25/00802/HHFUL

TREE PROTECTION PLAN AND METHOD STATEMENT FOR PROPOSED WORKS (NEW GARDEN FENCE AND SHED) AT 1 BRIDGE TERRACE ST IVES.

04.08.25

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Introduction.

This statement has been prepared following comments received from the Tree Officer 24.07.25 in relation to planning application 25/00802/HHFUL which identified RPAs not being shown on the submitted plans and works proposed works within the likely RPAs once indicated.

Root Protection Areas (RPAs) are governed by British Standard BS5837:2012 – *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*. This standard is essential for protecting trees during development and construction projects.

An RPA is the minimum area around a tree that must be protected to maintain its health and stability and is applicable to trees with a trunk diameter greater than 75mm.

It is generally calculated as a circle with a radius 12 times the tree's stem diameter (measured at 1.5m above ground).

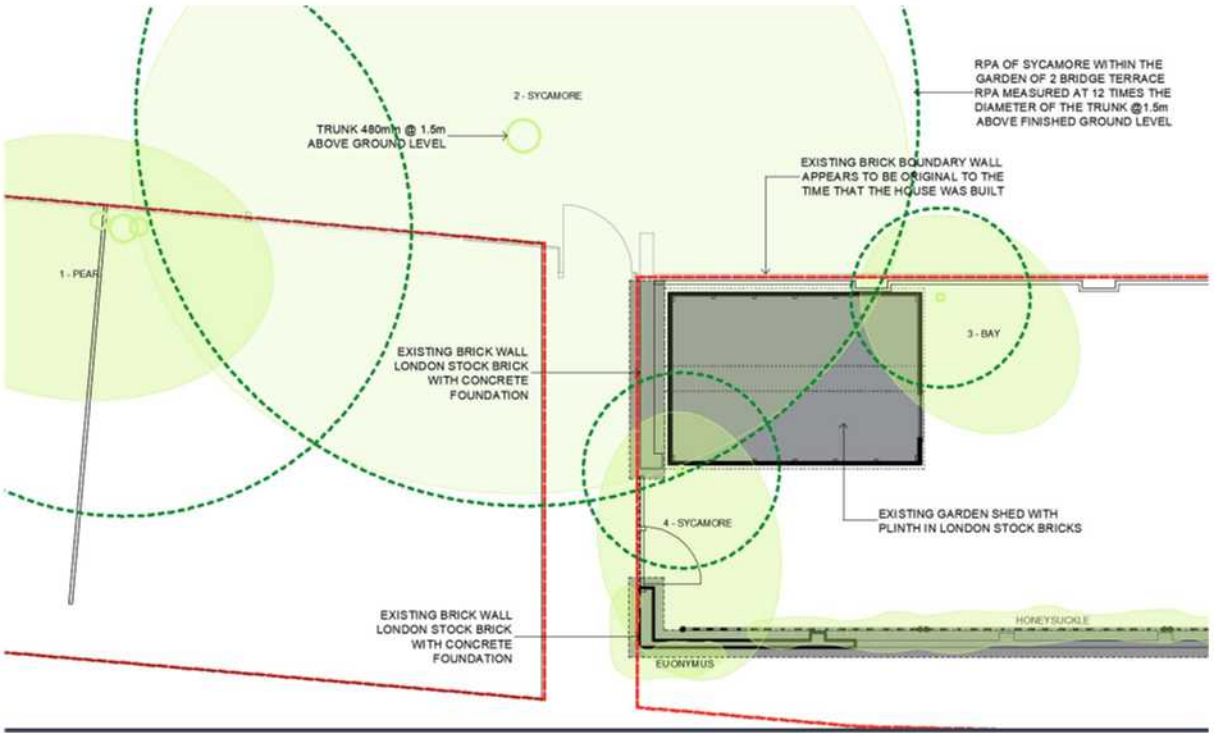
However, the application for the new boundary fence to replace the remains of an existing brick garden wall which as a concrete foundation and a new shed, to replace an existing garden shed that is in poor condition should be recognised as the proposed works share the same footprints as the existing elements as closely as possible.

Trees incidental to this application.

1. The Pear tree within my garden beyond the is a multi-stemmed tree with the two major limbs each 250mm dia. The combined dia. Calculation requires an RPA radius of 4240mm. The RPA of this tree is not incidental to the proposed works to the shed of fence.
2. The trunk of the Sycamore within the garden of no.2 Bridge Terrace is 480mm dia. This equates to an RPA with a radius of 5760mm.

3. The Bay tree within out garden has a trunk diameter of 110mm which equates to an RPA radius of 1320mm.
4. The young Sycamore within our garden has a trunk diameter of 120mm and self set from the neighbour's tree in the last 7 years or so, and it one that we are keen to retain. The RPA radius for this tree is 1440mm. The RPA of this tree is incidental to the shed but not the fence.

The RPAs identified above are shown on the plan below of the existing garden arrangement. The plan also highlights the footprint of the existing shed, garden wall and foundations.



Plan showing existing shed, boundary (brick) wall and foundations in relation to RPAs.

Existing elements in relation to RPAs.

The Pear tree (1) is outside of the area for which the proposed works could have a notable influence on it's condition.

The Bay tree (3) is in good health and is likely to have been planted after the existing shed was built and there are no signs of heave or subsidence where the tree and shed currently located in close proximity to one another.



Photo of the shed base adjacent to the Bay Tree – Gound bearing brick plinth to the existing shed. No signs of significant roots in the area where our dog as been digging.

It is known that the Sycamore (4) within our garden post dates the shed and existing garden walls but a good number of years and it's roots are not affecting either the shed or the adjacent retained brick boundary wall. The proposed shed to replace the existing one is to set back relative to the existing footprint to allow for growth of this tree.

The RPA of the mature Sycamore (2) within the neighbour's garden is outside of the location of proposed works to replace the garden wall with a fence. The RPA is incidental to the footprint of the proposed shed. However, the location of the shed is on the far side of the brick wall that is at the rear of our garden. The proposed shed is to share a similar footprint as the existing shed on the far side of that wall. As the wall is built of London stock bricks – the same as the wall that runs down the side of the garden, it is assumed that it also has a concrete foundation as it was likely to have been built at the same time. There are no signs of heave or subsidence where the wall currently exists within the RPA of that tree.



Rear garden wall to be overclad in timber to match the fence. No signs of ground disturbance due to tree roots from the Sycamore at 2 Bridge Terrace.

Proposed shed.

The submitted Design, Access and Heritage Statement notes within section 7 that -

"The proposal is to replace the shed with a similar footprint that follows the materiality of the boundary fence, the notable difference in footprint, is to set back one corner of the shed to allow a Sycamore tree that has self seeded to continue to grow and mature. Retention of other areas of the original footings are to be used so as to avoid disturbance of the roots to a Bay tree within the garden".

"It is intended that the branches of another Sycamore tree (2) within the garden of the neighbouring property will not be pruned, simply moved slightly to allow for the new height of the structure which it currently oversails".



Extract above from submitted drawing 1BT.PR.03/P01 – Proposed Shed Plan + Elevations with RPAs overlaid.

From the submitted drawing above, the correlation between the proposed and existing shed bases can be seen whereby only the elevation facing the new fence projects beyond the line of the existing shed footprint.

Method statement for installation of the new fence.

- The proposed new fence follows the line of an existing concrete strip foundation and is outside of the line of any RPAs of adjacent trees.

- That foundation is to be broken out locally to allow for the installation of timber fence posts bedded in concrete / postcrete for durability and to ensure that the post are able to withstand wind loads as the fence is exposed to the openness of Wilhorn Meadow.

- Materials for the fence are to be stored within the rear unenclosed are of the garden that is used for car parking.

Method statement for installation of the new shed.

- The existing shed is built on a base of dry laid bricks on the ground and up to a depth up to 100mm nom. below finished ground level adjacent to the bay tree (4).

- Only two sides (north west and north east) elevations are open to the garden. The other two sides are located behind brick boundary walls.

- The exact nature of the existing foundation and any tree roots incidental to the footprint of the proposed shed will not be known under the existing shed is taken down.

- The existing brick foundation is to be retained generally, save for the area adjacent to the Sycamore tree (4) within the garden where the existing brick are to be removed to set back that corner of the footprint of the proposed shed.

- The ground along the north east elevation is to be hand dug to check for tree roots. No mechanical equipment is to be use in forming the base to the new shed. If tree roots are found, the floor of the shed will be cantilevered from the existing base to avoid disturbance.

- It is anticipated that pad foundations in the form of paving slabs inside the line of the will be existing brick strip foundations will be used from which a timber joisted floor to the shed will be built off of. The location of the pads will be subject to hand dug investigation of any existing tree roots in that area.

- If tree roots within area of the proposed works are discovered, an Arboricultural Consultant will be asked for advice before proceeding further.

- Tree protection fencing will not be provided as the trees are either beyond brick walls from where the works are proposed or, directly adjacent to the proposed works where the fencing would obstruct the works from proceeding.

- Materials for the fence are to be stored within the rear unenclosed are of the garden that is used for car parking.

- The shed works will be undertaken by myself – the home owner. We therefore have a direct interest in the retention and wellbeing of the trees next to where we wish to replace an aging structure with something new.