



ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

4 Silvertrees, Emsworth

prepared on behalf of **Mr & Mrs White**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

- 1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Mr & Mrs White** who are the owners of the property/land at **4 Silvertrees, Emsworth**.
- 1.2 The property owners seek to revise the layout by adding a detached Car Barn/Shed to the front of the property along with porous surfacing frontage and block paving driveway.
- 1.3 There are a number of on and off 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 **Jo Head of Plan Ahead Gardens** : -

- **Existing Front Garden Layout – 1:200 & A3 – March 2026**
- **Proposed Layout Drawing – JH/01-1:200 & A3 – 13th March 2026**

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 **9th March 2026** 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	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	10	480	N 5 E 4 S 3 W 4	M	2	Epicormics on trunk-previously very heavily topped out-current crown is entirely composed of regrowth from old pruning points-low branching habit.	No works required at this time	>40	B1
2	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	14	640	N 6 E 7 S 5 W 5	M	3	Epicormics on trunk-previously very heavily topped out-current crown is entirely composed of regrowth from old pruning points-low branching habit.	No works required at this time	>40	B1
Hedge 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	2	Av 150	N – E 0.5 S – W 0.5	Y	0	Tailored and trimmed hedge line with a flat top and sides.	No works required at this time	20-30	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	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	B1	480	5.8	104
2	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	B1	640	7.7	185
Hedge 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	B2	Av 150	1.8	10

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
1	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	B1	480	5.8	104	0.5m & 1.5m to existing tarmac driveway 9.2m to existing shed base 1.5m to new block paving 1.5m to new gravel infill porous polymer grid system 7m to closest screw piles supporting new wooden Car Barn	YES (1)
2	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	B1	640	7.7	185	2.3m & 3.2m to existing tarmac driveway 7.2m to existing shed base 4.8m to new block paving 3.2m & 1m to new gravel infill porous polymer grid system 1m & 2.5m to closest screw piles supporting new wooden Car Barn	YES (1)
Hedge 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	B2	Av 150	1.8	10	To be removed as part of the redevelopment works to make way for new landscaping feature of a wildflower lawn	NO-RTFD

4.2 SUMMARY

- **T1 Hornbeam; T2 Hornbeam** & off site **Beech** all have an RPZ which would overlap the new proposals for a Car Barn and porous frontage as well as brick paved driveway. It will therefore be necessary to apply mitigation measures to protect tree roots and ensure that these trees survive the development in a safe and healthy condition. Full details of this methodology can be found at section 6.5 of this report and as shown on the Tree Protection Plan at appendix BH3.

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No works required at this time - although I have been advised that the owners will be seeking permission to reduce and reshape this TPO'd tree.
2	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No works required at this time.
Hedge 1	Leyland Cypress <i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fell to ground level. Grub out the stumps by hand to prevent damage to the roots of T1 & T2.

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 The following prohibitions shall apply within the area beyond the boundary 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 will be possible to link in to existing services without impinging on the RPZ's of retained trees.

Site Specific Measures

- 6.5 This project will only be possible if ground levels can be raised to accommodate a porous polymer grid retention system filled with gravel and also by applying a screw piled Car Barn with similar internal car spaces laid to a porous polymer grid retention system filled with gravel. The end section of a Store will have to be built on a raised reinforced floor supported directly onto the pile heads.

The BS5837 directive as regards covering no more than 20% of ground previously laid to open ground has been calculated and the New Car Barn (minus the area previously laid to a shed base) almost exactly equates to 20% [37 square metres] of the total 185 square metres for T2. The forecourt conversion to porous surfacing roughly equates to the same 12.5% [23 square metres] area that will be converted to open soft landscaping to the east side of T2 - so one cancels the other out in my opinion. Whilst we are on the margins of acceptability here I would be happy to support this provided that the following methodology is strictly adhered to :-

Screw Piled Foundations To Car Barn (see example photographs of the process [at appendix BH3](#))

- *The screw pile locations will need to be determined by a Structural Engineer [subject to building loadings] and will need to be marked out with paint on the ground where they are to be positioned.*
- *Probe the locations to receive these screw piles with a metal ground auger to ensure that there are no major roots at these locations – in the event that one is encountered then the pile location must be moved to one side to avoid them.*
- *The screw piles will need to be inserted using a specialised attachment on the rear hydraulic arm of a mini digger. The digger must operate outside the RPZ of any retained trees [unless the ground has first been adequately protected in accordance with BS5837:2012 Section 6.2.3.3 requirements].*

- Lay a porous geotextile membrane across the entire zone and peg it down and then lay 100mm to 150mm of washed sand across the entire zone to encompass all of the screw pile heads.
 - Car Barn – lay the polymer grid system directly onto the compacted sand base layer and infill with washed gravel
 - Store - treated wooden formers will then be laid to contain the area of screw piles and hold the reinforced bars that will be wired to the pile heads.
- Once this has all been put in place the concrete pour may take place. Once the reinforced concrete floor has set and been sufficiently cured the wooden formers could be removed (not essential and can be left in situ).
- Any minor differences in ground levels around the foundation footprint can be made safe by laying topsoil - feathering back to existing ground levels.

Area Between Car Barn and Block Paving

- **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. **If** work is to be undertaken outside of this timeframe then hand weeding will need to be undertaken.
 - 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.
 - **Either** – set out treated pegged wooden boarding to define the edges of the area into which you then infill with washed gravel/aggregate to the top of the boarding and feather out any levels difference with high quality topsoil
- Or** – Use Railway Sleepers or pinned Kerbing [see attached drawing] to define the edges of the area within the RPA of retained trees which are to be protected – into this zone lay 150mm minimum depth flexible cellular confinement system (e.g. **CellWeb** or **GeoCell**) and expand and peg out the cells ready to receive an infill of washed gravel/aggregate - this will be sufficient to absorb vehicular movements whilst permitting water and gaseous exchange.

New Driveway Access

- Carefully break out the existing tarmac surfacing down to the sub base layer [and no deeper]and remove all arisings.
- Lay the new [ideally porous] block paving system directly onto the existing sub base (again accepting that there can be no excavation here within tree RPZ's and that levels will consequently be raised across the site).

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 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**.
- 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 PCSM works will be photographed by the Arboricultural Expert and the following reporting procedure will be adopted. This is an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared. :-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – 4 Silvertrees, Emsworth

- In accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement Report - 1459.bjh.Mar26 & 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joint site inspection was conducted and agreement reached that the protection measures are in place and that everyone understands their responsibilities..... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
tba	Applying Screw Piles and laying porous surfaces throughout	Project Arb Consultant & Site Construction Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

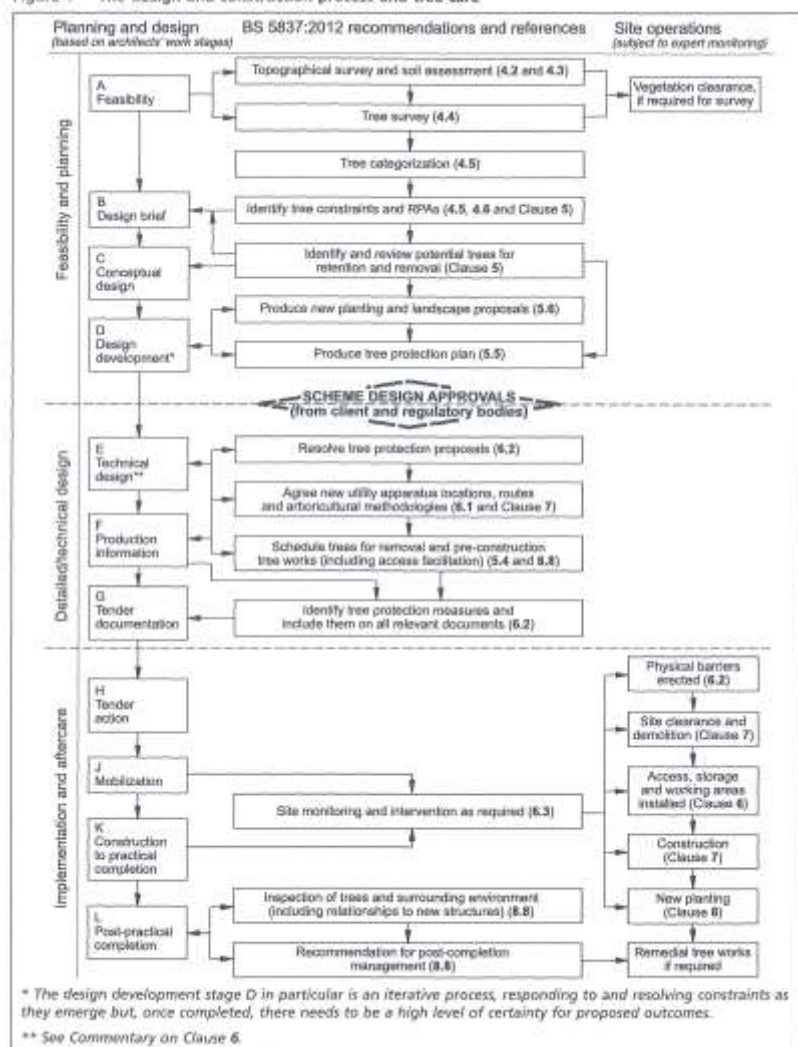
- **T1 Hornbeam; T2 Hornbeam** & off site **Beech** all have RPZ's which overlap the footprint of the new proposals but detailed phased mitigation measures will be applied as have been specified within this report at Section 6.5 that will ensure that these trees survive the construction process in a 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 the off site trees which are shown for retention.



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 declineTrees 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

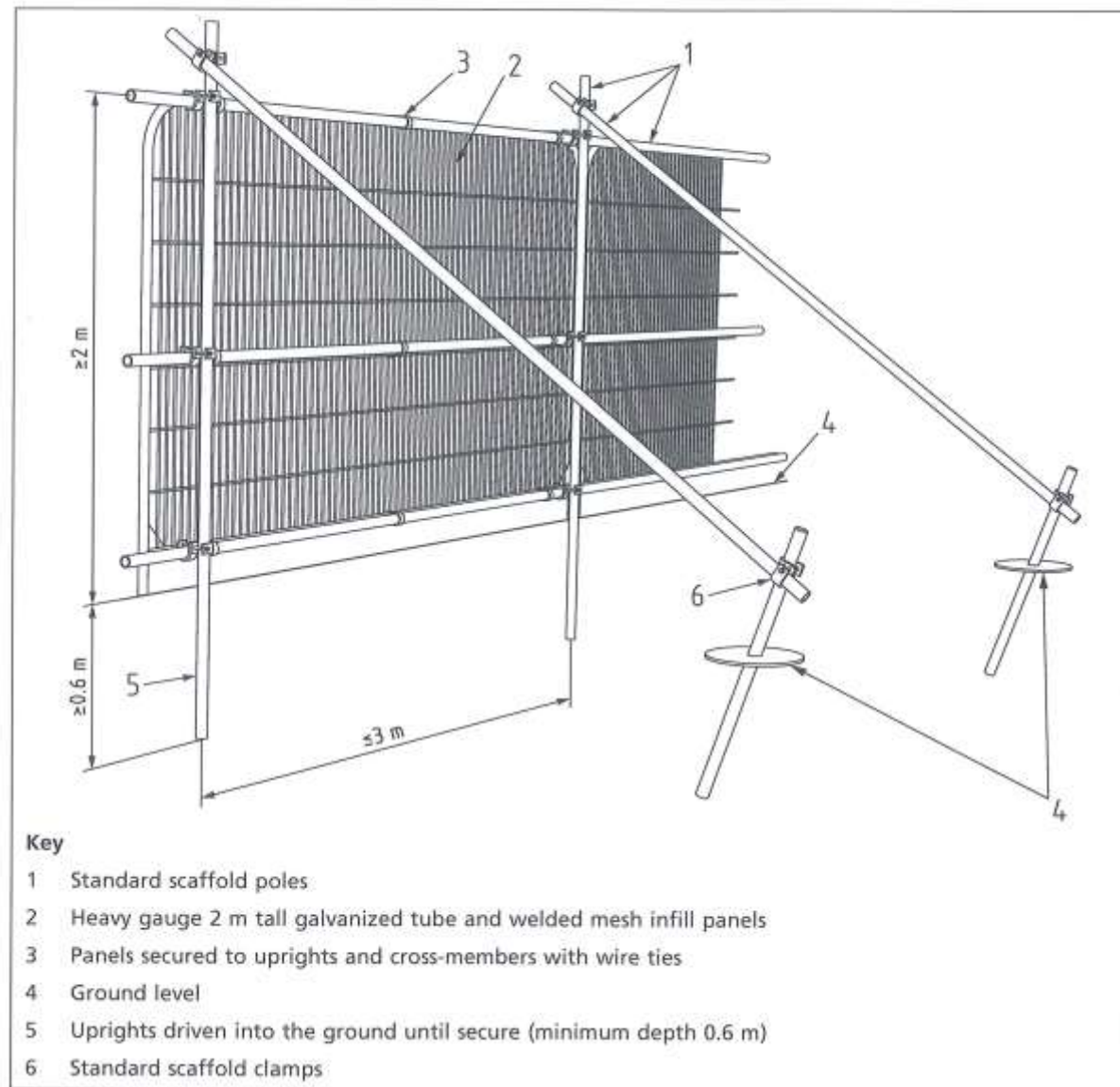


BH 3

Tree Protection Plan BJH 03/04

- + BS5837:2012 – Figure 2
- + BS5837:2012 – Section 6.2.3.3
- + Examples of Porous Wearing Courses
- + Screw Pile Insertion Technique

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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