



DUCKWORTHS
ARBORICULTURE LTD.

BS:5837 ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

ARBORICULTURAL SURVEY, IMPACT ASSESSMENT &
METHOD STATEMENT

37 COMMONS ROAD
WOKINGHAM
BERKSHIRE
RG41 1JJ

CLIENT: MR. V. SONI

SEPTEMBER 2024

Ref: AIA/AMS 06414/ 2024

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File ref: AIA/AMS 06414/2024

Date Issued: 11th September 2024

Report History					
Version	Date	Author	Checked	Comments	Status
0.1	11/09/2024	SCD	HDT		ISSUE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides detailed and site-specific information on the steps which will be taken to ensure retained trees are not harmed during the proposed construction of a replacement dwelling on land at 37 Commons Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 1JJ.

Trees on site have been surveyed in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations from BS:5837 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction'. This survey has identified a number of trees of variable size and quality growing on and adjacent to the site.

Following the initial tree survey, the site layout has been revised, locally adjusting the shape and position of the proposed dwelling and parking layout in response to arboricultural feedback in order to manage areas of potential conflict with regards to trees.

The client wishes to remove two trees at the front of the property to enable improved parking and access. These are two Oaks with heavily reduced canopies. The loss of trees will be mitigated with the planting of two new Oaks in a suitable location at the front of the property to provide seclusion for residents and restore the amenity provided by trees to Commons Road.

This application is supported by an Arboricultural detailed Arboricultural Method Assessment to demonstrate how the retained trees on site will be protected during the building works.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 INSTRUCTION

This Arboricultural report has been prepared by Sarah Duckworth, Arboricultural Consultant and provides an Arboricultural Survey, Impact Assessment and Method Statement relating to trees growing on and adjacent to land at 37 Commons Road, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 1JJ.

I have been instructed to survey relevant trees in accordance with BS:5837 (2012) to ascertain the constraints posed by the trees to the construction of a new replacement dwelling.

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment in this report uses the tree data to identify any short or longer-term impact the proposed building works might have on the surrounding trees and makes recommendations for amendments or mitigation where appropriate.

This report also includes a site-specific Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan which details the steps which will be taken to ensure significant trees can be successfully protected and retained during and on completion of the proposed building works.

1.2 SCOPE

The British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction' is designed to assist those concerned with trees and planning to form balanced judgments. This report does not therefore seek to put arguments for or against development but provides a means of protecting the trees which may be affected during development.

The report is for the sole use of the client and its reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by the author.

1.3 DOCUMENTS

The location of trees within the tree plan have been plotted by the surveyor, their positions measured against boundaries and triangulated against fixed objects on site. The position of the trees should not therefore, be taken as exact but the plan is a fair representation of their locations in relation to the proposed build area.

The Tree Protection Plan which accompanies this report is illustrative and should be used for dealing with tree issues only. The precise location of all tree protection measurements should be confirmed with a pre-commencement site meeting before any demolition or construction activity takes place.

1.4 CAVEATS

The report is valid for a period of two years from the date of issue being 11th September 2024 and will expire on 11th September 2026.

The report is not a Tree Risk Management Report or a Hazard Analysis Report and its use as such is invalid.

The report refers to the condition of tree(s) and an assessment of the site on the day the evaluation was undertaken. The trees were assessed from ground level only and not climbed. My assessment of third-party trees was limited where direct access was not available to the adjoining properties.

DISCLAIMER: This is an independently produced Arboricultural Report. I have no connection with any of the parties involved in this site or application that could influence or bias the opinions expressed in this report.

2. ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

2.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) is to evaluate the direct and indirect effects of the proposed building works and where necessary recommend solutions or mitigation as appropriate.

The assessment will take account of the effects of any tree works which may be required to implement the design and identify any potentially damaging activities proposed in the vicinity of the retained trees.

2.2 PLANNING CONSTRAINTS

TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS

I have confirmed on the Wokingham Borough Council website that four Oak trees at 37 Commons Road are protected by a Tree Preservation Order (ref TPO-1970-2024).

No works should be undertaken to trees subject of a Tree Preservation Order without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority – Wokingham Borough Council.

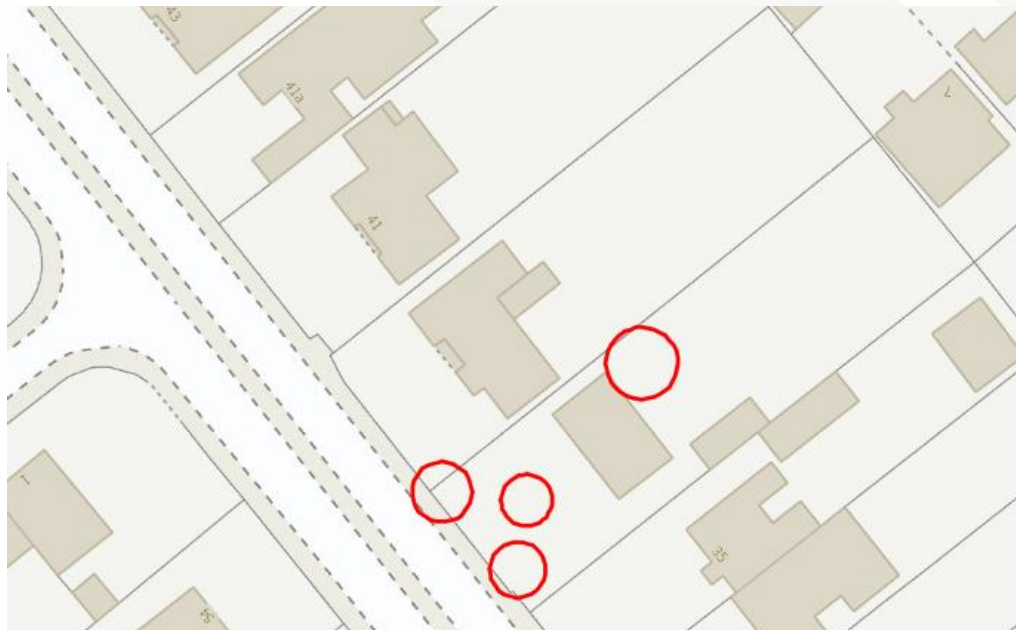


Figure 1 – Wokingham Borough Council Tree Preservation Order Information

CONSERVATION AREA

37 Commons Road is not within a Conservation Area.

ANCIENT WOODLAND

37 Commons Road does not include Ancient Woodland, nor is the site within an Ancient Woodland Buffer Zone.

2.3 SOIL

The soil on site was assessed by an appraisal on the British Geological Drift Survey Map only. According to the 1:50,000 scale map records, the bedrock geology for 37 Commons Road is London Clay Formation consisting of clay, silt and sand.

Soil characteristics and index properties (shrink / swell potential) can only be determined precisely by laboratory testing of soil samples. However, London clay is generally considered to be a 'High Plasticity' soil and is known to have significant capacity to shrink and swell with changing moisture levels.

Foundation depths should be calculated in accordance with NHBC Chapter 4.2 following a detailed on-site soil analysis, taking into account the presence of any clay and future growth of the adjacent trees.

2.4 PLOTTING THE ROOT PROTECTION AREAS (RPAS)

The British Standard 5837 advises that a Root Protection Area (RPA) should initially be plotted as a circle centered on the base of the stem. However, where pre-existing site conditions or other factors exist which indicate that rooting has occurred asymmetrically, a polygon of equivalent area should be produced.

Tree roots do not tend to grow far under the adopted public highway where the compacted and anaerobic conditions are not conducive to healthy tree root growth. In view of this, the Root Protection Area of T008 (Oak) has been plotted as a polygon offset away from the road to provide a realistic representation of the likely distribution of tree roots.

2.5 TREES APPRAISAL

Number of individual trees surveyed:	8
Number of tree groups surveyed:	0
Number of category 'A' trees / groups:	0
Number of category 'B' trees / groups:	5
Number of category 'C' trees / groups:	3
Number of category 'U' trees / groups:	0

Figure 2 - Tree quality summary

2.6 TREE WORKS AND REMOVAL

T006 & T007 (Oak) have been identified for removal to facilitate the build.

Ref:	Species	Description	Cat.
T006	Oak (Quercus robur)	The existing narrow drive for 37 Commons Road has historically kinked around the base of T006. Bleeding canker on lower trunk. Vehicle strike damage on trunk. Slender crown previously heavily reduced but recovering. Foliage density normal. Although the removal of this tree is not essential to facilitate the proposed build, it will enable widening of the existing access and improved parking layout for future occupants.	B1
T007	Oak (Quercus robur)	T007 is a low-grade Oak that has been heavily reduced in the past. The tree has a small, lopped crown. The lower canopy shows some indication of recovery, but the upper crown is in decline. The tree is not expected to make a full recovery due to evident lack of vitality – there is no wound wood growth around cutting points. The tree has limited amenity value being largely obscured by Oaks to the front of the site. Although the removal of this tree is not essential to facilitate the proposed build, it will enable improved parking layout for future occupants.	C1

Figure 3 - Schedule for tree removal

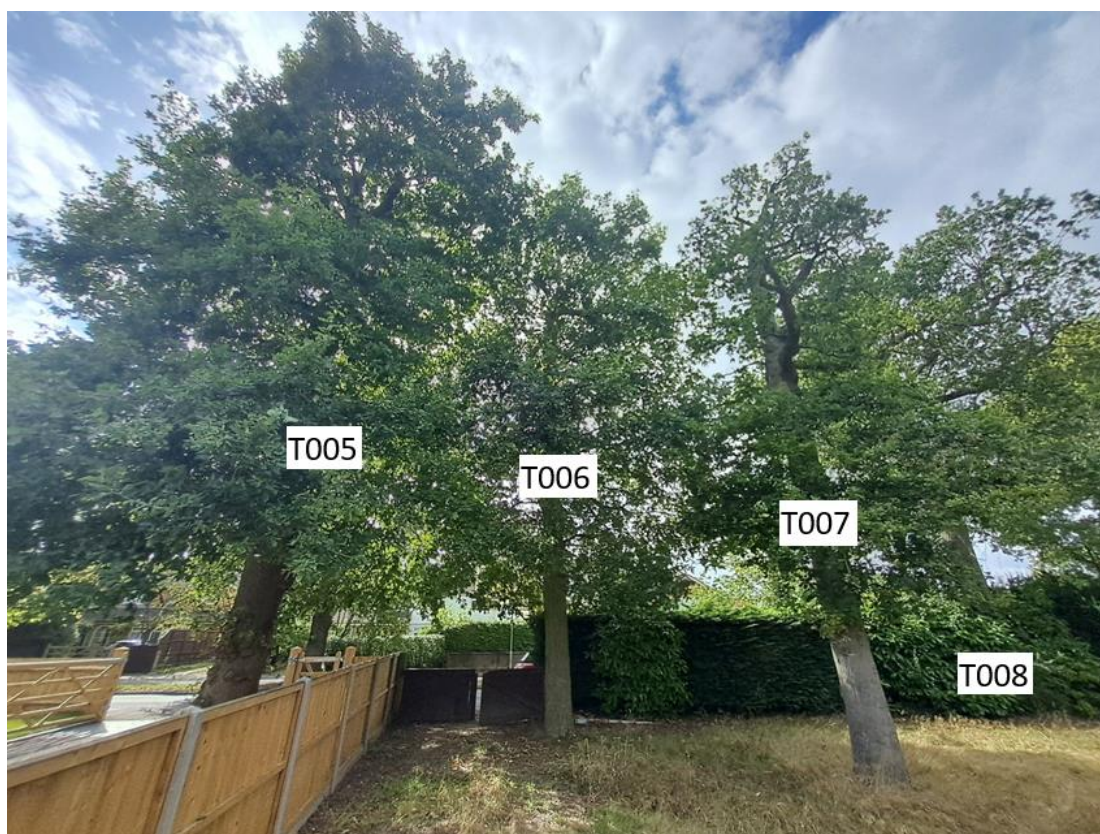


Photo 1 – Trees to the front of 37 Commons Road



Photo 2 – Bleeding canker at the base of T006 (Oak)



Photo 3 – Driveway kinks around the base of T006 (Oak)



Photo 4 – Heavily reduced crown of T007 (Oak)

2.7 APPLICATION ASSESSMENT

The new dwelling has been sympathetically designed and positioned to ensure it is outside of the root protection areas of the retained trees.

Two trees (T006 & T007) are identified for removal, however their removal is not essential for the replacement dwelling. The current driveway is narrow and has been kinked around the trunk of one tree (T006). T006 has wounding on the trunk where it has been struck by vehicles in the past. The second Oak (T007) is a lower grade tree with a heavily reduced crown undermined by past poor management. The removal of these two trees will enable essential improvements and a more sustainable parking / driveway layout at the front of the property.

The new driveway will be of a no-dig, porous construction to protect tree roots and ensure roots can continue to thrive under the surface on completion of the development.

Trees to be removed will be replaced with two new Oak trees planted for habitat, screening and amenity value and to mitigate tree loss. Replacement trees will be planted in a location, where they can grow to a similar stature as the mature trees which they are replacing, without foreseeable interference or conflict with residential properties or restricting access in the future.

2.8 TREE PROTECTION DURING BUILDING WORKS

All retained trees will be protected with fit for purpose Tree Protection Fencing and Temporary Ground Protection Installed in accordance with BS:5837 (2012).

2.9 SERVICES

I have not received any drainage or service plans for the site. However, following discussions with the client, I am advised that services will connect within the footprint of the existing property.

Soakaways, where required can be constructed 5m from the new dwelling and outside of the rooting area of all trees.

As a matter of course, the Local Authority may request confirmation on services and routes, including the locations of any new soakaways to be submitted for approval in support of any future application to ensure it does not conflict with the retained trees on site.

2.10 CONCLUSIONS

This report demonstrates that an application to redevelop land at 37 Commons Road has been fully considered in accordance with Arboricultural and Planning best practice (BS:5837 2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction').

The proposed dwelling is located outside of the rooting area of all trees.

Two trees have been identified for removal to create a practical driveway area which can allow larger modern vehicles to park more easily at the front of the property. Trees to be removed are a category 'C1' Oak and 'B1' Oak. Both trees have reduced canopies. The upper canopy of the smaller Oak (T007) is in decline.

Where trees are to be removed, they will be replaced with new trees to mitigate tree loss and ensure there is no net loss of trees on site as a result of the build. Replacement trees are of a species; and planted in a location, where they can grow to a similar stature as the mature trees which they are replacing, without foreseeable interference or conflict with residential properties or restricting access in the future.

Foundation depths will be calculated in accordance with NHBC Chapter 4.2 following on-site soil investigations and considering the presence of any shrinkable soils and future growth of the adjacent vegetation to ensure the development is sustainable in the face of climate change.

This application is also supported by an Arboricultural detailed Arboricultural Method Assessment to demonstrate how the retained trees on site will be protected during the building works and a robust scheme of landscape planting to enhance the amenity and character of the new development.

3. ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT (AMS)

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This Arboricultural Method Statement specifies the detailed methodology that will be employed to prevent damage to the trees growing on land at 37 Commons Road during building works to construct a new replacement dwelling on the site. The correct and timely installation of tree protection measures such as tree protection fencing is critical to ensure the long-term retention of a healthy tree stock on or adjacent to the development.

This method statement will be read, approved and agreed to by all key personnel prior to the commencement of works within the site.

WARNING: FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT ONCE APPROVED CAN CAUSE IRREPARABLE HARM TO PROTECTED TREES IN CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER AND MAY INVALIDATE YOUR PLANNING CONSENT.

3.2 SITE SUPERVISION AND MONITORING

In accordance with BS:5837 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction' 2012, there will be an auditable system of arboricultural site monitoring in place within during the build.

A site visit will be held once the Tree Protection Fencing and temporary ground protection is installed as shown on the Tree Protection Plan. The Local Authority Tree Officer will be given a minimum of five days' notice of the time and date of the meeting so that they may attend should they wish to do so.

The purpose of the pre-commencement meeting will be for the appointed Arboricultural Consultant to confirm the location and construction of the Tree Protection Measures and ensure a common understanding of the requirements for Tree Protection within the site. If the Local Planning Authority is unable to attend, photographic evidence of the tree protection fencing will be emailed to the appointed planning officer once it has been erected.

The project arboriculturist will monitor site activity during the following phases of development:

1. During the installation of the no-dig driveway subbase
2. The Arboricultural Consultant will visit the site at approximate 8-week intervals during active construction works to confirm the condition and location of the protection measures. A signed copy of the inspection report will be sent to Wokingham Borough Council's Planning Team following each visit.

The appointed Site Manager will also notify the Local Authority Tree Officer 5 days prior to the tree protection measures being removed on completion of development.

3.3 ON SITE TREE SUPERVISOR

In addition to the appointed Arboriculturist, there will be a designated on-site 'tree supervisor', a member of the build team who is responsible for ensuring no works are undertaken on site except in complete accordance with the approved Arboricultural Method Statement when the Arboricultural Consultant is not present.

The on-site tree supervisor will:

- Be present on site most of the time.
- Be aware of the arboricultural responsibilities relating to the protected / retained trees on site.
- Have the authority to stop any work that will, or have the potential to, cause harm to any tree.
- Be responsible for ensuring that all site personnel are aware of their responsibilities towards trees on site and the consequences of the failure to observe those responsibilities.
- Make immediate contact with the Council and/or the retained arboriculturalist in the event of any related tree problems occurring whether actual or potential.
- To ensure a commitment from all parties to the healthy retention of the trees. These details will be passed on to any contractors working on site, so that the practical aspects of the above precautions are included in their method statements, and financial provision made for these.

A copy of the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan will be available on site for reference.

3.4 TREE WORKS

The following tree work will be undertaken prior to the commencement of any building works on site:

Ref:	Species	Works	Cat.
T006	Oak (Quercus robur)	Fell and remove stump	B1
T007	Oak (Quercus robur)	Fell and remove stump	C1

Figure 4 - Schedule for tree works

3.5 TREE WORKS BEST PRACTICE

All tree works shall be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.

No vehicles will be driven beyond the existing driveway onto unprotected ground during the course of the tree work operations.

Chippings arising from the work will not be piled around the bases of trees on or off the site. Wood and any other arisings from the tree work will not be burnt on site.

3.6 PROTECTED SPECIES

In accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act - 1981, Conservation - Natural Habitats -Regulations 1994 and Countryside Rights of Way Act - 2000, the site owner will consider the timing and type of tree work operations to avoid causing disturbance to any nesting or breeding birds or bat roosts that may be present within trees.

It is an offence (subject to exceptions) to intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places.

Non-urgent major tree work involving tree removal or reduction and hedge cutting operations should not be undertaken during the bird nesting or breeding season, which is considered to be from 1 March to 31 July. However, depending on seasonal temperatures, some birds continue breeding into August and September.

All wild birds, their young, their eggs and active nests are protected under law. It is an offence to damage a nest intentionally while it is in use or being built and hedge cutting is highly likely to damage nests or cause them to be deserted.

3.7 TREE PROTECTION FENCING

Following the initial tree works, no further works in relation to the build will be undertaken, including construction, deliveries, excavation or demolition, prior to the Tree Protection Fencing being installed as identified in the Tree Protection Plan.

The Tree Protection Fencing will consist of a vertical and horizontal scaffold framework braced well to resist impact. The vertical tubes will be spaced at a maximum distance of 3m and driven securely into the ground. Onto this framework welded mesh – 'Heras' style fencing panels or similar will be securely fixed. (See Appendix H).

The fencing will be located to protect the retained trees and their rooting areas & will remain vertical, rigid and complete during development. At no time will Tree Protection Fencing be removed or relocated contrary to the recommendations in this report, without professional arboricultural advice & without the consent of the Tree Officer.

The appointed Site Manager will notify the Tree Officer once Tree Protection Measures are installed on site and 5 days prior to the Protection Fencing being removed on completion of development so that a representative from the Local Authority may visit the site if considered.

3.8 TEMPORARY GROUND PROTECTION

No works will commence, including construction or excavation, prior to the additional areas of ground protection being installed across the site access as identified in the Tree Protection Plan. The temporary ground protection will be installed to protect soft landscaped areas (as indicated in the magenta hatch on the Tree Protection Plan).

The temporary ground protection will be constructed from rigid load bearing temporary roadway sheets such as 'euroboards' or similar or ply sheets a minimum of 15mm thick.

Temporary ground protection can be replaced with early installation of the no-dig driveway surfacing sub-base (installed as per Section 4.12) at any convenient point during the build programme.

3.9 CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE

The area behind the tree protection fencing and temporary ground protection is designated the Construction Exclusion Zone and is to be isolated from all activity during work on the site.

THERE WILL BE NO STORAGE, PARKING, VEHICLE MOVEMENT OR PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITY, TEMPORARY OR OTHERWISE, WITHIN THE CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE AT ANY TIME DURING THE COURSE OF THE BUILD.

3.10 NO-DIG DRIVEWAY CONSTRUCTION

The sub-base of the Cellular confinement driveway will be installed prior to any deliveries or construction on site. This surface can be used to create a suitable work surface within the rooting area of trees during the construction process.

Existing turf and vegetation within the footprint of the proposed new access driveway – can be scraped back by hand or killed off using a systemic 'Glyphosate' based weed killer which when used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions will not have any long-term detriment on tree roots or reside in the soil post application.

When using herbicide, weather conditions should be dry and without wind to avoid drift. Once the grass has died back, the site will be prepared by raking back all debris and plant matter a minimum of seven days' post herbicide application. Any ruts in the ground will be levelled with the application of a coarse pH neutral sand or clean angular stone applied by hand.

Timber or aluminium edging boards will be installed to provide an upstand of approximately 200mm between the ground level and finished driveway surface to contain the gravel as per the manufacturer's recommendations. A Geotextile Fabric will be laid across the site, overlapping adjacent rolls by a minimum of 150mm. It may be necessary to lightly pin the Geotextile in place until the overlying layers are installed.

A Cell web system minimum 150mm deep will then be opened out and pinned in place between the edging boards. Pin spacing will vary according to the site conditions but will generally be required at 1m – 2m centres on flat surfaces, mainly placed around the

perimeter of the area and where adjacent sections of the cellular confinement system abut each other, with less in the middle of the area.

The open cells will be filled with clean, open graded aggregate with particles between 5 and 45mm, (no fines Type 1 Roadstone of a non-marine source) working toward the tree from the furthest point away and using the filled cells as a platform.

Once the Geo-textile grid has been installed and filled with aggregate as per the manufacturer's recommendation it will be used as root protection and access to the build area during the construction process. The final aesthetic porous gravel surface will be laid once the new dwelling is built.

Where necessary, following completion of the development, quality topsoil can be used to grade the edge of the driveway and parking areas to meet the adjacent ground levels.

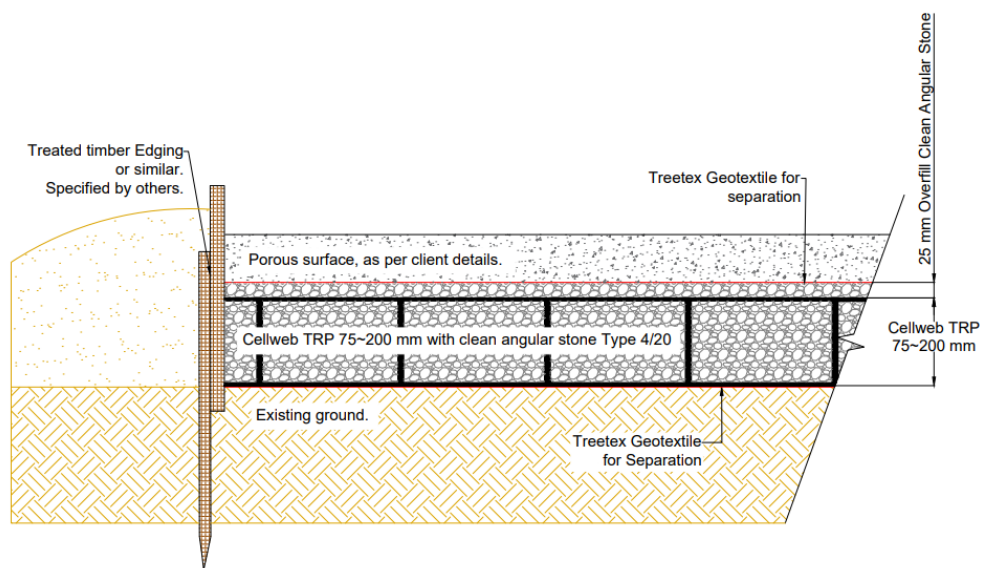


Figure 5 - Indicative no-dig driveway construction using Geosynthetics Cellweb

3.11 DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING

The existing dwelling can be broken up using an extendable bucket from an excavator working from within the site and outside the rooting areas of all trees. The building will be dropped into its own footprint then pulled back, away from T001 (Oak).

3.12 SERVICES

Water, gas and electricity to the new property will be connected to those of the original property and without the need for any further trenching on site.

Soakaways, where required will be located 5m from the rear elevation of the new dwelling within the garden area and outside of the rooting areas of all retained trees.

If at any point these routes are found not to be viable then a revised plan will be drawn up in consultation with the Arboricultural Consultant and submitted to Wokingham Borough Council for approval.

3.13 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Roots can be killed by pollution of the rooting area by chemicals and leaching. Loose, granular or liquid materials, including cement mix and fuel will be stored on an impermeable membrane within the identified storage areas and well away from the trees' Root Protection Areas.

Particular care will be taken in the planning of deliveries if they require wide or tall loads and plants with booms, rigs or counterweights which can cause serious and permanent damage to trees making their safe retention impossible.

There will be no open fires on site during the building works.

3.14 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

In the event of unforeseen circumstances whereby it is not possible to work in accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement then advice should be sought immediately from a qualified Arboriculturist.

THERE SHALL BE NO DEVIATION FROM THIS METHOD STATEMENT WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH A QUALIFIED ARBORICULTURIST AND / OR THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY.

4. LANDSCAPING

4.1 NEW TREE PLANTING

New trees will be planted as per the landscaping scheme within the next or current planting season November to March (whichever is soonest) on completion of the building project. Planting will be undertaken when soils are moist and free from frost.

Planting trees too deep is a major cause for premature decline. Tree planting pits will be dug to the same depth as the woody roots to prevent settlement and sinking post planting. The soil backfilled into the planting pit will consist of 1/3 organic matter (well rooted manure or other compost) with 2/3 existing soil.

Trees will be staked with two stakes and a cross bar set as low down the tree as possible to allow for canopy and stem movement whilst supporting the structural function of the root system.

Tree stakes will be driven into the ground to a sufficient depth to provide full support before the tree is planted. Supporting straps around the stem will allow for the radial expansion of the stem. A rubber bung will prevent the tree from coming into direct contact with the tree stake.

4.2 IRRIGATION

Twice weekly watering will be undertaken during the first two growing seasons (April to October) following planting to ensure successful establishment. During periods of prolonged hot weather, the frequency of any watering visits may need to be increased.

The volume of water applied to the base of each plant is to be determined by inspection on each occasion. Rainwater and precipitation alone is not sufficient to irrigate containerised trees therefore irrigation is likely to be necessary in all but the most prolonged periods of wet weather. All watering should be sufficient to wet the entire root ball, including the lower levels of soil.

During the third year the new plants will continue to be monitored, with irrigation resumed during periods of drought or where plants are showing signs of drought stress.

Any new trees or plants which fail to establish and thrive, or which die, are removed or become seriously diseased within a period of 5 years following completion of the development, will be replaced with another of a similar size and species.

4.1 SOIL AMELIORATION

There is substantial evidence for the benefit of mulches to mature trees, to increase their root development and improving tree health and physiological condition.

To do this, turf around the base of the tree should be removed by hand using sharp spades to lift a thin layer of grass and roots. The radius of the mulched area should be as large as possible – out to the edge of the canopy would be best but any mulched area, however small will benefit the growing conditions for the tree.

Once the turf has been removed a mulch of well-rotted bark chip or fully composted organic material should be raked over the area 60- 100mm deep taking care not to obscure the natural root flare around the base of the tree.

The mulch improves Mycorrhizal growth (beneficial root fungi), stabilises soil temperature and moisture levels, reduces compaction and improves soil nutrient levels and porosity for the benefit of healthy tree root growth.

4.2 LANDSCAPING

The following rules will be followed during all future landscaping works in order to prevent harm to the trees:

- Tree roots can be damaged by severance, compaction, pollution and desiccation. In view of this, there should be no excavation or changes in ground levels within the identified rooting areas of retained trees following completion of the development.
- On completion of the build, any new fence panels should include holes or gaps at ground level a minimum of 100x100mm to allow small mammals such as hedgehogs to forage within the property.
- Where new fencing is proposed, post holes within the rooting areas of trees will be dug using a post hole digger to keep hole size to a minimum. Where substantial roots over 30mm are encountered, the location of the hole will be moved in order to avoid them. Post holes will be fully lined in order to prevent concrete coming into direct contact with tree roots.

APPENDICES

- A. Survey Data
- B. Key
- C. Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment
- D. Tree Data
- E. Tree Plans
- F. Phasing of works
- G. Contacts
- H. Tree Protection Fencing
- I. Qualifications

APPENDIX A - SURVEY DATA

- The trees were surveyed on Tuesday 21st May 2024 from ground level only.
- The weather conditions were dry and sunny. Visibility was good.
- Heights were estimated as part of a group. Soil samples were not taken.
- The tree survey identified 8 trees growing on or adjacent to the site which were relevant to this planning application.
- The trees on site were assessed for their quality and benefits within the context of the proposed development and categorised in accordance with the recommendations in the BS: 5837:2012 – 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction'.

APPENDIX B - KEY

Ref: T001 = Tree 1

G001 = Group 1

A001 = Area 1

W001 = Woodland 1

Species: Common name (Botanical name)

Height: Measured with a clinometer (m) where possible or estimated when part of a group

Stem: Stem diameter taken at 1.5m with girth tape or rule and recorded in millimeters

Branch spread: Paced measurements at compass points or with a laser measure.

Crown clearance: Existing height above ground level of canopy and / or first significant branch direction of growth in metres e.g., 2.4 (N) where relevant.

Epics: Lower canopy created by epicormic growth.

Age Class: Newly planted - 3 years following planting.

Young - Tree well established but with juvenile crown form

Young Mature - Tree in first third of usual life expectancy for species

Mature - Tree in second third of usual life expectancy for species

Over Mature - Tree in final third of usual life expectancy for species / exhibiting signs of crown retrenchment & senescence.

Veteran - Older than usual for species or with historical/ cultural / ecological value

General Observations: Made with reference to physiological condition (health, vigour) and structural condition, noting evidence of decay, structural weakness and physical defect and preliminary management recommendations.

Estimated Remaining Contribution: Estimated in years - less than 10, 10-20, 20-40, 40+

BS: 5837:2012 category rating: In accordance with the guidelines of the British Standard.

● Category 'A' tree (Green) ● Category 'C' tree (Grey)

● Category 'B' tree (Blue) ● Category 'U' tree – Fell (Red)

RPA Area BS:5837 (2012) Root Protection Area calculation in square metres

RPA Radius BS:5837 (2012) Root Protection Area calculation circle radius in metres¹

¹ The root protection area radius is for information only and may not be appropriate in every case. BS:5837 advises that *'the RPA for each tree should initially be plotted as a circle centered on the base of the stem. Where pre-existing site conditions or other factors indicate that rooting may have occurred asymmetrically, a polygon of equivalent area should be produced. Modifications to the shape of the RPA should reflect a soundly based arboricultural assessment of likely root distributions.'*

APPENDIX C - BS:5837 (2012) TABLE 1: CASCADE CHART FOR TREE QUALITY ASSESSMENT

CATEGORY & DEFINITION	CRITERIA (including sub-categories where appropriate)		
Trees unsuitable for retention			
Category 'U' Those in such a 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 due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g., where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning. Trees that are dead or showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline. Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and / or safety of other trees nearby 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		
	Mainly Arboricultural Qualities	Mainly Landscape Qualities	Mainly cultural values including conservation
Trees considered suitable for retention			
Category 'A' Trees of High Quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or 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)
Category 'B' Trees of Moderate Quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g., presence of significant though remedial defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality to merit the category 'A' designation.	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 contribution to the wider locality.	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.
Category 'C' Trees of Low Quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy 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 are present in groups or woodlands but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/ or trees offering low or only temporary / transient landscape benefits.	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value.

APPENDIX D - TREE DATA

Ref.	Species	Structure	Measurements	Spread	General Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Summary	Photo
T001	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Tree	Height (m): 10 Stem Diam(mm): 540 Crown Clearance (m): 3.5 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	N:5 E:4.5 S:5 W:5	Base and lower trunk obscured by dense vegetation. Small tree with compact canopy maintained by regular pruning.	B1,2	Radius: 6.5m. Area: 133 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Dense vegetation	
T002	Hazel (Corylus avellana)	Tree	Height (m): 3.5 Stem Diam(mm): 300 Crown Clearance (m): 0 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	N:1.5 E:1.5 S:1.5 W:1.5	Mature coppice stool	C2	Radius: 3.6m. Area: 41 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	
T003	Lawson cypress (Chamaecyparis lawsoniana)	Tree 4 stems	Height (m): 9 4 stems, avg.(mm): 300 Crown Clearance (m): 0 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	N:3 E:3 S:3 W:3	Multistem from ground level previously topped at 4m. Multiple leaders in upper crown. Stems strapped together. Poor form.	C1	Radius: 7.2m. Area: 163 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Physical Defect Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Low canopy	

Ref.	Species	Structure	Measurements	Spread	General Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Summary	Photo
T004	Silver birch (Betula pendula)	Tree	Height (m): 12 Stem Diam(mm): 350 Crown Clearance (m): 4 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	N:4 E:4 S:4 W:4	Offsite tree. Low overhanging branches cut back to trunk where they overhang garden of number 37.	B1	Radius: 4.2m. Area: 55 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: Access	
T005	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Tree	Height (m): 11 Stem Diam(mm): 650 Crown Clearance (m): 2 Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	N:3.5 E:3.5 S:3 W:3	Offsite tree. May be affected by current grounds works at front of neighbouring property. Canopy formed of mature epicormic growth on trunk. Foliage dense, good vitality.	B1	Radius: 7.8m. Area: 191 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Good Inspection Limitations: Access	 

Ref.	Species	Structure	Measurements	Spread	General Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Summary	Photo
T006	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Tree	Height (m): 10 Stem Diam(mm): 490 Crown Clearance (m): 2 Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	N:4.5 E:3 S:4.5 W:5	Vehicle strike damage on trunk. Slender crown previously heavily reduced but recovering. Foliage density normal.	B1	Radius: 5.9m. Area: 109 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Good	
T007	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Tree	Height (m): 9 Stem Diam(mm): 490 Crown Clearance (m): 2 Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	N:2.5 E:2.5 S:2.5 W:2.5	Heavily lopped crown, lower canopy recovering but tree unlikely to fully recover due to lack of vitality. No wound wood growth around cutting points.	C1	Radius: 5.9m. Area: 109 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate	
T008	Pedunculate oak (Quercus robur)	Tree	Height (m): 10 Stem Diam(mm): 630 Crown Clearance (m): 5 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 20+ Years	N:4.5 E:5.5 S:4.5 W:5	Base and lower trunk obscured by vegetation. Ivy on lower trunk. Missing bark on north side at base. Lesions / fermenting exudates on trunk from 1.5-4m. Possible split in wood fibres. Main stem forms above 5m. Fork satisfactory. Previously topped crown. Poor form. Decay pockets in old pruning cuts. Foliage density normal. Minor deadwood through crown.	B1	Radius: 7.6m. Area: 181 sq m.	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Good	

APPENDIX E – TREE PLANS

Attached as separate pdf documents

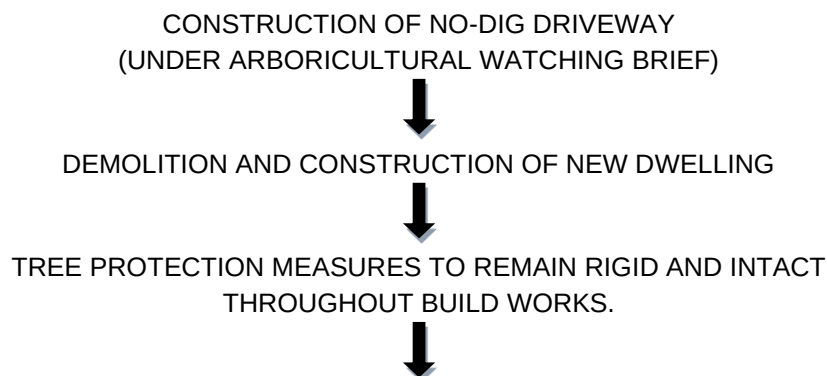
- Tree Protection Plan ref: [37 COMMONS ROAD TPP 06414 2024](#)

APPENDIX F – PHASING OF WORKS

STAGE 1 (PRE-COMMENCEMENT)



STAGE 2 (DEMOLITION & CONSTRUCTION)



STAGE 3 (POST DEVELOPMENT)



APPENDIX G – CONTACTS

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APPENDIX H - TREE PROTECTION FENCING

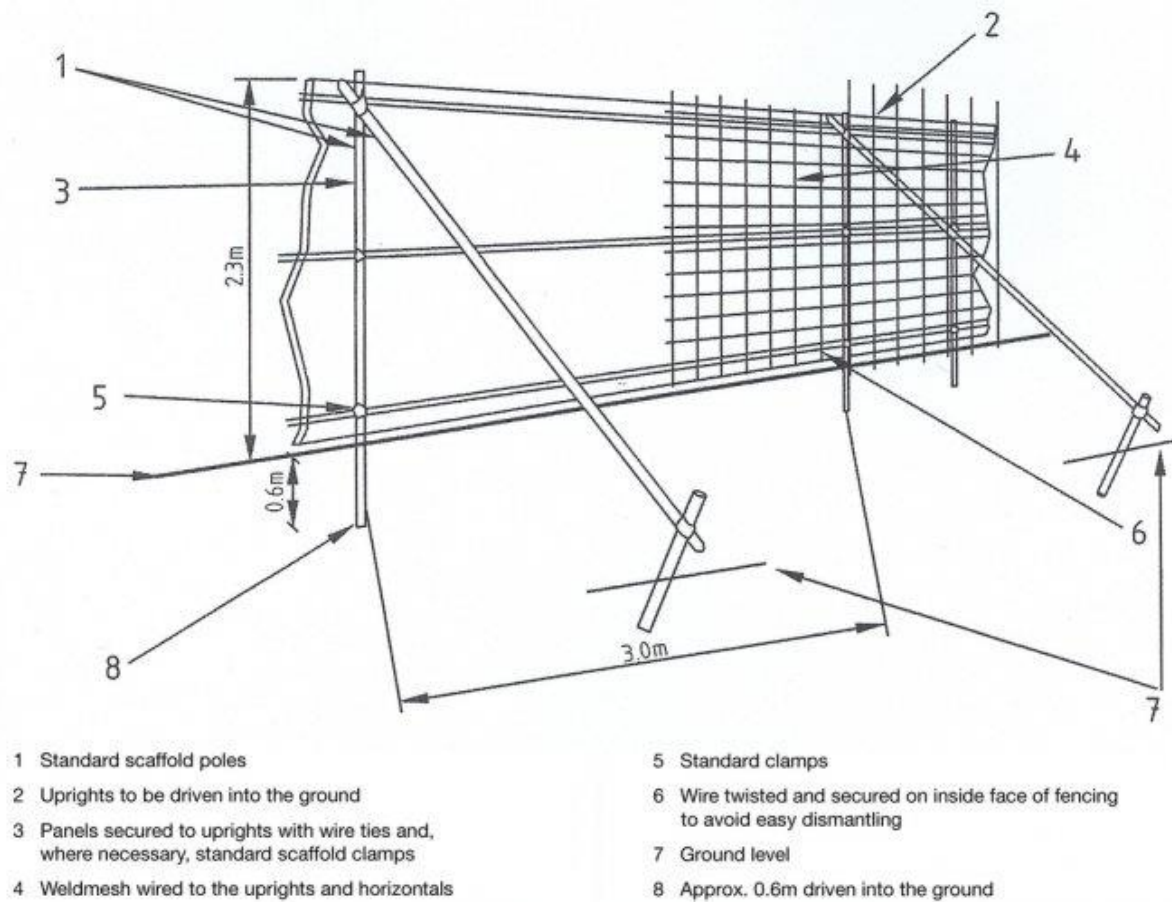


Figure 2. – Protective fencing for RPA

APPENDIX I - QUALIFICATIONS

This Arboricultural report has been prepared by Sarah Duckworth, Independent Arboricultural Consultant, trading as Duckworth's Arboriculture Limited.

I have over 19 years' experience working in the field of Arboriculture and for the past 16 years I have worked as a Local Authority Tree Officer both directly and independently providing contracted support. Since 2010 I have worked as a private consultant carrying out a range of Arboricultural Reports and Assessments for private clients.

I hold the Royal Forestry Society's Professional Diploma (Level 6) for which I received the Lockhart Garrett Award. I also hold the Arboricultural Association's Technicians Certificate (with Distinction).

I am a LANTRA qualified Professional Tree Inspector and a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association.