



ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

1 Woodbury Avenue, Langstone

*- prepared on behalf of **Brooks Construction UK Ltd.** -*

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

- 1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Ted Brooks** who is the owner of the land/property at **1 Woodbury Avenue, Langstone**
- 1.2 The owner seeks permission to remove the existing outbuilding in the front garden and replace it with a Car Port and Games Room/Storage Area whilst generally relandscaping the garden.
- 1.3 There are both on site trees which will need to be catered for and protected during this process.
- 1.4 I have been commissioned to prepare a report to satisfy the arboricultural aspects of this project to meet planning requirements.
- 1.5 My work is to be compiled in accordance with the recommendations contained within BS5837:2012.

2.0 DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I have been provided with a copy of the Planning Layout drawings as prepared by **DM Designs -**

- **Existing Layout Drawing – DMD-BROOKS_01A-RevA-Various @ A0 – 15.07.2025**
- **Planning Layout Drawing – DMD-BROOKS_01A-RevA-Various @ A0 – 15.07.2025**

These drawings have been provided to me for the purposes of my work and I rely totally on their accuracy in terms of tree locations applying crown spreads and setting out protective fencing and tree protection measures.

3.0 TREE SURVEY & ROOT PROTECTION SCHEDULES & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 I visited the site on **Wednesday 12th November 2025** and carried out a full site 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	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	18	700	N 6 E 7 S 7 W 9	4	M	Multi stemmed at 3m-the crown on the north side engulfs a street lighting column-this tree has been pruned back laterally and cleaned out in the past-good shape and form overall.	Advise prune to clear the route of the street lighting column.	>40	A1
2	Bay Laurel <i>Laurus nobilis</i>	4.5	70 x3 50 x10	N 2 E 2 S 1.7 W 1.5	0	EM	Multi stemmed at ground level-has been pruned to clear from the roof of the outbuilding	No works required at this time	30-40	B1
Hedge 1	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> + <i>Elder</i> + <i>Buddleia</i>	2.5	50 to 130	N – E 0.5 S – W 1	0	EM	Tailored and pruned with a flat top and flush sides.	No works required at this time	>40	B2

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 Table D1 Radial Protect. Zone m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Root Protect. Area m ²
1	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	A1	700	8.4	222
2	Bay Laurel <i>Laurus nobilis</i>	B1	70 x3 50 x10	2.4	18
Hedge 1	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> + <i>Elder</i> + <i>Buddleia</i>	B2	50 to 130	0.6 1.6	1 8

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 RPZ 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	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	A1	700	8.4	222	8.6m to existing dwelling 9m to existing garage 2m to existing aggregate covered driveway	YES (1)
2	Bay Laurel <i>Laurus nobilis</i>	B1	70 x3 50 x10	2.4	18	Under the footprint of proposed redevelopment works	NO-RTFD
Hedge 1	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> + <i>Elder</i> + <i>Buddleia</i>	B2	50 to 130	0.6 1.6	1 8	Under the footprint of proposed redevelopment works	NO-RTFD

SUMMARY

4.2 **Tree 2 Bay and Hedge 1 Beech** would be removed to facilitate the new layout – their loss being mitigated by the proposals to plant new trees and shrubs as part of the overall landscape proposals for the front garden.

4.3 The RPZ for **Tree 1 Beech** is clear of the main structures and no major works are proposed within its RPZ but it does overlap the proposed relandscaped front garden and will therefore require mitigation measures to be applied in order to comply with BS5837:2012 recommendations (*see methodology at Section 6.5 of this report*).

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prune to clear the light throw of the street lighting column on the pavement outside.
2	Bay Laurel <i>Laurus nobilis</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fell to ground level in a safe and controlled manner. Grub out the stump and primary root runs.
Hedge 1	Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> + <i>Elder</i> + <i>Buddleia</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fell to ground level in a safe and controlled manner. Grub out the stump and primary root runs.

6.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Generic Measures

- 6.1 Erect the protective fencing and lay any ground protection as specified and shown on the **Tree Protection Plan BJH03/04** at [appendix BH3](#) prior to any work being started on site. 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.
- 6.2 A copy of the Tree Protection Plan is to be pinned up in the offices/mess hut on site for all site staff to see. The area within the fenced off exclusion zone is to be regarded as **sacrosanct** and the fencing shall not be taken down or relocated at any time without the prior written approval of the monitoring arboriculturist or local authority tree officer, unless this has already been agreed as part of the planning application consent process and is detailed in writing and shown on a plan.

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

6.3 All site works storage areas and compounds/welfare units/toilet blocks and any mixing areas are to be located outside of and well clear of retained trees and positioned over impervious surfaces or over special catchment areas such that any leakage will be captured and cannot leak into the soil causing contamination.

6.4 The details of the proposed utility service links have not been made available to me at this time but it should be possible to link in to existing or lay new services without impinging on the RPA's of retained trees. In the unlikely event that some incursion is necessary then a separate Mini-Method Statement can be provided to satisfy a Planning Condition.

Site Specific Measures

6.5 **Tree 1 Beech** – the RPZ overlaps the area currently being used as a consolidated driveway access to the garage. This will be replaced by a mixture of lawned areas/shrub borders and a paved patio area and the following mitigation measures will need to be applied to ensure that the tree survives the redevelopment in a sound and healthy condition.

Paved Patio Area :

- Carefully remove the exiting loose aggregate down to bare earth level – machinery may be used for this purpose provided that it either operates from north to south always over the existing driveway surfacing or alternatively it operates over ground protection measures conforming to BS5837:2012 Section 6.2.3.3 (see example [at appendix BH3](#)).
- From this point on once bare earth has been exposed no machinery is to be used in the process and 'Hand Digging' works are permitted.
- Lay a porous geotextile membrane across the zone (pegging it out).

- Lay a sub-base layer (e.g. washed sand) over the membrane and lightly tamp down to achieve a level surface.
- Over this lay a porous paver wearing course (see examples [at appendix BH3](#)).

Lawn Area/Shrub Border :

- Carefully remove the exiting loose aggregate that makes up the driveway down to bare earth level—machinery may be used for this purpose provided that it either operates from north to south always over the existing driveway surfacing or alternatively it operates over ground protection measures conforming to BS5837:2012 Section 6.2.3.3.
- Introduce imported top quality topsoil to achieve the desired levels – hand rake and lightly tamp down or use a light roller to achieve a level surface.
- Lay grass turf or sow seed across the zone to create a lawn.

Protective Fencing :

- Phasing of operations will be the key to this redevelopment project and it only becomes necessary to erect protective fencing when working close to the Beech tree to create the new patio and lawn.
- In the initial construction phase for the Car Port the existing aggregate driveway provides adequate ground protection for this tree.
- Erect a HERAS panel surround to the trunk prior to undertaking the works to prepare the ground and form the new patio and lawn area.

7.0 SITE MONITORING & SUPERVISION

BS5837 recommends that wherever trees on or adjacent to a site have been identified on the Tree Protection Plan as requiring special protection measures, there should be an auditable system of arboricultural site monitoring. This should extend to direct arboricultural monitoring whenever demolition/construction and development activity is to take place within or adjacent to any RPA.

- 7.1 A Pre-commencement site meeting is not required in this instance – the owner is to take photographs of the protective fencing in situ to the Arboricultural Expert prior to undertaking any works for the patio and lawn.
- 7.2 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.

- 7.3 The Arboricultural Expert will incorporate these photographs into the following reporting procedure which can be submitted to the local authority. See below an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared. :-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – 1 Woodbury Avenue, Langstone

- In accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement Report – 1442.bjh.Nov25 & 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	The Site Owner – taking photographs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The protective fencing measures that have been applied are adequate and 'Fit For Purpose' according to BS5837 recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

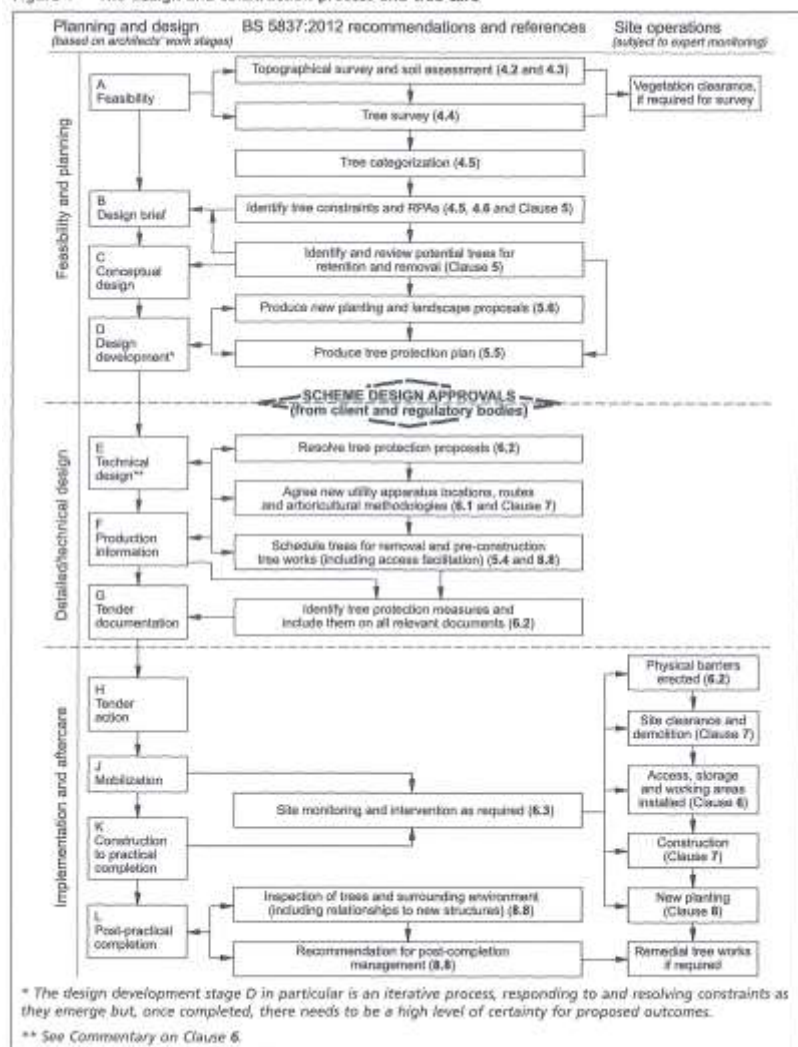
- This development will require the removal of one small tree and one hedge [**Tree 2 Bay and Hedge 1 Beech**] and their loss can readily be mitigated by the planting of new trees and shrubs as part of the landscaping proposals for this scheme, which I believe involves shrub borders and trees being positioned alongside the western boundary.
- Mitigation measures have been specified under Section 6.5 of this report and the impact on the roots of **Tree 1 Beech** can be kept to minimal and acceptable levels within the framework recommendations of BS5837:2012, thus ensuring that the tree survives the development process in a safe and healthy condition.
- Overall, provided that the above methodology is strictly adhered to in the carefully considered and phased and supervised manner prescribed 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 both on and off this site.



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 :- **■** (dark red); **■** (light green); **■** (mid-blue) and **■** (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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve.</p>			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

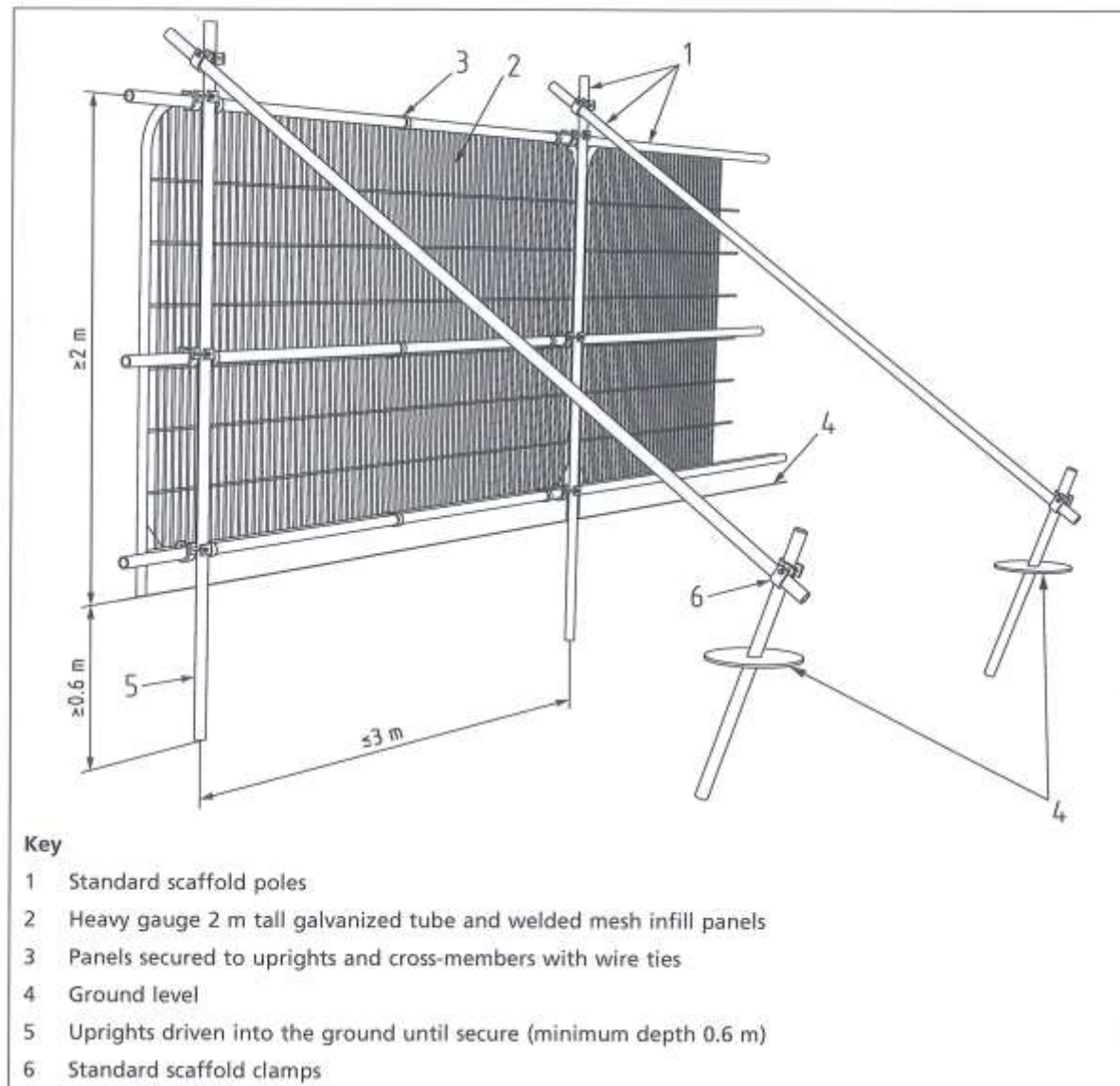


BH 3

Tree Protection Plan BJH 03/04

+ BS5837:2012 – Figure 2
+ BS5837:2012 – Section 6.2.3.3

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



BS5837:2012 – Section 6.2.3.3 - New temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.

Note The ground protection might comprise one of the following:

- a) for pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;*
- b) for pedestrian –operated plant up to a gross weight of 2t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;*
- c) for wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2t gross weight, an alternative system (e.g. proprietary systems or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.*



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 : – **10 Southleigh Grove, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0SH**
- I hold the following arboricultural qualification – **National Diploma in Arboriculture (Royal Forestry Society – 1976)**
- I have **fifty-five (55)** 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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