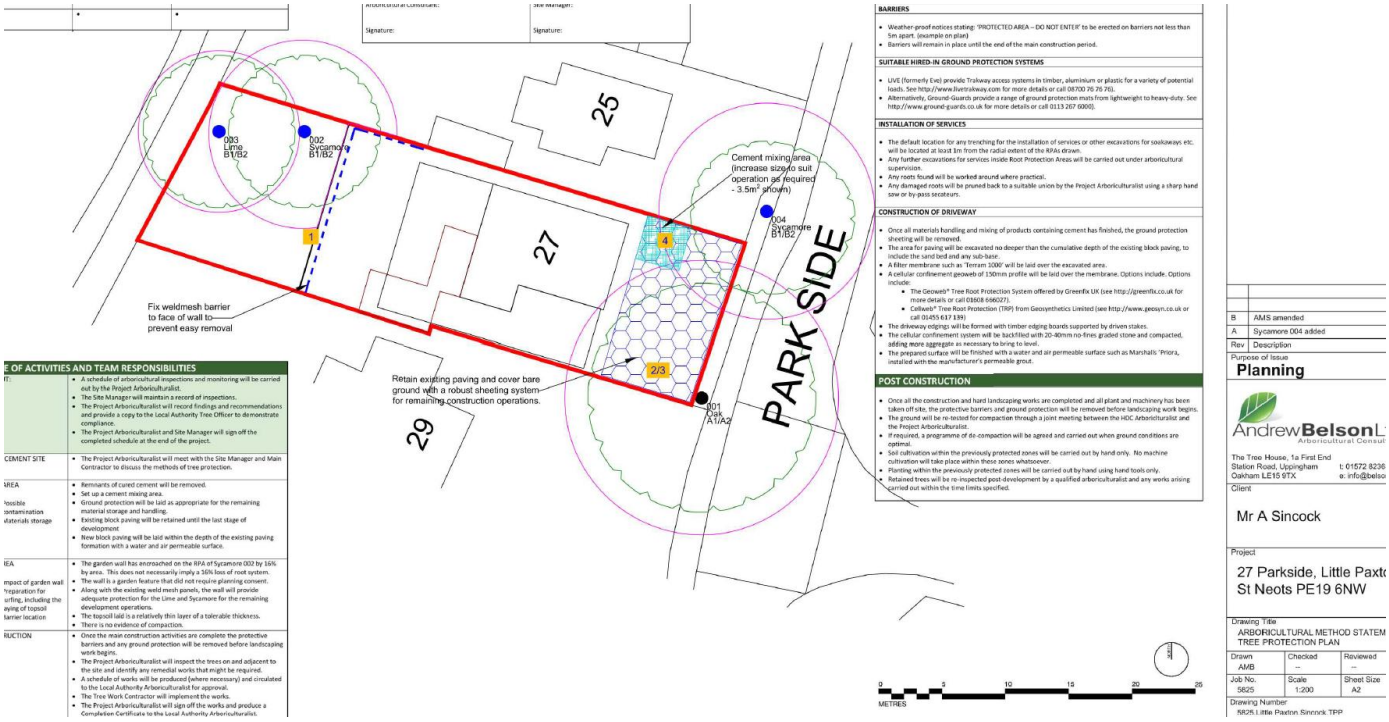
Arboricultural Consultation Response

Application No: 25/00829/HHFUL	**Location:** 27 Parkside, Little Paxton
Case Officer: OM	**Proposals:**

Observations:

An application has been submitted for the extension of a private bungalow. This is complicated by the fact that previous Arb Method Statements were not followed, so new ones are required.

The proposal is not located within a Conservation Area, but there are TPO's in place on the property protecting a number of large mature trees that provide significant benefits to the area. These must therefore be taken into account during the construction process.



The new proposal uses ground protection measures to protect the rooting zone of the trees to the front of the property. Any mixing of chemicals is to be completed within a bunded area.

The driveway is to retain any existing paving and have any residual cement/construction material cleared away by hand, before ground protection matting is used to prevent any further damage.

The driveway will consist of permeable membrane and Cellweb, graded stone, and a water/air permeable surface.

Protective fencing in the rear garden is shown in an appropriate location, as the RPA has been impacted by previous excavations.

HDC policies state that construction should be avoided within RPA's due to the likely damage caused.

LP 30: Biodiversity and Geodiversity

This policy focuses on safeguarding and enhancing the district's ecological value.

- **Development must avoid harm** to biodiversity and geodiversity assets, including trees, woodlands, and habitats.
- Proposals should align with national planning policy.

- If harm is unavoidable, it must be **minimised and mitigated**, with compensation as a last resort.
- The policy supports the **protection of trees** as part of wider ecological networks—especially those with veteran or ancient status.

This indirectly reinforces the protection of RPAs by discouraging development that would damage root systems or tree health.

LP 31: Trees, Woodland, Hedges and Hedgerows

- Development proposals must **retain and protect existing trees**, especially those of high arboricultural or landscape value.
- **Encroachment into RPAs is discouraged**, and any such impact must be justified and mitigated.
- Proposals should include **tree surveys and arboricultural impact assessments**, following BS5837 standards.
- New planting is encouraged to **enhance green infrastructure** and compensate for unavoidable losses.

Recommendation: Support Application – The proposed measures should prevent further damage to the trees on site.

Signed: NS	**Date: 18/08/2025**