



Merewood
Arboricultural Consultancy Services



**Arboricultural
ASSOCIATION**
Professional Member
No. PRO 1047

**B.S. 5837 Arboricultural
Method Statement
at
297 Nine Mile Ride
Finchampstead
RG40 3NL
Rev C**

**Client: [REDACTED] Haider
297 Nine Mile Ride
Finchampstead
RG40 3NL**

Important note for demolition and construction contractors

This document includes requirements for arboricultural supervision by a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant in certain areas and techniques that may involve a specialised input. Adherence to these requirements is necessary for this document to comply with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

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Date
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1.0 Brief:

- 1.1 I am instructed by [REDACTED] Haider to prepare an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) in respect of a proposed development at 297 Nine Mile Ride, Finchampstead. The method statement is required to support planning proposals for the erection of a double garage.
- 1.2 The method statement is based on the best available information at this stage of the planning process and may need to be updated in the context of a specific planning condition when the detail is known.
- 1.3 The purpose of the method statement is to explain how and when the protection measures should be installed, and how they are to be maintained for the duration of the development activity.

2.0 Arboricultural Supervision

- 2.1 An arboricultural consultant will be appointed by the developer prior to the commencement of any works on the site.
- 2.2 Prior to the commencement of works a set up meeting between the main contractor, any (relevant) sub-contractors, a representative from the LPA and the arboricultural consultant will take place. In the event the representative from the LPA is unable to attend, the arboricultural consultant will make a note of discussions and will advise the LPA in writing.
- 2.3 The meeting will establish a line of communication between the working parties and to understand the parameters of the site, underlining the importance of maintaining and respecting tree protection barriers.
- 2.4 At the meeting the Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is to be signed off by the person responsible for the day to day running of the site (normally the site foreman).
- 2.5 By signing off the AMS, the responsible person agrees that he/she has read and understood the method statement and agrees to adhere to it.
- 2.6 In the event of the responsible person being replaced at any time during the development it will be their responsibility to ensure the new person responsible for the site is made aware of the method statement and the need to adhere to the method statement.
- 2.7 A copy of this report will be permanently available on site for the duration of the development activity. It can also be copied for the purposes of tendering, planning the timing of operations and used as a reference as a general guide on how to protect important trees.
- 2.8 A full scale (1:200) copy of the tree protection plan (appendix 1) is to be available at all times on site including a scale bar.

- 2.9 The tree work, agreed as part of the planning permission is needed in order to implement the proposed scheme (i.e. felling or pruning works), this will be undertaken before other works commence on site.
- 2.10 No other tree work is to take place without obtaining, in writing, the express consent of the Local Authority.
- 2.11 Once the site becomes active the arboricultural consultant will visit on regular occasions to record specific stages of the development (e.g. demolition, laying of foundations, construction etc.).
- 2.12 All site visits are to be recorded on paper and with accompanying photographs. The purpose of recording the visits is to
- (a) Provide the developer with proof of compliance in the event of any dispute
 - (b) Allow the LPA to discharge the relevant planning conditions

Table :1 Schedule of works and supervision

Sequence	Activity	Supervision
1	Pre commencement meeting	LPA tree officer, site manager, project arboriculturist
2	Agreed tree works	Site manager
3	Installation of fencing and ground protection in accordance with TPP	Site manager and project arboriculturist
4	Main construction phase	Site manager
5	Removal of tree protection following completion	Site manager

3.0 The development

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 The expected programme of site development where arboricultural input is required is as follows:

1. Pre commencement meeting
2. Installation of protective fencing and ground protection

3. Construction of main build
4. Removal of tree protection measures

3.2 Erection of fencing

- 3.2.1 The tree protection plan (appendix 1) shows the line and position of the root protection fencing to be erected prior to any other works taking place on site.
- 3.2.2 The root protection fencing installation shall be approached from within the central working zone to avoid damage within the root protection area itself, in accordance with the recommendations of BS 5837/2012, illustrated by Fig. 1.

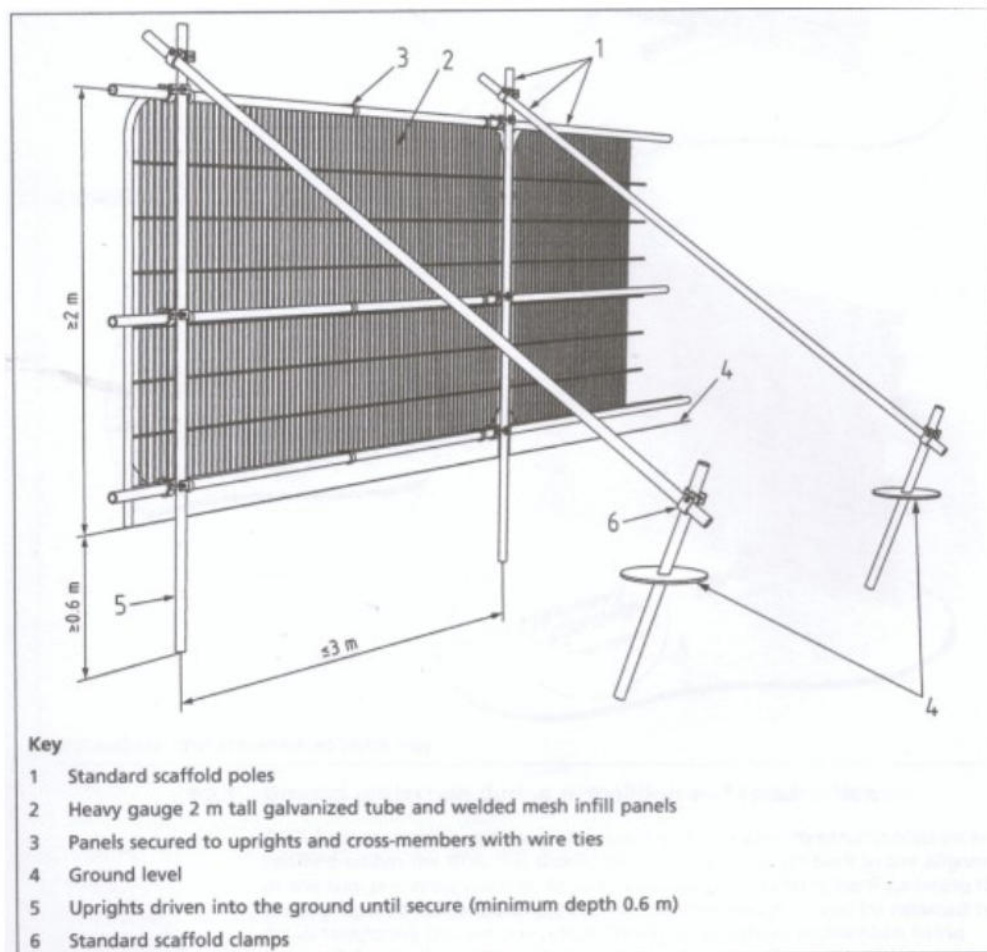


Fig. 1 Protective fencing in accordance with B.S. 5837

- 3.2.3 The fencing for the root protection zones shall be constructed of scaffold tube uprights (set at 3m intervals with diagonal braces driven securely into the ground). Thereafter 'Heras' type fencing shall be attached to the scaffold framework using either steel strapping or scaffold clamps. The fencing shall comply with the requirements of the British Standard B.S. 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'.
- 3.2.4 The fenced off areas are to be regarded as a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). This area is to be considered sacrosanct and strictly off limits to any

construction activity including any movement of machinery, storage of materials or parking of contractors' vehicles.



Fig 2. Signage attached to fencing reinforces the protection afforded by these barriers

- 3.2.5 The fencing protecting the RPA is not to be moved under any circumstances unless this has been specifically detailed in the AMS or agreed on site with the arboricultural consultant present.
- 3.2.6 Ignoring the fencing barriers may constitute a breach of the planning permission and may also be regarded as in contravention of any formal tree protection that applies (Tree Preservation Orders/ Conservation Areas).
- 3.2.7 There is to be no burning of any materials or substances within 10m of the root protection barriers.
- 3.2.8 There is to be no storage of cement bags, chemicals or any other toxic or potentially toxic substances within the CEZ.
- 3.2.9 Once the fencing has been properly installed, the retained arboricultural consultant will visit the site to confirm the correct installation of the fencing.
- 3.2.10 The installation of the fencing will be photographed and recorded and a record of this will be passed on to the arboricultural officer at the Local Authority.

3.3 The installation of ground protection

- 3.3.1 Where indicated on the tree protection plan ground protection shall be put in place to provide a surface for pedestrian traffic and for scaffolding to be positioned.
- 3.3.2 The ground protection shall consist of a geotextile membrane laid across the

area, which is then covered by a layer of wood chips at least 150mm thick.

- 3.3.3 Scaffold boards shall then be placed onto the wood chips layer and firmly butted up close to one another. These are to be held in place with steel pins.
- 3.3.4 The level of wood chips is to be checked periodically and if necessary topped up.



Fig 3. Scaffold boards on top of wood chips serving as ground protection. Note the geotextile layer underneath

3.4 Excavation of foundations

- 3.4.1 The proposed garage is to be constructed onto a raft foundation. Each corner pad of the raft will be first excavated using a pneumatic air lance (an air spade) to a depth of 600mm.
- 3.4.2 If roots are encountered and root pruning is unavoidable, cuts shall be made at the nearest suitable point in the root system, such as a root junction. Final pruning cuts are to be made at right angles to the axis of the root to leave as small a wound as possible.
- 3.4.3 All pruning cuts shall be made with sharp horticultural tools such as secateurs, pruning shears or a saw (not a spade, shovel, pickaxe or mattock) and the final cut shall be as smooth as possible free of jagged edges.
- 3.4.4 Following the initial investigations, the remaining surface of the raft foundation is to be excavated using hand held tools.

- 3.4.5 All excavated soil shall be removed using hand tools and wheelbarrows.
- 3.4.6 A heavy gauge polythene or butyl rubber liner will be used to line the sides of the corner pads and the overall surface of the raft foundation prior to the pouring of the concrete.
- 3.4.7 The concrete shall be poured using a chute from a standard concrete mixing lorry. The lorry shall park on the driveway, to the east side of the proposed garage away from the root protection areas of the trees.
- 3.4.8 The walls, roof and suspended floor of the garage can then be constructed onto the base foundation, keeping the structure above ground level.
- 3.4.9 The floor of the garage will be proud of the surrounding soil level as a result of being suspended, so a concrete ramp shall be cast at the front of the garage to allow vehicles to access the garage.

3.5 Storage of materials

- 3.5.1 Materials are to be delivered by way of the driveway to the main delivery/set down area at the front of the garage.
- 3.5.2 Materials will be taken from here by hand or by wheelbarrow to where they are needed.

3.6 Mortar mixing

- 3.6.1 Concrete and mortar will be mixed to the front of the house in a dedicated area within the confines of the driveway.
- 3.6.2 All mortar mixing and handling of any other hazardous materials shall take place outside the rpa's of trees. Water run-off from the cleaning of concrete mixers is to be directed away from rpa's and should take place as far from trees as possible.
- 3.6.3 A confinement area controlling the run-off shall be installed, incorporating an impermeable layer of strong plastic sheeting held within a raised bed. Washing of cement mixers shall take place only within the confined area.

4.0 Post construction

4.1 Final removal of tree protective fencing and ground protection

- 4.1.1 Following the conclusion of all construction operations protective fencing and ground protection will be removed to allow for landscaping operations such as turf re-instatement to take place.
- 4.1.2 Great care is needed at this stage from ground work contractors to continue to observe tree protection requirements. No machines are to be used within rpa's which specifically includes rotovators.

Signatures:

I confirm that I have attended a pre-application site meeting with the contractors and have gone through the requirements of the Arboricultural Method Statement and that a copy is available in the site office.

Arboricultural Consultant

I confirm that I have attended a pre-application site meeting with the arboricultural consultant and that I am responsible for the correct procedures being followed in accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement and that a copy is available in the site office.

Site Manager/Foreman**Contact details:**

Simon Hawkins – Arboricultural Consultant 07784 915 944

Wokingham Borough Council– Council Offices 0118 974 6000

Appendix 1 Tree Protection Plan

