ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Harbour Court, 15 Langstone Road, Havant

prepared on behalf of **Mr WJCJ Ltd.**

10 Southleigh Grove, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0SH **mob: 07875 520881 - email: bernieharverson@gmail.com -**

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BH2	Tree Survey Plan **BJH 01** & Root Constraints Plan – **BJH 02** ***N.B. These were provided by others at the planning application stage – they were approved at that time but not made available to me for the purposes of this submission although tree locations were verified using the original Topographical Base Plan.***
BH3	Tree Retention & Removals Plan **BJH 03** & Tree Protection Plan – **BJH 04 + BS5837 – Figure 2 + BS5837 Section 6.2.3.3**
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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Mr W Johnson of WJCJ Ltd.** who are the owners of the land at **Harbour Court, 15 Langstone Road..**

1.2 The owners have an extant planning permission **APP/25/00204** to construct a detached 4 bedroom Bungalow with associated refuse and cycle store and on site parking **Ref : Chris Flint Associates Ltd. Planning Layout – CFA-Full-01-Rev01-1:100 @ A1 – 17/07/25.** Subject to a pre start condition (**Condition 6**) requiring them to present an AMS report & Tree Protection Plan to the Planners satisfaction.

1.3 There are 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 **Chris Flint Associates Ltd.**:

- **Proposed Layout Drawing – CFA-Full-01-Rev01-1:100 @ A1 – 17/07/25**

This drawing has been provided to me for the purposes of my work and I rely totally on its 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 **11th February 2026** to verify the tree survey data on Grp 7 & Grp 11 which had been previously prepared by another company in support of the original planning submission - plus collect fresh data on T1 Oak (***TPO'd tree***).

Tree No.	Species	Ht m	Dia m mm	Brch Sprd m	GC m	LS	Comments	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Rem Con yrs	Cat
Grp 7	Bay Birch Hawthorn Laurel Hazel Elderberry	4 to 9	180 to 370	No data provided	0	EM	Boundary edge trees of poor form-many are multi stemmed at ground level-low branching habit-trunk and crown shapes distorted due to group pressure	No works required at this time	10+	C2
Grp 11	Ash Laurel Apple Hazel Bay	4 to 9	180 to 370	No data provided	0	EM	Boundary edge trees of poor form-many are multi stemmed at ground level-low branching habit-trunk and crown shapes distorted due to group pressure-minor deadwood and stubs noted.	No works required at this time	10+	C2
1 **TPO 2081**	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	16	700	N 9 E 8 S 5 W12	2	M	Ivy around base and up main trunk-crown weighted to the west side-small and large diameter deadwood present-low branching habit down to 3m on west side.	No works required at this time	>40	A1

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
Grp 7	Bay Birch Hawthorn Laurel Hazel Elderberry	C2	180 to 370	2.2 4.4	15 62
Grp 11	Ash Laurel Apple Hazel Bay	C2	180 to 370	2.2 4.4	15 62
1	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	A1	700	8.4	221.7

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 RPA 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
Grp 7	Bay Birch Hawthorn Laurel Hazel Elderberry	C2	180 to 370	2.2 4.4	15 62	Avge 2.5m to new dwelling	YES (1)
Grp 11	Ash Laurel Apple Hazel Bay	C2	180 to 370	2.2 4.4	15 62	6m+ to new dwelling 0.5m to porous gravel driveway 2.2m at closest point to new gates.	YES (1)
1	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	A1	700	8.4	221.7	3m to paved patio area 5.6m to corner of new dwelling	YES (1)

SUMMARY

4.2 The RPZ's of most of **Grp 7 & Grp 11** & also **T1 Oak** overlap the proposed development to varying degrees so there will be a requirement to apply mitigation measures to ensure that these trees survive the development process in a safe and healthy condition (see detailed methodology at Section 6.5 and also the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix BH3).

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
Grp 7	Bay Birch Hawthorn Laurel Hazel Elderberry	• Prune back to a tighter crown form and crown lift as necessary throughout. • The Birch does not require any works at this time.
Grp 11	Ash Laurel Apple Hazel Bay	• Prune back to a tighter crown form and crown lift as necessary throughout.
1	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	• Crown lift on west side by removing whole branches where possible or reducing back others to create a 4m ground clearance – making all final cuts adjacent to living growth points and not leaving any bare stubs or pegs. • Remove all large diameter deadwood for safety reasons.

6.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Generic Measures

6.1 Erect the protective fencing and lay 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 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 RPZ'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 **Group 7 – Laurel/Hawthorns/Birch/Beech**

The **Birch** has an RPZ overlap of the dwelling footprint and this will necessitate Arboricultural Expert supervised 'Hand Digging' of a slit trench to sever all fibrous roots under 25mm in diameter.

'Hand Digging' of Slit Trenches

- Carry out an Arboricultural Expert monitored 'Hand Digging' trenching exercise along the alignment indicated on the Tree Protection Plan BJH03/04.
- This work is to be undertaken with the use of ***Hand Tools ONLY*** in the form of Forks and trowels so that any tree roots which are present may be respected and teased out of the trench rather than ripped or torn or severed as would be the case if spades were to be used. These roots are to be left intact at this juncture.
- In accordance with BS5837 recommendations the monitoring Arboricultural Expert will establish a photographic record of the dig cataloguing the works that have been carried out for use in a report to be submitted to the local authority.
- Provided that no major massing of root matter is found and no roots above 25mm in diameter pass through the trench the Arboricultural Expert will cut off any roots of 25mm diameter or less at the trench edge using clean and sharp bypass secateurs.
- In the event that roots over 25mm in diameter are exposed the monitoring Arboricultural Expert will need to make a decision as to whether or not their removal would harm the health and vitality of the tree and provide guidance as to whether the roots can be severed or must remain in situ and be worked around.
- Plywood sheets will be laid across the dig if the trench is to remain open for any length of time.
- Ground Protection must then be laid alongside the trench edge and the remainder of the side of the dwelling to protect roots in the zone between the trench and the site boundary.

The **Laurels** have no overlap of the dwelling footprint and are to be retained because they are important for screening purposes. They can be hard pruned back to obtain a safe and workable zone but ground protection must be laid in the gap between the boundary fence and the dwelling.

The **Hawthorns** at the southern end of the group have no RPZ overlap of the dwelling but they do overlap the zone designated for use as a car parking forecourt so mitigation measures will need to be applied.

Methodology for the Installation of the Porous Gravel Surfacing

- **IF** the work is carried out in the growing season then the first operation will be to spray the grass/vegetation with an approved chemical weed killer in a safe and controlled manner.
- Skim the existing surface vegetation along the route of the drive/path/parking bay with hand tools ONLY to a maximum depth of 50mm.
- Backfill any voids and levels changes with washed sharp sand to achieve a basic level grade throughout the area to be worked on – tamp down lightly with hand tools only.
- Then cover the exposed ground [with a 50mm overlap on either side] with a geotextile membrane pegging the edges down to secure it in place.
- Set out EITHER treated pegged wooden boarding OR Railway Sleepers to define the edges of the area into which you then infill with washed gravel or small diameter aggregate to a minimum depth of 100mm.
- This will be sufficient to absorb the weight of cars whilst permitting water and gaseous exchange. For a more permanent load spreading medium add in a commercially available polymer grid system.
- The levels differences at the edges can then be adjusted and made safe by feathering out with high quality topsoil.

Oak T1 – Oak has an RPZ overlap of the paved patio and the dwelling so mitigation measures will need to be applied.

'Hand Digging' of Slit Trenches

- Carry out an Arboricultural Expert monitored 'Hand Digging' trenching exercise along the alignment indicated on the Tree Protection Plan BJH03/04.
- This work is to be undertaken with the use of ***Hand Tools ONLY*** in the form of Forks and trowels so that any tree roots which are present may be respected and teased out of the trench rather than ripped or torn or severed as would be the case if spades were to be used. These roots are to be left intact at this juncture.
- In accordance with BS5837 recommendations the monitoring Arboricultural Expert will establish a photographic record of the dig cataloguing the works that have been carried out for use in a report to be submitted to the local authority.

- Provided that no major massing of root matter is found and no roots above 25mm in diameter pass through the trench the Arboricultural Expert will cut off any roots of 25mm diameter or less at the trench edge using clean and sharp bypass secateurs.
- In the event that roots over 25mm in diameter are exposed the monitoring Arboricultural Expert will need to make a decision as to whether or not their removal would harm the health and vitality of the tree and provide guidance as to whether the roots can be severed or must remain in situ and be worked around.
- Plywood sheets will be laid across the dig if the trench is to remain open for any length of time.
- A combination of Protective Fencing & Ground Protection must then be erected/laid as shown on the Tree Protection Plan.

Group 11 – Ash/Sycamore/Laurel/Apple/Hazel

Have no RPZ overlap of the dwelling but they do overlap the zone designated for use as a car parking forecourt so mitigation measures will need to be applied.

Methodology for the Installation of the Porous Gravel Surfacing

- **IF** the work is carried out in the growing season then the first operation will be to spray the grass/vegetation with an approved chemical weed killer in a safe and controlled manner.
- Skim the existing surface vegetation along the route of the drive/path/parking bay with hand tools ONLY to a maximum depth of 50mm.
- Backfill any voids and levels changes with washed sharp sand to achieve a basic level grade throughout the area to be worked on – tamp down lightly with hand tools only.
- Then cover the exposed ground [with a 50mm overlap on either side] with a geotextile membrane pegging the edges down to secure it in place.
- Set out EITHER treated pegged wooden boarding OR Railway Sleepers to define the edges of the area into which you then infill with washed gravel or small diameter aggregate to a minimum depth of 100mm.
- This will be sufficient to absorb the weight of cars whilst permitting water and gaseous exchange. For a more permanent load spreading medium add in a commercially available polymer grid system.
- The levels differences at the edges can then be adjusted and made safe by feathering out with high quality topsoil.

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. No special protection measures are applicable to this project so a Pre-commencement site meeting would suffice.

7.1 A Pre-commencement site meeting is to take place between the development teams arboricultural consultant and the site manager and client representative where the protective fencing will be inspected to verify that it is 'Fit For Purpose' as shown on the Tree Protection Plan. In this instance it would suffice to have the contractors or client photograph the fencing in place, but this must then be verified as adequate and 'Fit For Purpose' by an arboricultural consultant

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 details of the Pre-commencement site meeting works and supporting photographs will be presented in the following manner. This is an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared. :-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – 15 Harbour Court, Langstone

- In accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement Report – 1452.bjh.Feb26 & 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 Meeting**	Project Arb Consultant & Site Construction Manager	• A joint site inspection was conducted and agreement reached that the protection measures are in place and that everyone understands their responsibilities…….	•
tba	**Hand Dig Trenching Works**	Project Arb Consultant & Site Construction Manager	•	•

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

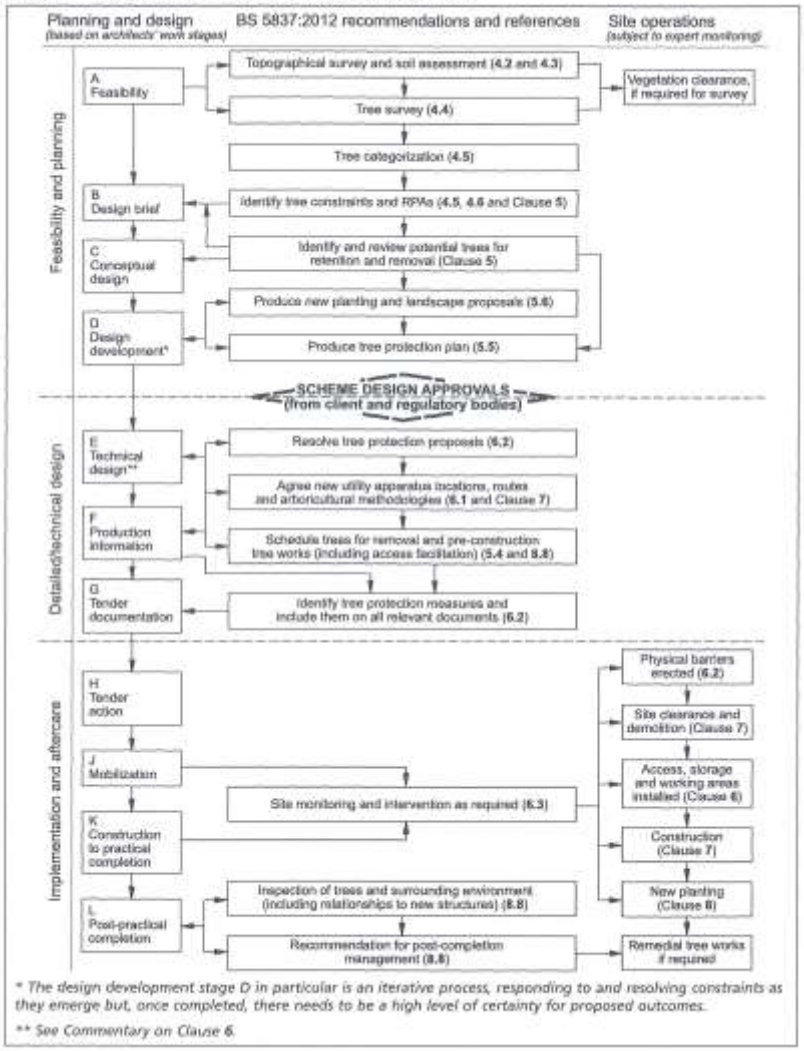
- All individual tree and groups can be adequately protected in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations provided that mitigation measures are observed as specified within this report. In this way the trees will survive the development process in a safe and healthy condition.
- Overall, provided that 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.

Bernie Harverson
arboricultural consultant

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 :- **U** (dark red); **A** (light green); **B** (mid-blue) and **C** (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.	• 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 NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve.			**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**

Bernie Harverson
arboricultural consultant

BH 2

Tree Survey & Root Protection Plans

N.B. These were provided by others at the planning application stage – they were approved at that time but not made available to me for the purposes of this submission although tree locations were verified using the original Topographical Base Plan.

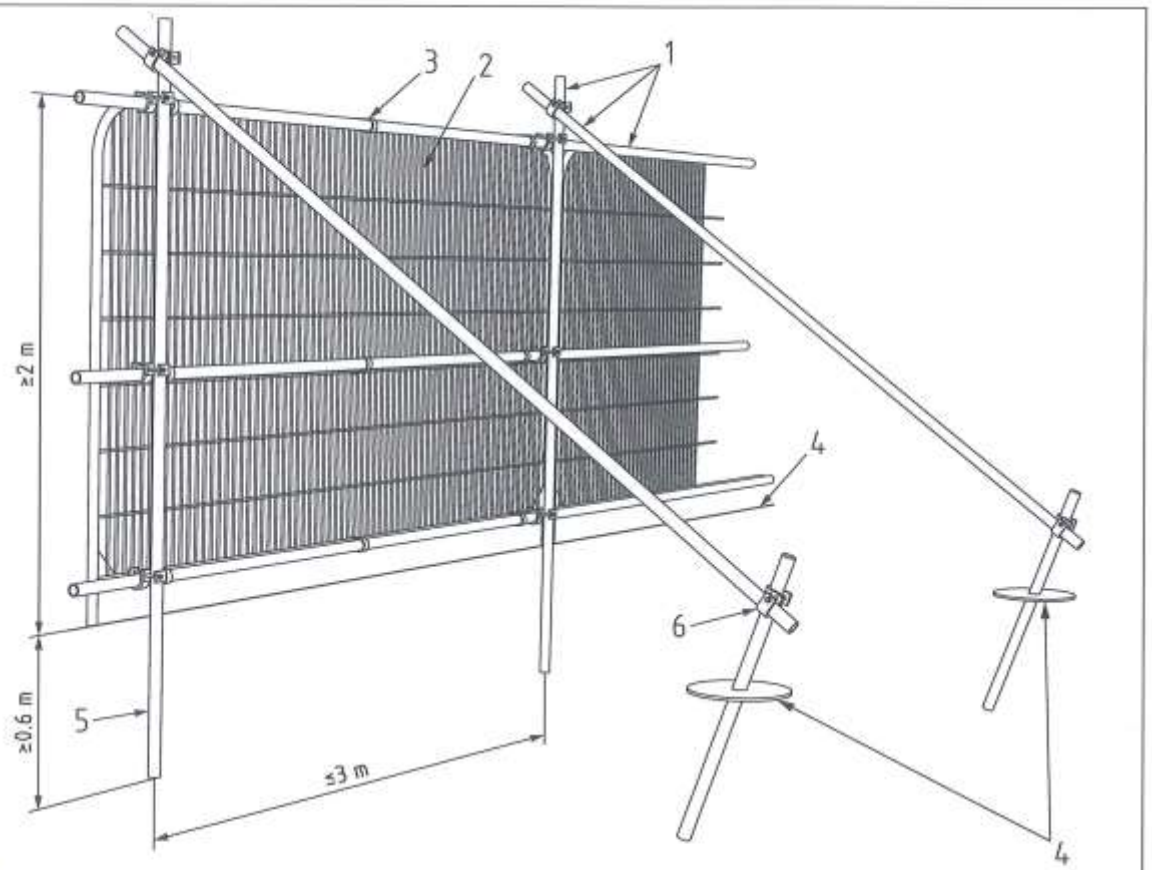
Bernie Harverson
arboricultural consultant

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**



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

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.

Bernie Harverson
arboricultural consultant

BH 4

Qualifications & Experience

Bernie Harverson
arboricultural consultant

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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