

Arboricultural method statement

Table of Contents

1. Method Statement [Introduction and Overview]
2. Site Inspection
3. Tree Works Schedule
4. Tree Protection Barriers Detailed Specification
5. Ground Protection Measures Detailed Specification
6. New Surfaces Detailed Specification
7. Limitations

Appendix 1 – Tree Protection Plan

Validation Statement for the Local Planning Authority.

This report includes the following for LPA validation purposes:

- An **arboricultural method statement** which specifies tree protection measures and implementation strategy
- **Appendices** including the **tree protection plan**

1. Method Statement [Introduction and Overview]

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 to define the tree protection measures and working methods required to safeguard retained trees during the proposed development at the site in Shinfield, Wokingham. It should be read alongside the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) to ensure all contractors are aware of site-specific tree protection requirements before work begins.

2. Sequence of Operations

The following sequence must be followed to ensure trees are protected throughout construction:

1. Pre-commencement site meeting with the project arborist, site manager, and contractor.
2. Installation of tree protection fencing and signage as shown on the TPP.
3. Construction of any no-dig surfacing within RPAs.
4. Supervised excavations for entrance piers and service runs.
5. Main construction works and landscaping.
6. Removal of protective measures only after arboricultural sign-off.

3. Tree Protection Fencing

Protective fencing will be installed around the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of all retained trees and groups prior to any site activity, including demolition, delivery of materials or groundworks.

- Fencing shall be specified as per Figure 2 of BS5837:2012 (weldmesh panels on a scaffold frame).
- Fencing shall remain in place and be intact for the full duration of the works.
- The fenced area is to be treated as a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). No access, storage, or ground disturbance is permitted within the CEZ.

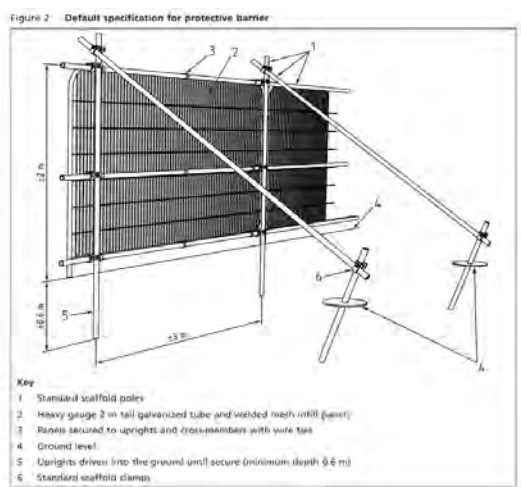


Image plates showing tree protection fencing and signage.

4. Ground Protection and Access

Where access within the RPA is unavoidable temporary ground protection shall be installed:

- Ground protection must be capable of supporting construction traffic without deformation.
- It should comprise a three-layer system: a geotextile membrane, a compressible layer (e.g. woodchip), and track matting or ground reinforcement panels.



Image plate showing synthetic ground protection boards

5. Protected Areas (RPAs)

No materials, spoil, or machinery may be stored or moved within Root Protection Areas (RPAs).

Prohibited activities within RPAs include:

- Excavation or grading
- Lighting of fires
- Mixing or discharge of cement or fuel
- Movement of plant or vehicles

6. Specific Work Methodologies

T1 (A1) – Entrance Gate and Brick Piers

- All excavations for piers to be completed by hand under arboricultural supervision.
- If roots over 25mm diameter are encountered, excavation must stop, and the pier location adjusted to avoid root damage.
- Exposed roots to be covered with damp hessian and soil immediately.

T3 (A1) – Forecourt Extension

- All surfacing within the RPA to use a no-dig, permeable construction such as a cellular confinement system with resin-bound gravel.
- Sub-base to be laid directly onto geotextile membrane with no excavation.
- Construction to be carried out under arboricultural supervision.

G2 (C3) – Water Feature Replacement

- Selective removal of small stems only where required to enable reinstatement of the new water feature.
- Works to be completed under arboricultural supervision. Remaining trees to be protected throughout.

H1 (C2) – Hedge Management

- Pruning to be undertaken by hand tools only, outside bird nesting season (March–August).
- No excavation or soil disturbance at hedge base.

Deer Fence Installation (North Boundary)

- Post holes to be manually probed to 600mm before installation.
- If roots over 25mm are encountered, adjust position to avoid damage.
- Concrete or driven posts are not permitted within RPAs.

7. Mitigation Planting

Ten new trees are to be planted following the loss of T13, T15, T17, T21, and part of G2. Recommended species:

- Field Maple (*Acer campestre*)
- Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)
- Juneberry (*Amelanchier lamarckii*)
- Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*)
- Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

Tree pits must include:

- Minimum 1m x 1m excavation
- 100mm mulch layer
- Double staking and irrigation system

8. Supervision and Monitoring

Stage	Timing	Activity	Supervision
1	Pre-commencement	Site meeting, marking of RPA and fencing layout	Site Manager / Project Arborist
2	Before works start	Installation of protective fencing	Project Arborist
3	During groundworks	Supervision of hand excavation for piers and no-dig surface installation	Contractor / Project Arborist
4	Mid-construction	General inspection to ensure compliance	Project Arborist
5	Post-construction	Sign-off prior to removal of fencing and landscaping works	Site Manager / Project Arborist

Monitoring visits will be recorded and issued to the planning authority if requested.



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SITE SUPERVISION FORM - ARBORICULTURAL
 CLERK OF WORKS

DATE:
 CLIENT:
 TELEPHONE NUMBER:
 E-MAIL:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANCY

Site:
 Inspected by:
 Site Manager:
 Date of
 Inspection:

Tree Protection Fencing.

Comments/Actions:

Ground Protection.

Comments/Actions:

Additional Comments.

Remarks:

I am aware of the tree protection requirements for this site and understand no retained trees must be damaged.

Signed:

Dated:

Name:

Company:

(Example ACoW Sheet)

9. Conclusion

All retained trees can be protected in accordance with BS5837:2012 by adhering to this method statement and the associated Tree Protection Plan. The proposed works are achievable without causing unacceptable harm to the retained tree stock, provided all works within or adjacent to RPAs are undertaken under arboricultural supervision and all protection measures remain in place for the duration of the project.

10. Limitations

- 10.1 ROAVR has prepared this Report for the sole use of the above named Client/Agent in accordance with our terms of business, under which our services were performed. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this Report or any other services provided by us.
- 10.2 This Report may not be relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of ROAVR. The assessments made assume that the land use will continue for their current purpose without significant change. ROAVR has not independently verified information obtained from third parties.
- 10.3 This report, video walkthrough, data tables and raw data remain the copyright of ROAVR until such time as any monies owed are settled in full and the report may be withdrawn at any time.
- 10.4 This report, site visit, plans and conclusions are proportional to the proposals and in some cases a simple plan based impact assessment may be all that is required.
- 10.5 Important - to ensure fair allocation of resources, we allow you ten working days to review the report and issue any feedback, beyond that changes are chargeable.
- 10.6 For references and further information regarding tree survey process visit: <https://www.roavr-group.co.uk/roavr-group/survey/sp-3-arboriculture/>

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Mr. Alexander Barnes BSc Arb, MArborA
Consultant Arborist

Alexander Barnes


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Checked by: Peter Haine

Appendix 1 – Tree Protection Plan

General Notes
Do not scale off drawing - refer to the tree data schedule for accurate crown spread measurements.
Depictions of tree canopies are based on measurements taken to four cardinal compass points.
No liability of any kind is accepted for any omissions or inaccuracies in respect of this plan.
The original of this drawing was produced in colour; a monochrome copy should not be relied upon.
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Key

- Trees
Showing Canopy extents, category colour and tag number (with category).
- Category A
Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.
- Category B
Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.
- 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 150 mm.
- Category U
Trees in such a condition that they can not realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.
- BS 5837:2012 Root Protection Area
- Tree Protective Fencing
- Construction Exclusion Zone
- Trees for Removal
- Ground Protection/ Restricted Activity Zone

Drawing Title
Tree Protection Plan

Client
Zara Hussain

Site/Project
L'ortolan, Church Lane, Shinfield, Reading, RG2 9BY

Scale/Sheet
1:250 @ A1

Date
05/11/2025

Drawing No
25_5837_06_70

Rev
1

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Chkd By
MH

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