

**GREEN EARTH  
ARBORICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSULTANTS**



**HAULAGE YARD  
183 HYDE END RD  
BERKSHIRE  
RG7 1BU**

**Arboricultural Method Statement**

14<sup>th</sup> February 2024

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# **ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT**

**This Arboricultural Method Statement follows on from a Tree Survey report produced by Green Earth, dated 19/10/22 which should be referred to for tree details. on page 8, Appendix 2. See also Tree Protection Plan on page 8.**

## **1. Purpose**

This method statement has been produced to ensure any tree is not damaged. It must be made available to all operatives on site during the construction works. A Tree Protection Plan (TPP), numbered TPP 24-1, (Superimposed on the Bradford Smith Plan number 993-L.A.P-01 C ) has been produced which should be read in conjunction with this Arboricultural Method Statement.

## **2. Pre- start meeting**

A pre-start meeting will be arranged (if required by WBC) between: Local Planning Officer, client, contractor and project arboriculturalist (either local authority tree officer or appointed consultant). This will consider tree protection measures and work schedule.

## **3. Regular Visits**

During construction a number of site visits will be arranged by the project arboriculturalist, **if required by the Planning Authority**. This may vary depending upon the works underway, but should only require a maximum of 4 visits. See attached schedule, Appendix 1, page 7.

## **4. Tree Removal**

There are no significant trees to be removed.

## **5. Tree Retention**

There is only one tree to the north east of the site which is a major landscape feature. This tree will be retained and care will be required to ensure it is not damaged. See Appendix 3, page 9 for details.

## **6. Fencing**

The British Standard 5837:2012 recommends a fence be constructed on the Root Protection Area (RPA) line to protect trees. This fence must be erected around the trees to be retained before any works commence on site, the construction details of such a fence following the recommendations of the BS, i.e. a strong scaffolding framework with either plywood boarding or a strong mesh attached firmly to the fence, see Fig 1 on page 3.

There is already a boundary fence running along the eastern boundary that will prevent any work incursion into the area around the base of the tree. The Oaks canopy and RPA intrudes into the site. A reduced protection fence following the eastern edge of the new access must be erected, as shown on the Tree Protection Plan. The RPA of tree T1 is intruded by the proposed access, the fence will therefore need to be set back to allow works to proceed. This will keep damaging activities from the tree, ensuring no material or equipment are taken into a part of the RPA.

The area within the RPA fencing will be a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). No materials or equipment will be allowed within these areas. The fencing is illustrated on plan TPP24-1 on page 8. Fencing will be erected before works commence on the new buildings.

The fence will be marked with signs as indicated in Fig 2. The temporary fence will remain in place until completion of the main construction phase and only removed when agreed by the planning officer or arboriculturalist.

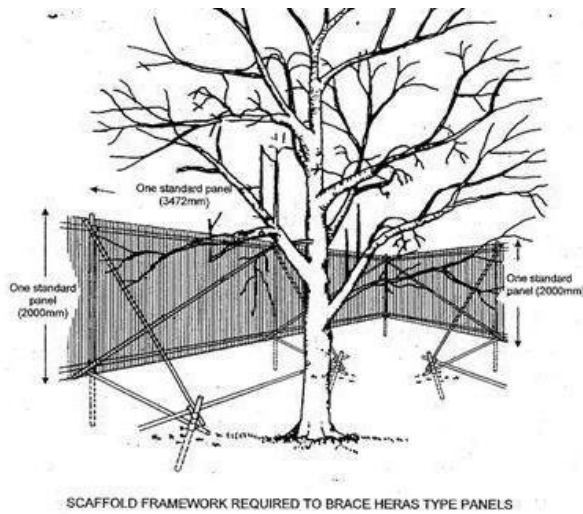


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

## 7. Demolition

There is no demolition proposed.

## 8. Removal of vegetation

Little vegetation will be removed but where necessary care must be taken to keep away from the tree.

## 9. Access

Access to the site will be from the road from the north. The new access and part of the car parking will be within the RPA of the tree. Soil within the RPAs must not be compacted as oxygen must be able to diffuse into the soil beneath any engineered surfaces. No heavy vehicles or plant will be placed within the RPAs.

Therefore the access will be a suspended deck **and this must be installed before other works proceed**. The decking will be provided by a specialist company following their specification and requirements. The area is shown on the TPP24-1 plan.

The area east of the decking is vulnerable to compaction although protected by the temporary fence. To allow any works in this area the ground must be protected from compaction by using boards laid onto a layer of 100 mm bark or wood chips. If work is required in this area the protection must be laid before any other construction work commences. If essential this area may need to be disturbed but only to enable works to proceed and work will be on the remaining bark reinforced area as necessary.

## **10. Foundations**

The new house will be further away from the trees therefore traditional strip foundations will be possible.

## **11. Removal of materials**

Removal of any materials such as vegetation or loose materials within RPAs or within 2 metres of them will be carefully removed by hand and taken away, off the site.

## **12. Shed and Paths**

A shed is indicated in the south east of the proposed house. This will be outside of the RPA of T1 and therefore not require any special treatment.

## **13. Levels**

To accommodate the new structure and access, limited ground works will be required. No major ground level changes by digging or soil level raising will be allowed within 1 metre of any RPA. If the edge of the decking needs to be married into the surrounding ground level only a porous, non-compactable material will be used.

## **14. Services**

Any services required for the buildings must be brought into and through the site outside the RPAs. It is assumed all services required are already in place and therefore new excavation will not be required.

## **15. Trenches & Excavations**

- Trenches within the RPA must be avoided. If the need for any trench within the RPA areas is identified, approval from a qualified arboricultural consultant must be sought. They must be dug by hand with no machines allowed in the area. Any trenches must be kept as narrow as possible to facilitate the laying of the service.
- Any roots severed by accident must be cleanly repaired under the supervision of a qualified arboriculturalist.
- Any excavation close to an RPA will be closed as soon as possible to prevent desiccation or cold damage to the roots. If a trench or excavation needs to remain open for a protracted period the trench sides and bottom will be covered using hessian to prevent desiccation.

Reference to the National Joint Utilities Group publication *Guidelines for Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees*, Vol 4 will provide further guidance.

- Any surplus material must be removed by the end of the working day and kept away from the RPA area.

## **16. Storage**

No materials will be stored within the RPA areas. Materials must be carefully controlled and brought onto the site as required. Care must be exercised to ensure no toxic material is stored on the area which may leak into the ground such as fuels, oils, concrete and mortar mixes as these will be detrimental to tree roots. Storage of any such material must be arranged to ensure any spillage is contained.

## **17. Branch Works**

If in the unlikely event work to the tree is required, work must be arranged by a qualified arboricultural contractor experienced in such works, in accordance with BS 3998:2010 '*Tree Work*'.

Approval for any works must be obtained from Wokingham Borough Council before arranging any such work.

## **18. Drainage**

Any new soak ways required for taking water from the new building must be constructed well away from the RPAs of the retained trees.

## **19. Report Damage to Trees and Tree Protection Barriers**

Should any damage be caused to the trees, either by the above works or as the result of any other action, the damage should be reported to the site supervisor immediately. The site supervisor shall report to an appropriately qualified arboriculturist, to enable remedial measures to be implemented.

Should damage occur to a protective barrier to impair its function in protecting any tree, all work will cease near the damage until the barrier has been returned to standard.

## **20. Completion Meeting**

It is recommended that upon completion of all the works specified above a meeting will be arranged with the planning officer or arboriculturalist to agree removal of the protective fencing.

## **21. Removal of Protective Barriers**

When the development phase is complete, all drainage and service runs are in place, all site machinery has been removed and any landscaping for the principal area of the site has been implemented, the protective barriers will be dismantled.

This barrier dismantling must be undertaken with care.

## **22. Landscaping**

- All landscaping works, including making good within tree protection areas, will be arranged by hand.
- Ground preparation must be arranged sensitively to ensure root damage is avoided.
- No heavy equipment will be used within the RPAs.
- All soil regrading and disturbance within the RPAs will be avoided.

- Any plants will be planted individually within 2 metres of an RPA to minimise root disturbance i.e. no trench planting.
- No works will be carried out within the RPAs if the soil moisture is of a level likely to allow compaction to occur.

### 23. General

Any roots if exposed during works must be kept covered as much as possible and excavations containing roots must be refilled as soon as possible to prevent desiccation of these roots.

Alternatively if excavations must be left open for any time, the roots must be covered with hessian sheeting to prevent desiccation but plastic sheeting must not be used.

Care will be needed to ensure any tree canopy is not damaged by cranes or high plant and machinery. High machines must be avoided on site but if essential the use of cranes, jibs or machine arms must be carefully supervised at all times to avoid contact with and damage to any branches. In the unlikely event that a tree is accidentally damaged requiring branch removal or repair this must be arranged by a competent arboricultural contractor working to *BS3998:2010, 'Recommendations for Tree Work'*.

David Sanger, BSc (Hons), FArborA, DipArb (RFS).



Appendix 1.

**PROPOSED SITE VISITS TO HAULAGE YARD, PROVISIONAL STAGES REQUIRING INSPECTION OR APPROVAL**

visits may be inserted or removed.

Form to be completed on site and copies sent to Wokingham Borough Council planning and to the site agent.

| <b>Stage</b>   | <b>Work</b>                                                                                                  | <b>Supervision by arboriculturalist</b>                                                                                       | <b>Signed off</b> | <b>Copy to WBC</b> | <b>Copy to site agent</b> | <b>Comments</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Stage 1</b> | Pre-start meeting to agree:<br>1. Fence line<br>2. Steps to protect trees                                    | Attend meeting<br><br>1. Agree fencing<br>2. Agree steps                                                                      |                   |                    |                           |                 |
| <b>Stage 2</b> | Check tree protection in place. General inspection of site and preliminary work. Check new decking in place. | Survey the site to ensure protection of trees in place.<br><br>Survey to ensure correct procedure with no damage to the tree. |                   |                    |                           |                 |
| <b>Stage 3</b> | Check tree protection in place. Check construction works.                                                    | Ensure protection is still in place. Ensure works are not impacting any trees.                                                |                   |                    |                           |                 |
| <b>Stage 4</b> | Completion meeting. Dismantle tree protection                                                                | Inspect and agree removal.                                                                                                    |                   |                    |                           |                 |
|                |                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                               |                   |                    |                           |                 |

## Typical Images of Green Grid System within Root Protection Area (RPA)



Suspended Deck - refer to Green Earth Tree Survey Report (Treesafe by Abbey Pynfold or Rootbridge Green Grid System) undertaken by specialist contractor

Proposed mixed native planting (hedgerow species) to provide screening, amenity and biodiversity enhancements to the road frontage

Road Frontage: Existing northern boundary enhanced with new mixed native hedgerow and small tree planting to provide screening, amenity and biodiversity enhancements to the road frontage

Hatched Area (Light yellow) demarcates land within Highways ownership

Proposed Tree Planting Species:

- 1nr. Acer campestre 'Streetwise'
- 2nr. Amelanchier lamarckii
- 1nr. Malus 'Evereste'
- 1nr. Prunus avium

Proposed Native Hedgerow Planting Species:

- Acer campestre
- Carpinus betulus
- Crataegus monogyna
- Corylus avellana
- Cornus sanguinea
- Ilex aquifolium
- Prunus spinosa

**NOTES**  
Copyright: This drawing is the property of Bradford Smith Landscape Architects. It must not be copied or reproduced or passed to a third party without written consent of Bradford Smith Ltd.  
Dimensions: Only figured dimensions are to be taken from this drawing. All dimensions must be taken from the centre line of the road and all dimensions related to the works shown on the drawing. All levels in meters.  
Utilities/Highways/Environment: It is the responsibility of the client or their contractor to liaise with Utility Providers, Highways Authority and Environment Agency and to ensure that all approvals are in place. It is the responsibility of the contractor to locate all underground services prior to construction.  
Drainage: All drainage works should be checked on site prior to the construction works commencing on site. All drainage should be installed in accordance with relevant landscape specifications.  
Overseas: Any discrepancy on the drawings shall be referred to the CA immediately.

## Appendix 2

### NOTES

Ground work within RPA of existing trees - Any required excavations within RPA's for the new planting and fence posts shall be undertaken by hand using hand held tools only to minimize any root damage. All such works will be undertaken in full accordance with Section 7.2 of BS5837: 2012. Any required root pruning will be undertaken by the Arboricultural Consultant (where such works are appropriate in accordance with the above Standard) and as detailed in Section 7.2.

**New Fencing:** All fence posts within RPA's shall be locally adjusted to avoid significant roots and undertaken by hand using hand held tools to minimize any root damage.

**Tree Survey & RPA's:** Green Earth Tree Survey & AMS Report.  
**Hard landscape details and drainage:** refer to Architects and Engineers details. For details on retaining structures, please refer to engineers / architects details.

**Levels:** proposed detailed levels to be provided by Engineers details.  
**Surface finishes:** to be installed in accordance with the manufacturers instructions. All hard surfaces laid to falls.

HYDE END ROAD

Existing tarmac area retained

CEZ

Parking and turning area within the root protection area (RPA) below the existing mature TPO Oak (T1) shall be a suspended deck construction method such as Treesafe by Abbey Pynfold or Rootbridge a Green Grid System to specialist specification and details.

Clipped Privet hedgerow planting  
Gravel pedestrian path and Refuse Storage Area  
Gravel pedestrian path

Species rich lawn for ecological and biodiversity benefits

Cycle storage and shed

New native hedgerow planting: to provide screening and create habitat links / green corridors along the southern, eastern and western boundaries, providing landscape enhancements, ecological and biodiversity benefits, creating habitat connectivity around the site and to the surrounding adjacent areas.

New tree planting: to provide screening, landscape enhancements, ecological and biodiversity benefits.

Log pile

NORTH

## TREE PROTECTION PLAN TPP 24-1

SCALE 1:100 @ A1

### LEGEND

#### SOFT LANDSCAPE WORKS

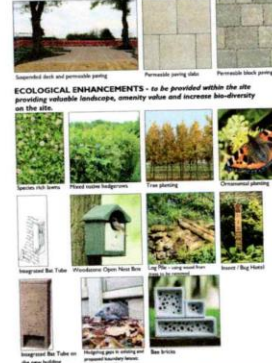
- Existing TPO Oak tree to be retained & protected - refer to Green Earth Tree Survey & AMS Report
- Root Protection Areas (RPA) - refer to Green Earth Tree Survey & AMS Report
- Proposed native and non-native tree planting
- Proposed mixed native species rich hedgerow planting
- Proposed clipped privet (*Ligustrum ovalifolium*) hedgerow planting

#### HARD LANDSCAPE WORKS

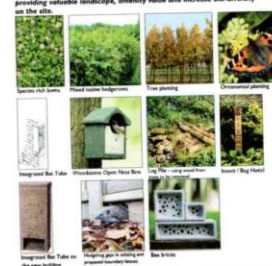
- Entrance Path & Pavement Paving slabs
- Car Parking & Turning Permeable Block Paving Paved Tarmac or similar equivalent
- Suspended Deck - refer to Green Earth Tree Survey Report (Treesafe by Abbey Pynfold or Rootbridge Green Grid System) undertaken by specialist contractor
- Site boundary

protection fence.

#### HARD LANDSCAPE PALETTE



#### ECOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS - to be provided within the site



C-11-1-2023 - Amended drive layout  
C-12-1-2023 - Adjusted refuse, bike storage & charging point  
C-20-1-2023 - Minor revisions and updated plan

**BRADFORD-SMITH**  
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Project: The Haulage Yard Land Adjacent to Bramble Cottage, 183 Hyde End Road, Hyde End Road, RG7 1BU

Client:

Drawing Title: Landscape Strategy Proposals Plan

Scale: 1:100 @ A1 Date: June 2023 Drawn: MS

Drawing No.: 993-LA-P-01 Status: PLANNING Revision: C

Prepared by: [ ] Based on Planning Approval [ ] Based on Design/Development [ ] Based on Construction [ ] Based on Tender [ ] As Built



### Appendix 3



**Table 1 – Summary of trees reported**

| No | English Name       | Scientific Name      | Girth (m) | DBH (m) | RPA circle radius (m) | Canopy spread (m) |   |   |     | Lowest branch (m) | Clearance (m) | Approx height (m) | Age <sup>1</sup> | Vigour <sup>2</sup> | BS 5837 Category <sup>3</sup> |
|----|--------------------|----------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|-------------------|---|---|-----|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
|    |                    |                      |           |         |                       | N                 | E | S | W   |                   |               |                   |                  |                     |                               |
| 1  | <b>English Oak</b> | <i>Quercus robur</i> | 1.4       | 0.45    | 5.4                   | -                 | - | - | 0.5 | 7                 | 7             | 13                | M                | INT                 | C                             |
|    |                    |                      |           |         |                       |                   |   |   |     |                   |               |                   |                  |                     |                               |

1. Young, SM-Semi-mature, M-Mature, OM-Overmature

2. N-,Normal, INT- Intermediate

3. A-retention most desirable, B-retention desirable, C-could be retained, U-Unsuitable for retention