

Arboricultural Method Statement

Arboricultural Method Statement, Arboricultural Implications Study and
Tree Protection Plan

(in accordance with BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design,
Demolition and Construction)

For:

Name: Mr. R. Woollin

Location: Land adjacent to The Old Vicarage, Church Street, Crowle

Date: 2nd March 2017

(this Method Statement should be read in conjunction with the attached plan/s)

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On the 02/03/2017

Client Details
Mr. R. Woollin

[REDACTED]

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1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this Arboricultural Method Statement is to ensure good practise in the protection of trees during the proposed development/construction of one residential dwelling.

1.1 ENGIE Arboricultural Consultancy has been instructed by Mr. R. Woollin to prepare this Arboricultural Implications Study, Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan for this proposed development based on the recommendations and guidance outlined within the accompanying Arboricultural Report.

1.2 This method statement should be included as part of the specification and schedule of works and issued to all relevant parties including the building contractor.

1.3 Scope of Recommendations and Techniques

This method statement outlines options available for introducing structures and hard surfaces within the root protection area of trees based on the sensitive requirements of tree roots. Information within this method statement includes engineering solutions, of which should be agreed by a specialist engineer.

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2.0 Arboricultural Implications Study

2.1 General Description of Site and Surroundings

It would be reasonable to suggest that the existing site is an extension of the amenity garden space, formerly used by The Old Vicarage, which has now become overgrown with a mixture of trees, shrubs and ground vegetation. Tree species is quite varied and the age class is mostly mature. Generally the trees are located towards or adjacent to the site boundaries. There are 9 individual trees and 1 group of trees that potentially may be affected by this proposal. Primarily the individual trees focus of constraint is below ground, represented by their root protection area (RPA).

2.2 Designations Relating to Trees

North Lincolnshire Borough Council has confirmed that two of the trees within this development are afforded protection of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and that the site and land adjacent is also within a Conservation Area. See formal Arboricultural Report, page 5, 2.0, for further details.

2.3 Implications of Development

2.4 Direct Loss of Trees:

a) 6 individual and 1 group of category “C” trees have been identified for removal in order to facilitate this development site. These trees are T3, T4, T5, T7, T8, T9 and G1. Any category “C” trees within the site boundaries are not expected to be retained in context with the proposed land use, should they present a constraint on how the site is developed. It would be reasonable to suggest that any loss of trees can be mitigated through new planting.

b) Direct Impact of Tree Loss:

The removal of T3, T4, T5, T7, T8, T9 and G1, as proposed, is considered insignificant in context with the surrounding tree population and the impact would be considered transient and the long term landscape character will remain intact. New tree planting within the development, set back from the boundary walls, will mitigate the loss of trees.

2.5 Indirect Impacts

a) Changes in Ground Level:

The existing ground levels are expected to change in order to facilitate the driveway. The lower levels will be graded up to match the existing ground levels close to the existing access and concrete area adjacent to the existing garage block.

b) Changes in Ground Surfaces within the RPA:

Primarily encroachment into the RPA of T2 will be minimal and can be justified, with no requirement for the insertion of specialised engineering.

c) Structures within the RPA:

This proposal does not require the insertion of any structures within the RPA of trees. Therefore, no particular attention will need to be made to foundation design and methods of installation.

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2.6 Changes in Site Use and Tree Management

a) General:

Once the initial trees works have been carried out future management requirements resulting from the proposed development will be periodic crown lifting of the canopies with the reduction of any overextending branches that may interfere with adjacent buildings, overhead utilities, the point of access, the access road and footpath. Further management requirements would be the regular removal of epicormic/sucker growth along with a clean out of any dead wood that may be present.

b) Roads and Footpaths:

Church Road is situated north of this site. Trees within the site do overhang the road or footpath.

c) Potential Root Damage to Infrastructure:

Previous re-pointing of the boundary wall adjacent to T3 is evident, suggesting historical damage from T3. However, there is no evidence to suggest the roots of the trees have damaged other structures or hard surfaces. Provided the proposed development is constructed taking into consideration the below ground constraints it is unlikely damage will occur from roots.

2.7 Potential Nuisance

a) Apprehension:

The design/layout of this proposal avoids as much as practically possible inserting habitable structures and gardens too close to retained trees and therefore limiting possible apprehension from future occupiers. Apprehension can also be limited further through sensible tree management and periodic inspections.

b) Shade/Light:

The actual proximity of the proposed design/layout to retained trees is quite limited. This reduces any nuisance of shade or lack of natural light. Provided retained trees are managed periodically by sympathetic pruning, issues relating to light/shade can be limited. It should be noted that some shading may be desirable reducing glare or excessive solar heating and or providing comfort during hot weather.

c) Tree Litter:

All trees produce a litter of some description, which is only a natural occurrence that is unavoidable. Management requirements such as the removal of leaf litter will be the responsibility of the land owner. Occasionally the amount of litter a tree produces could be reduced slightly through appropriate pruning; however it would never be eradicated. Where conflicts arise, detailed design should address these issues, e.g. use of non-slip paving, provision of leaf guards or grilles on gutters and gullies.

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3.0 Arboricultural Method Statement

3.1 Pre-Development Tree Work

Prior to any construction activity taking place the recommended tree works should take place.

3.2 Specification of Tree Works:

As specified in the Tree Survey Schedule “*Management Recommendations*” (Appendix “A”) of the Arboricultural Report and what works are required to facilitate development on approval.

3.3 Schedule of Tree Works:

- Trees to be removed due to their physiological and structural condition
- Trees to be removed in order to facilitate development of the site
- Tree identified for remedial works

Individual Trees

- T1 – Remove foreign attachments. Lift canopy above existing garage block up to 5m.
- T2 - Lift canopy above existing garage block up to 5m. Clean out any dead, dying, diseased, duplicating and crossing branches.
- T3 - Pear - Fell
- T4 – Goat Willow - Fell
- T5 - Ash - Fell
- T6 – Ash - Clean out any dead, dying, diseased, duplicating and crossing branches.
- T7 - Apple - Fell (due to low quality and value)
- T8 - Blackthorn - Fell (due to low quality and value)
- T9 - Elder - Fell (due to low quality and value)

Group of Trees

- G1 – Leylandii - Fell x 2

Competent contractors must be appointed. All works should be carried out in accordance with the British Standards Recommendations for Tree Work (BS 3998:2010) or any subsequent updates.

All tree works must be completed to the satisfaction of the Local Authority Tree Officer before any other works begin.

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3.4 Installation of Tree Protection Measures

Trees will be protected by barriers as described in the Tree Protection Plan in Appendix “A”. The positioning of the barriers is also shown in Appendix “A”. The barriers will form an exclusion zone that will be regarded as sacrosanct. Vertical barriers will be installed as soon as the pre-development tree work is complete. Once erected the barriers should be regarded as sacrosanct and should not be removed or altered without approval from the LPA.

3.5 The barriers should be fit for the purpose of excluding all construction activity. For this site the barrier should consist of 2m tall welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet joined together using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers, installed so they can only be removed from inside the fence. The panels should be supported on the inner side by stabiliser struts, which would normally be attached to a base plate secured with ground pins (see Appendix “A”). All weather notices should be securely attached to the barrier with words such as: *“Construction Exclusion Zone – KEEP OUT! Removing or moving these barriers may result in a breach of planning conditions”*.

3.6 The primary concern for the protection of trees on this site is to protect, improve and maintain the tree’s micro environment/root system.

3.7 Arboricultural Inspection (Tree Protection Measures)

Once protective barriers have been installed, prior to any other works taking place on site, all tree protective measures will be checked and approved in writing by the appointed arboricultural consultant and/or the Local Authority Tree Officer. Arrangements will be made at a convenient time for the arboricultural consultant and/or the Local Authority Tree Officer to carry out an inspection of the site.

3.8 Construction Phase

As soon as the tree protective measures have been checked and approved in writing by the appointed arboricultural consultant and/or the Local Authority Tree Officer then the principal development construction works may begin.

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3.9 Installation of Services

Where possible, one trench should accommodate foul and surface water discharge, BT, gas, electric and mains water. If encroachment into the RPA of retained trees cannot be avoided and trench-less techniques should be adopted. One such option would be to hand dig a trench minimising the cutting of roots. Pipes and ducted cables can then be thread through enabling installation with very little damage, provided that the borehole is small and deeper than the main lateral roots (see below picture). All roots greater than 25mm diameter should be preserved and worked around. Where it is necessary to sever roots greater than 25mm, advice will be sought from an arboricultural consultant or Tree Officer. If after consultation severance is unavoidable, roots must be cut back in accordance with BS 3998:2010, using a sharp tool to leave a clean cut. Another option would be moling: installing new supply pipes using the trenchless technology known as impact moling, in which percussion or hammering action of a pneumatic piercing tool is used to create a bore by compacting and displacing the soil rather than removing it. When properly employed, impact moling is the simplest and least expensive trenchless technology installation method.

3.10 In the UK, the usual guidelines for trenching by utility companies are provided by NJUG Volume 4 (previously NJUG 10), which is available to download at <http://www.njug.org.uk/publications/>. By agreeing to the guidelines to be followed during trenching, all parties are assured that problems can be solved using a common set of criteria. Supervisors from the appointed contractor should direct operatives to follow the agreed practices and it is quite likely that the Local Authority Tree Officer will monitor for compliance. 14 days written notice of the proposed start date and planned construction period for installation within the RPA shall be provided to the LPA. This will allow the arboricultural officer to arrange a pre-construction meeting or inspect the works during construction if required.



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3.11 During construction/development activities, should there be a need for any variations to the scheme of tree protection, whether planned or reactive, these variations shall be agreed in writing by the Local Authority Tree Officer.

3.12 During construction/development activities, in the event of incidents likely to result in the loss of trees that are to be retained then the site manager or arboricultural consultant shall notify the LPA Tree Officer of the incident within 48 hours.

3.13 The tree protective measures will seal off the exclusion zone and preserve the existing ground conditions, as detailed in the Tree Protection Plan. The tree protection measures should only be removed once all construction activities are complete.

3.14 Construction Phase Complete

Once all construction activity has finished on site/around retained trees the tree protective measures can be removed. Any post development landscape finishes should take into account existing trees and any deep cultivation within the RPA of the trees should be avoided.

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4.0 Summary and Phasing of Works

| Phased Project Management of Tree Issues Throughout Development | |
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| Action | Summary of Detail |
| Pre-Development Tree Work – Prior to any construction activity taking place the recommended tree works should take place. | As specified in the Tree Survey Schedule “ <i>management recommendations</i> ”, Appendix “A”, of the Arboricultural Report and that the works required to facilitate development on approval. |
| Installation of Tree Protection Measures – Trees will be protected by barriers as described in Tree Protection Plan Appendix “A”. The positioning of the barriers is also shown in Appendix “A”. | The barriers should be fit for purpose of excluding all construction activity. Vertical barriers will be installed as soon as the pre-development tree work is complete. Once erected the barriers should be regarded as sacrosanct and should not be removed or altered without approval from the LPA. |
| Arboricultural Inspection (Tree Protection Measures) | All tree protective measures will be checked and approved in writing by the appointed arboricultural consultant and/or the Local Planning Tree Officer. |
| Construction Phase – Once tree protective measures have been formally approved site construction may begin. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any variation to tree protective measures needs to be formally agreed. Any incidents of tree loss during development needs to be reported within 48 hrs. Tree protective measures should be regarded as sacrosanct and should not be removed or altered without approval from the LPA. |
| Construction Phase Complete | The tree protective measures can be removed. Post development landscape finishes should still consider the trees below ground constraints. |

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