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ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

BS5837:2012

On behalf of:

Luke Parsons

Site:

Damsonwell, Barn
Farm, Hurst,
Wokingham,
Berkshire,
RG10 0RX

Prepared by:

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Chesterman BSc
(Hons)

Report Reference:

AAAIADAMS

Report Date:

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1.0 Instruction

AllArboriculture has been instructed by Luke Parsons 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 the 7th August 2025. The tree survey was carried out on the 14th August 2025.

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. Barn Farm proposed extension
2. British Standards Institute - BS5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*
3. Tree Protection Plan – AATPPDAMS

4.0 Site description

The site is in the rural area of Hurst, Wokingham and is a detached residential dwelling. The proposal is a front and side extension following the demolition of a small outbuilding. The site falls under the jurisdiction of Wokingham Council.

5.0 Vegetation description

Vegetation consists of 1 Category B tree. T1 is subject to a Tree Preservation Order - TPO-1810-2021.

Some 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	T1
New surfacing within RPA	None
New structures within RPA	None

Building construction in relation to tree roots: No tree removal is required to facilitate the development. The proposed works are outside of the RPA of the T1 so the proposed will have no impact and traditional construction methods may be used.

Building construction in relation to tree crowns: No facilitation pruning is required to facilitate the development. 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.

Tree root and canopy protection: The RPA's (Root protection areas) of the retained trees should be protected during the development phase with heras fencing and ground protection to ensure heavy machinery is not operated, or materials stored within the rooting area without adequate protection. This can be detrimental to the trees, causing soil compaction and root die back. The protection of the RPA's 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 RPA's 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 soak aways avoid the RPA's 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 works 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 protection will be agreed.

Tree protection barriers: Protective fencing must be installed prior to the commencement of any construction development activity and will be retained in the positions shown on the tree protection plan (AATPPDAMS). 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: Temporary ground protection to be installed within RPA's of T1 should be capable of supporting pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane.

Demolition: The small outbuilding will be demolished by hand using hand tools only and it is the owners intention to retain the materials.

Storage and handling of materials: This site has sufficient space for materials to be stored and handled out side of the RPA of T1.

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 on site for temporary facilities.

Surface drains, soakaways and services: I have not been provided with details of any new services but it is likely these will be connected to the existing. Any new services should be routed to avoid the RPA's 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 Moleing/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.

Supervision: The project arboriculturalist will attend the site to inspect the tree protection and ensure that it has been laid out as prescribed in the method statement and meets the requirements of BS5837:12. It is the responsibility of the site manager to inform the arboricultural consultant when inspections are required.

Special surfacing: Special surfacing will not be required.

Tree works: No tree works are required.

Sequencing of works

1. Installation of tree protective fencing as shown on the TPP.
2. Arboricultural Consultant to check tree protection at this stage.
3. Demolition and main construction phase
4. Remove tree protection when all construction activity has ended.
5. Landscaping works if required
6. Completion

Contacts

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APPENDIX 1 - Tree Schedule 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	Oak Quercus robur	18	82	7	6	2	Mature	Lean to the West. Longitudinal cavity and internal decay within the main stem. Exudation of dark fluid likely bacterial wetwood. Dieback in upper crown and peripheral branches, with thinning foliage and deadwood present. Resistograph or tomography recommended.	B	9.8
				7	7					

APPENDIX 1 - Tree Schedule Schedule

Survey Key

Diameter (mm)

Stem diameter in millimetres 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

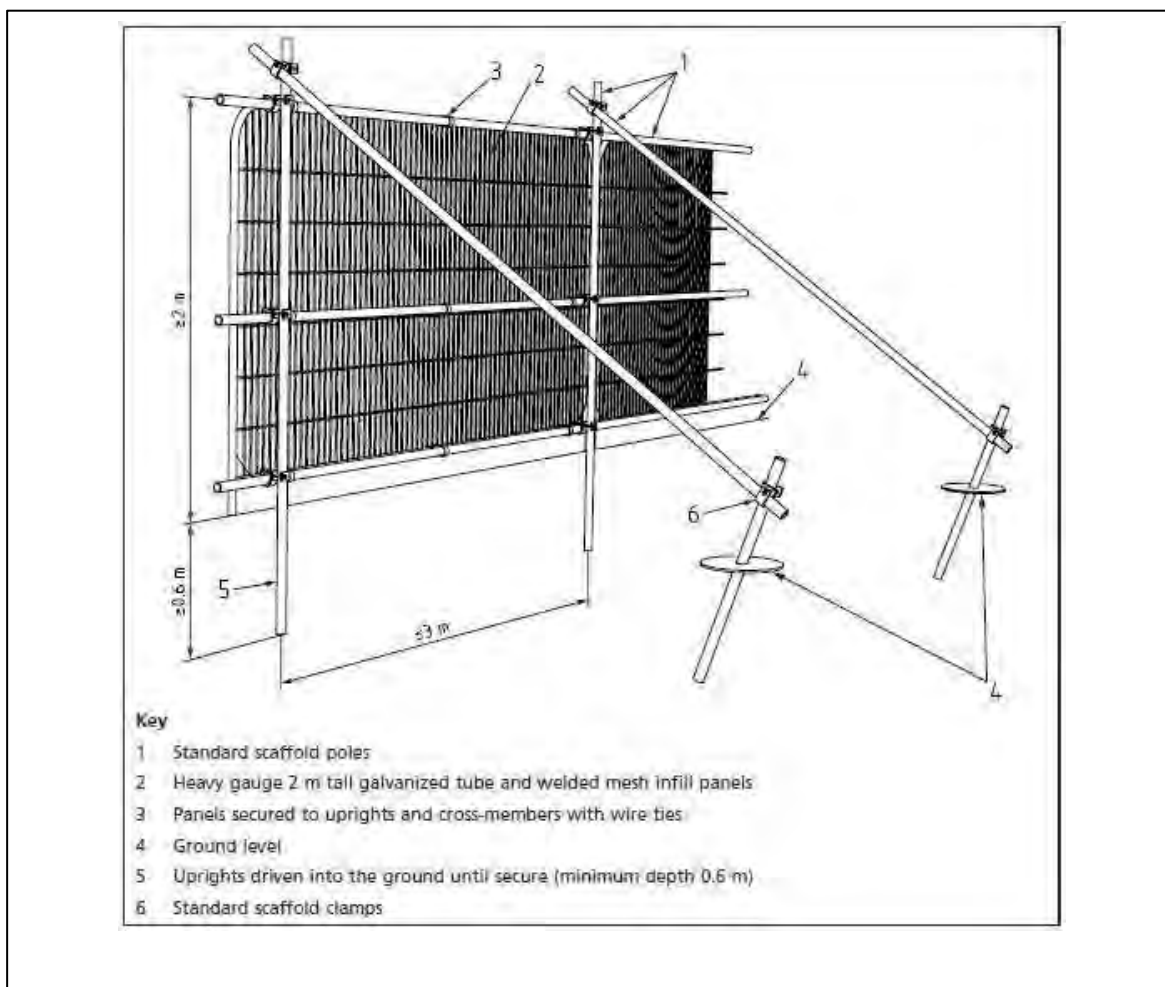
C – Trees of low quality

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.



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. Onto 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.

