and particulars the ground levels within the RPA shall not be lowered or raised.
- A translocated herbicide eg. glyphosate should be used to treat existing vegetation, prior to removal from the site, should new landscaping be used within the RPA.
- Following treatment, with herbicide, as above, existing vegetation should be removed once dead with hand tools e.g. spade or fork with no machinery being used.

Protective measures outside the RPA:

In addition to the ground protection within the RPA the following should be addressed or avoided:

- a) In order to ensure that wide or tall loads or plant can operate without coming into contact with existing trees, care should be taken when planning site operations. Any contact with existing trees may result in serious damage and therefore may make their safe retention impossible. Therefore, any transit or traverse of plant in close proximity to trees should be conducted under the supervision of a banksman in order to maintain adequate clearance from trees at all times.
- b) Any materials which may contaminate the soil, e.g. concrete mixings, vehicle washing, diesel or oil, should not be discharged any less than 10m from the tree stem.
- c) In order that any damaging materials such as concrete washings, mortar or diesel oil cannot run towards trees it is essential that allowance be made for the slope of the ground.
- d) Depending on the size of the fire and the wind direction, fires should not be lit in a position where their flames can extend to within 5m of any foliage, branches or tree trunks.
- e) Telephone cables, notice boards or any other services should not be attached to any part of the tree.

Installation of new services:

There should be no services installed within the root protection area (RPA). If there are any existing services within the RPA that need upgrading this should be done in accordance with the advice of a suitably qualified arboriculturist and using a method approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Conclusion:

Throughout the duration of the construction works tree protection is paramount and the retained trees must be adequately protected at all times. Should an unlikely event occur that results in a need to move and relocate the tree protection fencing then such operations should be supervised by an approved Arboriculturist. One of the last jobs undertaken on site should be the removal of the Tree Protection Fencing.

The integrity of the Tree Protection Fencing should not be compromised in any way and it is the responsibility of the Site Manager to ensure that this protection is maintained during construction activities. Care should be taken in planning plant and machinery movements, construction accesses, scaffolding, storage of materials and other plant in order to guard against the spillage of hazardous materials and the consequential run off into the Root Protection Areas. Should any doubt occur then a 'precautionary principle' should be applied and advice sought from an approved Arboriculturist.

*Should any roots from the retained trees be exposed during the construction process, in the immediate and short term, the exposed roots should be protected from desiccation and/or extremes of temperature by covering them with hessian or similar in order for them to be kept damp at all times. Roots smaller than 25mm diameter should be pruned back to a side branch by the use of bypass secateurs or hand saws. Prior to backfilling, any hessian wrapping should be removed and the retained roots should be covered with sharp sand or other loose, uncontaminated granular fill before the soil or other material is replaced.

The above statement has been produced using the guidance/recommendation of:

'BS5837 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction'.