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Arboricultural Method Statement

For Tree Protection

At

7 Belton Road,

Epworth,

DN9 1JL

Content

1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose of Method Statement

1.1.1. To ensure works are carried out properly and adhere to all regulations relating to the protection of trees during the proposed construction at 7 Belton Road, Epworth, DN9 1JL.

1.2. Terms of Reference

1.2.1. As instructed by Mr Sid Cherry this Method Statement has been prepared for the proposed development based on our tree survey Ref: 280920/CHE carried out 7th October 2020. The arboricultural survey should be read in conjunction with this Method Statement and conforms to the most recent specifications outlined in BS 5837: 2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction recommendations.*

1.2.2. The proposed development is within a residential garden.

1.2.3. Site plan B-5 has been used for the tree protection plan see **Appendix 4**

1.3. Status of Method Statement

1.3.1. This Method Statement should be included in the specification of works proposed and form part of the contract between employer and employee.

1.3.2. This Method Statement should be available on site for inspection by local authority, contractors, and any other relevant persons.

2. Tree Works Prior, During and Post Construction

2.1. Works Prior Construction

2.1.1. Prior to any construction, the first works on site should be to undertake any necessary arboricultural works either tree removal or remedial pruning.

2.2. Works During Construction

2.2.1. Damage to trees during construction should be prevented using temporary protection barrier also known as a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). All relevant personal on site must be made aware of limitations and regulations that apply. (Please refer to **Section 3.1.3).**

2.2.2. Damage of any trees on site should be immediately reported to Urban Arborist to then discuss and agree on an appropriate course of action to rectify any damages. (contact details in **Appendix 7**).

2.3. Works Post Construction

2.3.1. After the construction has been completed and the protective barrier has been removed remedial works may be required for the overall aesthetic and practicality of the intended development.

2.4. Recommendations for Tree Works

2.4.1. All works must be carried out by experienced, qualified, and adequately insured contractors that follow the *BS 3998: 2010 – Recommendations for Tree Work.*

2.4.2. Any defects or abnormalities seen by the employer or contractor that were not apparent in any prior consultations must be brought to the attention of Urban Arborist immediately.

2.4.3. Urban Arborist cannot accept any liability unless our recommendations are followed under our supervision.

3. The Protective Barrier Prior, During and Post Construction

3.1. Prior Construction

3.1.1. Installing a protective barrier must be carried out after the completion of any necessary tree works.

3.1.2. Other works such as soil stripping, excavations or bringing materials/machinery onto site should be postponed until the protective barrier has been installed and inspected, with the exemption of any construction that is deemed essential.

3.1.3. The protective barrier will be constructed using Heras fencing See example **Appendix 2**. Where possible the protective barrier will enclose the entire Root Protection Area (RPA) to form the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) **minimum radius of twelve times the stem diameter** from the main stem of the protected tree to form the (RPA). (**see Appendix 1 for stem diameter and RPA measurements**) – **This area is to be considered as restricted – no pedestrians, vehicles, storage of materials, equipment or machinery are allowed within the CEZ unless specified within this Method Statement.** (See **Appendix 4** for root protection area (**marked purple**) on plan and **Appendix 5** for **Protection Zone Keep Out Sign.** This sign must be displayed on the protective barrier.

3.2. During Construction

3.2.1. No operation shall take place within the protective area CEZ without prior agreement from the Local Planning Authority or Urban Arborist.

3.3. Post Construction

3.3.1. When the development phase is complete, and any plant machinery has been removed from site the Local Planning Authority should be invited to inspect the site to give approval for the removal of the protective barrier.

4. Construction Phase

4.1. Ground Protection

4.1.1. To retaining as many trees as possible and the logistics of trenching the services if the trees RPA extends outside of the CEZ boarding or matting should be used as a secondary protection against the movement of plant and materials.

4.2. Development of Building and Hard Surfaces

4.2.1. The footprint of the building comes right up to **T1 Sycamore** and **T2 Ash** root protection area.

4.3. Exposed Roots

4.3.1. Any tree roots exposed within the RPA must be left intact as much as possible. This can be achieved by carefully digging around the roots with hand tools.

4.3.2 Exposed roots become desiccated quickly and therefore should be covered over immediately with a dry cloth to prevent freezing during cold weather or with a wet cloth during hot weather.

4.3.3 If any roots are to be severed then clean straight cuts must be made to minimise the extent of wounding. If any roots greater than 50mm are encountered, then a representative for Urban Arborist must be informed before any further work is undertaken.

4.4. Excavations and Services

4.4.1. Drainage and services will take the path of least resistance and should be outside of the trees RPA. If this is unavoidable, please refer to **Appendix 3** for methods of installing underground services while minimising the damage to tree roots.

4.5. Location of Site Compound

4.5.1. It is important that site compounds, officers, mess facilities, toilets, storage of materials/chemicals and parking should not be permitted close to trees.

5. Post Construction Phase

5.1 Completion

5.1.1 After completion of the works specified in **Section 4** Urban Arborist should be contacted to check if any remedial works are required.

5.1.2 Any remedial works should be confirmed in writing and be carried out by experienced, qualified, and adequately insured contractors that follows the *BS 3998: 2010 – Recommendations for Tree Work.*

5.2 Post construction maintenance

5.2.1 The trees on site may require ongoing maintenance to keep them from fouling building and access routes.

5.2.2 Any landscaping projects should avoid ground level changes, deep digging, rotavating or other cultivation methods.

5.2.3 Any herbicides used should be appropriate for the intended use and only applied by trained professionals.

6. Summary of process

Process	Action	✓	Initial
Stage 1	Ensure approval of Local planning authority for all listed requirements		
Stage 2	Carry out tree works as detailed in **Appendix 1**		
Stage 3	Build protective barrier as detailed in **Appendix 2** and as shown on the Tree Protection plan **Appendix 4**		

Stage 4	Installation of ground protection within the RPAs of any trees not protected by the barrier, detailed in **Section 4**		
Stage 5	Inspection of protective barrier and ground protection methods conducted by the Local Planning Authority prior to any on site construction. **After inspection barrier and ground protection must not be moved or altered**.		
Stage 6	Development/construction of building as detailed in **Section 4**		
Stage 7	After development/construction completion and the departure of any site traffic or machinery the protective barrier and ground protection can be removed.		
Stage 8	Post development/construction, assess and remedy any minor tree damages or landscaping needs if required.		

APPENDICES 1

Appendix 1: Tree Descriptions Recommendation (RPA) Measurements and Key

NO	TREE TYPE	TH (m)	SD (mm)	CS (M)	CH (M)	AGE	PHYS COND	STRUCTURAL CONDITION	PRELIMINARY MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIOS	LIFE EXP	CAT
T1	Sycamore *(Acer)*	18	600	N, 6 E, 6 S, 6 W, 7	2	M	Fair	Cavities on the main stem @ approx. 6, some major deadwood greater than 50mm diameter	Remove dead wood and sucker growth from main stem	20/ 30	B
T2	Ash (Fraxinus)	16	700	N, 6 E, 10 S, 8 W, 8	3	M	Poor	Stem covered in Ivy so unable to inspect, multi-stemmed @ approx. 6m, portions of the crown dead	Remove Ivy to enable full inspection, remove deadwood and Monitor	0/10	C

NO	TREE TYPE	(RPA)
T1	Sycamore *(Acer)*	Minimum 7.2m radius from main stem of tree
T2	Ash (Fraxinus)	Minimum 8.4m radius from main stem of tree

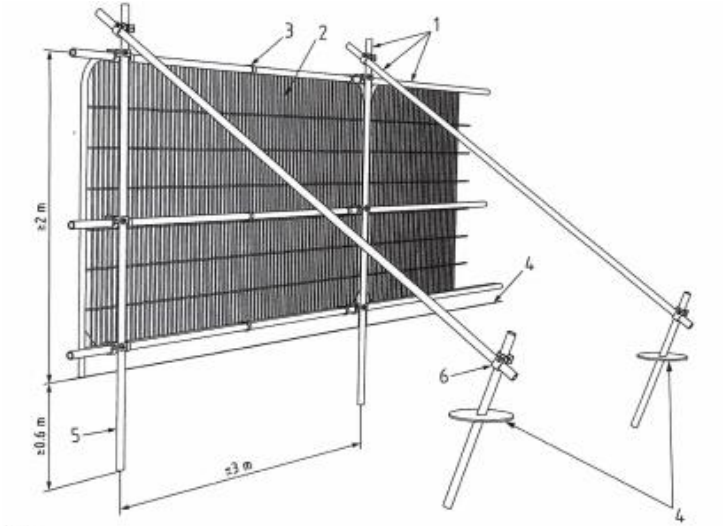
Key

No.	T=Tree H=Hedge G=Group S=Shrub in relating to site plan
TREE TYPE	Common name followed by Genus name in italic

HT (m)	Height of tree in meters from ground level
SD (mm)	Stem Diameter in mm at breast height (1.5m from ground level)
CS	Crown Spread in Cardinal Directions North, East, South, West
CH	Crown Height of lowest branch from ground level
AGE	Age of Tree Y = Young SM = Semi mature M = Mature OM = Over Mature D=Dead
PHYSICAL CONDITION	Good, Fair, Poor, Dead
STRUCTURAL CONDITION	Identifying any defects within the form or structure
PRELIMINARY MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS	Tree Works Recommended
LIFE EXP	Estimated Remaining Life Expectancy
CAT	Grade of the tree relating to retention category see **Appendix 2** Tree Report Ref: 280920/CHE
RPA	Root Protection Area, minimum 12 x stem diameter

Appendix 2: Protective Barrier

A2.1 The protective barrier will be appropriate to the degree and proximity of likely construction works. The default specification of BS 5837: 2012 recommends a vertical and horizontal, scaffold framework, well braced to resist impacts, with vertical tubes at no more than 3m intervals. These should be driven into the ground. Weld mesh panels should be fixed to this framework with scaffold clamps – See Figure 1 and Figure 2



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

Figure 1: Protective Barrier to BS 5837: 2012

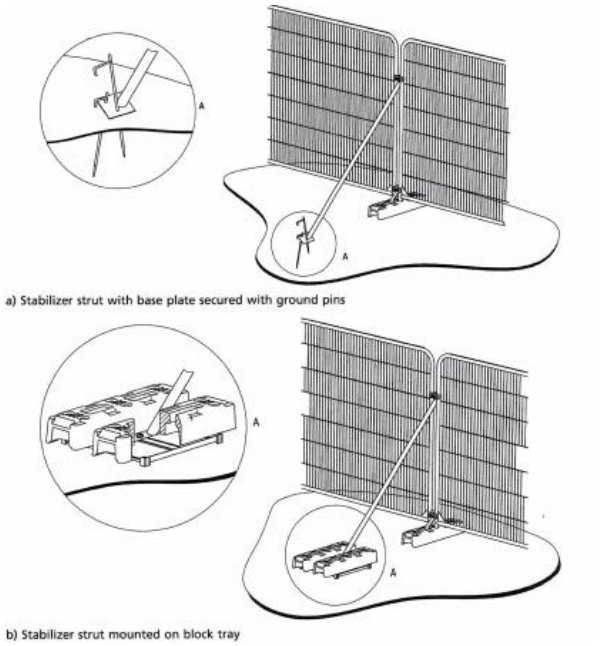


Figure 2: Examples of above-ground stabilising systems

A2.2 In certain circumstances, site buildings, such as a Portakabin, may be used in place of a protective barrier where space is at a premium.

Appendix 3: Utilities and Drainage

A3.1 Over-ground services should ideally be routed away from areas where they are likely to interfere with the crowns of mature trees. Similar any landscaping should take account of over-ground services and mature tree size.

A3.2 NJUG 10: *Guidelines for the planning, installation, and maintenance of Utility services in Proximity to trees* is a principle set of guidelines on working near trees for the utilities sector and should be considered when installing services.

A3.3 New underground services should be grouped together and routed away from Root Protection Areas. Where this is not possible, techniques should be adopted which avoid the severance of many roots. Some examples are listed below.

Radial trenching: This is illustrated in Figure 3. Trenches should be hand dug and kept as narrow as possible. They should not extend to within 1m from the base of the tree trunk. Exposed roots larger than 25mm in diameter should be retained with their bark intact. A mechanical mole should ideally be used for the section beneath the tree.

Mechanical Mole: pits are excavated beyond the RPA and the mechanical device is sent through the protected area at a depth of no less than 0.6m. Machinery should be selected which can be externally lubricated by water rather than oil etc.

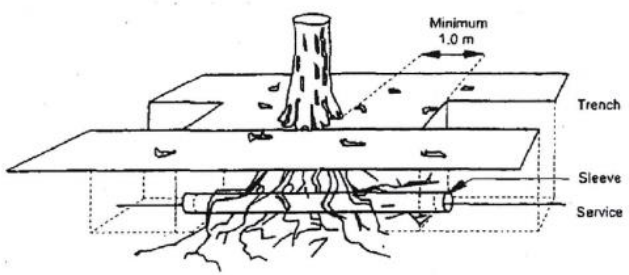


Figure 3: Radial Trenching

Appendix 4: Tree Protection Plan

Appendix 5: Protection Zone Keep Out Sign

TREE PROTECTION ZONE

NO STORAGE OR OPERATIONS WITHIN THIS AREA

KEEP OUT

RESTRICTED ACCESS

NO VEHICLES

NO STORAGE OF MATERIALS

REPORT DAMAGE TO URBAN ARBORIST LTD

01302 832536

Appendix 6: Authors Qualifications

Nick Marsh/Urban Arborist Has a Diploma in *Arboriculture/Urban Forestry, (Dip.Arb),* over 25 years of experience working within the tree care industry, plus various NPTC and LANTRA qualification associated with carrying out tree work.

Appendix 7: Relevant Contact Details

Contact Name	Organisation	Contact Number
Nick Marsh Tree Surgeon Specialist	Urban Arborist Ltd	01302 832536
Andrea Brocklebank Environment Officer (Trees and Landscape)	North Lincolnshire Council	01724 297000