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Construction Associates

BS 5837 Arboricultural Report for Development

CLIENT:	Construction Associates
SITE:	13 Rideaway Drive, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AQ
OUR REF:	2279/CJO/2803
DATE OF REPORT:	3 September 2025 – Rev2

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report comprises an arboricultural impacts assessment to assist a planning at 13 Rideaway Drive, Hemingford Abbots for a garden room to the rear of the site. Three B grade trees and one C grade tree is identified. T2 and T4 are third party trees. No tree removal or facilitation pruning is required (other than minor crown-lifting). RPA incursions are entirely negligible and of no material relevance with respect to the willow T2. 11.8% incursion affects T1 which is just over half the acceptable threshold for RPA incursion as detailed din the British Standard. Since this incursion involves no groundworks, moreover, the vast majority of root over sailed by this incursion will continue to survive. Measures are detailed to further mitigate any impact. An electrical supply from the house will be afforded by armoured cable laid across the ground. Building activity taking place within RPAs may occur but can be avoided through the use of appropriate ground protection and exclusion zone with liberal available space to carry out the work.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Brief

We are instructed to provide an arboricultural impacts assessment to assist a planning application at 13 Ridgeway Drive, Hemingford Abbots and detail a scheme to mitigate any impacts on trees. The detailed tree protection strategy is provided to obviate the need for a tree protection condition.

Recommendations are consistent with the most recently revised version of the British Standard on this subject, "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations", BS 5837 (2012).

These details are provided to assist the planning authority in determining the application. Opinions expressed in this report in relation to the physical or aesthetic quality and value of trees are made on an impartial and non-prejudicial basis, based on observations made during the site survey.

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1.2 Background, planning proposal and documents

Plans are based on the drawings provided by Cameron Bosque Brookes Architects.

This report has been updated to take account of tree officer comments and include:

1 – More details with respect foundations
2 – More details with respect to new services
3 – Introduction of an exclusion zone for the ash T4

1.3 Site Description

The site comprises a semi-detached dwelling within a cul-de-sac in Hemingford Abbots.

It backs onto open rural ground to the south. The western boundary is delineated by a road providing access to a row of garages.

Mature and attractive gardens are located to front and rear. A number of mature trees are noted to the rear within and off-site.



Image courtesy of Googlemaps

2.0 TREES

2.1 Trees data

A total of 4 trees were recorded.

In accordance with current British Standard requirements, the following information was recorded for all trees and other significant woody vegetation:

- Sequential (alphanumeric) reference number e.g. prefixed 'T' for tree and 'G' for group;
- Species (common and scientific names);
- Height (m)
- Stem diameter (mm);
- Branch spread measured (where access allows) at the four cardinal points (N, S, E, W);
- Existing height above ground level of (a) first significant branch and direction of growth and (b) canopy;
- Life stage (e.g. young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature and over-mature);
- General observations (structural and physiological) and/or preliminary management recommendations;
- Estimated remaining contribution in years (<10, 10-20, 20-40, >40);
- Retention category (U, A, B, C) and sub-categories thereof.

The survey does not include a detailed assessment of the health and or safety of the recorded trees, but clear faults influencing retention categories are factored into the structural and physiological comments. Where remedial work to avoid foreseeable harm is deemed necessary, this may form part of the preliminary management recommendations.

2.2 Trees and the law

According to the LHA interactive map the site is located in a Conservation Area.

It is also noted that the silver birch T1 is subject to TPO 12/00.

Trees subject to statutory protection require permission from the local authority before any works are carried out on them. Unauthorised works can result in large fines and prosecution.

Section 197 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 states that it shall be the duty of the local planning authority to ensure whenever it is appropriate, that in granting planning permission, "adequate provision is made, by the imposition of conditions, for the preservation or planting of trees". Even when no specific legal protection exists it may be necessary to obtain a felling licence from the Forestry Commission if the volume

of timber removed exceeds felling license quotas.

The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 and Conservation of Habitats and species Regulations 2017 (as amended) are of relevance if tree works are planned within periods that may disturb breeding birds or mammals. Work should ideally be scheduled to avoid these periods.

Section 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework adopted in July 2023 states that, “Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment”.

2.3 Tree schedule and summary of trees

Details of trees are provided in the tabulated information at Appendix A. Please refer to Appendix B for a key to the tree schedule and for an explanation and definitions of the BS 5837 quality categorisations.

T1 and T4 are on site. T2 and T4 are third party trees.

Three B grade trees and one C grade tree is identified.

The B grade trees comprise two mature silver birch in good health (T1 and T3) with high biodiversity and landscape value and a large white willow T2 located in the land to the south of the site.

The willow T1 is a multi stemmed and highly prominent specimen. A substantial limb has torn out of the south of the tree and other limbs may be subject to occasional limbs failure in the future.

3.0 TREE RELATED SITE CONSTRAINTS – GENERAL

3.1 Constraints to development posed by tree crowns/canopies

Where crown/canopies of trees to be retained overhang a development site, assessment of the implications must be made to ascertain whether this will obstruct development and whether facilitation pruning is required.

No such constraints are identified.

3.2 Longer term implications of retained trees on quality of life

New structures and parking spaces close to trees may give rise to some long-term resentment of the trees through a variety of causes, some real and some perceived, resulting on pressure to remove the trees. These can include loss of ambient light or sunlight, leaf/needle litter and other debris from trees accumulating in gutters and gardens, sticky residues (honeydew) on surfaces and cars, provision of perches for birds - particularly pigeons - and consequent bird droppings and anxiety stemming from the presence of large trees close dwellings.

No such longer term constraints arise at a materially significant level.

Debris landing on the structure can be anticipated but, due to the nature of the structure as a small garden building, this cannot reasonably be deemed a source of resentment or of pressure to remove trees.

3.3 Indirect damage (subsidence/heave)

All new buildings must be cognisant of the shrinkability of the ground and ensure foundations are designed in full compliance with Chapter 4.2 of the NHBC guidelines "Building near trees", 2013, to ensure future co-existence with trees and new buildings.

4.0 ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT (AIA)

4.1 Effect of development on trees - General

The objective of the report is to identify and evaluate the extent of direct and indirect damage on existing trees that may arise as a result of the implementation of the proposed development without appropriate guidance. A tree may take a century to reach maturity, but it can be irretrievably damaged in a few minutes often because of a failure to appreciate the vulnerability of trees and particularly the root systems. *Irreparable damage is frequently done to existing trees in the first few days of a contractor's occupation of a site.* It is important to be aware that the effects of tree damage may not be apparent for some time.

There are a multitude of activities that can kill or damage trees on construction sites and there is a need to be mindful of these activities and why they may be so harmful to trees. These are briefly summarized below.

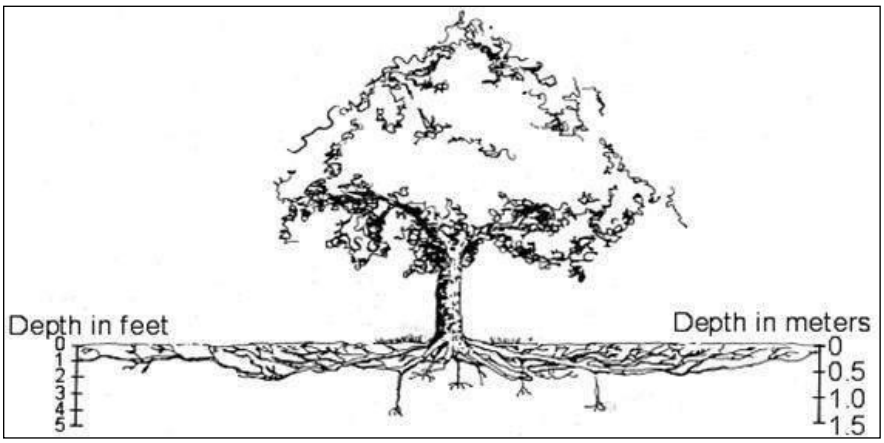


Figure 2 - Typical root distribution of tree roots

4.1.1 Direct mechanical damage (*Referred to as D-1 in this report*)

Direct damage to the crown or stem is unlikely to kill a tree unless it is significant but may disfigure it and result in long-term decay setting in. This often occurs as a result of construction activities taking place too close to trees without protection or appropriate pre-construction tree surgery.

4.1.2 Ground compaction (*Referred to as D-2 in this report*)

This is likely to be the most common cause of tree death or decline on a building site. The vast majority of tree roots are located in the upper soil horizons where soil conditions are most favourable for root growth. It is these upper horizons that are most vulnerable to ground compaction. Compaction destroys soil structure, and this prevents soil moisture absorption into the ground and loss of natural aeration. This process deprives tree roots of moisture as well as giving rise to root asphyxiation and is often fatal to trees.

4.1.3 Changes in ground level (*Referred to as D-3 in this report*)

The majority of a tree's root systems are generally located in the upper 0.6m of the ground and the bulk of these roots happen to be very small, delicate and essential feeder roots. Reductions in ground level such as soil stripping can be catastrophic for a tree's health. Conversely increases in ground level can result in root asphyxiation.

4.1.4 Severance of roots by ground works (*Referred to as D-4 in this report*)

Excavation of ground to remove old foundations and hard standing, construction of conventional concrete footings, new hard standing or the installation of services such as water/sewerage pipes, gas/electricity cables, TV/telephone cables using open trenching within the driplines of trees severs any roots present,

potentially leading to destabilization, decline or death of trees. It May also have implications for local soil hydrology.

4.1.5 Contamination of ground (*Referred to as D-5 in this report*)

Spillage of petrol, diesel, paint removers, wood preservatives and many other toxic liquids regularly used on building sites can kill roots.

4.1.6 Change in ground surface (*Referred to as D-6 in this report*)

Covering surfaces with impermeable materials – especially areas that were previously open ground can prove fatal for tree roots. Trees derive moisture from regular moisture recharge of the ground and nutrients generated by the nutrient cycle from decomposing leaf litter. Impervious surfaces can also prevent gaseous interchange between the ground and the atmosphere creating a build-up of toxic waste gases such as carbon dioxide and a deprivation of oxygen.

4.2 Effect of development on trees specific to this site

4.2.1 Tree Works

Minor crown lifting of T1 and T2 is advised to ensure a not less that 3m clearance between structures and trees. This will have a negligible impact on the form of the trees.

4.2.2 RPA Encroachment

The British Standard states that incursion "should not exceed 20% of any existing unsurfaced ground within the RPA". This is guidance; though encroachment upon the RPA should be avoided, it can be acceptable in certain conditions and this involves assessment of the tolerance levels of the tree based on a variety of factors. The calculated RPA incursions are tabulated below.

The proposed garden room results in an incursion into the RPAs of T1 and T2 of 11.8% and 1.2% respectively.

These figures are below the 20% threshold generically recommended in the British Standard. The prevailing consensus is that all incursions into RPAs will impact on trees in some way and every effort should be made to further mitigate, even when the incursion is below theoretical incursion limit of 20%. Incursion affecting T1 and T3 is quite negligible and of no material significance.

That affecting T1 is low and just over half the acceptable threshold. Notwithstanding this low theoretical level of incursion, the impact is in reality less than the 11.8% implies in view of the nature of the incursion.

The incursion is represented by a garden building that will be constructed on ground screws without any use of concrete and involving no groundworks. It is reasonably anticipated that the majority of the roots covered by this structure will remain undamaged and will continue to grow,

A small timber summer house is proposed to be constructed on ground screws too that will encroach on 1.6% of the RPA of T3 and less than 0.5% of T2's RPA. These are of no material significance.

Tree No.	Garden room %	Summer house %	**Total %**
T1	11.8	-	**11.8**
T2	1.2	0.2	**1.4**
T3	-	1.6	**1.6**

Green <10% Amber 11-19% Red 20%+

Please refer, however, to section 4.2.3 and 4.2.4 for further comment on RPA incursions.

4.2.3 General construction activity within RPAs

Construction activity associated with the proposed works can potentially be damaging to trees that have RPAs encroaching within the site.

These impacts can include general site clearance and levelling; movement of heavy plant; mixing of cementitious substances; storage of materials, vehicular access and parking and fires. The impacts are summarised above as D1, D2 & D5.

The magnitude of construction works in this instance is low but should not be overlooked in view of the proximity of T1 and T2. These activities can be addressed through appropriate protection involving the use of ground protection.

4.2.4 RPA incursion of underground services

An electrical supply will be connected to the garden building from the house.

This will be provided using armoured cable that will be laid at ground levels and not trenched in to the ground.

No other services are proposed.

4.3 Conclusion

No tree removal or facilitation pruning is required (other than minor crown-lifting).

RPA incursions are entirely negligible and of no material relevance with respect to the willow T2 and, at 11.8% affecting T1, just over half the acceptable threshold for RPA incursion as detailed in the British Standard. Since this incursion involves no groundworks, moreover, the vast majority of root over sailed by the garden building will continue to survive.

An electrical supply from the house will be afforded by armoured cable and not trenched into the ground.

Building activity taking place within RPAs may occur but can be avoided through use of appropriate ground protection and exclusion zone with liberal available space to carry out the work.

5.0 PHASING OF INSPECTION/MONITORING

5.1 Introduction

Section 3 provides all the details relating to tree protection specific to this development. Critical to its implementation is a clear understanding of when and how the protection is implemented, what action must be taken when there is a breach of the approved protection and how to implement any changes in the approved protection necessitated by unanticipated events/changes in design.

5.2 Site Arboriculturist

An appropriately experienced and professional arboriculturist must be appointed at the outset whose role will be to ensure full compliance of the approved tree protection measures through regular monitoring and maintenance of a progress sheet that shall be signed off by the arboriculturist and site manager (or equivalent) on completion of the development and submitted to the LPA.

5.3 Stage 1 - Pre-commencement meeting

This will involve the arboriculturist, the site manager and other relevant site personnel and optionally the local authority arboricultural officer. He/she must be given sufficient advance warning of the meeting. This meeting could be viewed as a form of induction and will ensure:

1. a full understanding exists of what and where the tree protection comprises - if necessary, the site can be marked out to indicate the positioning of protection.
2. if and when arboricultural supervision is required.
3. exchange of all relevant contact details and distribution of an arboricultural site monitoring record.
4. that all parties are happy with what is agreed and that it is deemed practical. Any tweaks/changes made at this stage that vary to the approved details must be agreed by the LPA Tree Officer and a means of ensuring this is appropriately recorded with the LPA determined.

There is no reason why the tree protection cannot be installed prior to this meeting so long as the opportunity remains for adjusting or improving it according to advice from the site arboriculturist.

5.4 Stage 2 - Monitoring

The arboriculturist will monitor the development through regular, informal site visits or in accordance with an agreed schedule. The inspection record will be completed and signed off after each visit.

Any discrepancies to the approved, implemented protection shall be highlighted and the site arboriculturist recommended course of action implemented immediately, if necessary, stopping all development until resolved. A re-inspection will be organised to ensure satisfactory resolution.

The site manager will contact the arboriculturist immediately if damage to trees or root zones occurs.

5.5 Stage 3 - Supervision

The arboricultural method statement (AMS) may specify sensitive works within Root Protection Areas that require arboricultural supervision. These will be clearly shown in the AMS. The site manager will contact the site arboriculturist when this is ready to be carried out.

5.6 Stage 4 - Completion

On completion of all works on site, the site arboriculturist will be called to site to carry out a final inspection of the trees and the integrity of the RPAs. A Record of Completion will be signed by the site arboriculturist and the site manager and submitted to the LPA for discharge or complete discharge of outstanding conditions.

This will not be completed where damage to trees or RPAs is noted at this final inspection until remedial measures as agreed between the site arboriculturist and the LPA Arboricultural Officer are fully implemented.

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

1.0 Successful avoidance of any damage can be achieved through appropriate tree protection details, correct implementation of these details and close liaison with the Council's tree officer and the appointed arboriculturist.

2.0 These details and procedures are provided in the arboricultural method statements outlined below and illustrated in the Tree Protection Plans at Appendix G. All key site personnel must fully familiarise themselves and understand this method statement and tree protection plan. A copy of the method statement must be kept on site at all times. To ensure the correct installation of the tree protection and its continued efficacy throughout the construction process, the following principals must apply:

- **All relevant aspects of this method statement must be incorporated into the construction method statement to avoid any conflicts.**
- **No building work or other activity associated with development can take place until the approved protection measures are in place and secure, and a site meeting between involving the contractor, architect, arboricultural officer and consultant has taken place.**
- **Details of key site personnel will be submitted to the Council's arboricultural officer prior to the commencement of site works.**
- **All key site personnel must fully familiarise themselves and understand this method statement and tree protection plans.**
- **A copy of this method statement must be kept on site at all times. A large (not less than A3 size) copy of the TPP must be placed on the site office notice-board**.

The tree protection strategy is based on the creation of exclusion zones and ground protection where access within RPAs is required and appropriate treatment of roots.

6.0 TREE PROTECTION SPECIFICS

6.1 Installation of protective barriers

An RPA is defined in BSI 5837 (2012) as "the area surrounding a tree that contains sufficient rooting volume to ensure the survival of the tree".

Damage to the RPA can be avoided through the establishment of Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZ) with the use of protective fencing. The use of a CEZ prevents or limits RPA incursion by separating from construction activity.

The positioning of all tree protection fencing is clearly illustrated on the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix F.

The barriers used to secure the CEZ must be installed prior to commencement of any construction activity. Once erected and secured the exclusion zone must not under any circumstances be altered or removed without advice from the arboriculturist and/or approval of the local planning authority.

BS 5837:2012 recommends weld mesh Heras-type panels secured firmly to a scaffold framework (scaffold clamps are recommended) and braced with diagonal stabilizer struts all secured to the ground with metal pins, see Appendix B.

NOTE: In the event the fencing becomes damaged it must be repaired or replaced as soon as is reasonably practicable to preserve its efficacy.

Tree protection posters as shown at Appendix C should be secured to the fencing to serve as explanation for its presence.

Only once the protective fencing is in place and secured, (as well as any other protection measures detailed below) may construction commence. The fencing will remain in place and secured until such time that all construction is complete, and materials/equipment have been removed from the site.

6.2 Ground Protection

Protection of the ground within RPAs is essential to ensure the potentially harmful effects of construction activity on ground conditions (compaction and the absorption of potentially toxic materials) are avoided. Creation of a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) using protective fencing is the optimum means of protecting Root Protection Areas but where access within RPAs is required, protection of the ground is essential. (See Appendix D for an illustrated example).

Ground protection will be laid in the open ground between the CEZ protecting T1 and T2 and the proposed garden room.

No cement or concrete mixing will take place within the ground protected area.

Temporary ground protection must comply with British Standard Recommendations, as below:

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; or 18mm 2400x1200mm plyboard.
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 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 of 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.

In this instance, ground protection around will comply with (a) above.

6.3 Treatment of roots/root pruning - excavation/groundworks within RPAs

Encountering roots of T1 is possible if it is decided to place the armoured cable 5-10cm below to avoid a trip hazard.

In order to avoid damage to these roots the following guidelines must be adhered to:

- No roots of greater than 25mm must be cut without consultation.
- Where roots can be carefully moved to one side, this should be carried out rather than being severed.
- If cutting of root(s) of less than 25mm diameter is deemed necessary they must be cleanly pruned, preferably back to a side branch, using sharp bi-pass secateurs or loppers. Once pruned, the cut root(s) must be immediately covered with damp, clean, hessian sacking (in summer months) which must be kept damp so long as the roots remain exposed, or dry hessian sacking in winter to prevent desiccation and protect from rapid temperature changes.
- Prior to backfilling, any hessian wrapping should be removed and retained roots should be surrounded with sharp sand (builders' sand should not be used because of its high salt content which is toxic to roots) or other granular fill, before soil is replaced.
- If new concrete is to be used, an impermeable membrane must be placed along the exposed face to prevent contact with and scorching of roots, and to ensure leachates do not contaminate the immediate rooting area in the future.

6.4 Tree works

Its possible that minor crown lifting of a few wispy laterals is required to maintain a clear headroom of 3m between the structure and T1 and T2.

All tree work will be carried out in accordance with Bs 3998 (2010) and by Arboricultural Association approved contractors.

6.5 Concrete/Cement mixing

Concrete or cementitious (mortar, cement, slurry) washout wastewater is caustic with a PH over 12 and is, therefore, highly toxic to trees and other vegetation.

Though no concrete/cement mixing is anticipated It is important not to mix concrete or dispense of concrete in the vicinity of trees in order to avoid the risk of it leaching into the soil. This can be avoided by ensuring that this is not carried out within 5 metres of the RPA of any tree.

Additionally, regardless of the presence of trees, the integrity of the ground must be protected for future planting.

The use of a bunded area for the purpose of cement/concrete mixing to contain spillages and runoff is recommended. A proprietary mixing tray would suffice where only small quantities are required.

6.6 Site set-up

Welfare - locations for site huts, temporary toilets etc: Where required, this will be located beyond any CEZ.

Storage of materials: This will be located 5m beyond any CEZ.

Cement/Concrete mixing: See section 6.4 No mixing will take place within 5m of the edge of any CEZ. A suitable position is shown on the TPPs.

6.7 Additional precautions outside the tree exclusion zone

Materials that will contaminate the ground such as diesel oil and concrete mixings will not be discharged within the RPA or within 10m of any of the tree stems.

- All-weather notices should be erected on the barrier with words such as “Exclusion Zone – Not to be moved without appropriate consent”. Copies of such notices are attached at Appendix I.
- Materials that will contaminate the ground such as diesel oil and concrete mixings will not be discharged within the RPA or within 10m of any of the tree stems.
- Noticeboards, telephone cables or other services should not be attached to any part of the tree.
- No fires that have the potential for flames to extend to within 5m of any point of the tree are to be lit.

7.0 SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

7.1 Phases of tree protection

All key site personnel must fully familiarise themselves and understand this method statement and tree protection plan. A copy of the method statement must be kept at all times on site. A large (not less than A3 size) copy of the TPP must be placed on the site office noticeboard. The general sequence of events should be as follows:

Stage 1: Pre-commencement site meeting involving the site manager/foreman and arboriculturist. The local authority arboricultural officer may also be notified of this meeting in good time to allow the opportunity for he/she to attend. Mark out positions for protection.

Stage 2: Install tree protection fencing and ground protection and inspect.

Stage 3: Carry out erection of structures.

Stage 4: On completion, remove all tree protection.

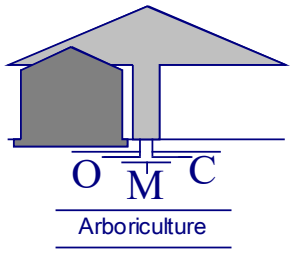
7.2 Arboriculturist involvement

The arboriculturist will monitor the development through periodic site visits or in accordance with an agreed schedule. Regularity will be determined by the impact of the scheme on trees, the complexity of protection and the significance of trees. The inspection record will be completed and signed off after each visit.

Any discrepancies to the approved, implemented protection shall be highlighted and the site arboriculturist recommended course of action implemented immediately, if necessary, stopping all development until resolved. A re-inspection will be organised to ensure satisfactory resolution.

The site manager will contact the arboriculturist immediately if damage to trees or root zones occurs.

Once all works are complete, arrange post construction meeting to ensure no damage to trees and RPAs. (Organise remedial works as recommended by the arboriculturist where damage noted). Remove temporary protection.



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Appendix A Tree survey schedule

ID	Species	Age Class	Dia. At 1.5m (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Height	1st branch	Crown Radius				SULE	Condition Physiological	Condition Structural	RPA Radius (m)	Quality Category (BS:5837)	Tree-Work	Site: 13 Rideaway Drive, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AQ OMC Associates www: omc-associates.co.uk Comments
							N	S	E	W							
T1	Silver birch *(Betula pendula)*	M	410	13.7	2.5	2.3 (NW)	6.8	5.7	4.6	4.2	>40	Good	Good	4.92	B1/2		Large, mature specimen; good health and visibility; off-site
T2	*White willow (Salix alba)*	M	590,350, 560,500, 510,660	23	6	3.6 (S)	10.9	14	10.5	12.6	20-40	Good	Fair	15	B2		Large, highly prominent specimen; off-site; multi-stemmed; large lateral to south recently torn out and resting on the ground; fungal bracket noted on stem to west at approx. 8m; not sufficiently visible to identify; despite good health and vitality; occasional failure of large limbs cannot be dismissed in the future
T3	Silver birch *(Betula pendula)*	M	550	14.9			7.6	4	6.9	7	>40	Good	Good	6.6	B1/2		Large, mature specimen; good health and visibility; off-site
T4	Common ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)	SM	170	7.9			2.6	3	3.6	1.8	>40	Good	Fair	2.04	C2		Self-site; indifferent form; bifurcates into co-dominant stems at 1.2m; tight union
G1	Common beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)	Y	110	5.8			1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	>40	Good	Good	1.32	C2		Row of young, etiolated beech stems
T5	Wild cherry (*Prunus avium*)	SM	70,80	4.6			2.7	1.9	2.4	1.7	>40	Good	Good	1.27	C2		Small tree on boundary
S1	Butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*)		150	5.7			2.5	1	2	2				1.8			Mature shrub

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Appendix B - Key for Tree Schedule and Cascade chart explaining tree quality assessment

KEY TO TREE SCHEDULE REFERENCES

Prefix: **T –** Tree **S** – Shrub/Climber **TG/SG** – Group/Hedge of **T**rees or **S**hrubs **Dia.:** **N/A -** Tree less than 100mm (for shrubs: young, semi-mature or mature)

***** Estimated

Age Class:

Young:	Generally less than 10 years old and high life expectancy
Semi-mature:	Within first 30% of life expectancy and significant growth to be expected
Early-mature:	Typically 30-60% of life expectancy, full size almost reached
Mature:	Typically 60% or more of life expectancy, full size reached with very gradual, slight further increases in size
Veteran	A stage of development where intervention/management may be required to ensure the tree remains safe
Over-mature:	Where a tree is so senescent that management is not worthwhile

Life Expectancy: How many years before tree is likely to need removing (subject to human intervention) **Crown Radius:** If crown is symmetrical, one dimension is given for the radius followed by "S"

B.S. Category: **See Appendix 2**

Physiological Condition:

Good:	Healthy tree with no symptoms of significant disease
Fair:	Some disease noted and/or vitality is below what would be expected
Poor:	Significant disease noted and/or very low vitality
Very Poor:	Tree is in severe decline

Structural Condition:

Good:	No significant structural defects
Fair:	Defects noted but not sufficient to warrant immediate work
Poor:	Significant defects. Monitoring and/or remedial works required
Very Poor:	Significant defects requiring immediate work or tree removal

Space Below Crown: A useful indicator to determine the practicality of developing below the crown. Rather than a measurement which can be misleading and open to interpretation.

Y	Potential to develop below the dripline with either no treework or removal of limbs that will not adversely affect the health and appearance of the tree
N	No scope to develop below the dripline of the tree
N/A	Tree to be removed

Treework: This is general since the report is not a tree-work specification. It indicates:

H	High priority. For trees to be retained and where work required to make safe
L	No urgent work required but would benefit from some intervention
N	No treework identified as necessary in the foreseeable future
P	Facilitation tree surgery advised
R	Remove – tree identified to be removed because "U" category tree
RA	Tree removed to accommodate development
WA	Treework to accommodate development
IV	Sever and remove ivy

B.S. Category:

A - Those of high quality and value i.e. make a substantial contribution;

B - Those of good/moderate quality and value, might be Cat. "A" but slightly impaired

C - Those of low quality i.e. adequate to remain until new planting is established or young trees with a stem diameter less than 150mm at 1.5m height

U - Those of such poor condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years

1 - Mainly Arboricultural value **2 - Mainly Landscape value** **3 - Mainly Ecological value**

BS 5837:2012 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment (Table 1)

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention				
Category U Those in such 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 to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other U category trees (e.g. 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 stability of other nearby trees (e.g. Dutch elm disease), 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
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	**2 Mainly landscape qualities**	**3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation**	
Trees to be considered for retention				
Category A **Trees of high quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are of particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups, or of 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 contribution of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in the high category, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage)	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 contribution 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 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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Appendix C – Photographs



Photo 1

- T2 looking west



Photo 2

- T2 looking west - torn out limb on left



Photo 3

- T2 left
- T3 on right



Photo 4

- T1
- T4 on right
- T2 in background



Photo 5

- T1

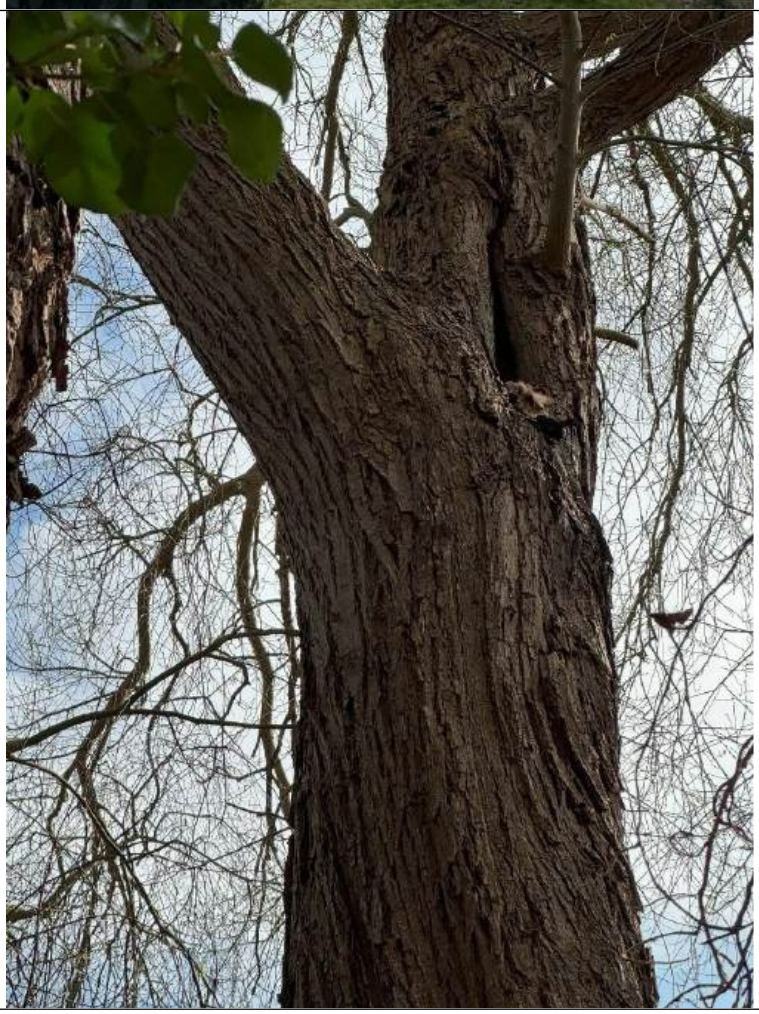


Photo 6

- Possible fungal bracket in T2

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Appendix D Tree Survey Plan

DEAWAY DRIVE

North (Indicative)

14

13

12

S1

T5-(C2)

T3-(B1/2)

G1-(C2)

T1-(B1/2)

T4-(C2)

T2-(B2)

Title
Tree Survey and Proposed Removals Plan

Client
Construction Associates

Project
13 Rideaway Drive, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AQ

Date
15 May 2025

Drawn by
CO

Project ref.
2279_TSP

Scale
1:200 @ A3

DO NOT SCALE - Use only figured dimensions
To be read in colour

BS 5837:2012 TREE RETENTION CATEGORIES

Category A
Trees of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested)

Category B
Trees of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)

Category C
Trees of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.

Category U
Trees in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management.

Trees Proposed For Removal
(shown with dashed outline and red identification)

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Appendix E Tree Constraints Plan

DEAWAY DRIVE

North (Indicative)

14

13

12

S1

T5-(C2)

T3-(B1/2)

G1-(C2)

T1-(B1/2)

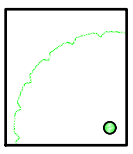
T4-(C2)

T2-(B2)

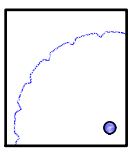
Title Tree Constraints Plan	
Client Construction Associates	
Project 13 Rideaway Drive, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AQ	
Date 15 May 2025	Drawn by CO
Project ref. 2279_TCP	Scale 1:200 @ A3

DO NOT SCALE - Use only figured dimensions
To be read in colour

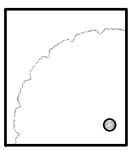
BS 5837:2012 TREE RETENTION CATEGORIES



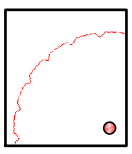
Category A
Trees of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested)



Category B
Trees of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)

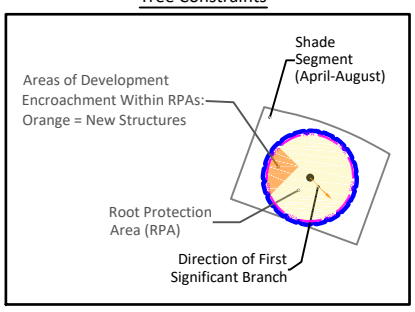


Category C
Trees of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.



Category U
Trees in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management.

Tree Constraints



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Appendix F Tree Protection Plan

DEAWAY DRIVE

North (Indicative)

14

13

12

Push CEZ back to green line accommodate timber shed on completion of all other work

Approximate location of surface laid armoured cable

S1

T5-(C2)

T3-(B1/2)

G1-(C2)

T1-(B1/2)

T4-(C2)

T2-(B2)

3.0m

4.0m

2.5m

CEZ

Title Tree Protection Plan	**DO NOT SCALE** - Use only figured dimensions To be read in colour
Client Construction Associates	BS 5837:2012 TREE RETENTION CATEGORIES
Project 13 Rideaway Drive, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AQ	
Date 3 September 2025 / Drawn by CO	
Project ref. 2279_TPP - Rev 1 / Scale 1:200 @ A3	

Category A
Trees of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested)

Category B
Trees of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)

Category C
Trees of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.

BS 5837 Tree Protection Fencing
(refer to Section 6.1 of the Arboricultural Method Statement for description and specification)

BS 5837 Ground Protection
(refer to Section 6.2 of the Arboricultural Method Statement for description and specification)

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Appendix G Specification for Heras protective fencing and signage



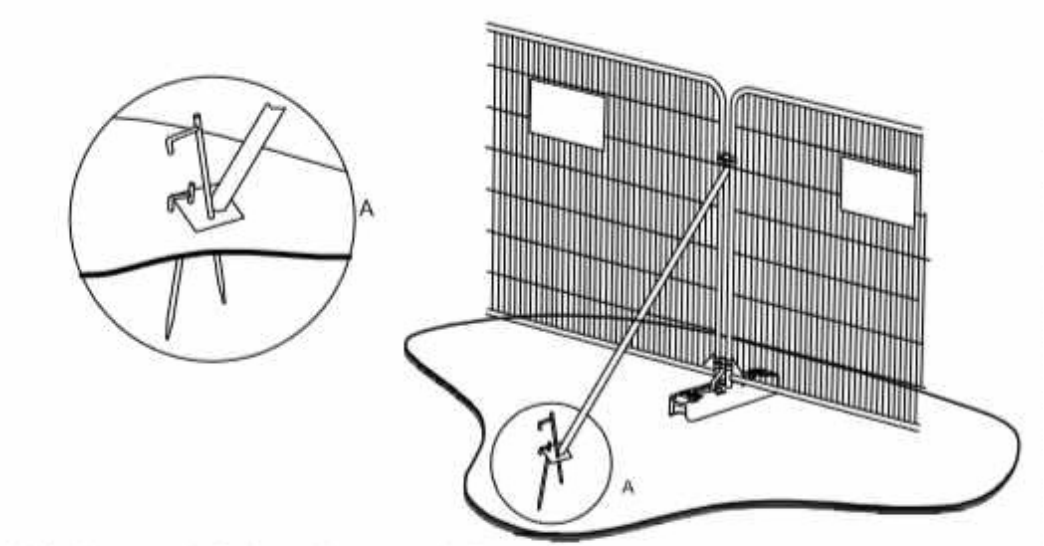
TREE PROTECTION AREA
KEEP OUT!

(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)
TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY PLANNING CONDITIONS AND/OR ARE THE SUBJECTS OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.
CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER MAY LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

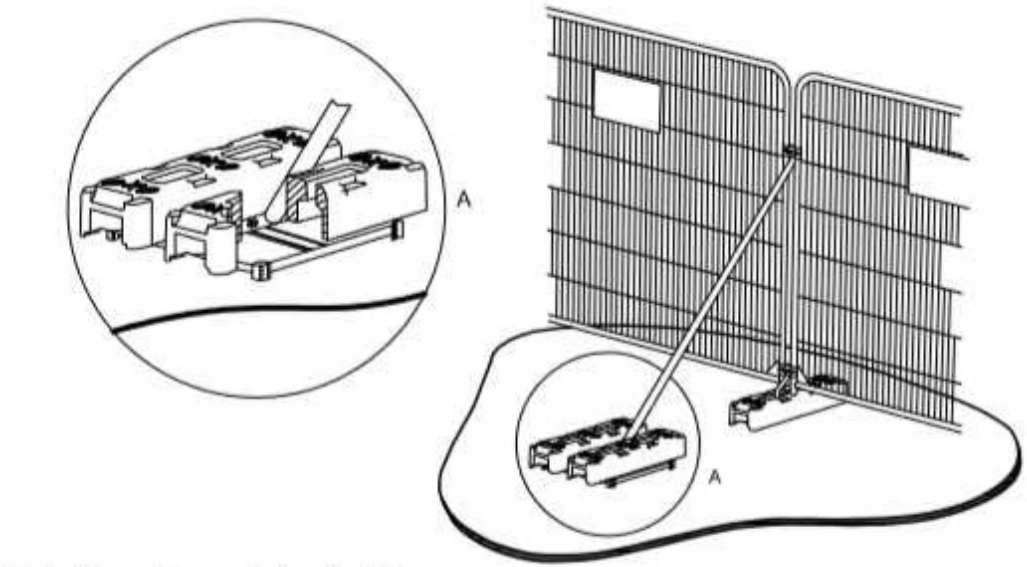
ANY INCURSION INTO THE PROTECTED AREA MUST BE WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY.

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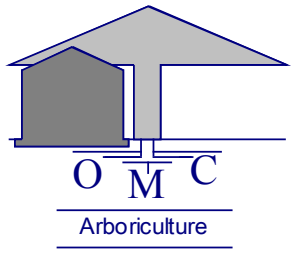
a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins



b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray



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Appendix H Details of ground protection

INSTALLATION OF GROUND PROTECTION



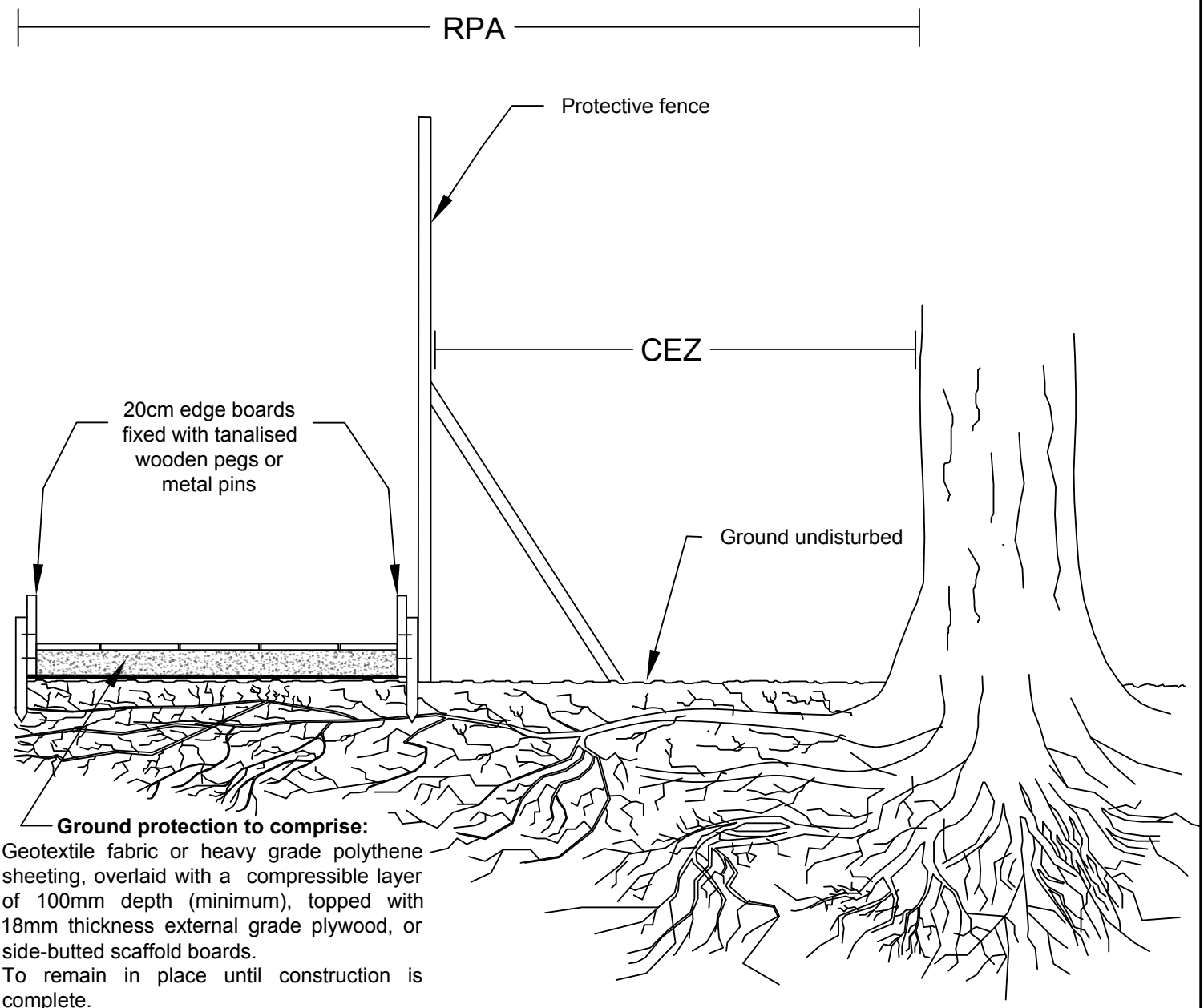




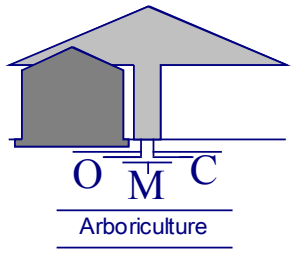


Ground Protection for Pedestrian Use within Tree Root Protection Areas

To avoid damage to roots and soil structure outside the CEZ but within the RPA, temporary ground protection will be installed using hand tools and wheelbarrows only. Wheelbarrows will only be used on boards or on retained/completed hard surfacing to avoid rutting.



Ground protection to comprise:
Geotextile fabric or heavy grade polythene sheeting, overlaid with a compressible layer of 100mm depth (minimum), topped with 18mm thickness external grade plywood, or side-butted scaffold boards.
To remain in place until construction is complete.



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Appendix I Monitoring schedule

PURPOSE OF VISIT	TIMING	PERSONNEL PRESENT	REMOTE - PHOTO BASED	OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	COMPLETE Y/N
1. Appoint arboriculturist to oversee all arboricultural issues on site.	Pre-commencement				
2. On-site tree protection induction with construction team, arboriculturist & tree officer (if attending); *	Pre-commencement				
3. Erect tree protective fencing and ground protection as detailed in the AMS and shown in the TPP	Pre-commencement				
4. Carry out groundworks for the slab base as per the approved methodology	Completion of scheme				
5. Final, completion inspection and identification of any remedial actions.	Completion of scheme				

**** Tree protection may be put in place and inspected at the same time as the site induction/meeting in some circumstances***

Project Contacts

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Site Manager:	TBA		
Arboriculturist:	Christopher Overbeke - OMC Associates	01223 842303	chris@omc-associates.co.uk
Project Agent:	Grant Cameron – Construction Associates	01480 301554	grant@cbb-architects.co.uk

Notes