



## Arboricultural Impact Assessment for: Breach Field, Melksham Road, Holt

### Inspected and prepared by

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*DipArb(RFS), MICFor, RCarbor A*

### Prepared for

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### Report date

22nd October 2025

### Site address

Breach Field  
Melksham Road  
Holt  
Wiltshire  
BA14 6QW

### Report reference

BreachField\_AIA\_22102025

### Planning Reference

PL/2024/05435

## Executive summary

The information within is compliant with BS5837: 2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations and contains details of the direct and indirect impacts of the proposals on the trees on and adjacent to the site.

Two trees are proposed for removal to facilitate development, several dead elm trees are proposed for removal on safety grounds regardless of development proposals and several sections of field boundary hedgerows will need to be removed to facilitate site access onto Melksham Road.

Proposals have been designed to avoid conflict with retained trees and significant separation from the main concentration of proposed development activity has been afforded to the most valuable trees that are located on the field boundaries to the north of the site.

A proposed utility building encroaches on 9.6% of the root protection area (RPA) of a mature willow (T15) however, as the willow is comprised of the low-level remnants of a failed mature willow it has a large stem diameter but does not have a full crown and is considered not to be reliant on the full calculated RPA. A proposed outfall through the north-east site boundary requires a minor encroachment into the RPA of an ash tree (T22). The impact of any root loss associated with the RPA encroachments will be negligible provided any roots encountered during excavations are correctly pruned. Temporary ground protection boards will be laid to ensure that construction activity associated with the utility building and outfall easement strip does not cause ground compaction within the remaining RPAs of trees 15 and 22.

Minor encroachments are proposed into the RPAs of several retained trees for ground works including the construction of two SUDS basins, a vehicle passing place and the main site entrance. All of the encroachments are minor and any associated root loss will have a negligible impact on the trees.

All trees will be protected from development activity by a combination of robust physical barriers and temporary ground protection boards.

The site does not lie within the limits of a Conservation Area and there are no trees on the site that are the subject of a Tree Preservation Order.

Retained trees will not be adversely impacted by the proposals provided works are carried out in strict accordance with the provided Arboricultural Method Statement.

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## 1.0 Instructions

- 1.1 Assured Trees are instructed by Redcliffe Homes to carry out a survey of trees that could potentially be impacted by a proposed residential development at Breach Field adjacent Melksham Road in Holt and to prepare an arboricultural report in support of a reserved matters planning application to Wiltshire Council.
- 1.2 This report has been prepared by a qualified arboriculturalist in accordance with *BS5837: 2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations (BS5837: 2012 hereafter)* and contains the components listed in Table 1:

| Component                              | Description                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) | Containing details of the potential impacts of development proposals on trees on and adjacent to the site, and details of the potential impact of retained trees on the site post development. |
| Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)  | Presented at <b>Appendix A</b> as a standalone document containing a clear specification for all impact mitigation and tree protection measures for retained trees.                            |
| Tree Protection Plan (TPP)             | Presented at <b>Appendix B</b> containing a clear illustration of the extent and location of tree protection measures.                                                                         |
| Tree survey and tree work schedule     | Presented at <b>Appendix C</b> including data for all trees on the site along with a specification for all tree removals and tree works.                                                       |

**Table 1:** Report components

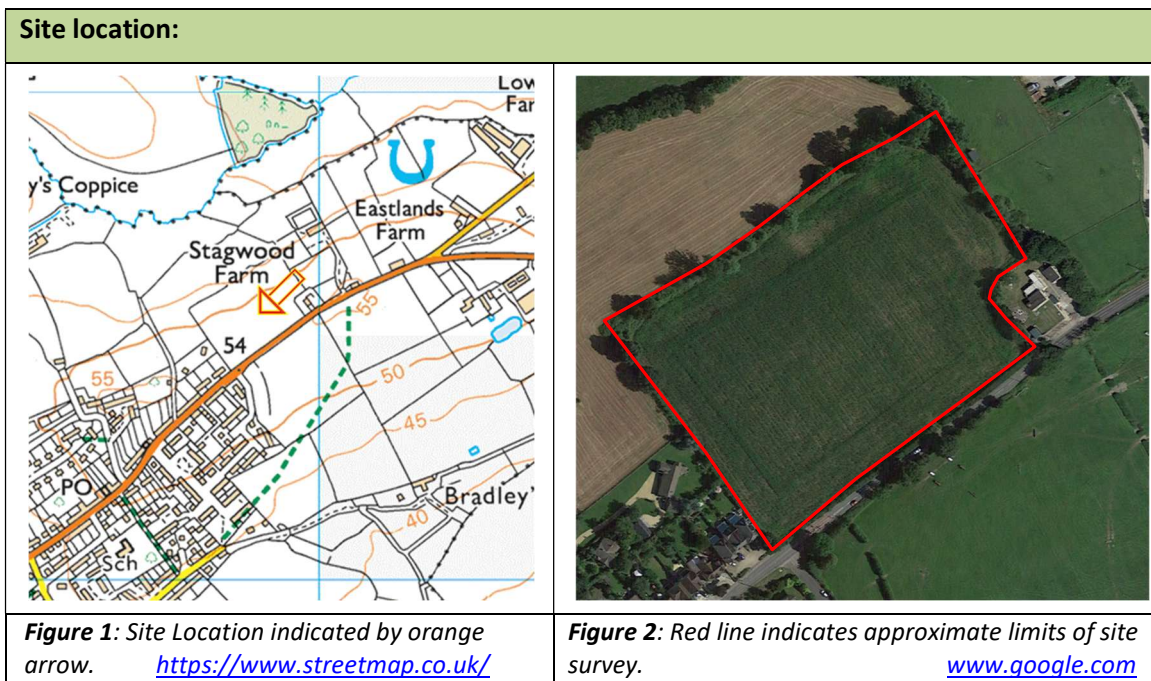
- 1.3 This report has been informed by the following documents:

| Document                  | Reference               | Supplied by             |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Topographical site survey | 107-survey              | Redcliffe Homes         |
| Site layout plan          | REDC250527 SL01 P11     | Redcliffe Homes         |
| Landscape masterplan      | 3227-5-2-1-DR-001-S5-P4 | David Jarvis Associates |

**Table 2:** Documents provided

## 2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 The application site encompasses an area of approximately three hectares of agricultural land to the north-east of the village of Holt on the north side of the B3107 Melksham Road. The site is an open area sloping down to the north and fringed with mature trees and managed hedges. The site borders Melksham Road to the south, private houses to the south-west, agricultural land to the north and a utility compound to the south-east.



### 3.0 Report limitations

- 3.1 The tree survey was carried out from ground level on the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023, observations were made in the context of planning and development in accordance with BS5837:2012 and specifically relate to the conditions found at the time of the survey. The survey does not constitute a detailed hazard assessment, no decay detection equipment has been used in assessing trunk condition and no samples of any kind have been taken for analysis.

### 4.0 Trees included in the survey

- 4.1 Twenty-six trees, four tree groups and three hedges were identified in the survey and have been awarded category ratings in accordance with the BS5837:2012 cascade chart for tree quality assessment (table 3). Category ratings of **A**, **B**, **C** or **U** are allocated based on the condition of a tree or group of trees in its/their current surroundings, with **A** representing the higher quality trees, **B** the moderate quality, **C** the lower quality and **U** the trees that cannot realistically be retained in the context of the current land use. A full account of the tree survey methodology including the categorisation criteria for surveyed trees is presented at Appendix C.

|        | Category |   |    |   |
|--------|----------|---|----|---|
|        | A        | B | C  | U |
| Trees  | 0        | 8 | 17 | 1 |
| Groups | 0        | 1 | 2  | 1 |
| Hedges | 0        | 0 | 3  | 0 |

**Table 3:** Tree categorisation quantities

## 5.0 Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

- 5.1 Root Protection Areas (**RPAs**) for all trees on site have been calculated in accordance with BS5837:2012 and form below ground constraints to development. The RPA is a layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure should be treated as a priority, the RPA does not represent the entire root system of a tree. The RPAs have been plotted onto the Tree Protection Plan as a circle centred on the base of each tree stem with a radius of 12 times the trees stem diameter measured at 1.5 metres above ground level. For tree groups the largest stem diameter in the group has been used to set the RPA.
- 5.2 Trees on the south side of Melksham Road were assessed but only T32, an oak opposite the site entrance and T33 an ash opposite an area where a crossing was proposed, have been included in the survey. The RPAs of the other larger trees on the south side of Melksham Road have been illustrated on the tree constraints plan but have not been included in the tree survey schedule as there is no potential for them to be impacted by the proposals.

## 6.0 Statutory constraints

- 6.1 A review of Wiltshire Council on-line resources<sup>1</sup> reveals that the site does not lie within the limits of a Conservation Area and that there are no trees on or adjacent to the site that are the subject of a Tree Preservation Order (**TPO**). It is not currently necessary to obtain consent from Wiltshire Council to carry out tree works on the site. It should be noted however that planning policy requires tree works that are in the interest of development to be included within arboricultural information supporting a planning application regardless of statutory tree protection.
- 6.2 Although trees on the site are not protected by Conservation Area or TPO designations, tree felling is a legally controlled activity and if tree removals are proposed on the site in excess of 5 cubic metres in volume in a calendar quarter (or 2 cubic metres if the timber is being sold), then a felling license may be required from the Forestry Commission<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://experience.arcgis.com/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-felling-licence-when-you-need-to-apply>

## 7.0 Soils

- 7.1 Tree growth can cause differential movement in structures on shrinkable clay soils as moisture is removed from the soil below foundation depth during the growing season. Soil information obtained using the British Geological Survey Data<sup>3</sup> indicates the site has a bedrock geology of *Kellaways Formation - Sandstone, siltstone and mudstone*. It is therefore unlikely there is an underlying clay soil with a high potential for volume change, however as a precaution, soil type should be confirmed by an engineer and foundations near trees should be constructed in accordance with the *National House Building Council (NHBC) Chapter 4.2 Building near trees*<sup>4</sup>.

## 8.0 Site images

|                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                      |                                               |
| <p><b>Image 1:</b> Trees T01-T03 to the south-west, note dead elm (T01) on the left and T2 in the centre proposed for removal to facilitate footpath construction.</p> | <p><b>Image 2:</b> View from the south-east of trees T08 (left) to T11 (centre right) on the west and north site boundaries.</p> |

<sup>3</sup> [https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?\\_ga=2.152583345.92563876.1660213156-1216554341.1660213156](https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?_ga=2.152583345.92563876.1660213156-1216554341.1660213156)

<sup>4</sup> <https://nhbc-standards.co.uk/4-foundations/4-2-building-near-trees/>



**Image 3:** Trees T10 and T11 on left of picture, T12 and T13 in centre and T14 in foreground, note dieback and dead wood in T14.



**Image 4:** View from the south-west of T15 on the left, T16 proposed for removal centre right and trees T17-T21 on the right, note that T15 has a small crown comprised of minor regrowth from the stump.



**Image 5:** Trees T17-T22 (from left to right) on the north and east site boundaries.



**Image 6:** H23, T24 and T25 on the east site boundary.

## 9.0 Planning policy

### 9.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 12 December 2024)<sup>5</sup> states that:

*Development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists.*

*Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined, that opportunities are taken to incorporate trees elsewhere in developments (such as parks and community orchards), that appropriate measures are in place to secure the long-term maintenance of newly-planted trees, and that existing trees are retained wherever possible.*

### 9.2 Local planning policy includes Wiltshire Core Strategy - adopted 2015<sup>6</sup>:

#### Core Policy 52- Green infrastructure

*Development shall make provision for the retention and enhancement of Wiltshire's green infrastructure network and shall ensure that suitable links to the network are provided and maintained. Where development is permitted developers will be required to:*

- i. retain and enhance existing on site green infrastructure*
- ii. make provision for accessible open spaces in accordance with the requirements of the adopted Wiltshire Open Space Standards*
- iii. put measures in place to ensure appropriate long-term management of any green infrastructure directly related to the development*
- iv. provide appropriate contributions towards the delivery of the Wiltshire Green Infrastructure Strategy*
- v. identify and provide opportunities to enhance and improve linkages between the natural and historic landscapes of Wiltshire.*

*If damage or loss of existing green infrastructure is unavoidable, the creation of new or replacement green infrastructure equal to or above its current value and quality, that maintains the integrity and functionality of the green infrastructure network, will be required.*

## 10.0 Tree removals and arboricultural works

- 10.1 Two trees are proposed for removal to facilitate development (T02 and T16) and several dead elms are proposed for removal on safety grounds (T01 and G31). T02 is a relatively small oak which has good visibility from the public realm, it is growing as part of a pair growing in close proximity (image 1), the remaining oak (T03) will benefit from the removal of T02 and will continue to provide visual amenity value in the long term. T16 is a mature willow in poor condition on the north site boundary with limited public visibility.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/media/372/Wiltshire-Core-Strategy-adopted-2015/pdf/Wcs.pdf?m=637099399373530000>

- 10.2 Sections of H04, a field boundary hawthorn hedge not determined as 'important' under the hedgerow regulations 1997<sup>7</sup>, will need to be removed to facilitate pedestrian access points onto Melksham Road and the widening of the existing site entrance. Sections to the east and west of the entrance will need to be trimmed back to provide sufficient visibility splays.
- 10.3 A section of H05 to the north of the site requires trimming back to provide access for the construction of a utility building and a section of H23 requires removal to provide for an outfall.
- 10.4 **Mitigation** for the tree removals will be provided through the planting of a substantial number of new trees, hedges and shrubs throughout the site in accordance with a comprehensive landscape scheme prepared by David Jarvis Associates and submitted separately to this report for approval.

## 11.0 General impacts of development

- 11.1 Trees are commonly damaged during development through root severance to construct foundations or install services or through soil compaction within the rooting area of a tree which adversely affects drainage, gas exchange, nutrient uptake and organic content, and will seriously impede or restrict root growth potentially causing the decline or death of the tree.
- 11.2 Further damage can be caused by direct contact damage to parts of a tree from plant and equipment. To avoid damage to trees, construction activity must be excluded from Root Protection Areas (**RPAs**) by robust physical barriers creating a Construction Exclusion Zone (**CEZ**). If construction access is required within RPAs, barriers need to be set back and ground protection used over the exposed area of RPA to prevent soil compaction, existing hard surfacing such as tarmac can be used as ground protection.

## 12.0 Site specific potential impacts on trees

- 12.1 **Utility building:** The construction of a pump station on the north site boundary encroaches on 9.6% of the notional RPA of T15, a B category willow which is the remains of a large failed willow (image 7), it has a large stem diameter which equates to a large RPA, but it has a small crown comprised of minor regrowth from the failure wounds. It has been given a B3 category due to stem size, biodiversity value and potential for veteran status in the future. Due to the small crown size T15 is not reliant on the full RPA and it is considered that the 9.6% encroachment will have a negligible impact on the tree provided any roots encountered during excavations for a foundation are pruned and not ripped or torn out by machinery which can damage roots closer to the tree than the point of contact and create wounds suitable for colonisation by decay pathogens.

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1997/1160/contents/made>



**Image 7:** T15 with small crown comprised of regrowth from historic failure points.

- 12.2 There is potential for construction activity associated with the pump station to further impact the RPA of T15 by causing ground compaction in the surrounding soft landscape. To prevent ground compaction within the RPA ground protection boards will need to be laid that are capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.
- 12.3 **Ground works:** Works to create the main site entrance from Melksham Road have the potential to impact the periphery of the northern RPA of T32 which is a valuable off-site oak with a high level of visual amenity and biodiversity value. Although it is likely that the road will have acted as a barrier to root growth it is possible that roots are growing up to the site boundary and any excavations within the RPA will need to be carried out with great care in a way that minimises root damage.
- 12.4 Minor RPA encroachments are proposed for several trees to construct SUDS features (T08, T14 and T17), to install a local area of play (T21 and T22) and to create a vehicle passing place (T30). All of the encroachments are minor and any associated root loss will have a negligible impact on the trees.
- 12.5 **General development activity** such as plant/vehicle movements, materials storage, construction compounds, contractor car parking and hard landscape works have the potential to impact the RPAs of retained trees. To prevent an adverse impact on retained trees robust physical barriers must be erected at the extent of the RPAs to create a Construction Exclusion Zone (**CEZ**). The barriers must be fit for the purpose of excluding construction activity and appropriate to the degree and proximity of work taking place around the trees and must be maintained throughout the development process to ensure that they remain rigid and complete.

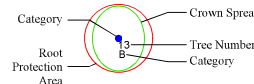
- 12.6 **Services** including soakaways and drainage runs will be routed away from the RPA of retained trees and will not require encroachments into RPAs. An outfall is required to the north east of the site to the south of T22 which requires a minor encroachment into the RPA of T22 and requires an easement strip within the RPA. To minimise impact on T22, any roots encountered during excavations for the outfall must be pruned correctly and ground protection boards must be laid within the RPA that are capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.
- 12.7 **Shading and leaf fall:** The trees on the south side of Melksham Road are capable of casting shade over the south site boundary but will not significantly shade the southern residential units. Mature trees on the northern boundary will have no shade impact on residential units. Leaf fall will be concentrated on public open spaces with no significant adverse consequences.
- 12.8 **Future pressure to prune:** Surrounding trees are a sufficient distance from proposed residential units and roads where there will be no perception of risk or nuisance, there is no reason the proposals will result in future pressure to prune or remove trees on the site. Several retained trees are ash that are symptomatic of ash dieback disease which is likely to cause their death within the next 10 years and will necessitate the removal of any ash that could cause injury or damage through failure.

### 13.0 Conclusions

- 13.1 The layout has been designed taking into account the constraints of all valuable trees on the site, the impact of the removal of the two trees and sections of boundary hedge to facilitate development will be mitigated through the planting of a substantial number of new trees on the site. Impacts on retained trees have been identified and will be mitigated through a combination of root pruning, temporary ground protection and temporary protective barriers. Retained trees will not be adversely impacted by the proposals provided works are carried out in strict accordance with the provided Arboricultural Method Statement.



### Symbol Guide



### BS5837:2012 - Tree Category



NOTE: Tree/group numbers marked with an \* have approximate locations.



Project Name:  
Melksham Road, Holt, Bath

Drawing Title:  
Tree Constraints Plan

Drawing Number:  
MR-TCP-01-122023

Client:  
-

Agent:  
-

Date:  
December 2023

Scale:  
1:500 @ A1

## Appendix A: Arboricultural Method Statement





## Arboricultural Method Statement for: Breach Field, Melksham Road, Holt

### Inspected and prepared by

Stuart Roberts  
*DipArb(RFS), MICFor, RCArbor A*

### Prepared for

Redcliffe Homes  
Holly House  
4 High Street  
Chipping Sodbury  
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## 1.0 Introduction

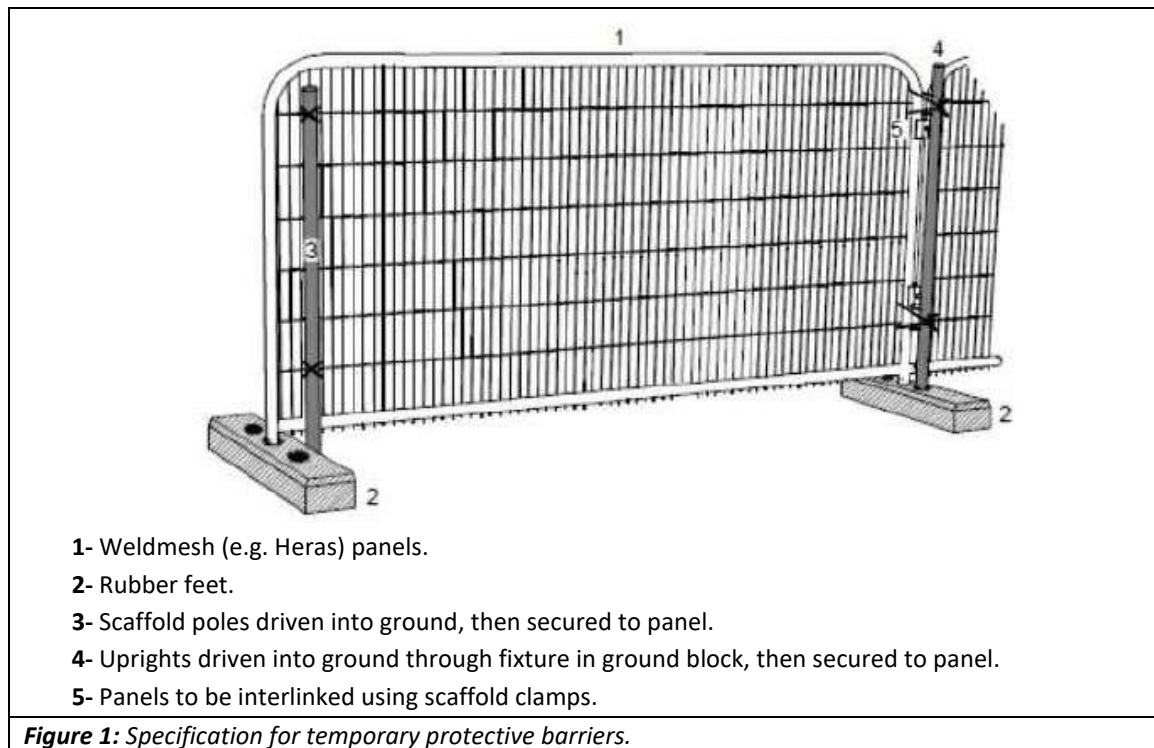
- 1.1 This arboricultural method statement (**AMS**) provides details and specifications for all tree protection measures and arboricultural operations necessary during the construction of a residential development at Breach Field adjacent Melksham Road in Holt.
- 1.2 Copies of this AMS will be kept on site and the site manager will communicate the content to all staff and contractors with duties that involve working near trees or have the potential to impact retained trees.

## 2.0 Arboricultural works

- 2.1 Prior to any construction works on the site trees T01, T02, T16, G31 and sections of H04 and H23 will be removed (see tree protection plan) and H05 will be cut back to provide access around the proposed utility building to the north of the site. Tree works will be carried out in accordance with *BS3998:2010 Tree Work- Recommendations*.

## 3.0 Tree protection

- 3.1 **Barriers:** Following tree works and ***before the commencement of any construction works on site***, protective barriers will be installed in the positions indicated on the Tree Protection Plan. The barriers will consist of 2 metre tall, welded mesh panels on rubber feet and will be well braced to resist impact, as illustrated in figure 1.



- 3.2 The protective barriers will create a Construction Exclusion Zone (**CEZ**) to prevent construction activity of any kind, including the storage of materials, within the unprotected root protection area (**RPA**) of retained trees. The barriers will remain in place until the completion of all development and hard landscape works unless otherwise specified within this AMS.
- 3.3 Weather resistant site notices similar to the example provided at Appendix E will be attached to the protective barriers at 3 metres intervals to clearly identify the purpose as tree protection that must not be moved or altered.
- 3.4 **Ground protection:** Following the installation of protective barriers, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards<sup>1</sup> will be laid within the RPAs of T15 and T22 in the positions indicated on the TPP (figure 1).



**Figure 1:** Example of proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards used to protect RPAs.

- 3.5 ***The barriers and ground protection boards will not be moved or altered in any way without the written consent of Wiltshire Council.*** If site constraints require the alteration of the barriers and/or ground protection boards then the project arboriculturist will first be consulted who will take the necessary steps to obtain appropriate consent.

#### 4.0 Works within Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

- 4.1 **Utility building:** The construction of a pump station on the north site boundary encroaches on 9.6% of the RPA of T15. To minimise the impact on T15, excavations for foundations will take place under the supervision of a banksman who will look for roots, if roots are encountered the banksman will instruct mechanical excavations to stop, the roots will be exposed using hand tools and will be pruned back to the tree side of the excavation using a sharp pruning tool.

<sup>1</sup> Example of suitable ground protection boards <https://www.multimatts.co.uk/>

- 4.2 **Site access:** The main site access onto Melksham Road encroaches on the periphery of the RPA of T32, to minimise impact on the tree, excavations into existing ground level within the RPA to establish a subbase and drop kerb will take place under the supervision of a banksman who will look for roots, if roots are encountered the banksman will instruct mechanical excavations to stop, the roots will be exposed using hand tools and will be pruned back to the tree side of the excavation using a sharp pruning tool.
- 4.3 **Services:** Excavations for an outfall on the east site boundary requires a minor encroachment into the southern RPA of T22. To minimise the impact on T22, excavations will take place under the supervision of a banksman who will look for roots, if roots are encountered the banksman will instruct mechanical excavations to stop, the roots will be exposed using hand tools and will be pruned back to the tree side of the excavation using a sharp pruning tool.
- 4.4 No other services require access to unprotected RPAs. If services are required to run within the RPA of a retained tree for unforeseen reasons, they will be installed in accordance with the National Joint Utilities Group (**NJUG**) Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees - Issue 2: 16th November 2007<sup>2</sup>.

## 5.0 Access for construction works

- 5.1 Construction traffic will access the site from the existing access from Melksham Road on the south site boundary, construction traffic will not access the RPAs of retained trees at any time. Material storage areas, welfare facilities and contractor car parking will be located in areas of the site that are outside of the unprotected RPAs of retained trees.

## 6.0 Additional precautions outside of the construction exclusion zone

- 6.1 Fires will not be lit on site, no equipment, machinery, structure, notice boards, telephone cables or other services will be attached to or supported by a retained tree.
- 6.2 Cement, fuel and any other chemicals that could be harmful to retained trees will be stored and mixed in designated areas as far away from the outer edge of all RPAs as possible, using spill trays to ensure accidental spillages will be contained and will not contaminate RPAs. Spill kits will be kept on site at all times and all staff will be briefed on the location and correct use of the spill kits.
- 6.3 Planning of site operations will take sufficient account of wide loads, tall loads and plant with booms, jibs and counterweights (including drilling rigs), in order that they can operate without coming into contact with retained trees. Such contact can result in serious damage to the trees and might make their safe retention impossible. Consequently, any transit or traverse of plant in proximity to trees will be conducted under the supervision of a banksman, to ensure that adequate clearance from trees is maintained at all times.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://streetworks.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/V4-Trees-Issue-2-16-11-2007.pdf>

## 7.0 Supervision and monitoring

- 7.1 Assured Trees Ltd will be responsible for the monitoring of all tree protection measures and compliance with this Arboricultural Method Statement. A certificate of compliance will be issued to the client and to Wiltshire Council for the operations listed in table 1.

| No. | Operation                                                                                     |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1   | Erection of temporary tree protection barriers in the position shown on Tree Protection Plan. |
| 2   | Installation of temporary ground protection boards within the RPA of T15.                     |
| 3   | Compliance with this AMS (post construction issue).                                           |

**Table 1:** Operations for which a certificate of compliance may be produced.

## 8.0 Contingency plans

- 8.1 The occurrence of any unforeseen incidents that may adversely impact retained trees will be reported to Assured Trees as soon as practicable following the incident. Assured Trees will then advise on the appropriate course of action and will produce and maintain a record of any such incidents including any subsequent measures taken.

## 9.0 Sequence of works

| Development stage       | Sequence number | Operation                       | Details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pre-development         | 01              | Tree works                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of trees T01, T02, T16, G31 and sections of H04 and H23 (see tree protection plan).</li> <li>Cutting back of H05 to provide access around the proposed pump station to the north of the site.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                            |
|                         | 02              | Installation of tree protection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation of temporary tree protection barriers in the positions indicated on the Tree Protection Plan.</li> <li>Installation of temporary ground protection boards within the RPA of T15 in the positions indicated on the Tree Protection Plan.</li> </ul>                                                                                             |
| Main construction phase | 03              | All works                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excavations for pump station foundations within the RPA of T15 and the outfall within the RPA of T22 with root pruning if roots are encountered.</li> <li>Installation of main site entrance and drop kerb with root pruning if roots are encountered.</li> <li>Main construction works and hard landscaping with no access to unprotected RPAs.</li> </ul> |
| Post - construction     | 04              | Removal of tree protection      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of temporary protective barriers and ground protection boards following completion of all construction and hard landscape works.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                         | 05              | Soft landscape works            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Including all mitigation tree and hedge planting.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

**Table 2:** Sequence of works

## Appendix B: Tree Protection Plan





- Key:**
- Site Boundary
  - Major Contour (0.50m)
  - Minor Contour (0.10m)
  - Plot Finished Floor Level
  - Garage Finished Floor Level
  - Centreline
  - Junction Visibility Splay (x and y distances denoted)
  - Forward Visibility Splay (y distances denoted)
  - Part 'M' Access
  - Proposed Spot Level
  - Underbuild (Depth below DPC as Indicated)
  - Additional Double DPC or Tanking as Indicated
  - Retaining Wall (Height annotated)
  - Gravel Board - Max height 300mm
  - Step(s) - Number of, or Threshold, as Indicated
  - Slope and Gradient
  - Embankment (Max 1:2)
  - Tactile Crossing - Colour "Blue"
  - Tactile Crossing - Colour "Red"
  - Services Corridor (Utilities)
  - Existing Wessex Water Foul Water Sewer
  - Existing Wessex Water Surface Water Sewer
  - Foul Water Sewer (S104 Adoptable)
  - Surface Water Sewer (S104 Adoptable)
  - Hydrobrake Flow Control Manhole (S104 Adoptable)
  - Surface Water Sewer Diversion (S185)
  - Foul Water Sewer Diversion (S185)
  - Concrete Protection (Pipe)
  - Headwall
  - Highway Gully and Connection
  - Surface Water Attenuation Tank - Wavin Aquascul or Similar Approved Product
  - Permeable Paving or other Suitable Porous Surfacing Medium
  - Filter Drain with Perforated Pipe and Outfall
  - Treated Effluent Headwall
  - Foul Inspection Chamber <3.0m deep with Restricted Access for depths over 1.2m.
  - Foul Access Chamber <0.6m deep.
  - Surface Water Inspection Chamber <3.0m deep with Restricted Access for depths over 1.2m.
  - Rodding Eye
  - ACO Channel Drain
  - Yard Gully
  - Rainwater Downpipe (RWP)
  - Soil Vent Pipe (SVP)
  - Easement
  - Existing Sewer to be Capped, Abandoned and Left in Situ or Removed where Required
  - Driveway Visibility - \*\*\*\*XXmph XXm x XXm\*\*\*\*
  - Land Drain
  - \*\*\*\*\*Lighting Column\*\*\*\*\*
  - \*\*\*\*\*Lighting Column\*\*\*\*\*
  - \*\*\*\*\*Lighting Column\*\*\*\*\*
  - \*\*\*\*\*Lighting Column\*\*\*\*\*
  - \*\*\*\*\*Lighting Column\*\*\*\*\*

- KEY**
- EXISTING CARRIAGEWAY
  - PROPOSED CARRIAGEWAY
  - EXISTING FOOTWAY
  - PROPOSED FOOTWAY

- Symbol Guide**
- Category
- Crown Spread
  - Tree Number
  - Tree Category
- BS5837:2012 - Tree Category**
- Category A Trees High Quality
  - Category B Trees Moderate Quality
  - Category C Trees Low Quality
  - Category D Trees Poor Quality/Remove
  - Line of Protective Fencing
  - Proposed Tree for Removal
  - Temporary Ground Protection Boards
  - Cut back Hedge to Blue Line
- NOTE: Tree/group numbers marked with an \* have approximate locations.

**ASSURED TREES**

Project Name:  
Melksham Road, Holt, Bath

Drawing Title:  
Tree Protection Plan

Drawing Number:  
251022-MR-TPP-Rev D-NB

Date:  
October 2025

Scale:  
1:500 @ A0

## Appendix C: Tree Survey Schedule



|                                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tree Survey Schedule                |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | <br>ASSURED TREES |
| Client: Redcliffe Homes             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                                                                                      |
| Location: Melksham Road, Holt, Bath |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                                                                                      |
| Survey date: 6th December 2023      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |                                                                                                      |

| Tree Number | Single (S) or Group (G) | Tree Name (species)        | Height (m) | Calculated Stem Diameter (mm) | Number of Stems | Crown Clearance (m) | Crown spread              |          |          |          | Age Class | Physiological Condition | Structural Condition | Condition Notes                                                                                                                                    | Recommendations                                                     | Estimated Remaining Life Contribution | BS Category | Root Protection Area (Radius, m) |
|-------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
|             |                         |                            |            |                               |                 |                     | North(m)                  | South(m) | East (m) | West (m) |           |                         |                      |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                     |                                       |             |                                  |
| 01          | S                       | Elm                        | 9          | 180                           | 1               | 2                   | 1                         | 2        | 1        | 1        | Y         | D                       | D                    | Dead ivy-covered elm within hedgerow adjacent Melksham Road on south-west site boundary, ownership unclear.                                        | Fell tree if within site ownership.                                 | <10                                   | U           | 2.2                              |
| 02          | S                       | Oak                        | 10         | 350                           | 1               | 3                   | 5                         | 4        | 5        | 4        | Y         | G                       | F                    | Oak in hedgerow on west site boundary, crown bias north-east, multi-stem from 2 metres.                                                            | Fell to facilitate footpath construction.                           | 40+                                   | C1          | 4.2                              |
| 03          | S                       | Oak                        | 9          | 250                           | 1               | 3                   | 4                         | 3        | 3        | 3        | Y         | G                       | F                    | Growing within hedgerow on west site boundary, multi-stem from 1.5 metres, minor hanging broken limb to east.                                      | None.                                                               | 40+                                   | C1          | 3.0                              |
| 04          | H                       | Hawthorn                   | 1.5        | 100                           | 1               | 0                   | See tree constraints plan |          |          |          | Sm        | G                       | G                    | 180 metre section of hedgerow on south site boundary adjacent Melksham Rd, unbroken apart from a field access gate, top and faces trimmed to form. | Remove sections for access and trim for visibility splay (see TPP). | 40+                                   | C3          | 1.2                              |
| 05          | H                       | Blackthorn, elm and privet | 1.5        | 50                            | 1               | 0                   | See tree constraints plan |          |          |          | Sm        | P                       | P                    | Field boundary hedge on west site boundary, dominated by bramble with little live hedge growth.                                                    | Trim back section to rear of pump house.                            | 10+                                   | C3          | 0.6                              |
| 06          | S                       | Blue atlas cedar           | 9          | 400                           | 1               | 2                   | 4                         | 4        | 4        | 4        | Sm        | G                       | G                    | Off-site cedar, good condition, RPA does not extend into site.                                                                                     | None.                                                               | 40+                                   | B1          | 4.8                              |
| 07          | G                       | Hawthorn                   | 6          | 200                           | 1               | 1                   | 3                         | 3        | 3        | 3        | Sm        | F                       | F                    | Group of 4 hawthorn within west boundary hedgerow, likely hedgerow remnants that have not been trimmed to form.                                    | None.                                                               | 20+                                   | C1          | 2.4                              |
| 08          | S                       | Field maple                | 13         | 984                           | 20              | 2                   | 7                         | 7        | 7        | 7        | M         | G                       | G                    | Large field maple within west field boundary hedgerow, multi-stem from ground level, old hedgerow remnant, good condition.                         | None.                                                               | 40+                                   | B2          | 11.8                             |
| 09          | S                       | Field maple                | 14         | 1161                          | 11              | 2                   | 6                         | 7        | 6        | 6        | M         | G                       | G                    | Large field maple within west field boundary hedgerow, multi-stem from ground level, old hedgerow remnant, good condition.                         | None.                                                               | 40+                                   | B2          | 13.9                             |

| Tree Number | Single (S) or Group (G) | Tree Name (species) | Height (m) | Calculated Stem Diameter (mm) | Number of Stems | Crown Clearance (m) | Crown spread |          |          |          | Age Class | Physiological Condition | Structural Condition | Condition Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Recommendations                                | Estimated Remaining Life Contribution | BS Category | Root Protection Area (Radius, m) |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
|             |                         |                     |            |                               |                 |                     | North(m)     | South(m) | East (m) | West (m) |           |                         |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                |                                       |             |                                  |
| 10          | S                       | Field maple         | 11         | 686                           | 6               | 2                   | 6            | 6        | 4        | 7        | M         | G                       | G                    | Multi-stem field maple within northern field boundary hedgerow, crown bias west, old hedgerow remanent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | None.                                          | 40+                                   | B2          | 8.2                              |
| 11          | S                       | Field maple         | 13         | 535                           | 3               | 1                   | 3            | 4        | 3        | 6        | M         | G                       | G                    | Multi-stem field maple within northern field boundary hedgerow, crown bias west, old hedgerow remanent.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | None.                                          | 40+                                   | B2          | 6.4                              |
| 12          | S                       | Field maple         | 8          | 330                           | 1               | 2                   | 3            | 2        | 2        | 3        | Y         | G                       | G                    | Field maple on north site boundary, non-progressive stem lean to the north-west.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | None.                                          | 40+                                   | C1          | 4.0                              |
| 13          | S                       | Hawthorn            | 9          | 280                           | 1               | 4                   | 2            | 1        | 4        | 1        | M         | F                       | F                    | Hawthorn on north site boundary, non-progressive stem lean and crown bias east, dieback in upper crown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | None.                                          | 10+                                   | C1          | 3.4                              |
| 14          | S                       | Oak                 | 17         | 1,015                         | 2               | 3                   | 5            | 8        | 6        | 6        | M         | P                       | P                    | Oak on north site boundary, twin stem from 1.2 metres from a narrow union, north stem has advanced die back and major dead wood, south stem also has significant dieback and dead wood, entire crown is sparse.                                                                                                                                                                              | None.                                          | 40+                                   | C2          | 12.2                             |
| 15          | S                       | Willow              | 5          | 1,200                         | 1               | 1                   | 2            | 3        | 2        | 3        | Om        | P                       | P                    | Remains of a mature willow on the north site, boundary, no significant crown remaining having historically failed, crown now comprised of minor reaction growth from the failure points, advanced and severe decay of main stem with hollowing and cavity opening to the north. Limited Arboricultural Merit but biodiversity value, potential future veteran tree. Not reliant on full RPA. | None.                                          | 10+                                   | B3          | 14.4                             |
| 16          | S                       | Willow              | 18         | 950                           | 1               | 1                   | 5            | 7        | 6        | 4        | Om        | F                       | F                    | Willow on north site boundary, large stem to the west historically failed with minor regrowth from failure wound, two remaining stems above 2 metres, east stem is comprised of multiple small stems from 3 metres, the central stem has a crown bias south-west, multiple wounds throughout crown from branch failures, prolific arboreal ivy.                                              | Fell to facilitate construction of SUDS basin. | 20+                                   | C2          | 11.4                             |

| Tree Number | Single (S) or Group (G) | Tree Name (species)            | Height (m) | Calculated Stem Diameter (mm) | Number of Stems | Crown Clearance (m) | Crown spread              |          |          |          | Age Class | Physiological Condition | Structural Condition | Condition Notes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Recommendations                                              | Estimated Remaining Life Contribution | BS Category | Root Protection Area (Radius, m) |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
|             |                         |                                |            |                               |                 |                     | North(m)                  | South(m) | East (m) | West (m) |           |                         |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                              |                                       |             |                                  |
| 17          | S                       | Hazel                          | 6          | 548                           | 30              | 0                   | 3                         | 3        | 3        | 3        | M         | G                       | F                    | Hazel coppice on north site boundary with no recent management.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | None.                                                        | 20+                                   | C3          | 6.6                              |
| 18          | S                       | Oak                            | 16         | 930                           | 1               | 3                   | 9                         | 2        | 9        | 5        | Om        | F                       | P                    | Large oak on north site boundary, large wound from 2-4 metres south side from the loss of a large scaffold limb at an included bark union, remaining crown has a severe crown bias to the north.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | None.                                                        | 40+                                   | C2          | 11.2                             |
| 19          | G                       | Willow, ash and field maple    | 14         | 450                           | 1               | 0                   | See tree constraints plan |          |          |          | M         | F                       | F                    | Tree group on the north site boundary to the west of a field access point, consisting of 3 single stem field maple in good condition, 5 willow and 1 ash which has early-stage symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease (in 2023). The willow to the west has partially failed to the north and is hung up in adjacent maple, the willow to the west of the field access point is the remains of a failed willow with advanced stem decay and a single extended limb to the north. The three willows to the east of the field access point are collapsed pollards with advanced stem decay and greater biodiversity value than Arboricultural. | None.                                                        | 40+                                   | B3          | 5.4                              |
| 20          | S                       | Oak                            | 20         | 960                           | 1               | 5                   | 6                         | 5        | 3        | 6        | M         | G                       | G                    | Oak on north site boundary to the east of a field access point, crown bias north-west, good condition.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | None.                                                        | 40+                                   | B2          | 11.5                             |
| 21          | S                       | Ash                            | 17         | 540                           | 1               | 5                   | 7                         | 5        | 6        | 3        | M         | P                       | F                    | Ash on north site boundary, crown bias north-east, symptomatic of Ash Dieback Disease.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | None.                                                        | <10                                   | C2          | 6.5                              |
| 22          | S                       | Ash                            | 17         | 800                           | 1               | 4                   | 9                         | 10       | 9        | 8        | M         | P                       | F                    | Large ash on the east site boundary, no access to base to inspect due to dense undergrowth, prolific arboreal ivy, symptomatic of Ash Dieback Disease.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | None.                                                        | <10                                   | C2          | 9.6                              |
| 23          | H                       | Hawthorn, hazel and blackthorn | 5          | 120                           | 1               | 0                   | See tree constraints plan |          |          |          | Sm        | G                       | F                    | Sporadic unmanaged hedgerow on east site boundary, dominated by hawthorn with hazel and blackthorn to south.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Remove section to facilitate outfall and easement (see TPP). | 20+                                   | C3          | 1.4                              |

| Tree Number | Single (S) or Group (G) | Tree Name (species)                       | Height (m) | Calculated Stem Diameter (mm) | Number of Stems | Crown Clearance (m) | Crown spread              |          |          |          | Age Class | Physiological Condition | Structural Condition | Condition Notes                                                                                                                              | Recommendations                                    | Estimated Remaining Life Contribution | BS Category | Root Protection Area (Radius, m) |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
|             |                         |                                           |            |                               |                 |                     | North(m)                  | South(m) | East (m) | West (m) |           |                         |                      |                                                                                                                                              |                                                    |                                       |             |                                  |
| 24          | S                       | Ash                                       | 11         | 410                           | 5               | 3                   | 6                         | 4        | 5        | 4        | Sm        | P                       | P                    | Multi-stem ash on the east site boundary, prolific arboreal ivy, major dead wood, significant symptoms of Ash Dieback Disease.               | None.                                              | <10                                   | C1          | 4.9                              |
| 25          | S                       | Field maple                               | 9          | 441                           | 6               | 1                   | 4                         | 4        | 4        | 4        | M         | G                       | G                    | Multi-stem field maple in south-east corner of site within field boundary hedgerow, overhanging adjacent utility compound.                   | None.                                              | 40+                                   | C1          | 5.3                              |
| 26          | S                       | Ash                                       | 11         | 410                           | 1               | 2                   | 3                         | 3        | 3        | 4        | Sm        | P                       | F                    | Off-site Ash within adjacent utility compound, 3 metres from boundary fence, symptomatic of Ash Dieback Disease.                             | None.                                              | <10                                   | C1          | 4.9                              |
| 27          | S                       | Oak                                       | 9          | 240                           | 1               | 2                   | 3                         | 2        | 3        | 2        | Y         | G                       | G                    | Small off-site oak in adjacent utility compound, 1 metre from site boundary fence, crown bias north.                                         | None.                                              | 40+                                   | C1          | 2.9                              |
| 28          | G                       | Field maple, blackthorn, hawthorn and ash | 7          | 200                           | 1               | 0                   | See tree constraints plan |          |          |          | Y         | F                       | F                    | Off-site tree group/lapsed hedgerow on the west boundary of adjacent utility compound, crown overhangs site by 3 metres.                     | None.                                              | 20+                                   | C2          | 2.4                              |
| 29          | S                       | Field maple                               | 9          | 333                           | 2               | 3                   | 2                         | 3        | 3        | 3        | Y         | G                       | G                    | Off-site maple within tree group on west boundary of adjacent utility compound, twin stem from base.                                         | None.                                              | 40+                                   | C1          | 4.0                              |
| 30          | S                       | Ash                                       | 14         | 480                           | 1               | 3                   | 5                         | 5        | 5        | 6        | M         | P                       | F                    | Off-site ash 1 metre from boundary fence in adjacent utility compound, symptomatic of Ash Dieback Disease.                                   | None.                                              | <10                                   | C2          | 5.8                              |
| 31          | G                       | Elm                                       | 9          | 200                           | 1               | 0                   | See tree constraints plan |          |          |          | Y         | D                       | D                    | Group of 2x dead elm trees adjacent Melksham Road, ownership unclear as they straddle the boundary line and are in the roadside verge.       | If within site ownership fell both dead elm trees. | <10                                   | U           | 2.4                              |
| 32          | S                       | Oak                                       | 13         | 700                           | 1               | 1                   | 4                         | 6        | 5        | 6        | M         | G                       | G                    | Oak in roadside verge to the south of Melksham Road, rooting likely developed with a bias to the south due to Melksham Road, good condition. | None.                                              | 40+                                   | B2          | 8.4                              |
| 33          | S                       | Ash                                       | 13         | 620                           | 1               | 3                   | 5                         | 5        | 4        | 4        | M         | P                       | F                    | Ash with prolific arboreal ivy and symptomatic of Ash Dieback Disease.                                                                       | None.                                              | <10                                   | C2          | 7.4                              |

| Table Heading                          | Definition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tree Number                            | Tree numbers as they appear in the Tree Schedule and are marked on the Tree Protection Plan drawings.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Single or group                        | S for a single tree, G for a group of trees and H for a hedge                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Species                                | The common name of the tree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Height (m)                             | In meters measured with a laser clinometer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Calculated stem diameter (mm)          | Calculated diameter of the stem(s) measured in millimetres at 1.5 meters from ground level                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Number of stems                        | Indicates the number of stems measured to inform the Root Protection Area                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Crown clearance (m)                    | Height in metres of crown clearance above adjacent ground level                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Crown spread (m)                       | The spread of the crown measured in metres, taken at the four cardinal points from the trunk                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Age class                              | (Np) Newly planted, (Y) Young, (SM) Semi-Mature, (EM) Early mature, (M) Mature, (A) Ancient or (V) Veteran                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Physiological condition                | Good – tree has good health and vitality. Fair- tree has minor health and vitality problems. Poor- tree has low vitality and significant health problems. Dead- dead tree.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Structural condition                   | G-good P- poor F- Fair D-dead                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Condition notes                        | Specific notes relating to the condition of the tree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Recommendations                        | Recommendations for tree surgery based on any physical defects found or for further investigation of defects that require a more detailed assessment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Estimated remaining contribution       | In years <10, 10+, 20+ or 40+                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| RPA (Root Protection Area) Radius (m): | The radius of the area in square metres that will need to be protected during construction with a protective fence and/or load bearing surface                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Category grading Category              | <p><b>Category A:</b> Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years</p> <p><b>Category B:</b> Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years</p> <p><b>Category C:</b> Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter &lt;150mm</p> <p><b>Category U:</b> Trees in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years</p> |
| TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE KEY               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

## Appendix D: Tree survey methodology

### The tree survey

A baseline tree survey is carried out by a qualified arboriculturalist, from ground level, in accordance with the methodology set out in *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*.

The results of the tree survey are used to establish material constraints arising from existing trees and is intended to be used (along with any other relevant baseline data) to inform feasibility studies and design options. For this reason, the tree survey should be completed and made available to the design team independently of any specific proposals for the development of a site.

The tree survey will include all individual trees, tree groups, woodlands and hedges within influencing distance of the proposed development site. Trees will ordinarily be recorded as individuals but may be recorded as groups if there is no need to differentiate between the trees in the group.

The quality of each tree or group of trees is recorded by allocating it to one of four categories along with a sub-category in accordance with the *BS5837:2012* Cascade chart for tree quality assessment. A category rating of either A, B, C or U is allocated based on the condition of a tree or group of trees in its/their current surroundings. No consideration is given to any specific development proposal when allocating category ratings, category definitions are detailed below:

| Category | Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> | <i>Trees or groups which have high quality and value, are in good structural and physiological condition and are expected to have a useful life expectancy of at least another 40 years- indicated in green on the associated plans</i>                                                                                           |
| <b>B</b> | <i>Trees or groups which would be considered as category A trees but which are of lower value, poorer structural condition, or which are expected to have a useful life expectancy of a minimum of 20 years- indicated in blue on the associated plans</i>                                                                        |
| <b>C</b> | <i>Trees or groups which are of low quality and value, trees currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting is established or are young trees with a stem diameter less than 150mm. Category C trees are expected to have a life expectancy of a minimum of 10 years- indicated in grey on the associated plans</i> |
| <b>U</b> | <i>Trees or groups in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within ten years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management- indicated in red on associated plans</i>                                                                                       |

*BS5837:2012 Tree categorisation criteria*

**Sub categories** are awarded in accordance with the following criteria:

| Sub category | Inclusion criteria                                            |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1            | <i>Trees with arboricultural value</i>                        |
| 2            | <i>Trees with landscape value</i>                             |
| 3            | <i>Trees with cultural or conservation (ecological) value</i> |

*BS5837:2012 Tree sub-category criteria*

Data for all trees, groups and hedges within influencing distance of the proposed development site is recorded in a tree survey schedule in accordance with *BS5837: 2012*. Trees are not physically tagged (unless we are instructed to do so) but are assigned individual numbers that are used to identify the tree, tree group, woodland or hedgerow throughout the report, within the Tree Survey Schedule and on the associated plans. The following information is collected for each tree in the survey:

Tree or group number; Single or group category; Common name of species; Height in metres; Number of stems; Stem diameter; Clearance of crown from ground level in metres; Crown spread in cardinal directions; Age class; Physiological condition; Structural condition; Estimated remaining contribution in years; Preliminary management recommendations; Tree categorisation; Radius in metres of the **Root Protection Area (RPA)**.

All measurements are taken using a stem diameter measuring tape, laser clinometer and laser distance measuring device. Where site constraints prevent the use of a measuring device the measurement is estimated and is suffixed with a '#' symbol in the tree survey schedule.

### Root protection areas

Below ground constraints or Root Protection Areas (**RPAs**) for all trees included in the site survey are calculated in accordance with *BS5837:2012 4.6.1*. The RPA is a layout design tool indicating the minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure should be treated as a priority, the RPA does not represent the entire root system of a tree.

The RPAs are plotted onto the associated plans as a circle centred on the base of each tree stem with a radius of 12 times the trees stem diameter measured at 1.5 metres above ground level. For tree groups the largest stem diameter in the group is used to set the RPA.

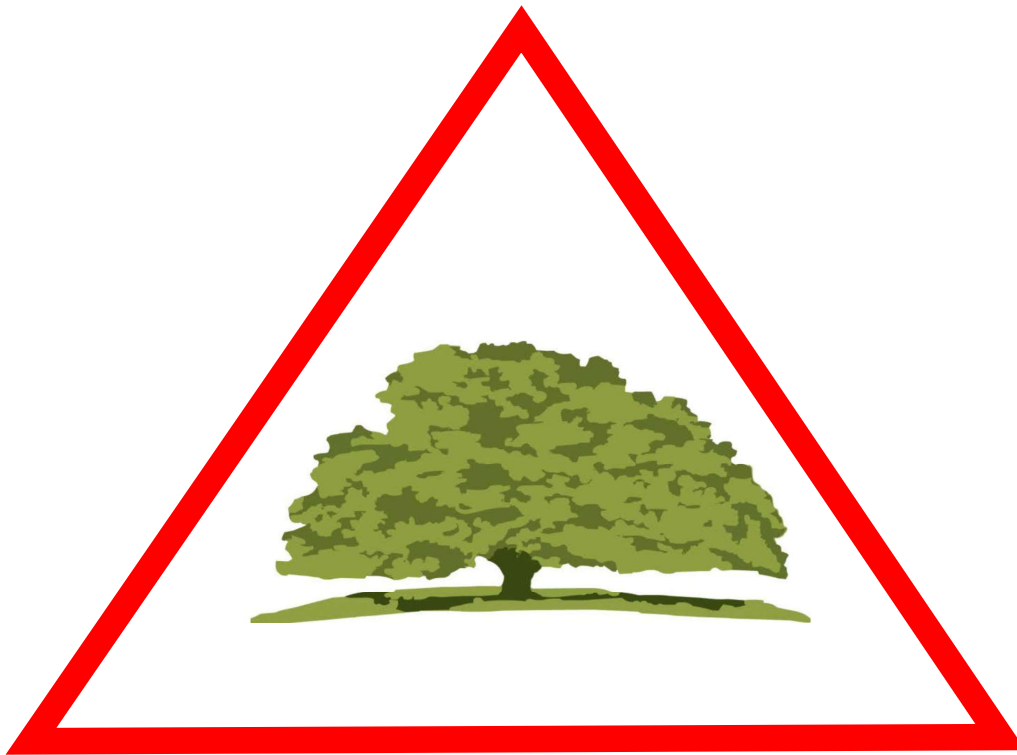
If deemed appropriate by the arboricultural surveyor the individual stem diameters of trees within a group may be taken in order to set an accurate group RPA boundary whilst still recording all trees within the group as a single group record.

*BS5837:2012 4.6.2* requires that where pre-existing site conditions or other factors indicate that rooting has occurred asymmetrically the RPA should be modified to produce a polygon of an equivalent area. Any trees on site identified as requiring a modification to their RPA are indicated within the AIA.

## Appendix E: Example tree protection warning sign



**No access past this point  
for construction activity**



**TREES ENCLOSED BY THESE BARRIERS ARE LEGALLY  
PROTECTED BY PLANNING CONDITION**

**THIS BARRIER MUST NOT BE MOVED OR ALTERED  
WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL  
PLANNING AUTHORITY**

**DO NOT ACCESS OR STORE MATERIALS IN THE AREA  
BEHIND THIS BARRIER**