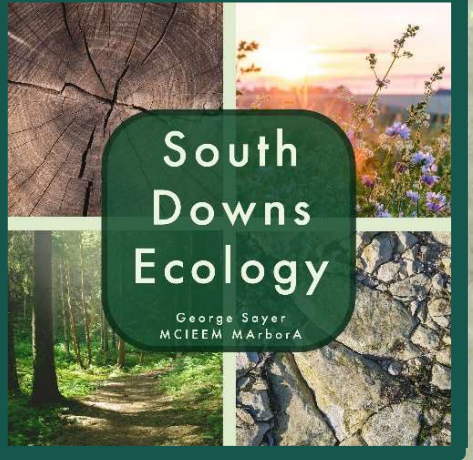
Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statement

50 Beach Road, Emsworth



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Version 2 – 9th October 2025

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 A tree survey and tree protection package have been commissioned for the proposals for replacement dwelling and garage at 50 Beach Road, Emsworth

1.2 A detailed tree survey was carried out on 14th August 2025 by George Sayer (*BScHons PgDip MArborA; LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection 2019*); from which a schedule and constraints plan of existing trees on and surrounding the site was produced in accordance with *BS 5837:2012 – 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations'*. From this information an arboricultural impact assessment was undertaken and a plan of tree protection devised to ensure the long-term retention of the trees on-site.

Proposals

1.3 The proposals are for demolition of the existing dwelling and garage and construction of a new dwelling in its place as well as a larger garage, accompanied by alterations to the surrounding landscape areas. The building would be surrounded by a new terrace.

Site Description

1.4 The site consists of a detached house on Beach Road, on the southern edge of Emsworth abutting the Western Parade. The property is surrounded by residential properties to the north and east, by Beach Road and residential properties beyond to the west, and by Western Parade and the coastal habitats of Emsworth Harbour to the south.

Surrounding Landscape

1.5 The immediate surroundings are largely residential, being in the heart of Emsworth. Immediately to the south the harbour habitats are present, consisting of vegetated shingle, mudflats, and channels. The land opens up to farmland to the west with Nore Barn Woods forming the most notable local vegetation.

Existing Site Vegetation

1.6 The site contains only two trees, a moderate value, domed yew tree which is visible from Beach Road and Western Parade, and a small low-value conifer between this house and the next. A small number of low-value garden trees are present in the adjacent garden to the north.

2.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Removal of Trees

2.1 Of the existing trees, a single low value tree (T06) would be removed. The removal of the tree would have no material impact on site amenity, ecological value or screening.

Disturbance to Roots and Rooting Environment

2.2 The proposed dwelling does not ncroach into any RPAs or canopies. The new, larger garage would encroach into the RPA of T05, a low value lawson cypress in the adjacent garden to the north. The encroachment of the garage is relatively significant, but given the overall value of the tree, specialist construction works would be excessive and not proportional to the value of the trees.

2.3 The proposed incursion by the garage would be dealt with by the use of manual excavation of this small area (totalling c.8.5 sqm of ground). Any significant roots will be carefully cut back and the root wrapped and re-interred in the ground. Foundation design must take account of the presence of trees in the vicinity and the impact these would have on soil properties and foundations. If possible a raft or piled foundation would more easily enable retention of roots.

2.4 Should major roots be present and the trees' health compromised, the arboriculturalist will be contacted to determine an appropriate course of action.

Construction in Proximity to Trees and Hedges

2.5 The construction works would not bring the built form significantly closer to trees, with the dwelling being built on a similar footprint to the original. A new terrace would come closer to the yew tree T01 but would not significantly impinge on its potential to expand its canopy and RPA. The trees in the adjacent garden to north would be slightly closer to the new garage than the existing, but these are small screening trees only and well-maintained to prevent them becoming larger.

2.6 To protect trees from vehicular collision and damage to RPAs outside of the operation zones, Tree Protection Barriers will be installed surrounding the existing hard surfaces in proximity to trees. Only a small length is required to the north-east to protect T02-T03 and another length to protect T01. Other trees would be protected by existing boundary fences.

Further Protection Measures

2.7 If any new surface water drainage is required, such as soakaways or French drains, these should be designed to avoid all RPAs. There is ample room in the site for such drainage.

2.8 Any other new services required should be routed outside of RPAs and using existing runs where possible.

Replacement Planting

2.9 A new tree will be planted in the rear of the garden to offset the loss of the tree T06. The tree should be suited to a coastal environment. Species such as hawthorn, rowan, crab apple and disease-resistant elm would all be suitable amongst others.

Summary of Impacts

2.10 Overall, the proposals require removal of 1no. low-value tree. The proposals present a moderate risk of direct harm to a single low-value tree and a low risk of indirect harm to several other trees; these risks can be reduced through some limited and basic protection measures to small discrete areas. The proposals are therefore supportable.

3.0 Arboricultural Method Statement

Site Movements, Storage and Compound

3.1 No vehicular or pedestrian movements shall be permitted during construction over unmade ground within RPAs. The site storage, waste and compound areas must be located either within existing hard surfaces or outside of tree RPAs. Fuel and chemicals shall be stored in appropriate containers to prevent spillage into unmade ground. All site movements, storage and compound shall seek to protect trees during construction in accordance with *BS 5837:2012 – Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations*.

Tree Protective Fencing

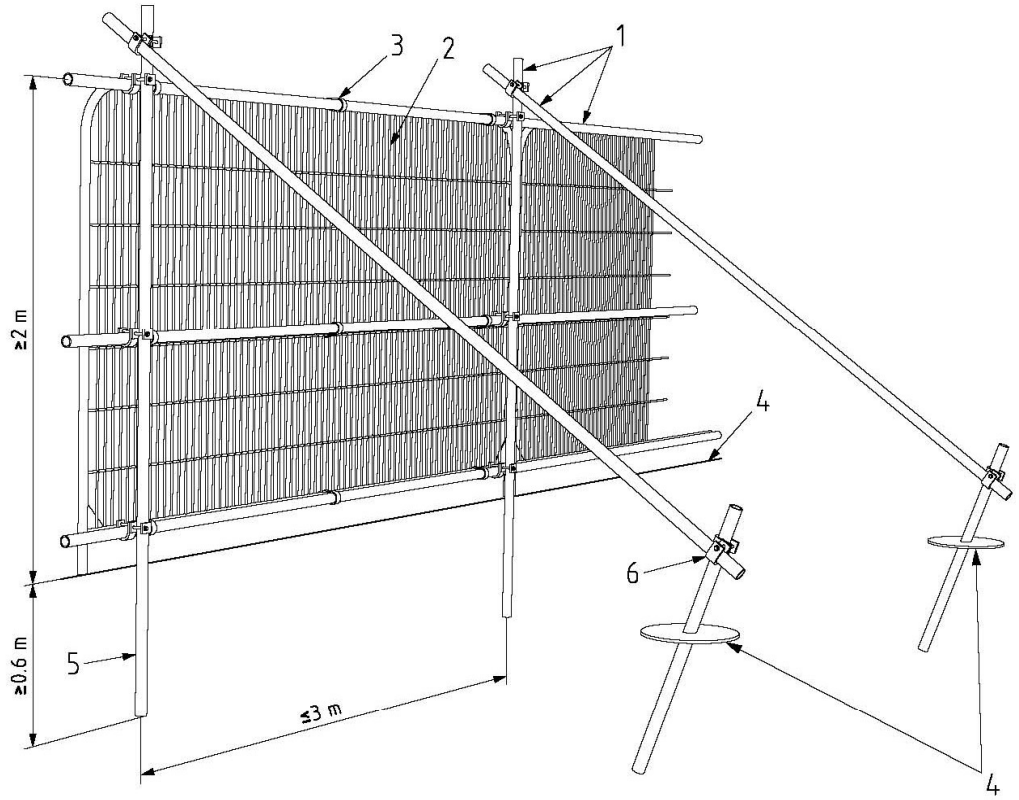
3.2 The RPAs of trees to be retained shall be protected through the installation of tree protective fencing to the outside of the root protection area. The installed protective barriers shall be 2.0 metres minimum height 'Heras' Welded Wire Mesh Fencing secured to a scaffolding framework, set into the existing ground, and positioned to the outside edge of the existing Tree Root Protection Area. Where existing ground conditions do not allow for the above method, the Welded Wire Mesh Fencing Panels may be mounted on concrete or rubber feet, supported on the inner side with stabilizer struts fixed on a block tray or secured with ground pins; and positioned as specified. The fencing should be strained, and fixed to fences, walls, knee rails where possible to provide a complete protected area *(refer to Figure 2 and Figure 3 below; © British Standards Institute 2012)*. All tree protection to be in accordance with *BS 5837: 2012 - Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations* set out as specified within figures 2and 3 below.

3.3 In locations where no construction is being undertaken, but there is a risk of inappropriate storage or vehicle parking, exclusion zones shall be created through the use of barrier tape, traffic bollards or low level traffic barriers. Such measures shall be pinned down to prevent easy removal.

3.4 Signs shall be affixed to the barriers stating '*Tree Protection Zone – No Access*' in addition to day-glo tapes to the top of the fencing, in accordance with *BS 5837:2012 – 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations*'. Within the protected area, no construction activities shall be permitted, to include:

- *Lighting of fires*
- *Storage of chemicals or building materials*
- *Dumping of spoil or rubbish*
- *Driving of vehicles*
- *Alteration of soil levels.*

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

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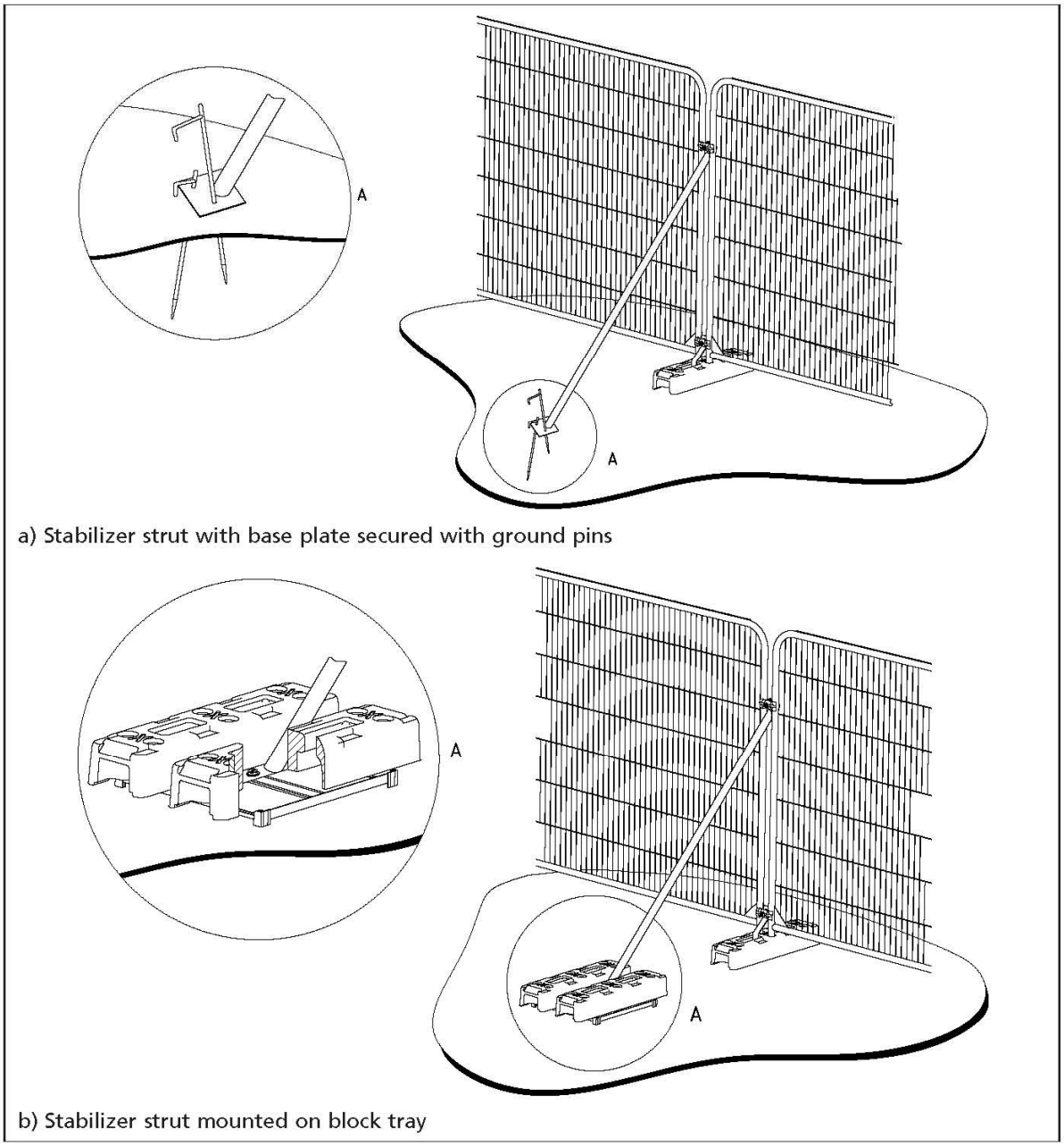
Figure 3 **Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems**



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins

b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

3.5 Tree protective barriers shall be installed and maintained throughout the construction phase by the main contractor, who shall be responsible for ensuring the fencing remains in place and is properly maintained. The fencing shall be installed in accordance with the *Tree Retention and Protection Plan*. Adjustment or relocation of the fencing during the construction phase shall be undertaken only following prior agreement by the arboriculturalist.

3.6 Wherever possible, tree protective fencing shall surround the entirety of the tree RPA. Where this is not possible, ground protection measures shall be utilised within designated operation zones to prevent damage to roots or compaction of soil. The locations of tree protective fencing and ground protection measures are detailed within the *Tree Retention and Protection Plan*.

New Structures and Surfaces within RPAs

3.7 Where new structures are proposed within RPAs, investigation must first be undertaken to ascertain if any major roots are to be impacted. Trial trenches or pits, or lifting of hard surfaces shall be manually excavated to a depth of at least the foundation requirement looking for roots.

3.8 Detailed foundation design shall be undertaken by the project engineer and must take account of the presence of trees locally.

3.9 New hard surfaces within RPAs shall adopt a 'minimal-dig' construction method. Only the minimum necessary excavation shall be undertaken to achieve levels. Areas in proximity to trees shall be excavated with great care to watch for significant roots.

3.10 Roots below 25mm diameter can be cut cleanly, the live ends wrapped in dry hessian and the root re-interred. Any major roots over this size should be assessed by the arboriculturalist to determine if its cutting will result in the tree's failure.

Vegetation Removal

3.11 All remaining tree surgery works (i.e. stump removal) shall be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 – Tree Works: Recommendations. Stumps shall either be stumpground or carefully pulled up and away from trees, taking care to check for larger entangled tree roots and cutting the stump away from these. Log piles shall be created in the site from the arisings to create new habitat.

Installation of Services

3.12 Wherever possible, the proposals utilise existing service routes. Any new drainage shall be sited outside of the RPAs of any trees. The new drainage shall be sited so as to be as far as possible from any tree stems.

3.13 Where the proposed routing of other new services such as electrical wiring impinges upon the tree RPA of any existing tree to be retained; the routing should be undertaken as a minimum standard in accordance with *NJUG Volume 4, issue 2: 'Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees'*. A 'Manual Excavation Method' to be followed to carefully hand dug and route the apparatus most directly to and from the exterior of the RPA radius. Services are to be sleeved to ensure protection of the services and surrounding roots.

Supervision of Works

3.14 The following approvals, checks and supervision would be required and should be documented in a report suitable for provision to the Local Authority as part of the construction process:

- Check of tree protection barrier locations and sturdiness
- Supervision or check of manual excavation, confirming findings and providing recommendations
- Final sign-off prior to removal of tree and ground protection measures.