

Arboricultural Method Statement

All tree work is to be undertaken in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations. Please refer to Arborist Consulting Ltd Tree Schedule, Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan, for full details of all surveyed trees and how all aspects of the development may be implemented without detriment to retained trees.

Foundations within RPAs

The use of traditional strip foundations can result in excessive root loss and as such should be avoided. Designs for foundations that would minimize the adverse impact upon trees should include particular attention to the existing levels, proposed finished levels and cross sectional details. Site specific and specialist advice should be sought from the project engineers and arboriculturist.

A slab foundation will be utilized. Where a slab for minor structures (e.g. bike store) will be formed within the RPA, it should bear on the existing ground level, and should not exceed an area greater than 20% of the existing unhardened ground.

For information, please refer to the following BS 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations, section 7.3. Specialist engineering for foundations within the RPA.

'No Dig' Surfacing

Trees can be affected by construction within the RPAs either through the direct damage caused by the removal of roots, compaction of the rooting environment or secondary damage such as passing through leaks and spills (oil, fuels, etc.) or through deicing (road salt, etc.).

Proposed hard surfacing within the RPAs of retained trees is to be designed so that it can be situated above the existing soil level and to minimise any adverse impact upon the tree RPAs, as the use of traditional foundations can result in excessive root loss through direct removal of roots during excavation and by compaction of the soil beneath the excavation, as such this 'traditional' type of foundation should be avoided.

When designing hard surfacing that is to be situated within RPAs, the design team need to pay particular attention to the proposed usage (pedestrian, domestic traffic, delivery vans, Emergency vehicles, HGVs etc.). The existing and proposed levels of hard surfacing and finished floor levels, edging types and details, proximity to tree trunks and surface rooting, contamination capture, SUDs, etc.

Possible sub-bases (foundations systems) for hard surfacing situated within the RPAs of retained trees could include:

- A proprietary system such as a multi-dimensional confinement system (Cellulose TSP or similar)
- Engineered solution such as a road deck, bridge, etc.

An engineered solution is likely require a level of excavation for site specific investigations to locate roots to aid in foundation design so that a suitable foundation can be designed to avoid roots and for the installation the structure.

NOTE: The use of a multi-dimensional confinement systems and/or an engineered solution will affect the finished level of the hard surfacing by raising the levels and needs to be taken into consideration when designing foundations and setting the finished floor levels of adjacent buildings.

Utility apparatus

Underground utility apparatus

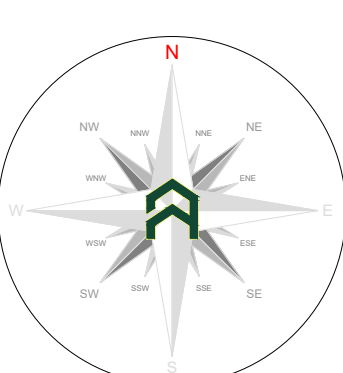
Mechanical trenching for the installation of underground apparatus and drainage where any roots present and use change the local hydrology in a way that adversely affects the health of the tree. For this reason, particular care should be taken in the root and methods of installation of all underground apparatus. Wherever possible, apparatus should be routed outside of RPAs. Where this is not possible, it is preferable to keep apparatus together in common ducts, all inspection chambers should be sited outside of the RPAs.

Where underground apparatus is to pass within the RPAs, detailed plans showing the proposed route should be drawn up in conjunction with the project arboriculturist. In such cases trenchless insertion methods should be used with entry and retrieval pits being located outside of the RPAs. If this option is not feasible and providing roots can be retained and protected excavations should be undertaken using hand held tools (air-spade, forks, shovels) or a combination of trenchless and manual excavation (broken trench).

Any design and installation should be undertaken in accordance with the National Joint Utilities Guidelines (NUJUG).

Above-ground utility apparatus

Above-ground apparatus including CCTV cameras and lighting should be sited to avoid the need for detrimental tree pruning, as such the current and future crown size of the tree should be assessed. Tree branches can be pruned back with care to provide space, though it is not appropriate for repetitive and significant tree work to be an initial design solution unless this is a suitable management outcome for the tree. Any pruning should be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010.



Indicative only

Arboricultural Impacts

Impacts	No. of trees
Trees to be removed	1
Group A / Hedges to be removed (Partial removal of groups)	1/20
Trees with proposed incursions into RPAs	0
Group A / Hedges with proposed incursions into RPAs	1
Trees that will require pruning	0
Group A / Hedges that will require pruning	0
Trees to be translocated	0
Group A / Hedges to be translocated	0

No.	Species	Proposed structure	Incursion
G2	Various	Hard surface	RPA
G2	Various	Hard surface	RPA
G2	Various	Bike store	RPA

Arboricultural Impacts - RPAs (Area)

No.	Species	RPA	Incursion	
			(m <sup>2</sup> )	(%)
G2	Various	91.6	1.2	1.3
G2	Various	91.8	16.8	18.3
G2	Various	91.6	13.8	15.1

Tree Work Schedule

No.	Species	Works	Category
1	Cherry	Fell and remove stump	B1
G1	Various	Partial fell of group. Removing approx. 3 individuals as shown in Annex AIA 01	B2
G2	Various	Partial fell of group. Remove small trees as required to install hard surface.	B2
G3	Various	Partial fell of group. Removing approx. 10m of the group as shown in Annex AIA 01	C2
G3	Various	Prune: raise the crowns over the proposed footpath as required to give a minimum ground clearance of 3m.	C2
H1	Various	Fell and remove stump	C2

All tree work is to be undertaken in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations. All stumps are to be removed and the site is to be left as found. Care is to be taken of the ground around retained trees to make sure that it does not become compacted as a result of tree surgery operations. No equipment or vehicles such as timber forklifts, tractors, excavators or cranes shall be parked or driven beneath the crowns of any retained trees, to prevent subsequent compaction and root death.

No. of individual trees to be removed

U	A	B	C
0	0	1	0

No. of groups / hedges to be removed

U	A	B	C
0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (1)

(1) Partial removal of a group.



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Project:  
Land Adjoining Liberty House,  
Strand Way,  
Lower Earley,  
Wokingham  
RG6 4EA

Client:  
Reading Almshouses Charity

Drawing:  
Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Based on:  
LHD 11LS

Drawing No:  
Arbtech AIA 01

Date:  
Feb 2025

Scale:  
1:100 @ A0

Drawn:  
CMW

Tree Nos.	1	Tree Categories	Trees	Trees
RPAs	Category 'A' trees	Category 'B' groups	Category 'C' groups	Category 'D' groups
Category 'C' groups	Trees to be removed	Existing trees	Existing trees	Existing trees
Incursion - Structures	Incursion - Surfacing	Incursion - Structures	Incursion - Surfacing	Incursion - Structures

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**Issue:** Proposed bike store situated within the RPA and crown of group G1.  
**Solution:** Foundations are to be a slab cast on top of soil level so there is no disturbance of the soil below. Crowns to be raised to give a minimum clearance of 1m to the top of the proposed bike store

**Issue:** Proposed hard surfacing situated within RPA and crown of group G2.  
**Solution:** Proposed surfacing to be designed in conjunction with an arboriculturist so that it can be constructed entirely above the existing soil level. Crowns to be raised over the proposed surfaces to give a minimum ground clearance of 3m.

