ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Land east of **St Patricks Church, Manor Road, Hayling Island**

prepared on behalf of **Billett Homes**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Billett Homes** who have an option on Church land east of **St Patricks Church, Manor Road, Hayling Island.**

1.2 The developers seek to construct two detached dwellings (bungalows) on a spare piece of open ground just beyond the hedge boundary to the existing Cemetery.

1.3 There are a number of on and off site trees/hedges 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 **Roger Lilley Architecture** : **-**

- **Existing Layout – 14826 - S1 - 1:200 @ A1 - March 2026**
- **Proposed Planning Layout Drawing – 608 - PL03 - Rev A – 1:500 @ A3 – April 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

3.1 I visited the site on **15th April 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 **TPO'd Tree**	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	18	800 #	N 8 E 5 S 3 W8	5	M	Unable to access basal area as tree is off site-epicormics on trunk-small diameter deadwood throughout crown-previously fairly heavily reduced and reshaped and also crown lifted on south side above the site.	Not under the clients control.	>40	B1
2 **TPO'd Tree**	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	18	830 #	N 6 E 8 S 8 W8	2	M	Unable to access basal area as tree is off site-epicormics on trunk-small diameter deadwood throughout crown-previously lightly reduced and reshaped and also crown lifted on east side above the neighbours garden but left low hanging over the site side.	Not under the clients control.	>40	A1
Hedge 1	Hazel *Corylus avellana*	2	50 x10	N 1 E – S 1 W-	0	SM	Multi stemmed at ground level-smothered and choked in Brambles throughout-the hedge is overall very ragged with several gaps.	Clear out the Brambles.	10-20	C2

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	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	B1	800 #	9.6	290
2	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	A1	830 #	10.0	312
Hedge 1	Hazel *Corylus avellana*	C2	50 x10	1.9	11

4.0 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	B1	800 #	9.6	290	1m to existing low brick boundary wall 9.3m to closest point of new driveway 9m to new close boarded wooden fencing treatment 10.5m to new brick gate piers	YES
2	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*	A1	830 #	10.0	312	1m to existing low brick boundary wall 5.8m to new permeable 'No Dig' driveway 5.4m to new permeable 'No Dig' footpath link 7.2m to new dwelling	YES (1)
Hedge 1	Hazel *Corylus avellana*	C2	50 x10	1.9	11	Under footprint of proposed redeveloped site – with a new access point from Manor Road	NO-RTFD

4.2 **T1 Oak** – There will be very minimal impact on the root system of this tree and it can safely be retained with adequate protection measures applied in accordance with BS5837:2012. If the northern boundary is to be upgraded then either building up from the existing brickwork or topping it off with new wooden panels and piers can be achieved without root disturbance.

4.3 **T2 Oak** – The redevelopment proposals are shown to impinge on the RPZ of this tree so there will be a need to apply mitigation measures here in order to comply with BS5837:2012 recommendations. Full details of this methodology can be found at section 6.4 of this report and are also shown on the Tree Protection Plan to be found at appendix BH3.

4.4 **Hedge 1** – This is a poor quality hedge that is smothered in Brambles and it is shown to be removed to make way for the new access arrangements. This loss can readily be mitigated on completion of building works by adding in new hedges on either side of the new access point as well as internal planting up the driveway itself.

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur* **TPO'd Tree**	• Not under the clients direct control - although there is considerable branch overhang of the site boundary.
2	Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur* **TPO'd Tree**	• Not under the clients direct control - although there is considerable and very low branch overhang of the site boundary. • Advise that Billett Homes will need to seek approval from Havant Borough Council (as the tree is TPO'd) for the removal of the lowest limb of approximately 200mm diameter from the south side of the tree. ***N.B. The trees owners have removed some larger diameter low branches from their side and this work would serve to balance that effect and also provide a safe clearance above the new dwellings and their access driveway.***
Hedge 1	Hazel *Corylus avellana*	• To be removed as part of these works to create a new access point from Manor Road. ***N.B. Replacement planting is proposed as part of this project once the access point has been completed.***

6.0 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT & TREE PROTECTION MEASURES RECOMMENDED

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 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.

6.3 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

6.4 **T2 Oak**

6.4.1 *The RPZ overlaps the proposed new driveway and footpath link to the northernmost dwelling and the following mitigation measures will need to be applied :-*

- **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 - but if levels will permit and subject to client preference this could be topped off with a layer of porous brick setts (*e.g.* ***Aquapave or Aquaflow***) bedded onto sharp sand – or just topped off with a layer of gravel as appropriate.
- The levels differences at the edges can then be adjusted and made safe by feathering out with high quality topsoil.

6.4.2 *The new dwelling also impinges on the RPZ so the following mitigation measures will also need to be applied :-*

- It will be necessary to apply Structural Engineer designed Screw Pile or Augered Piles with the pile caps set into a shallow excavation but the main reinforced floors are to be constructed at ground level.
- As this cannot be accurately defined at this time it may be advisable to secure this by Planning Condition - subject to agreement of the Structural Engineers drawings and if necessary submission of a mini method statement from an Arboricultural Expert to support same.

6.4.3 *There will also be a need to apply ground protection measures in places as shown on the Tree Protection Plan at appendix BH3 and in full compliance with BS 5837 Section 6.2.3.3 recommendations.*

6.4.4 *There is significant low branch overhang from T2 across the boundary line and into the site and some minor tree pruning works [Crown Lifting] will be necessary to achieve a safe ground clearance and to allow for standard building techniques. This will actually balance up the crown in view of the works previously carried out to the north side of the tree. As this is a TPO'd tree it will be necessary to obtain the Council's written approval for these works before they can be undertaken.*

7.0 SITE MONITORING & SUPERVISION RECOMMENDATIONS

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 There should be a Pre-Commencement Site Meeting (PCSM) held 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 would 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 would be photographed by the Arboricultural Expert and the following reporting procedure would be adopted.

This is an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared. :-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – Land east of St Patricks Church, Hayling Island

- **In accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement Report - 1466.bjh.Apr26 & 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	**Piling Works**	Project Arb Consultant & Site Construction Manager	•	•

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

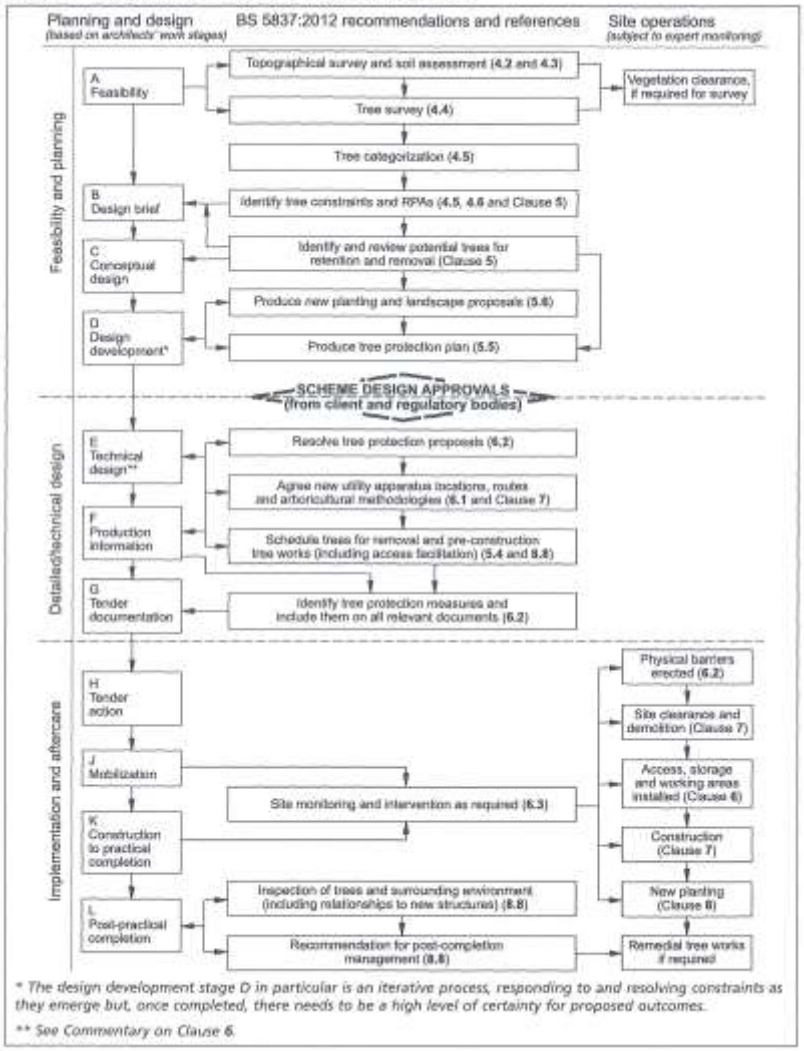
- **T1 Oak** – can be adequately protected in accordance with BS5837 recommendations to ensure that it survives the construction works in a safe and healthy condition.
- **T2 Oak** – can be adequately protected in accordance with BS5837 recommendations to ensure that it survives the construction works in a safe and healthy condition – subject to application and full compliance with the detailed mitigation measures outlined at section 6.4 of this AMS report.
- **Hedge 1** – cannot be retained with this layout as it would be under the proposed new access point from Manor Road. This is not a high quality hedgerow but nevertheless its loss can be adequately mitigated by new hedge planting on either side of the new entrance and up the driveway as part of the overall landscape proposals for this project.
- 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.

Bernie Harverson
arboricultural consultant

BH 1

Figure 1 - Flow Diagram
& Tree Survey Notes

Figure 1 The design and construction process and tree care



The design development stage D in particular is an iterative process, responding to and resolving constraints as they emerge but, once completed, there needs to be a high level of certainty for proposed outcomes.

*** See Commentary on Clause 6.*

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**

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BH 2

Tree Survey & Root Protection Plans

BJH 01/02

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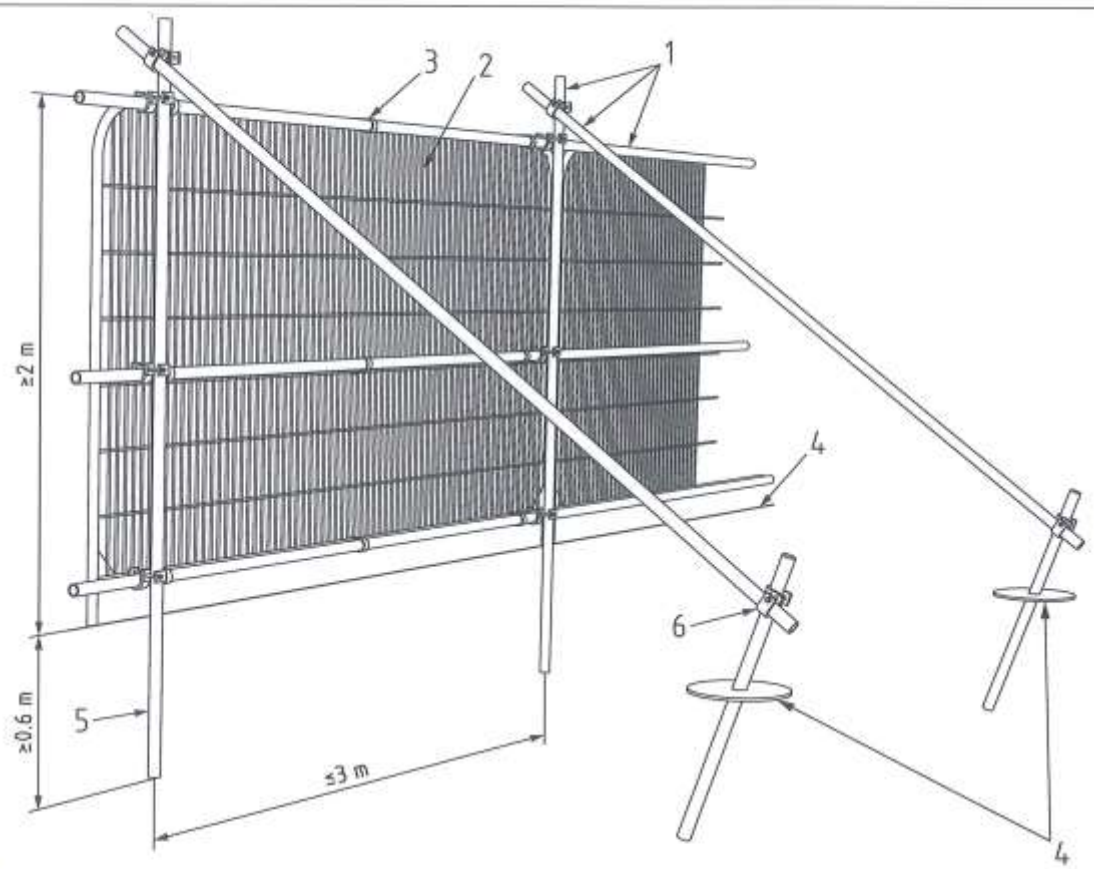
BH 3

Tree Removals & Retentions and Tree Protection Plan
BJH 03/04

+ BS5837:2012 – Figure 2
+ Ground Protection Measures BS5837 – Section 6.2.3.3 Extract
+ Examples of 'No Dig' Porous Surfacing Detail

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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