SOUTH WOKINGHAM PHASE 2B - SANG

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

for

MILLER HOMES & KIER VENTURES LTD

Written By:	W. Wareing
Checked By:	A. Bigg
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1. Introduction

1.1. ACD Environmental was instructed by Miller Homes & Kier Ventures Ltd in December 2022, to prepare the following report to ensure protection for all retained trees on the development site at South Wokingham Phase 2b - SANG. Implementation of the protection methods and other details within this report are integral to achieving this goal.

1.2. This report has been compiled to address condition 14 & 19 of the planning permission.

1.3. This report has been revised on the 28th of November 2025 following an amendment to the Tree Protection Plan.

1.4. This Method Statement is to be made available to all operatives on site during the construction process, so that they understand the scope and importance of the measures set out for tree protection.

1.5. For details of trees to be retained, and locations and types of special protection methods, reference should be made to the latest revision of Tree Protection Plan (ref: PRI24132-03A), which should be displayed prominently on site for all staff to see.

1.6. To ensure accuracy and avoid future costly adjustments, the Tree Protection Fence and Ground Protection must be set out by a surveyor with all node points being marked clearly on site for the fencing contractor to work to. The AutoCAD version of the Tree Protection Plan is available on request.

1.7. The information contained within this Arboricultural Method Statement is in line with BS5837:2012 ‘Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations’.

1.8. The controlling authority is Wokingham Borough Council, who can be contacted at: Shute End, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 1BN, Tel: 0118 974 6000.

1.9. Any questions relating to the content of this report should be directed in the first instance to: ACD Environmental, Unit 7, Godalming Business Centre, Woolsack Way, Godalming, GU7 1XW, 01483 425714, quoting the site address and report reference number.

1.10. The following abbreviations have been used throughout this document:

- Root Protection Area – RPA.
- Construction Exclusion Zone – CEZ.
- Tree Protection Plan – TPP.
- Tree Protection Fencing – TPF.

2. Phasing of Operations for Tree Protection

2.1. Implementation of tree protection measures on the site must be carried out in the following order:

1) Tree removals and tree surgery.
2) Line of tree protection fence to be set out to node points by surveyor.
3) Accurate erection of tree protection fence and ground protection.
4) **Pre-commencement site meeting with project arboriculturist, Local Authority Tree Officer, site manager and groundworkers.**
5) Site accessible to construction/demolition traffic.
6) Demolition/site clearance.
7) Construction Phase.
8) Installation of no dig surfacing
9) Excavations within RPAs
10) Removal of tree protection fencing.
11) Remedial tree surgery (if required).

2.2. The above phasing must not be changed without approval from the project arboriculturist and agreement with Wokingham Borough Council.

3. Site Supervision

3.1. The development process will be subject to arboricultural supervision where construction work inside the construction exclusion zone is required, and for the installation of any special detail (e.g., no-dig surface). Therefore, input and supervision from the project arboriculturist will be required at the following stages:

1) Tree removals and access facilitation pruning.
2) Accurate erection of tree protection measures.
3) Site meeting with project arboriculturist, Local Authority Tree Officer, site manager and groundworkers.
4) Site accessible to construction/demolition traffic.
5) Demolition/site clearance.
6) Installation of no-dig surfacing.
7) Excavation works within RPAs

3.2. Arboricultural supervision is to be carried out at all crucial stages throughout the development process to ensure detailed tasks are carried out as per the approved methodology, and during any other, unplanned incursions into protection areas, for whatever reason.

3.3. This supervision will require the arboriculturist to be present throughout the task, to ensure all the arboricultural objectives are met.

3.4. If the task is to take a long period of time, provided the arboriculturist is satisfied, and after an initial ‘tool-box talk’, the supervision may be reduced to telephone contact between the site foreman/contractor and arboriculturist.

3.5. Arboricultural supervision is to be carried out at all crucial stages throughout the development process to ensure detailed tasks are carried out as per the approved methodology, and during any other, unplanned incursions into protection areas, for whatever reason. The arboriculturist will keep a record of site visits and provide a record to the local authority accordingly.

4. Tree Protection Areas

4.1. Based on tree survey data, tree protection areas have been determined for every retained tree. These areas are designed to protect at least a functional minimum of tree root mass in order to ensure that the trees survive the construction process.

4.2. Some trees on this site are subject to statutory protection by Tree Preservation Order. Damaging them is a criminal offence and is also contrary to planning conditions that, if breached, could lead to all work on site being stopped by the local authority.

4.3. A woodland group to the west of the site is designated as Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW) as such a 15m buffer has been shown surrounding this woodland.

4.4. Trees subject to TPO are detailed on the Tree Protection Plan.

4.5. It is the responsibility of everyone engaged in the construction process to respect the tree protection measures and observe the necessary precautions within and adjacent to them.

5. Restrictions Within Tree Protection Areas

5.1. Inside the exclusion area of the fencing, the following shall apply:

- No mechanical excavation whatsoever.
- No excavation by any other means without arboricultural site supervision.
- No hand digging without a written method statement having first been approved by the project arboriculturist.
- No lowering of levels for any purpose (except removal of grass sward using hand tools).
- No storage of plant or materials.
- No storage or handling of any chemical including cement washings.
- No vehicular access.
- No fire lighting.

5.2. In addition to the above, further precautions are necessary adjacent to trees:

- No substances injurious to tree health, including fuels, oil, bitumen, cement (including cement washings), builders' sand, concrete mixing and other chemicals shall be stored or used within or directly adjacent to the protection area of retained trees.
- No fire shall be lit such that flames come within 5m of tree foliage.

6. Avoiding Damage to Stems and Branches

6.1. Care shall be taken when planning site operations in proximity of retained trees to ensure that wide or tall loads, or plant with booms, jibs and counterweights, can operate without coming into contact with retained trees. Such contact can result in serious injury to them and might make their safe retention impossible.

6.2. Consequently, any transit or traverse of plant in proximity of trees shall be conducted under the supervision of a banksman, to ensure that adequate clearance from trees is at all times maintained. In some circumstances, it may be impossible to achieve this without pruning works known as 'access facilitation pruning'.

6.3. Access facilitation pruning shall be kept to the barest minimum necessary to facilitate development and shall be carried out in strict accordance with the guidance below (Tree Surgery). Under no circumstances shall construction personnel undertake any tree pruning operations.

7. Tree Protection Fencing

7.1. The Tree Protection Plan (see the latest revision of: PRI24132-03A) shows the alignment of Tree Protection Fencing (TPF), which is to be installed prior to any of the following taking place:

- Demolition.
- Plant and material delivery.
- Soil stripping.
- Utility installation.
- Construction works.
- Landscaping.

7.2. Stages for installation of TPF:

1) Hand clearance of any vegetation to allow clear working access.
2) Setting out of fencing points.
3) Fencing erected.
4) Site accessible to demolition/construction traffic.

7.3. To ensure accuracy and avoid future costly adjustments, the Tree Protection Fence must be set out by a surveyor with all node points being marked clearly on site for the fencing contractor to work to.

7.4. Once erected, all TPF will be regarded as sacrosanct, and will not be removed or altered without prior recommendation by the project arboriculturist and approval of the local planning authority.

7.5. The typical TPF construction is suitable for areas of high intensity development, and shall comprise of interlocking weld-mesh panels, well braced to resist impacts by attachment to a scaffold framework that is set firmly into the ground. A detailed specification can be found on the TPP.

7.6. Should any alternative method of barrier construction be proposed, the design should be approved by the local planning authority.

7.7. Once the exclusion zone has been protected by barriers and/or ground protection, construction work can commence.

7.8. All weather notices should be erected on the barriers (for example see figure below).

Tree protection sign (download from) http://www.acdenvironmental.co.uk

8. Site Storage, Parking and Welfare Facilities

8.1. The site will require provision for; site storage, contractor parking, welfare facilities, temporary services/drainage, material drop of points, etc.

8.2. No details of these provisions are available at the time of writing of this report.

8.3. None of the above provisions will be sited within RPAs of retained trees without the input or the project arboriculturist and the consent of the Local Authority.

9. Tree Surgery and Removal

9.1. Those trees which are to be removed are shown with a red dashed canopy outline, and a dashed emblem around the trunk on the Tree Protection Plan ACD reference PRI24132-03A.

9.2. All the trees to be removed are in the lower category 'C' and therefore should not pose a constraint to development.

9.3. Replacement planting within the landscape proposals.

9.4. The following surgery works are to be carried out:

Tree number	Species	Operation
H144	Mixed Native Specimen	Remove sections as shown on the Tree Protection Plan
G170	Willow, Blackthorn, Hawthorn	Remove section as shown on the Tree Protection Plan
T247	Oak	Remove and grind resulting stump
G251	Oak x2	Remove and grind resulting stumps
H1003	Holly, Elm	Remove section as shown on the Tree Protection Plan.

9.5. All trees to be removed are indicated on the Tree Protection Plan. All the trees listed for pruning/removal are category 'C' and should not pose a constraint to the development.

9.6. If any further tree surgery works are required, a proposed specification will be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority before any works are carried out.

9.7. All work will be carried out in accordance with BS 3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Work, industry best practice and in line with any works already agreed with the Council.

9.8. The tree surgery contractor is responsible for carrying out any relevant health and safety risk assessment, and insurance, prior to any work being carried out.

9.9. The statutory protection afforded by the Wildlife and Countryside Act and Countryside and Rights of Way Act will be adhered to. If further advice is required, particularly if bats are discovered during tree work, it will be obtained from Natural England or other competent persons and recommendations adhered to.

9.10. The stumps of any trees removed from within the Construction Exclusion Zone or the RPAs of retained trees will be either; cut flush to ground level and left in situ or ground out using a stump grinder. They will not be winched out.

9.11. All operations shall be carefully carried out to avoid damage to the trees being treated or neighbouring trees. No trees to be retained shall be used for anchorage or winching purposes.

10. Soft Landscaping within RPA

10.1. All landscaping and associated ground preparation within exclusion zones will be carried out sensitively to ensure root damage is mitigated as much as is practicable. At no time is any heavy plant to be used within any protected area. Removal of existing vegetation will be carried out by hand; turf may be removed using a mechanical turf stripper or by hand.

11. Turfing

11.1. Stages for turfing gardens and open spaces:

<u>No plant machinery[1] to be used in the area for whatever reason</u>

1) Remove TPF to allow access to area.
2) Do not reduce any high spots or excavate in any way.
3) Existing poor-quality turf may be removed with a turf stripper.
4) Use good quality topsoil to level any low-lying areas and hollows and provide a fine tilth to lay turf on. This imported soil must not result in a level increase of more than 100mm in any area.
5) Import turves by hand in wheelbarrow.
6) Lay turves as required.

[1] Including rotovators

12. Planting

12.1. Should the soil be compacted or have a poor structure which may hinder the development of any new planting, soil decompaction techniques may be used upon consultation with the project arboriculturist.

12.2. Stages for planting within tree protection areas:

No plant machinery to be used in the area for whatever reason

1) Remove TPF to allow access to area.
2) Remove existing vegetation by hand, turf may be removed using a mechanical turf stripper.
3) Do not reduce any high spots or excavate in any way.
4) Import good quality topsoil by hand (with wheelbarrow) into area.
5) Level to a depth of no more than 100mm with hand tools.
6) Dig individual planting pits for each plant by hand (including hedging which must not be trench planted).
7) Any mulch should also be imported and spread by hand.

12.3. No works will be carried out within any protected areas if the soil moisture is of a level likely to allow compaction to occur.

13. Installation of underground services within RPAs

13.1. If for whatever reason installation within RPAs is required, the project arboriculturist and local authority must be notified prior to any tree protection barrier removal and the following details adhered to.

13.2. Stages for installing services within tree protection areas:

<u>No plant machinery to be used in the area for whatever reason</u>

1) Contact project arboriculturist to hold pre-start site meeting and 'toolbox' talk before starting work.
2) Remove just enough tree protection fencing to allow access to area and facilitate trenching.
3) Remove any surface vegetation or existing hard surfaces using hand tools.
4) Excavate the trench using hand tools only, keeping to minimum dimensions required.
5) Roots below 25mm should preferably be retained, however if required can be cut cleanly using secateurs or hand saw.
6) Roots over 25mm diameter will be retained and kept damp by covering with hessian (re-wetted as required).
7) Feed in services.
8) Back fill trench with 200-300mm depth of excavated soil, or a mixture of excavated and imported top-soil (to BS3882:2015), firming down with heels.
9) Repeat step 7 until trench is filled.
10) Re-erect tree protection fencing as per approved plan.

13.3. An alternative to the method of excavation above, for trenching within RPA's, is by using an 'air-spade' or similar. This tool utilises compressed air to remove soil from around tree roots causing minimal damage and can be run off a typical site compressor. ACD can provide details of contractors supplying air-spade services if required.

13.4. Alternatively, trenchless technology such as thrust boring can be used in some instances and is particularly effective as it can pass directly under the tree, at a depth which is likely to avoid almost all impact on roots of the subject tree. As no access/thrust pits will be located within the RPAs of the subject trees, the need for arboricultural supervision is limited.

13.5. Reference can be made to National Joint Utilities Group Publication Volume 4 (NJUG Vol 4) for guidance, but any approach must be approved by the project arboriculturist.

14. Installation of No-Dig Road Surface

14.1. To ensure that tree roots, within the ground under this proposed surface, continue to survive during and after construction a cellular system such a CellWeb (Geosynthetics Ltd, 01455 617139, www.geosyn.co.uk) of 200mm depth is to be used[2].

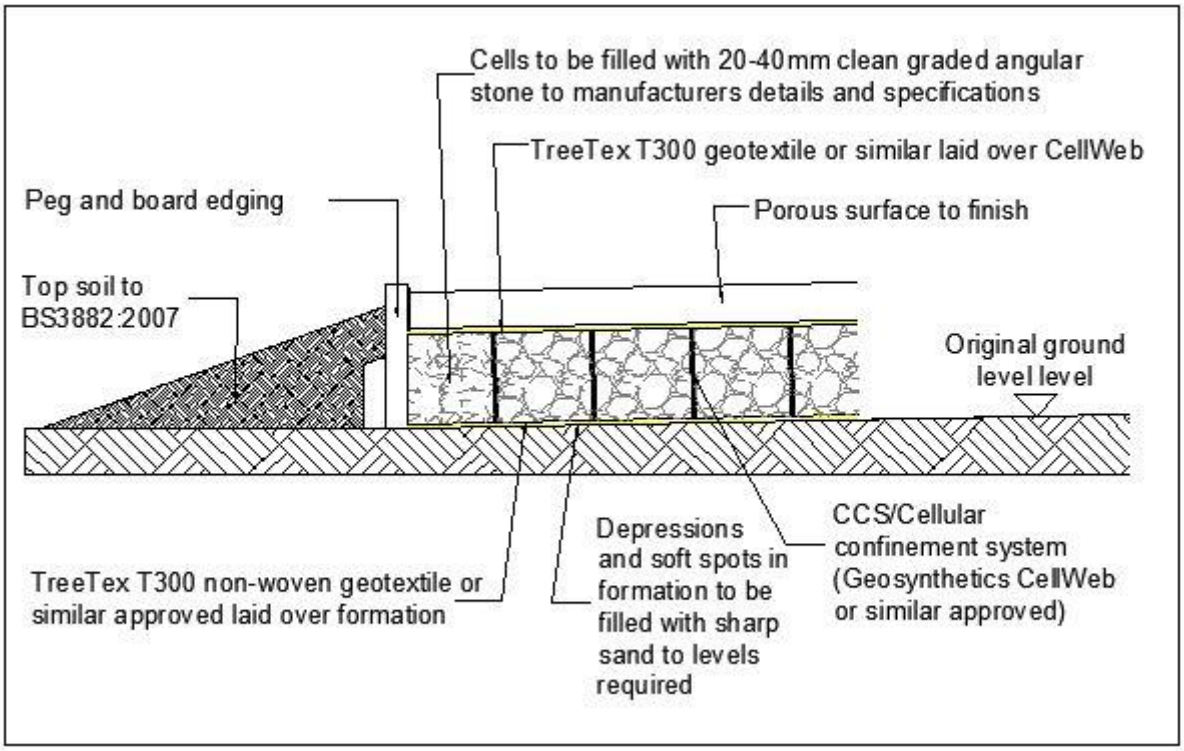

Figure 1: Cellular system profile

14.2. Stages for Installation of the cellular confinement surface:

1) Contact project arboriculturist to hold pre-start site meeting and 'toolbox' talk before starting work.
2) Dismantle TPF and re-erect in secondary location as shown on TPP.
3) Remove existing vegetation by using a specific herbicide (as advised by a specialist) or manual removal with hand tools only. Agreed removal of shrubs, saplings or trees, within the protected areas of retained trees are to be cut or ground out to just below ground level rather than grubbed or winched out, which can damage roots of retained trees.
4) Retain all original ground levels after vegetation removal. No excavation whatsoever.
5) Remove any existing hard surfaces (paving, tarmac etc.) Hand tools should be used if possible. If machinery is required for this operation, it must be used only on existing surfaces or outside the protection areas and tree canopies (approval from project arboriculturist must be sought before using machinery). The sub-base of existing surfaces or foundations should be left in situ where possible to avoid unnecessary root disturbance and provide a base for the new surface.
6) Install a non-woven Geotextile (such as Fibretex F4M) directly over soil grade level (levelled where necessary, by non-compacted washed sand) and fix in place.

[2]This approach describes installation of a typical no-dig surface. The author of this report is not an engineer and therefore detailed engineering design and analysis must be carried out before installation.

7) Lay the cellular system over the Geotextile, which is secured open under tension during the infill process with steel staples or wooden pegs.
8) Install kerbs and edgings directly on top of existing soil grade level. For light structures, a treated peg and board may be acceptable. For more substantial structures, railway sleepers, haunched concrete with road pins, drilled kerbstones, gabions or cast in situ kerbs will be appropriate.
9) Fill the cellular system ensuring any machinery works only on already filled areas. Typical infill consists of no fines angular granular material 20-40mm, which will remain un-compacted.
10) Install porous wearing surface.

- Small Block Paving.
  - Lay a second layer of Geotextile separation fabric over the infill.
  - Lay a sharp sand-bedding layer to recommended depth.
  - Place block paviors as per manufacturer's instructions.
- Washed Gravel.
  - Place second layer of Geotextile separation fabric over the filled cellular confinement system.
  - Place pea shingle/ gravel to required depth.
- Porous Asphalt.

14.3. Any variation to the above specification must meet the following design criteria for low-invasive surfaces to provide the conditions for continued tree survival and growth:

- Maintain oxygen diffusion through new surface to rooting area (5-12% by volume[3]).
- Maintain sufficient passage of water to the rooting area (12-40% by volume[4]).
- Maintain existing ground levels to avoid root damage (severance and/or asphyxiation).
- Avoid compaction by maintaining a soil structure sufficient to sustain root growth (soil bulk density below 1.4g/cc[5]).

14.4. Site analysis of the soil type and its structural characteristics will be required prior to determining the specific depth of products to be adopted for example, footpaths normally require a depth of 100mm and, 150mm to 200mm depths are used for residential driveways, while greater depths may be required for the passage of heavier traffic such as for construction access and delivery vehicles.

14.5. If ground levels are to be raised more than 150mm this should be achieved by the use of a granular material, which does not inhibit vertical gaseous diffusion. For example: no-fines gravel, washed aggregate, structural soil (min. 20% sand content) or cobbles.

[3] Tree Roots in the Built Environment 2006, Roberts Jackson Smith HSO
[4]Tree Root Growth Requirements, Dr Kim. D. Coder, University of Georgia. July 2000
[5] Arboriculture, Tree Management of Shade Trees and Vines 2004, Harris, Clarke, Matheny

14.6. Ideally, the surface should be installed between May and October when the ground is driest and least prone to compaction. The approved wearing course is to be laid over the Cellular System. Where it covers in excess of 20% of the RPA or is wider than 3m within the RPA, the new surface should be constructed in a manner to permit infiltration of moisture and gaseous diffusion (pervious). Where the wearing course is in excess of 20% of the RPA or wider than 3m, a specially engineered surface will need to be designed to meet the above criteria.

15. Resurfacing/Repair of Existing Roads

15.1. Tree protection measures will remain in place until work commences and when removed all personnel to be working within the area are to be made aware of the extent and nature of the area.

15.2. All work within protected areas to be supervised at all times by project arboriculturist.

15.3. Stages for repair/replacement of existing hard surface within tree protection areas:

No plant machinery to be sited on any exposed rooting area

1) Contact project arboriculturist to hold pre-start site meeting and 'toolbox' talk before starting work.
2) Remove TPF to allow access to area.
3) Plant machinery to run only on existing tarmac surface.
4) Plant may be used to carefully peal up existing tarmac.
5) Other hard landscape features are to be removed by hand (paving etc.) or carefully lifted with plant.
6) Sub-base to be retained.
7) Sub-base to be enhanced if required.
8) New tarmac surface to be installed.

15.4. Should any roots over 25mm diameter be encountered during deconstruction of the old profile, their removal will only be carried out under arboricultural supervision and with the approval of the LPA.

15.5. Any new kerbing must be installed within the current hard construction profile.

15.6. No new excavation closer to the tree will be permitted.

16. No-Dig Footpath Construction

16.1. To ensure that tree roots, within the ground under this proposed surface, continue to survive during and after construction a cellular system such a CellWeb (Geosynthetics Ltd, 01455 617139, www.geosyn.co.uk) of 200mm depth is to be used[6].

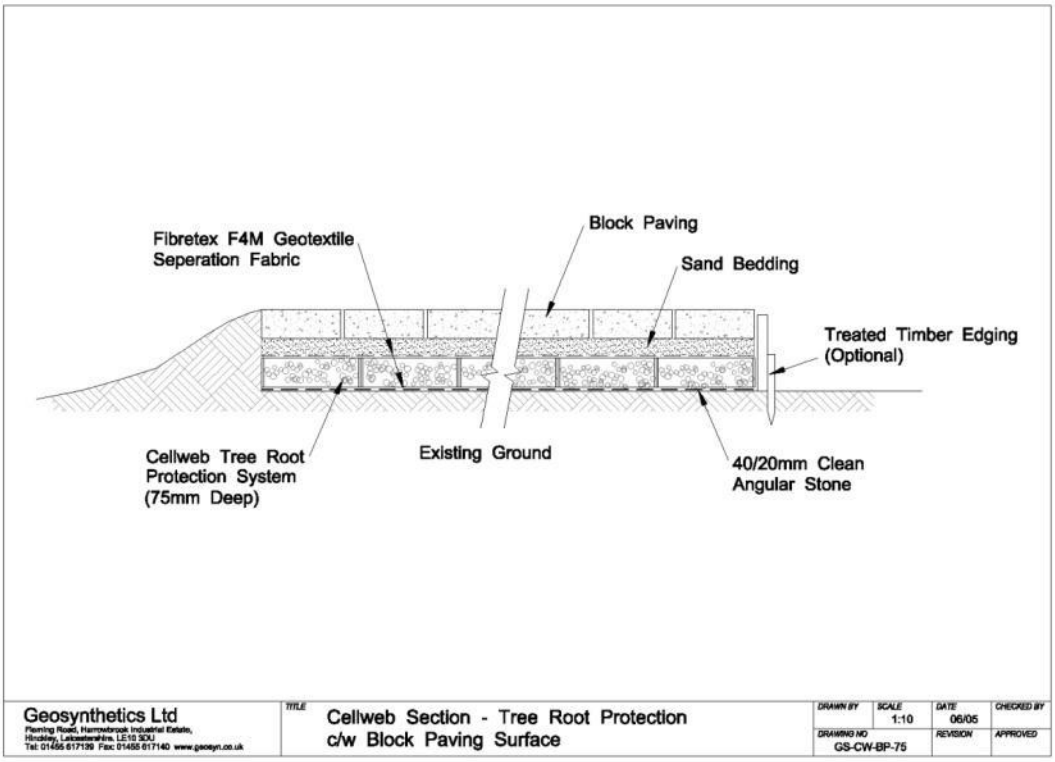

Figure 2 Cellular system profile

16.2. Stages for Installation of the cellular confinement surface:

1) Contact project arboriculturist to hold pre-start site meeting and 'toolbox' talk before starting work.
2) Dismantle TPF and re-erect in secondary location.
3) Remove existing vegetation by using a specific herbicide (as advised by a specialist) or manual removal with hand tools only. Agreed removal of shrubs, saplings or trees, within the protected areas of retained trees are to be cut or ground out to just below ground level rather than grubbed or winched out, which can damage roots of retained trees.
4) Retain all original ground levels after vegetation removal. No excavation whatsoever.
5) Install a non-woven Geotextile (such as Fibretex F4M) directly over soil grade level (levelled where necessary, by non-compacted washed sand) and fix in place.
6) Lay the cellular system over the Geotextile, which is secured open under tension during the infill process with steel staples or wooden pegs.

[6]This approach describes installation of a typical no-dig surface. The author of this report is not an engineer and therefore detailed engineering design and analysis must be carried out before installation.

7) Install kerbs and edgings directly on top of existing soil grade level. For light structures, a treated peg and board may be acceptable. For more substantial structures, railway sleepers, haunched concrete with road pins, drilled kerbstones, gabions or cast in situ kerbs will be appropriate.
8) Fill the cellular system ensuring any plant machinery stands only on already filled areas. Typical infill consists of no fines angular granular material 20-40mm, which will remain un-compacted.
9) Install porous wearing surface.

- Small Block Paving.
    - Lay a second layer of Geotextile separation fabric over the infill.
    - Lay a sharp sand-bedding layer to recommended depth.
    - Place block paviors as per manufacturer's instructions.
- Washed Gravel.
    - Place second layer of Geotextile separation fabric over the filled cellular confinement system.
    - Place pea shingle/ gravel to required depth.
- Porous Asphalt.

16.3. Any variation to the above specification must meet the following design criteria for low-invasive surfaces to provide the conditions for continued tree survival and growth:

- Maintain oxygen diffusion through new surface to rooting area (5-12% by volume[7]).
- Maintain sufficient passage of water to the rooting area (12-40% by volume[8]).
- Maintain existing ground levels to avoid root damage (severance and/or asphyxiation).
- Avoid compaction by maintaining a soil structure sufficient to sustain root growth (soil bulk density below 1.4g/cc[9]).

16.4. Site analysis of the soil type and its structural characteristics will be required prior to determining the specific depth of products to be adopted, for example: footpaths normally require a depth of 100mm and, 150mm to 200mm depths are used for residential driveways, while greater depths may be required for the passage of heavier traffic such as for construction access and delivery vehicles.

16.5. If ground levels are to be raised more than 150mm this should be achieved by the use of a granular material, which does not inhibit vertical gaseous diffusion. For example: no-fines gravel, washed aggregate, structural soil (min. 20% sand content) or cobbles.

16.6. Ideally, the surface should be installed between May and October when the ground is driest and least prone to compaction. The approved wearing course is to be laid over the cellular confinement system. Where it in excess of 20% of the RPA or is wider than 3m within the RPA, the new surface should be constructed in a manner to permit infiltration of moisture and gaseous diffusion (pervious). Where the wearing course is in excess of 20% of the RPA or wider than 3m, a specially engineered surface will need to be designed to meet the above criteria.

[7] Tree Roots in the Built Environment 2006, Roberts Jackson Smith HSO
[8] Tree Root Growth Requirements, Dr Kim. D. Coder, University of Georgia. July 2000
[9] Arboriculture, Tree Management of Shade Trees and Vines 2004, Harris, Clarke, Matheny

17. Low-Impact boardwalk

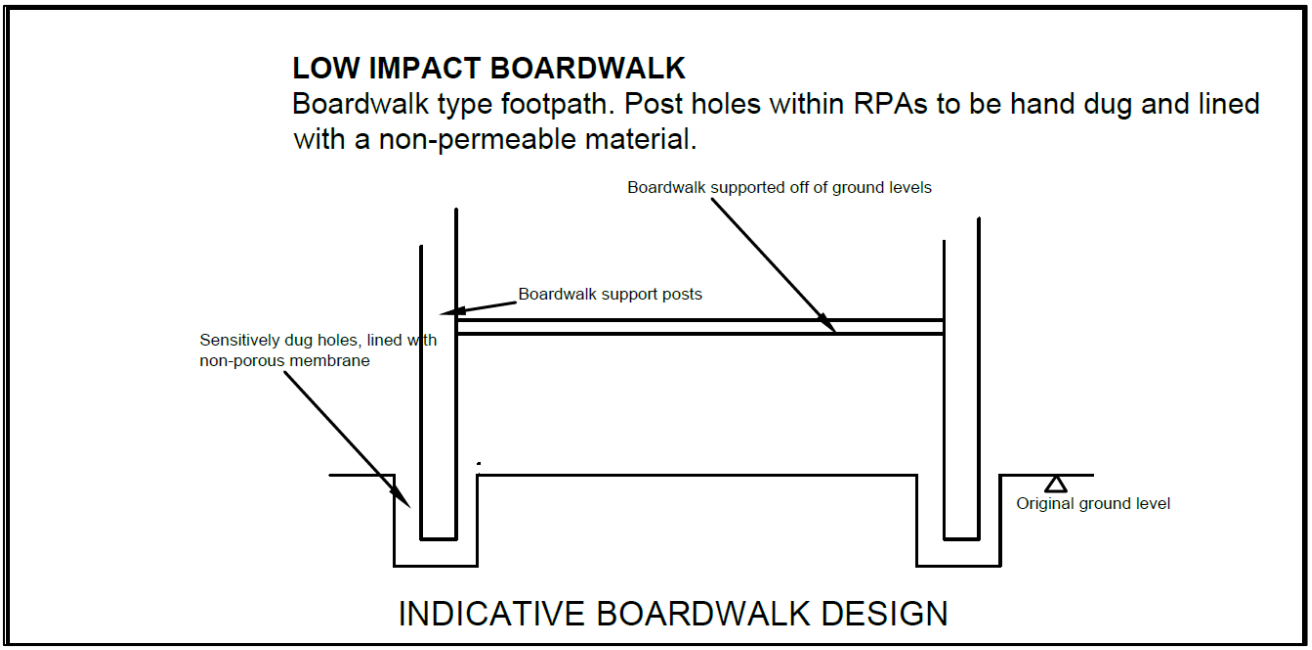

Figure 5 Indicative boardwalk design

17.1.1. Stages for Installation for the post holes of the boardwalk

1) Contact project arboriculturist to hold pre-start site meeting and 'toolbox' talk before starting work.
2) Remove TPF to allow access to area.
3) Dig post holes using hand tools, avoiding damage to the protective bark covering larger roots. Roots smaller than 25mm diameter may be pruned back using either secateurs or a hand saw, leaving a clean cut.
4) Damage or severance of roots above 25mm diameter must be avoided. If roots of this size are discovered, the hole should be relocated. If there are a large number of such roots it may be necessary to relocate the hole by half a fence panels length and adjust the fence panels accordingly.
5) Line hole with non-porous lining, for example durable polythene bag.
6) Insert post and fill post hole with concrete to ground level.
7) Trim polythene to ground level.

18. Sensitive excavation within retained RPAs

18.1. All excavations within retained RPAs to be carried out using the following sensitive methodology:

1) Pre-start meeting between project arboriculturist and groundworkers.
2) RPA radius of retained trees within proposed area of excavation to be measured and marked out with line-marker or pegs to inform areas of sensitive excavation.
3) Soil within marked out area to be excavated using hand-tools and/or air-spade.
4) Where suitable soil can be scraped away carefully under direct supervision of project arboriculturist using an excavator located outside of the RPA with toothless bucket attachment.
5) Upon discovery of any large rooting systems (diameter of over 25mm), remaining soil will be removed using either hand tools or with use of an air-spade.
6) Once area is excavated as required an assessment is to be made regarding any significant roots discovered as to the feasibility of root retention and significance of potential impact to vitality and stability of retained trees from root pruning.
7) If root pruning is viable, then it shall be undertaken by the project arboriculturist as access facilitation pruning and documented for review by the Local Planning Authority.
8) If impact of root pruning is considered too significant then approval must be gained for further tree removal prior to continuation of works within the RPA of affected tree.
9) During any delay between exposure of roots and agreement of either removal or pruning works, exposed rooting structures must be covered with a damp material which is to be re-wetted as required to prevent dehydration of root-hairs.
10) Re-erection of Tree Protection Fencing following completion of works or between daily work intervals.

19. Remediation for Planting Areas

19.1. Planting areas to be clearly defined prior to remedial works.

19.2. Area to be assessed for compaction and other damage.

19.3. Trial pit to be excavated to assess current soil quality.

19.4. If current soil quality is acceptable but compacted, then decompaction methods are to be employed. For example, rotovating to a depth equal to planting depth or tilling of soil with air excavation tool.

19.5. With poor quality soil in planting area, whole scale replacement of planting area soil is to be implemented. Provide as necessary to make up any removed topsoil and to complete the work. Soil grade should be Premium as advised by BS3882 and compacted under foot.

20. Installation of Boundary Fencing Within Protected Areas

20.1. Stages for installing wooden fence posts:

No plant machinery to be used in the area for whatever reason

1) Contact project arboriculturist to hold pre-start site meeting and 'toolbox' talk before starting work.
2) Remove TPF to allow access to area.
3) Dig post holes using hand tools, avoiding damage to the protective bark covering larger roots. Roots smaller than 25mm diameter may be pruned back using either secateurs or a hand saw, leaving a clean cut.
4) Damage or severance of roots above 25mm diameter must be avoided. If roots of this size are discovered, the hole should be relocated. If there are a large number of such roots it may be necessary to relocate the hole by half a fence panels length and adjust the fence panels accordingly.
5) Line hole with non-porous lining, for example durable polythene bag.
6) Insert post and fill post hole with concrete to ground level.
7) Trim polythene to ground level.

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