



ALLARBORICULTURE

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ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

BS 5837:2012

On behalf of:

Muhammad Arslan
Shahid

Site address:

Tall Trees, Gorse Ride
North, Finchampstead,
Wokingham, RG40 4ES

Prepared by:

KC

Report reference:

AAAIATALL

Report date:

9th October 2026

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1.0 Instruction

All Arboriculture has been instructed by Muhammad Arslan Shahid to undertake a tree survey in accordance with BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations, and to produce an Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan. The instruction was received on 1st September 2026. The tree survey was carried out on 3rd September 2026.

2.0 Statement of purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide local planning authorities with sufficient arboricultural information to consider the effect of the proposed development on nearby trees, and to demonstrate that trees have been carefully considered throughout the development process.

The report includes an arboricultural method statement that describes how work will be undertaken to provide adequate protection of retained trees.

3.0 Associated documents and drawings

This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents and drawings:

1. Tall Trees Gorse Ride North Finchampstead Wokingham RG40 4ES- v3-BLOCK and ELEVATIONS.A1.03
2. British Standards Institute - BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations
3. Tree Protection Plan – AATPPTALL

4.0 Site description

The site is located within a suburban residential area characterised by detached dwellings and established garden vegetation within Finchampstead, Wokingham. The proposal is the conversion of existing double garage and loft into habitable accommodation plus extension to the kitchen area, first floor extension, installation of EV charging point. The site falls under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Borough Council and a search on their website shows all trees on site are protected by a Tree Preservation Order.

5.0 Vegetation description

The site is influenced by mature trees. The Tree Protection Plan identifies the position of relevant trees, their categorisation and the extent of their Root Protection Areas in relation to the proposed layout. The proposed tree protection measures and working methodology (in accordance with BS 5837:2012) will ensure they are not detrimentally affected during construction.

6.0 Arboricultural impact assessment

Table 1: Summary of impacts

Tree removal	None
Facilitation pruning	None
Demolition within RPA	None
New surfacing within RPA	None
New structures within RPA	Minor incursion into T6, T7 and T8

Building construction in relation to tree roots: No tree removal is required to facilitate the proposed development

The proposed development results in minor encroachments into the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of T6 (2 m²), T7 (1 m²) and T8 (1 m²). These encroachments have been minimised through the revised design. This encroachment has been minimised through design. There are no feasible alternative siting options that would avoid this constraint while maintaining the functional requirements of the development.

A precautionary approach has therefore been adopted and roots are assumed to be present.

The development will be constructed using a no-dig foundation solution comprising mini piled foundations with a suspended beam/slab. This will avoid significant excavation within the RPA and minimise the potential for root damage.

Subject to the implementation of appropriate tree protection measures and adherence to the Arboricultural Method Statement, the impact of the proposed development on retained trees is considered acceptable. The proposals accord with BS5837:2012 and are considered to result in an acceptable and sustainable relationship between the development and retained trees.

Building construction in relation to tree crowns: No facilitation pruning is required. It is important that sufficient growing space is allowed between the mature crown extent of each tree and the roof edge of the proposed structures. This is to reduce conflicts of interest in the future and to reduce the pressure to prune trees to keep them clear of roofs: A clearance of two metres from the mature tree crown is generally considered acceptable which is the case with this proposal.

Tree root and canopy protection: The RPA (Root protection area) of the retained trees should be protected during the development phase with site specific protection to ensure heavy machinery is not operated, or materials stored within the rooting area. This can be detrimental to the trees, causing soil compaction and root die back. The protection of the RPA and canopy spread is detailed in the Arboricultural Method Statement below.

Materials delivery, storage and handling: Materials should not be handled or stored within the RPAs of retained trees; the load exerted can result in soil compaction and leachate from spills can be toxic to trees.

Surface drains, soakaways and services: It is important that services, surface drains and soakaways avoid the RPAs of retained trees as roots can be damaged during trench excavations.

7.0 Arboricultural method statement

Implementation and phasing of the proposed development: Prior to any building work commencing on site, a meeting will be held with the tree consultant and site manager present. During the meeting details regarding the location of tree protection will be discussed and a time to reconvene in order to assess the tree protection will be agreed.

Tree protection barriers: Protective fencing must be installed prior to the commencement of any development activity and will be retained in the positions shown on the tree protection plan (AATPPTALL). The fencing will be to the BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations' (section 6.2) i.e. preformed galvanised steel mesh panels ('Heras' or similar) facings on a driven braced scaffold pole framework. It will be retained at the locations shown until construction is completed. It may be moved or removed only with notice to and consent from the local planning authority.

Ground Protection: Whilst the existing driveway is capable of supporting light domestic vehicle use (e.g. private cars), it is not assumed to be suitable for the increased loading and potential contamination associated with construction activities. Accordingly, precautionary ground protection will be installed across all areas of driveway falling within the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees, in accordance with BS5837:2012. Ground protection will comprise a linked ground protection system (e.g. interlinked boards such as TrakMats or similar) installed over the existing surface to form a continuous load-distributing layer suitable for construction traffic. An impermeable membrane (e.g. heavy-duty plastic sheeting) will be installed beneath the boards to prevent contamination of the underlying soil. The system will be installed prior to the commencement of works and retained for the duration of construction activity within or adjacent to the RPAs.

Foundations within RPA - Proposed Extension: The proposed extension is located within the Root Protection Area of T6, T7 and T8. Development within this area will be undertaken using a specialist no-dig foundation solution to minimise impacts on retained trees. A precautionary approach has been adopted, assuming roots are present. The foundation design will comprise mini piled foundations with suspended beam/slab construction. This approach will minimise excavation within the Root Protection Areas and reduce disturbance to the existing soil structure and rooting environment. The finished floor level will be supported above existing ground level. All excavation within Root Protection Areas will be carried out using hand tools or air spade techniques. Roots greater than 2.5cm in diameter will be retained and protected. Pile locations will be adjusted where necessary to avoid significant roots.

Piling will be undertaken using small tracked rigs with low ground pressure operating from temporary ground protection to prevent soil compaction. Measures will be in place to prevent contamination of the soil, including the use of pre-cast piles or suitable barriers to ensure that wet concrete does not come into contact with retained roots.

The detailed design of the pile and suspended slab foundation system will be undertaken by a suitably qualified structural engineer in accordance with the arboricultural constraints and methodology set out within this report. All foundation works will be carried out under arboricultural supervision and in accordance with this method statement.

Storage and handling of materials: This site has sufficient space for materials to be stored and handled and must be outside of the RPAs of retained trees.

Contractors parking: There is sufficient space on site for parking.

Welfare facilities: Toilets and hand washing facilities shall be made available within the property and there is space for temporary facilities.

Surface drains, soak aways and services: No details of new service runs have been provided at this stage. However, it is likely the existing services will be utilised for the proposed development. They should be routed to avoid the RPAs of retained trees. If this is not possible, special techniques must be employed to place the services within the RPA of the trees. The British Standard suggests a range of trench less methods suitable for various applications including micro tunnelling, surface launched directional drilling, Pipe ramming and Impact Moling/thrust boring. It is important common ducts should be used where it is not possible to avoid the RPA. Further guidance on installing underground services adjacent to trees can be found in the NJUG Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees (Volume 4 Issue 2). This document outlines a number of techniques that may be used for trenching near trees, including trench less techniques, discontinuous trenching and hand digging.

Supervision: Arboricultural supervision will be undertaken by the project arboricultural consultant at key stages of the development. This will include inspection following the installation of tree protection measures to confirm compliance with the approved Tree Protection Plan and supervision during all works within or adjacent to Root Protection Areas including foundation installation.

A watching brief will be maintained during operations within Root Protection Areas to ensure that works are carried out in accordance with this method statement and that no unauthorised incursions or damage to retained trees occurs. The site manager will notify the arboricultural consultant in advance of all relevant stages to allow inspections to be undertaken and recorded

Sequencing of works

1. Installation of Tree Protection as shown on the TPP.
2. Arboricultural consultant to check tree protection at this stage.
3. Main construction phase.
4. Remove tree protection when all construction activity has ended.
5. Carry out landscaping works (**if required**).
6. Completion

Contacts

Architect and Agent:

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Critical phases of pre-commencement, induction, construction & completion

REFERENCE	ACTIVITY	ONE OFF OR REPEAT	ATTENDEES	ACTION
1	Pre-commencement meeting (to discuss working methods, timescales and tree protection schemes)	One off	Developer, Arboricultural Consultant, Site Manager/Agent, Ground Works Contractor	Arboricultural Consultant to record minutes – copies to be submitted to attendees
2	Inspection of tree protection	Repeat until works completion	Arboricultural Consultant, Site Manager/Agent	Arboricultural Consultant to record minutes – copies to be submitted to Developer and Council Arboricultural Officer within 5 days
3	Installation of foundations and construction	Repeat until works completion	Arboricultural Consultant, Site Manager/Agent	Arboricultural Consultant to record minutes – copies to be submitted to Developer and Council Arboricultural Officer within 5 days
4	Installation of hard surfaces, landscaping, if required	Repeat until works completion	Arboricultural Consultant, Site Manager/Agent	Arboricultural Consultant to record minutes – copies to be submitted to Developer and Council Arboricultural Officer within 5 days
5	Final assessment – after tree protection removal	One off	Developer, Arboricultural Consultant, Site Manager/Agent, Ground Works Contractor	Arboricultural Consultant to record minutes – copies to be submitted to Developer and Council Arboricultural Officer within 5 days
6	Additional inspections (if necessary) to ensure periods not greater than three months elapse between any of above listed monitoring events	Dependent on progress of the project	Arboricultural Consultant, Site Manager/Agent	Arboricultural Consultant to record minutes – copies to be submitted to Developer and Council Arboricultural Officer within 5 days

Variations and Incidents

Any proposed variations to the proposed working method (relating to arboricultural matters) will be referred by the on Site Manager/Agent to the Developer who will seek advice from the Arboricultural Consultant. The Arboricultural Consultant shall advise on minor amendments and will subsequently report these to the Arboricultural Officer by e-mail or minutes. Issues directly relating to tree surgery or tree retention will be forwarded by the Arboricultural Consultant (with recommendations) to the Arboricultural Officer for approval. Except in an emergency situation and when the Arboricultural Officer is unavailable, no such actions will occur without the written approval of the Arboricultural Officer.

APPENDIX 1 - Tree Schedule



Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Diameter (cm)	Crown spread (m)		Crown height above ground (m)	Life stage	General observations	BS 5837 cat	Root protection area (m)
1	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	62	3	7	5	Mature	No significant defects.	B2	7.4
				4	3					
2	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	69	5	6	5	Mature	No significant defects.	B2	8.2
				4	4					
3	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	55	4	5	4	Mature	No significant defects.	B2	6.6
				2	3					
4	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	52	3	4	4	Mature	No significant defects.	B2	6.3
				2	2					
5	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	44	4	5	4	Mature	Deadwood present.	B2	5.2
				3	2					
6	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	44	4	4	4	Mature	Deadwood present.	B2	5.2
				4	4					
7	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	43	3	4	5	Mature	Deadwood present.	B2	5.1
				5	7					

Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Diameter (cm)	Crown spread (m)		Crown height above ground (m)	Life stage	General observations	BS 5837 cat	Root protection area (m)
8	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	54	5	5	5	Mature	Deadwood present.	B2	6.4
				4	4					
9	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	42	4	4	5	Mature	No significant defects.	B2	5.0
				4	4					
10	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	49	3	4	5	Mature	No significant defects.	B2	5.8
				3	4					
11	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	52	3	4	4	Mature	Ivy clad.	B2	6.2
				4	4					
12	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	46	5	3	4	Mature	Lean, self corrected.	B2	5.5
				3	2					
13	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	21	47	4	3	5	Mature	Lean. Deadwood present.	B2	5.6
				5	4					
14	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	20	52	4	4	5	Mature	Ivy clad.	B2	6.2
				4	4					

Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Diameter (cm)	Crown spread (m)		Crown height above ground (m)	Life stage	General observations	BS 5837 cat	Root protection area (m)
15	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	23	48	5	5	5	Mature	Ivy clad.	B2	5.7
				5	5					
16	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	23	61	6	5	5	Mature	Ivy clad. Deadwood.	B2	7.3
				6	6					

APPENDIX 1 - Tree Schedule Schedule

Survey Key

Diameter (Cm)

Stem diameter in centimetres measured at 1.5m above ground level. Where the stem is divided below 1.5m, measurement is taken as directed by BS:5837

Annex C. RPA - Root Protection Area

RPA circle radius is determined from Annex D of BS:5837. R- Radius

A – Area

Branch Spread (m)

Radial crown spread in metres, measured for each of the four cardinal points of the compass from the centre of the trunk. Low branches

N E
W S

Height above ground in metres of the lowest branch and use of the 4 cardinal points of the compass.

Age class

(NP) Newly planted – a tree within 3 years after planting

(Y) Young – a tree within its first one third of life expectancy

(EM) Early Mature – a tree within its second third of life expectancy

(M) Mature – a tree in its final one third of life expectancy

(OM) Over Mature – a tree having reached its maximum life span and is declining in health and size due to old age

(V) Veteran – a tree in the second or mature stage of its life and has important wildlife and habitat features including; hollowing or associated decay fungi, holes, wounds and large dead branches.

(A) Ancient – a tree in the ancient or third and final stage of their life that is of interest biologically, aesthetically or culturally because of its age, size and condition

Physiological Condition

GOOD – a tree in a healthy condition with no significant problems

FAIR – a tree generally in good health with some problems that can be remediated POOR – a tree in poor health with significant problems that can't be remediated DEAD – a tree without sufficient live material to sustain life

Structural Condition

An assessment of the structural/safe condition of the tree categorised into:

GOOD – a tree in a safe condition with no significant defects

FAIR – a tree in a safe condition at present but with defects or with significant defects that can be remediated POOR – a tree with significant defects that can't be remediated.

EC - Estimated remaining contribution in years (based on the species and its current condition)

<10 Up to 10 years

10+ 10 years or more

20+ 20 years or more

40+ 40 years or more

Category (Tree quality assessment)

Category U – Tree in poor condition that cannot realistically be retained for longer than

10 years Category A – Trees of high quality

Category B – Trees of moderate quality

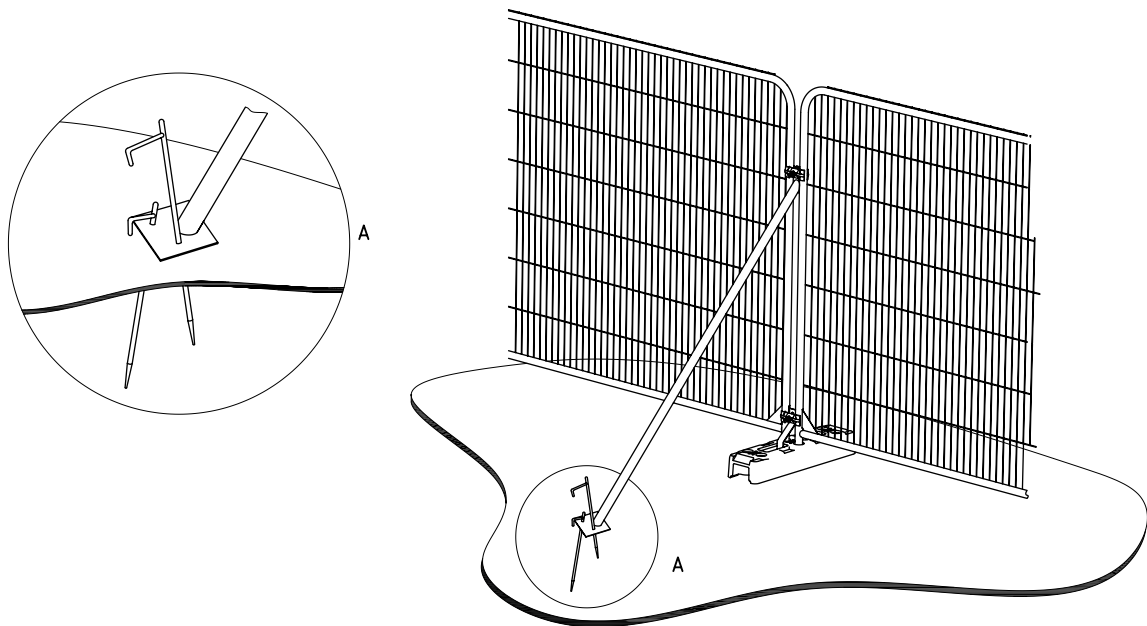
Category C – Trees of low quality

APPENDIX 2 – Protective fencing

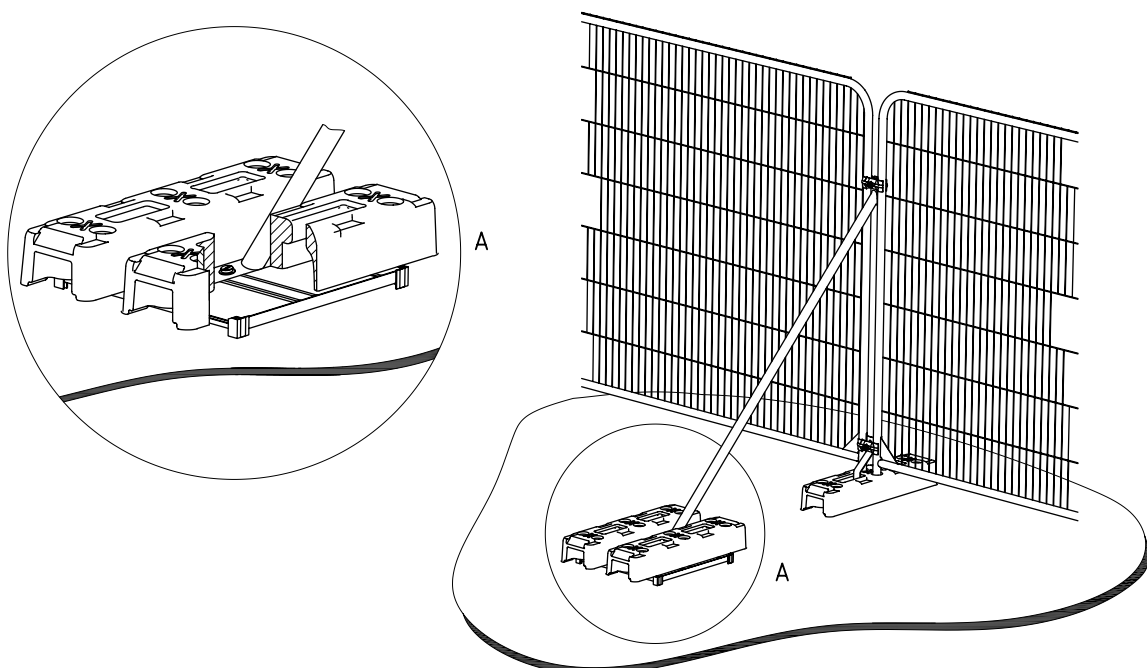
Protective fencing should be erected before any construction commences on site. It should also be in position to protect important trees prior to demolition.

Protective fencing should stay in position until all construction activity has finished.

'Fencing should be established at the minimum distance set out in British Standard 5837:2012 *'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'*. Excavations should not encroach into the fence position and it is appropriate to keep at least 0.5m between the fence and any changes in level.



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins

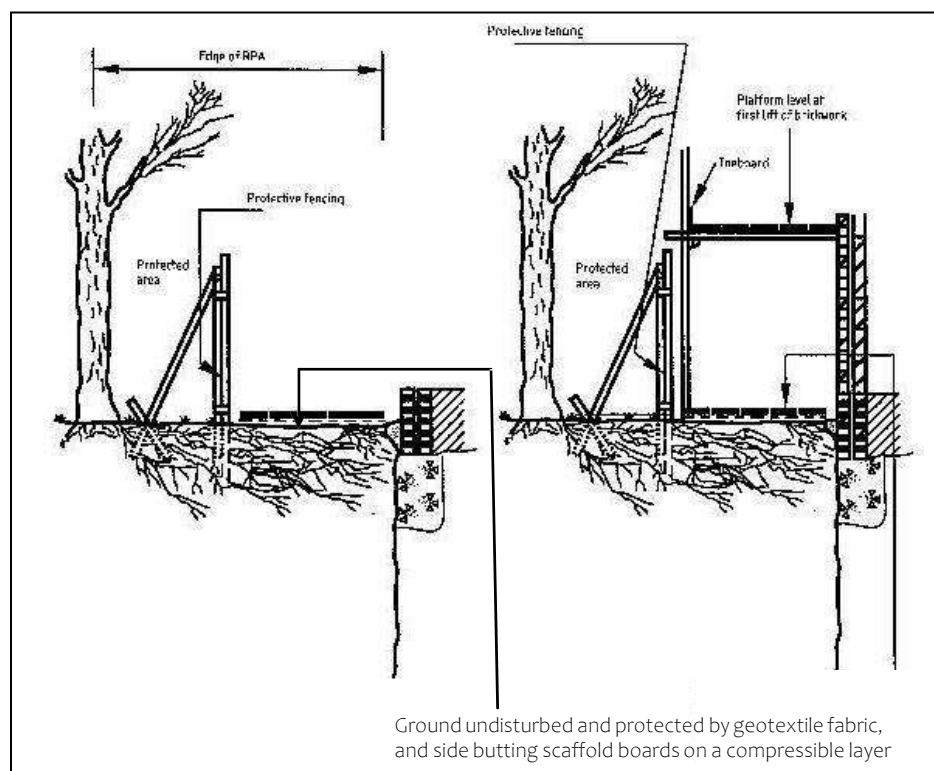


b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

APPENDIX 2 – Ground Protection

Where ground protection measures are necessary, they can be provided by laying a geotextile mat onto the existing ground level and adding to this compressible materials, such as bark mulch or sharp sand to form a safe, level surface. On to this surface is laid scaffold boards which become the working surface for the duration of the construction phase.

Where scaffolding is proposed above the area requiring protection the footway can be suspended above ground level using the upright scaffold poles onto which horizontal supports can be attached and then boards used to form the footway surface. A geotextile mat should be laid on the ground beneath to prevent contamination from materials dropped through the footway.





General Arboricultural Method Statement

TREE PROTECTION

The tree protection fencing and ground protection, will be installed as specified within this plan, prior to the commencement of any demolition and construction works. No plant or materials will be delivered to site prior to the construction of the tree protective other than those required to install the tree protection. On every third panel, a sign will be fixed that states "Tree Protection Zone (CEZ). Keep out. Any incursion into this area must be agreed in advance with the arboriculturist and Local Planning Authority." An example of this sign is provided within this plan.

The position of the tree protection must not be amended and no individual panels will be uncoupled, without the agreement of the arboriculturist and/or Local Planning Authority.

SERVICES AND DRAINAGE

The installation of drainage runs, manholes, storage tanks, and utilities will be positioned outside the root protection areas of retained trees. If the installation of new services and drainage runs are required within the root protection areas (RPAs) of retained trees, all methods of working will follow the guidance within Table 3 of BS 5837 or the National Joint Utilities Group's (NJUG) Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees (volume 4, issue 2).

Excavation works within the RPAs of retained trees will be undertaken manually with the use of hand tools only (under the supervision of the arboriculturist), unless otherwise agreed in advance by the arboriculturist. It is recommended that an air lance - and if required a soil vacuum - is used, to excavate service trenches within RPAs. If soil conditions are not suitable for this method of excavation, alternative hand tools can be used once agreed in advance by the arboriculturist.

All roots greater than 25mm in diameter will be retained and will immediately be wrapped in hessian or another appropriate material, to prevent desiccation and temperature fluctuations. Roots will be pushed aside to allow for runs to be installed, where this is practical and without causing root damage.

No machinery will be permitted within the CEZ, at any time, unless agreed in advance with the arboriculturist.

ARBORICULTURAL CLERK OF WORKS

Attendance by the arboriculturist on Site is required, as per the specifications outlined within the Report to which this plan is appended.

It will be the responsibility of the main contractor (or other managing individual or organisation) to confirm the date and time of attendance, providing at least five working days of notice so that the project arboriculturist can confirm attendance.

GENERAL PROTECTION METHODS

No fires will be permitted, within 20m of the crown of any tree or other area of vegetation that includes hedgerows and groups of trees.

No changes in soil level will occur, within the CEZs and RPAs, without agreement in advance with the arboriculturist.

The CEZs will at all times remain free of liquids, materials, vehicles, plant, and personnel, without agreement in advance with the arboriculturist.

Any liquid materials spilled on site will immediately be cleared up. If liquids are spilled within 2m of any CEZ or RPA, the incident will immediately be reported to the arboriculturist, to determine the appropriate response.

All damage to trees and other vegetation will immediately be reported to the arboriculturist, to determine the appropriate response.

Tree Protection Areas - Construction Exclusion Zones

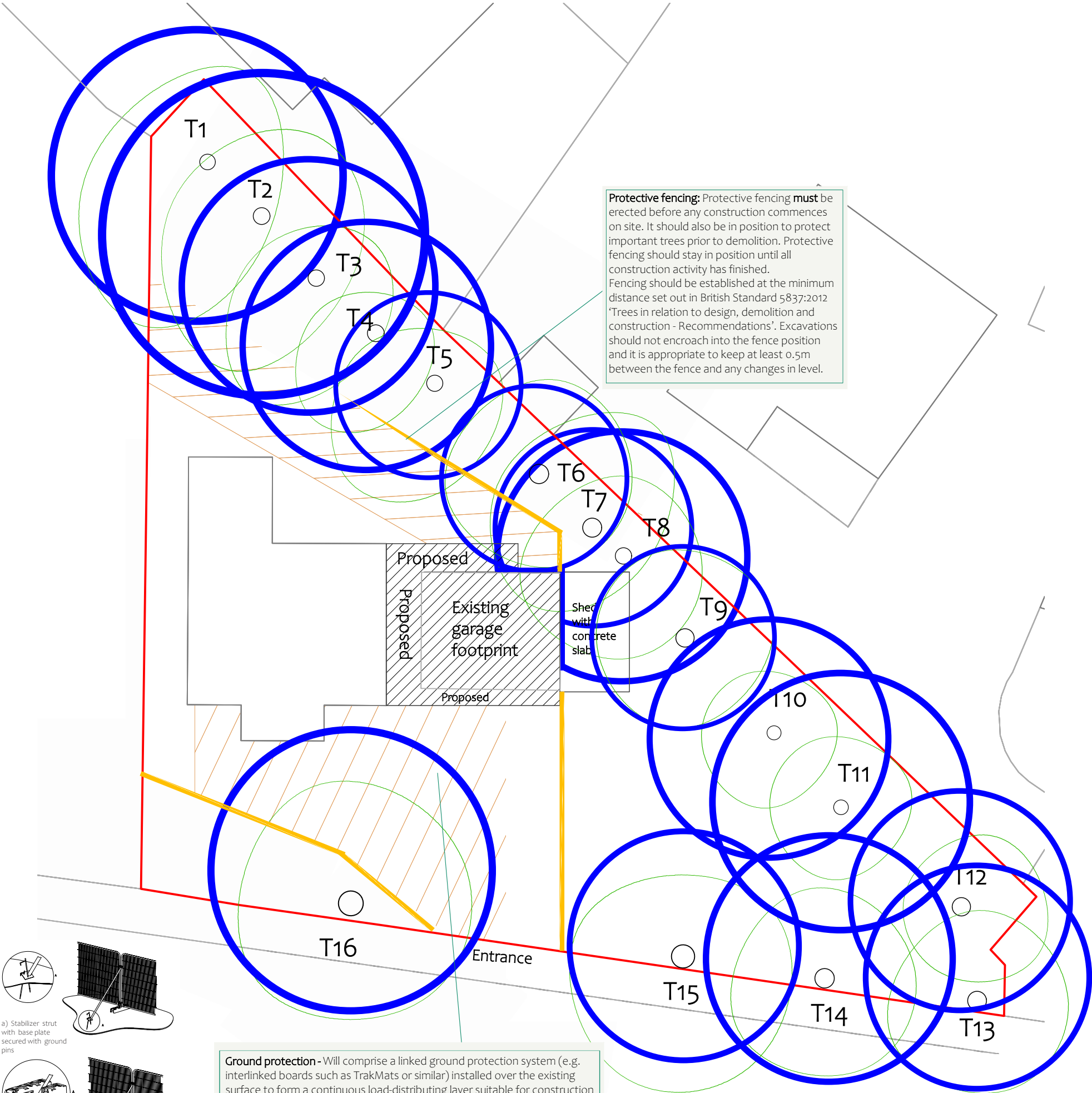
INSTALLING PROTECTION Protective barriers and ground protection (as approved), must be installed before any materials or machinery are brought onto the site and before the commencement of any demolition, general site clearance, ground or construction works of any description.

RETENTION OF PROTECTION All protective measures must remain fully intact, vertical (in the case of barriers), in their approved locations, from the outset of the development and maintained at all times, until all works have been completed on site, including any earthworks and associated soft landscaping works. Any approved phasing of protective measures must be fully observed and complied with.

RESTRICTIONS Tree Protection Areas/ Construction Exclusion Zones are to remain completely undisturbed for the duration of all development works. No construction activity of any description including but not limited to the following must occur within these areas at any time.

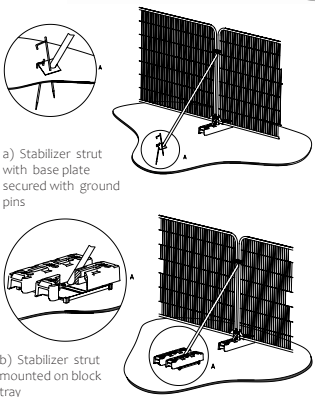
- No excavation of any description.
 - No storage, disposal of soil, rubble or materials of any other description.
 - No alterations to existing levels or ground conditions.
 - No vehicular access, parking or use of any tracked or wheeled machinery or any description.
 - No tree works, without the written consent of the Council's Tree Service.
 - No erection of temporary structures of any description.
 - No fires.
 - No storage disposal handling or use of any Chemicals including cement washings.
 - No fixtures or fittings of any description - security lighting, signage etc shall be attached to any part of a tree.
- No fires shall be light within 10 metres of the canopies of any tree or spread of any hedge.
- No chemicals, fuel, liquids/waste residues of any other description to be stored or disposed of within close proximity to or drained towards/ into protection areas.

PROTECTION AREA SIGNAGE - All weather notices as below or similar to be fixed to protective barriers at regular intervals (maximum spacing 5m) throughout site and maintained until completion of all development works



Protective fencing: Protective fencing must be erected before any construction commences on site. It should also be in position to protect important trees prior to demolition. Protective fencing should stay in position until all construction activity has finished. Fencing should be established at the minimum distance set out in British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'. Excavations should not encroach into the fence position and it is appropriate to keep at least 0.5m between the fence and any changes in level.

Ground protection - Will comprise a linked ground protection system (e.g. interlinked boards such as TrakMats or similar) installed over the existing surface to form a continuous load-distributing layer suitable for construction traffic. An impermeable membrane (e.g. heavy-duty plastic sheeting) will be installed beneath the boards to prevent contamination of the underlying soil. The system will be installed prior to the commencement of works and retained for the duration of construction activity within or adjacent to the RPAs.



- RPA for Cat A* tree
- RPA for Cat B* tree
- RPA for Cat C* tree
- RPA for Cat U* tree
- Tree canopy
- Heras fencing
- Ground protection

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Client: Muhammad Arslan Shahid
Consultant: Kristian Chesterman

Site: Tall Trees, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead, RG40 4ES

Title: Tree Protection Plan

Scale at A3:	Date:	Document Ref.
1:200	09/10/2026	AATPPTALL