

REDCLIFFE HOMES

LAND NORTH OF DEVIZES ROAD, HILPERTON

**BS:5837 COMPLIANT ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT &
ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT**

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CLIENT Redcliffe Homes

PROJECT Land north of Devizes Road, Hilperton

REPORT TITLE BS:5837 Arboricultural Impact Assessment & Method Statement

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REPORT REVISIONS

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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1 David Jarvis Associates have been commissioned by Redcliffe Homes ('The Applicant') to provide an Arboricultural Report to support an outline planning application, with all matters reserved except for the main point of access from Devizes Road, for the demolition of existing building, and development of up to 80 dwellings, public open space, drainage, landscaping and ancillary works.

Scope

- 1.2 The scope and level of detail included in this report, complies with the requirements of British Standard (BS) 5837:2012 *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations* (BS:5837 Table B.1) and includes reference to the following:
- Arboricultural Impact Assessment
 - Arboricultural Method Statement
 - Tree Protection Plan.
- 1.3 This report should also be read in conjunction with the arboricultural survey ref: 3461-2-6-DR-002-P1 Tree Protection Plan.
- 1.4 The British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction' is designed to assist those concerned with trees in relation to construction to form balanced judgments. This report does not therefore seek to put arguments for or against development but provides a means of protecting trees which may be affected during development.
- 1.5 The report is for the sole use of the client and their appointed agents. Its reproduction or use by anyone else is forbidden unless written consent is given by the author.

2. PLANNING POLICY

Local Planning Policy

- 2.1 Policy 51 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy Core Policy 51 seeks to protect, conserve and enhance Wiltshire's distinctive landscape character.

Landscape Development should protect, conserve and where possible enhance landscape character and must not have a harmful impact upon landscape character, while any negative impacts must be mitigated as far as possible through sensitive design and landscape measures.

Proposals should be informed by and sympathetic to the distinctive character areas identified in the relevant Landscape Character Assessment(s) and any other relevant assessments and studies. In particular, proposals will need to demonstrate that the following aspects of landscape character have been conserved and where possible enhanced through sensitive design, landscape mitigation and enhancement measures:

- i. The locally distinctive pattern and species composition of natural features such as trees, hedgerows, woodland, field boundaries, watercourses and waterbodies. (...)*

Proposals for development outside of an AONB that is sufficiently prominent (in terms of its siting or scale) to have an impact on the area's special qualities (as set out in the relevant management plan), must also demonstrate that it would not adversely affect its setting.

- 2.2 The site sits in the Avon Vale Countryside Character Area and the Trowbridge Rolling Clay Lowland (11C) Wiltshire Landscape Character assessment area

The broad management objectives of the WLCA 11C are:

- To retain and manage the dense hedgerow network and nurture new hedgerow trees.
- Consider strengthening the enclosed character of the landscape and screening views to intrusive urban edges through nurturing existing and planting new woodland

National planning policy

- 2.3 The National Planning Policy Framework 2024 requires planning policies and decisions to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment.

Para 136 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2024.

Trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments, and can also help mitigate and adapt to climate change. Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new streets are tree-lined⁵², 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.

Applicants and local planning authorities should work with highways officers and tree officers to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places, and solutions are found that are compatible with highways standards and the needs of different users.

3. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Introduction

- 3.1 The purpose of this Arboricultural Impact Assessment is to evaluate the direct and indirect effects of the proposed residential development and associated infrastructure and landscaping works on the adjacent trees.
- 3.2 The assessment will take account of the effects of any potentially damaging activities proposed near the trees growing on and adjacent to the site. Where conflict is identified, this report will recommend solutions or mitigation as appropriate.

Soil

- 3.3 The British Geological Survey 1:50 000 scale bedrock geology description for this area is 'Cornbrash Formation'. This formation consists of mainly of mudstone although Cornbrash Formation can also contain clay. The soil may therefore be vulnerable to damage from waterlogging and compaction and may also have capacity to shrink and swell with changes in ground water levels.
- 3.4 Foundation depths should be calculated in accordance with NHBC Chapter 4.2 following on-site soil investigations and taking into account the presence of any shrinkable soils and future growth of the adjacent trees and vegetation.

Plotting the Root Protection Areas

- 3.5 The British Standard 5837 advises that a Root Protection Area (RPA) should initially be plotted as a circle centred on the base of the stem. However, where pre-existing site conditions or other factors exist which indicate that rooting has occurred asymmetrically, a polygon of equivalent area should be produced. Modifications to the shape of the RPA should reflect soundly based arboricultural assessment of the likely root distribution.
- 3.6 The site consists of an agricultural field and paddocks with a residential property and stable block to the east. Trees on site are considered 'open grown' with no significant structures within their rooting areas which could have otherwise caused individual trees to root asymmetrically.
- 3.7 Tree rooting areas have therefore been plotted as circles which is a fair representation of their likely rooting pattern and root distribution.

Trees Appraisal

Total number of individual trees surveyed:	128
Total number of tree groups surveyed:	20
Number of category 'A' trees / groups:	1
Number of category 'B' trees / groups:	23
Number of category 'C' trees / groups:	107
Number of category 'U' trees:	16

Figure 1 – Tree Quality Summary

3.8 The following trees / tree groups will be removed to facilitate the build:

Ref.	Species	General Observations	BS:5837 Cat.
T027	Western Red Cedar	Young, dense group of golden conifers	C2
T028	Flowering Cherry	Pronounced discrepancy around basal graft point.	C2
T029	Flowering Cherry	Pronounced discrepancy around basal graft point.	C2
T030	Small-leaved Lime	Young tree, in decline.	C1
T031	Rowan	Small tree, poor form.	C2
T032	Rowan	Small tree, poor form.	C2
T033	Silver Birch	Swept lower trunk, reasonable vitality.	B1
T034	Copper Beech	Good form and vitality, with potential	A1
T035	Silver Birch	Reasonable form and vitality.	B1
T036	Rowan	Small tree, low vitality.	C2
T037	Silver Birch	Reasonable form and vitality.	C2
T038	Cherry	Small tree, suppressed.	B1
T039	Cotoneaster	Small tree, poor form.	C2
T040	Silver Birch	Reasonable form and vitality.	C2
T041	Silver Birch	Reasonable form, foliage slightly sparse.	B1
T042	Cockspur thorn	Large shrub / small tree. Reasonable form & vitality.	C1
T043	Mixed species	Mature coppice stools and multi-stem lime.	C1
T044	Cherry	Small tree, reasonable form and vitality	C2
T047	Redwood	Topped dense tree, under power lines	C1
T048	Lawson Cypress	Blue ornamental	C2
T049	Lawson Cypress	Blue ornamental	C2
T050	Apple	Suppressed fruit tree	C2
T051	Flowering Cherry	Pronounced discrepancy around basal graft point.	C2
T052	Lawson Cypress	Stocky conifer, reasonable vitality.	C2
T053	Western Red Cedar	Stocky conifer, fair form and vitality.	C2
T054	Western Red Cedar	Stocky conifer, fair form and vitality.	C2
T055	Western Red Cedar	Stocky conifer, fair form and vitality.	C2
T056	Ash	Multi-stem tree growing in an unsustainable location.	C1
T058	Leyland Cypress	Established conifer hedge	C2
T060	Plum	Small fruit tree	C2
T061	Western Red Cedar	Obscured by dense elder growth	C1
T063	Common Hawthorn	Asymmetrical canopy due to adjacent hedge	C2
T064	Common Hawthorn	Small tree	C2
T065	Common Hawthorn	Small tree	C2
T066	Common Hawthorn	Small tree	C2
T067	Red Oak	Foliage sparse, low vitality.	B1
T068	Mixed species	Mixed group of broadleaf trees.	B2
T069	Common Hawthorn	Small tree	C2
T074	Western Red Cedar	Recently planted hedge, not yet topped to form hedge	C2
T088	Lombardy Poplar	Prominent landscape feature	B1
T089	Lombardy Poplar	No access	C2
T090	Lombardy Poplar	No access	C2
T091	Field Maple	Small native tree	B1
T092	Flowering Cherry	Small native tree	C2
T093	Monterey Cypress	Mature conifer in group of three	C2
T094	Monterey Cypress	Mature conifer in group of three	C2
T095	Monterey Cypress	Mature conifer in group of three	C2
T096	Field Maple	Small native tree.	C2
T097	Mixed species	Saplings and shrubby understorey.	C2
T146	Black Elder	Necrotic bark & saprophytic fungal fruiting bodies present	C1,2

Figure 2 – Trees to be removed to facilitate the build.

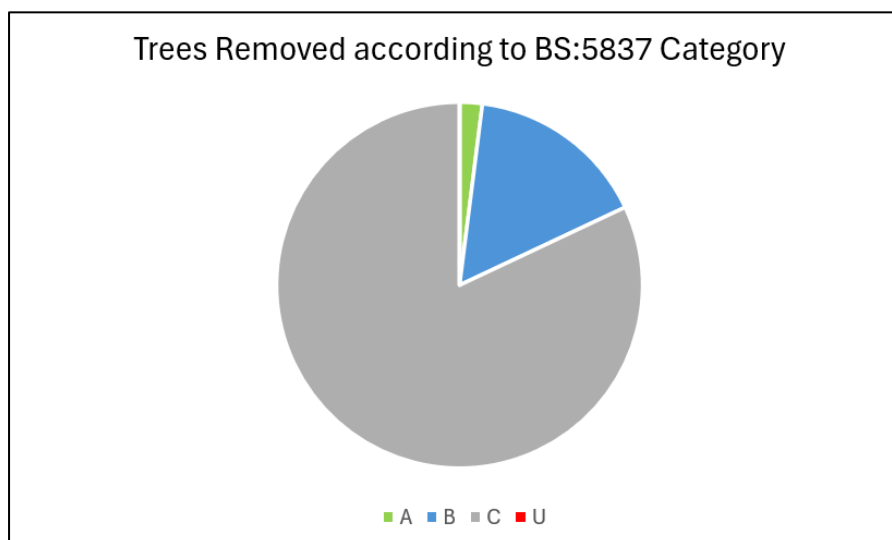


Figure 3 – BS: 5837 (2012) Categorisation of trees removed to facilitate the build.

- 3.9 Category 'C' trees account for 82% of all trees which will be removed to facilitate the build. These are low-grade trees which would not usually pose a constraint to development.
- 3.10 Nine trees / tree groups are higher graded category 'A' or 'B' trees which make up 18% of the trees removed on site. Although the loss of higher-grade trees is always regrettable, on this occasion, the removal of these few selective individual specimens will allow a more organic and liveable site layout.
- 3.11 Provision has been made for a robust scheme of replacement trees and landscape planting. This will include trees in both public open space and private residential gardens. Avenue trees will be planted along the main access road as a prominent landscape feature.
- 3.12 Furthermore, the design layout allows for the planting of potentially large-growing specimen trees which will enhance the character and quality of the residential environment. This will help mitigate the effects of climate change and the urban heat island effect within the development.

Development within trees' rooting areas

Ref:	Species	BS:5837 Category	Comments	BS:5837 RPA	Mitigation
T025	Lime	B1,2	Reasonable form & vitality.	3.4m radius	No-dig structure for hoggin pathway

Figure 4 – Data for new development within rooting areas of retained trees.

- 3.13 The default position in the 5837 ('Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction') is that new structures are located outside the RPAs of trees to be retained. However, where there is an overriding justification for construction within the RPA, technical solutions might be available that prevent damage to the tree(s).
- 3.14 The British standard also advises (par.7.4.2.3) that any new permanent hard surfacing should not exceed 20% of any existing unsurfaced ground within the RPA.

- 3.15 Under the Outline scheme, the new pedestrian footpaths encroaches 7m² into the RPA of T025 (Lime) – 26m². This incursion equates to 18% of the previously undeveloped root protection area of the tree, below the threshold of what is acceptable within the British Standard. Detailed design will review this but as a precautionary measure, if the footpath position cannot be adjusted at detailed design, the footpaths will be constructed as a raised, porous, no-dig lightweight path on a cellular confinement subbase so that tree roots can grow and thrive under the footpaths on completion of the build.
- 3.16 T025 is a young tree and this minor encroachment the development is not expected to cause harm to its long-term health or stability.

Post Development Sustainability

- 3.17 None of the proposed dwellings or residential gardens are likely to be excessively shaded by trees and the design layout provides a good and sustainable gap between the canopies of the retained trees and the new residential properties - with an allowance for future tree growth.
- 3.18 Foundation depths must be calculated in accordance with NHBC Chapter 4.2 following on-site soil investigations and considering the presence of any shrinkable soils and future growth of the adjacent vegetation to ensure the development is sustainable in the face of climate change.

Temporary Tree Protection

- 3.19 Retained trees can be fully protected during the build process with fit for purpose Tree Protection Barriers & Temporary Ground Protection installed in accordance with BS:5837 (2012).

Conclusions

- 3.20 50 trees / tree groups have been identified for removal to facilitate the proposed building work, 41 of which are lower-grade category 'C' trees which would not usually pose a significant constraint to the development of a site.
- 3.21 Peripheral trees and tree groups have been retained where possible in order to maintain the enclosed character of the landscape, screening urban edges from the adjacent public highway.
- 3.22 There will be a good and sustainable gap between the canopies of the retained trees and the adjacent residential properties not to cause any foreseeable issues in the future.
- 3.23 A robust scheme of landscape planting looks to mitigate the loss of tree cover and where trees are to be removed, they will be replaced with new groups of trees (for habitat and screening) and specimen individual trees (for amenity value) to mitigate tree loss.
- 3.24 Replacement trees will be of a species; and planted in a location, where they can grow to a similar stature as the mature trees which they are replacing, without foreseeable interference or conflict with residential properties or restricting access in the future.
- 3.25 A previous application for the southern part of the same site received no objection from the Arboricultural Officer. The approach taken is similar and this application is supported by detailed Arboricultural Method Assessment to demonstrate how the retained trees on site will be protected during the building works and a robust scheme of landscape planting to enhance the amenity and character of the new development.

4. ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Introduction

- 4.1 The correct and timely installation of tree protection measures such as tree protection fencing & temporary ground protection is critical to ensure the long-term retention of a healthy tree stock on or adjacent to the development.
- 4.2 This method statement will be read, approved and agreed to by all key personnel prior to the commencement of works within the site.
- 4.3 To ensure a commitment from all parties to the healthy retention of the trees, Tree Protection details – to include the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan, will be passed to all contractors working on site, so that the practical aspects of the required tree protection is included in their method statements, and financial provision made for these.
- 4.4 A copy of the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan will be available on site for reference.
- 4.5 **WARNING: FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT ONCE APPROVED CAN CAUSE IRREPARABLE HARM TO TREES AND MAY INVALIDATE THE PLANNING CONSENT.**

Phasing of works

STAGE 1 (PRE-COMMENCEMENT)

FACILITATIVE TREE WORKS



ERECTION OF TREE PROTECTION FENCING
& SITE HOARDING



PRE-COMMENCEMENT SITE MEETING
(NOTIFY LOCAL AUTHORITY -MIN 5 DAYS)



STAGE 2 (DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION)

SITE MONITORING EVERY 8-10 WEEKS



GROUND WORKS & CONSTRUCTION
TREE PROTECTION MEASURES TO REMAIN RIGID & INTACT



STAGE 3 (POST DEVELOPMENT)

REMOVE TREE PROTECTION FENCING, SITE HOARDING
& TEMPORARY SITE BUILDINGS
(NOTIFY LOCAL AUTHORITY -MIN 5 DAYS)



TOPSOIL AND PLANTING OPERATIONS

Site Supervision and Monitoring

- 4.6 The build project requires works activities in arboriculturally sensitive areas and will require an auditable system of arboricultural site monitoring during ground works and construction.
- 4.7 A pre-commencement site visit will be held once the Tree Protection Fencing is installed as shown on the Tree Protection Plan and prior to the commencement of building works on site. The Local Authority Tree Officer will be given a minimum of five days' notice of the time and date of the meeting so that they may attend should they wish to do so.
- 4.8 The purpose of the pre-commencement meeting will be to confirm the location and construction of the Tree Protection Measures and ensure a common understanding of the requirements for Tree Protection within the site. If the Local Planning Authority is unable to attend, photographic evidence of the tree protection fencing will be emailed to the appointed planning officer once it has been erected.
- 4.9 All tree protection measures shall also be routinely monitored by an appointed and suitably qualified Arboricultural Advisor at 8-10-week intervals for the duration of all works. A signed copy of the inspection report will be sent to Wiltshire Council's Planning Department following each visit.
- 4.10 The schedule proposed here for Arboricultural monitoring is considered proportionate to the arboricultural issues and intensity of development within the site.

Timings	Comments	Attendees	Action
Pre-commencement	The Site Manager is to be provided with a copy of the Arboricultural Method Statement to read. He or she will raise any questions they may have regarding the Tree Protection requirements for the site with the appointed Arboricultural Consultant.	N/A	Site Manager and Arboricultural Consultant to agree tree protection measures on site. If this discussion results in the need for any deviation or changes to the recommendations in the Arboricultural Method Statement will be highlighted to the Local Authority.
Pre-commencement	Site visit to be held once the Tree Protection Measures are instated as identified in this report	Arb Consultant Site / Project Manager Build Foreman (LA Tree Officer)	Confirm the location and construction of the Tree Protection Measures and ensure a common understanding of the requirements for Tree Protection within the site – LPA updated.
During Construction	Appointed Arb Consultant to monitor site and visit every 8-10 weeks during active building works.	Arb Consultant	Confirm Tree Protection Measures are still rigid and in place. Advise on any modifications required. LPA updated.
Post construction	Prior to the removal of Tree Protection Fencing	Arb Consultant Site / Project Manager Build Foreman (LA Tree Officer)	Retained trees inspected. Further landscaping operations and restrictions to be agreed. LA updated.

Figure 5 – (Table) Schedule for Site Supervision

On-site Supervisor

- 4.11 There will be a designated on-site Supervisor who will be responsible for ensuring no works are undertaken on site except in complete accordance with the approved Arboricultural Method Statement when the Arboricultural Consultant is not present.

The on-site Supervisor will:

- Be present on site most of the time.
 - Be aware of the arboricultural responsibilities relating to the retained trees on site.
 - Have the authority to stop any work that will, or have the potential to, cause harm to any tree.
 - Be responsible for ensuring that all site personnel are aware of their responsibilities towards trees on site and the consequences of the failure to observe those responsibilities.
 - Make immediate contact with Wiltshire Council and/or the retained arboriculturalist in the event of any related tree problems occurring whether actual or potential.
 - To ensure a commitment from all parties to the healthy retention of the trees. These details will be passed to any contractors working on site, so that the practical aspects of the above precautions are included in their method statements, and financial provision made for these.
 - Notify the local authority 5 days prior to the tree protection measures being removed on completion of development.
- 4.12 The designated on-site Project Arboricultural Supervisor will be responsible for ensuring no works are undertaken on site except in complete accordance with the approved Arboricultural Method Statement.
- 4.13 A copy of the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan will be available on site for reference.

Tree Works

- 4.14 In addition to the tree felling listed in Figure 2 (Page 8 & 9), the following pruning works are also required in order to facilitate the build.

Ref.	Species	Work required	BS:5837 Cat.
T026	Beech	Partially clear and cut back beech hedge to the edge of the proposed new footpath.	C2

Figure 6 – (Table) Facilitative tree works

Tree Works Best Practice

- 4.15 All tree works shall be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.
- 4.16 No vehicles will be driven under the canopies of retained trees onto unprotected ground during the tree work operations.
- 4.17 Chippings arising from the work will not be piled around the bases of trees on or off the site. Wood, brash and any other arisings from the tree work will not be burnt on site.
- 4.18 A properly qualified and experienced company will be employed who carry Public and Products Liability Insurance with a minimum of £2,000,000 cover and the relevant Employers Liability Insurance. A List of approved contractors is available from the Arboricultural Association – www.trees.org.uk.

Protected Species

- 4.19 In accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act - 1981, Conservation - Natural Habitats - Regulations 1994 and Countryside Rights of Way Act - 2000, the developer will consider the timing and type of tree work operations to avoid causing disturbance to any nesting or breeding birds or bat roosts that may be present within trees.
- 4.20 It is an offence (subject to exceptions) to intentionally kill, injure, or take, possess, or trade in any wild animal listed, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places.
- 4.21 Non-urgent major tree work involving tree removal or reduction and hedge cutting operations should not be undertaken during the bird nesting or breeding season, which is from 1 March to 31 July. However, depending on seasonal temperatures, some birds continue breeding into August and September.
- 4.22 All wild birds, their young, their eggs and active nests are protected under law. It is an offence to damage a nest intentionally while it is in use or being built and hedge cutting is highly likely to damage nests or cause them to be deserted.

Tree Protection Fencing

- 4.23 No works in relation to the ground works will be undertaken, including construction, excavation, or demolition, prior to the Tree Protection Fencing being installed as identified in the Tree Protection Plan.
- 4.24 The Tree Protection Fencing will consist of interlocking weld-mesh panels (e.g. Heras), well braced by attachment to scaffold pole uprights driven firmly into the ground. (See Appendix 2)
- 4.25 All-weather signage stating '**TREE PROTECTION AREA – KEEP OUT**' will be attached to the outer perimeter of the Tree Protection Fencing. A sample sign is attached in Appendix 3 of this report.
- 4.26 The fencing will be located to protect the trees and their rooting areas and will remain rigid and complete during the demolition and ground works.
- 4.27 At no time will Tree Protection Fencing be removed or relocated contrary to the recommendations in this report, without professional arboricultural advice and without the prior consent of the Local Authority Tree Officer.
- 4.28 The appointed Site Manager will notify the Tree Officer once Tree Protection Measures are installed on site and 5 days prior to the Protection Fencing being removed on completion of ground works so that a representative from the Local Authority may visit the site if considered necessary.

Construction Exclusion Zones

- 4.29 The area behind the tree protection barriers is designated the Construction Exclusion Zone and is to be isolated from all activity during work on the site.
- 4.30 Construction Exclusion Zones are to remain completely undisturbed for the duration of all development works. No construction activity of any description including (but not limited to) the following will occur within these areas at any time:
- No excavation of any description.
 - No storage, disposal of soil, rubble or materials of any other description.
 - No alterations to existing levels or ground conditions.
 - No vehicular access, parking or use of any tracked or wheeled machinery of any description.
 - No tree works, without the written consent of the Council's Tree Service.
 - No erection of temporary structures of any description.
 - No storage disposal handling or use of any Chemicals including cement washings.
 - No fixtures or fittings of any description, security lighting, signage etc shall be attached to any part of a tree.
 - No fires shall be lit within 10 metres of the canopies of any tree or spread of any hedge.
 - No chemicals, fuel, liquids/waste residues of any other description to be stored or disposed of within close proximity to or drained towards/into protection areas.
 - No storage, parking, vehicle movement or pedestrian activity, temporary or otherwise, within the construction exclusion zone at any time.

No-Dig Pathway

- 4.31 Within the RPA of T025 (Lime) the new pedestrian footpath will be constructed on a no-dig subbase.
- 4.32 Existing vegetation within the footpath footprint will be killed off using a systemic 'Glyphosate' based weed killer which when used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions will not have any long-term detriment on tree roots or reside in the soil post application.
- 4.33 The site will be prepared by manually removing all debris and plant matter a minimum of seven days' post herbicide application. Vegetation can also be carefully scraped back using the bucket of a long-armed excavator positioned outside of the tree's rooting areas and removing no more than 30mm of turf & roots.
- 4.34 Once clear of vegetation, the ground will be levelled with a coarse pH neutral sand or shingle raked on site by pedestrian operatives to avoid compacting the soil and damaging tree roots.
- 4.35 Timber or aluminium edging boards will be installed to provide an upstand of approximately 200mm between the ground level and finished path surface in order to contain the aggregate as per the manufacturer's recommendations.
- 4.36 A Geotextile Fabric will be laid across the site, overlapping adjacent rolls by a minimum of 150mm. It may be necessary to lightly pin the Geotextile in place until the overlying layers are installed.
- 4.37 A Cell web system (manufactured by Geosynthetics or similar) 150mm deep will then be opened out and pinned in place between the kerbs. Pin spacing will generally be required at 1m – 2m centres on flat surfaces, mainly placed around the perimeter of the area and where adjacent sections of the cellular confinement system abut each other, with less in the middle of the area.
- 4.38 The open cells will be filled with crushed 20/40 stone. If this is not available 4/20 stone can be used. In all situations the infill material should be washed or graded so that it contains no fine particles (fines). The aggregate must have enough internal strength to perform both during installation and in the long term. MOT Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3 are not suitable for use as infill because they contain fines.
- 4.39 Once the no-dig subbase is installed the footpath can be surfaced with a porous hoggin or gravel surface layer installed in accordance with the engineers' recommended specifications.
- 4.40 Where necessary, following completion of the development, a short incline of topsoil can be added to grade the edge of the path to meet the adjacent ground level.

General Considerations

- 4.41 Building foundations should be constructed in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations in NHBC Chapter 4.2 taking into account the presence of any potentially shrinkable clay soil and the future growth of existing trees adjacent to new buildings.
- 4.42 There shall be no tree works aside from those as specified within Section 3.8 of the approved Arboricultural Method Statement without the prior written consent of the Council's Tree Service. Approved Tree works shall be undertaken in accordance with BS:3998 2010 'Tree Work Recommendations'.
- 4.43 Chippings arising from tree work will not be piled around the bases of trees.

- 4.44 No vehicles will be driven onto unprotected ground where trees may be rooting at any point during the tree work.
- 4.45 Particular care will be taken in the planning of deliveries if they require wide or tall loads and plants with booms, rigs or counterweights which can cause serious and permanent damage to trees and low branches making their safe retention impossible.
- 4.46 No excavation or changes in ground levels is permitted within the rooting areas of retained trees during or on completion of the construction works
- 4.47 Storage and disposal of soil, rubble or materials of any other description will be outside of the root protection areas of trees and well away from the construction exclusion zones.
- 4.48 Building waste including lightweight packaging / foam etc. will be stored and disposed of responsibly and will not be permitted to be windblown offsite.
- 4.49 There shall be no erection or installation of temporary structures of any description on soft landscaped areas where trees may be rooting.
- 4.50 No fixtures or fittings such as security lighting, signage etc. shall be attached to any part of a tree.
- 4.51 There will be no open fires on site during the building works.
- 4.52 Chemicals, fuel, liquids/waste residues of any other description will be stored on a non porous plastic membrane and not disposed of or allowed to run off into soft landscaped areas.
- 4.53 Any transit or traverse of plant in proximity to the trees and or tree protection barriers will be conducted under the supervision of a banksman to ensure that adequate clearance from trees is maintained.

Unforeseen Circumstances

- 4.54 In the event of unforeseen circumstances whereby it is not possible to work in accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement then advice should be sought immediately from a qualified Arboriculturist.
- 4.55 **THERE SHALL BE NO DEVIATION FROM THIS METHOD STATEMENT WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH A QUALIFIED ARBORICULTURIST AND / OR THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY.**

5. POST CONSTRUCTION

Landscaping

5.1 Only on completion of all construction works and hard landscaping will the Tree Protection Fencing be removed in preparation for landscape planting.

5.2 The following rules will be followed during all future landscaping works:

- Tractor-mounted rotovators or other heavy mechanical cultivation must not be used within the Root Protection Areas or retained trees.
- Each new fenceline should include holes or gaps at ground level, a minimum of 100x100mm at no more than 10m spacings to allow small mammals such as hedgehogs to forage within across the site.
- Where new fencing is proposed, post holes within the identified rooting areas of trees will be dug using a post hole digger to keep hole size to a minimum. Where substantial roots over 30mm are encountered, the location of the hole will be moved in order to avoid them. Post holes will be fully lined in order to prevent concrete coming into direct contact with tree roots.
- New plants within the identified RPAs of retained trees will be in small pots (nothing larger than 3lt). All planting within RPA of existing trees shall be notched planted and locally adjusted to avoid tree roots. All shrub planting to be undertaken by hand using hand tools only to minimize root damage. If significant roots are encountered, these will be left undamaged and dug around.

Tree Planting

5.3 New trees will be planted within the next or current planting season November to March (whichever is soonest) on completion of the building project. Planting will be undertaken when soils are moist and free from frost.

5.4 Planting trees too deep is a major cause for premature decline. Tree planting pits will be dug to the same depth as the woody roots to prevent settlement and sinking post planting. The soil backfilled into the planting pit will consist of 1/3 organic matter (well rooted manure or other compost) with 2/3 existing soil.

5.5 During the third year the new plants will continue to be monitored, with irrigation resumed during periods of drought or where plants are showing signs of drought stress. Any new trees or plants which fail to establish and thrive, or which die, are removed or become seriously diseased within a period of 5 years following completion of the development, will be replaced with another of a similar size and species.

APPENDIX 1**Contacts****Arboricultural Consultant**

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Applicant

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Local Planning Authority

Wiltshire Council
Arboricultural Officer: Mr. David Wyatt

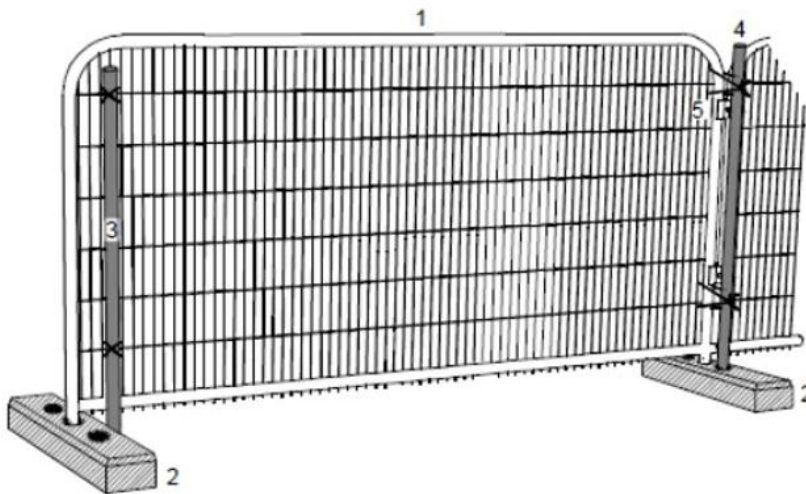
E: planningtrees@wiltshire.gov.uk

T: 0300 456 0114

APPENDIX 2

Tree Protection Fencing Structure

The TPF shall comprise of interlocking weld-mesh panels (e.g. Heras), well braced by attachment to scaffold pole uprights driven firmly into the ground. Should any alternative method of barrier construction be proposed, consultation with the project arboriculturist will be obtained to clarify the efficacy of the revised design prior to informing the local planning authority and obtaining their consent. Once the exclusion zone has been protected by barriers and/or ground protection, construction work can commence. All weather notices may be erected on the barriers



- 1: Weldmesh (e.g. Heras) Panels. 2: Concrete or rubber ground blocks
- 3: Scaffold pole uprights, driven firmly into ground, then secured to panel
- 4: Uprights driven into ground through fixture in ground block, then secured to panel.
- 5: Panels to be interlinked using scaffold clamps

APPENDIX 3**Tree Protection Signage**

APPENDIX 4

Qualifications

This Arboricultural report has been prepared by Sarah Duckworth, Independent Arboricultural Consultant, trading as Duckworth's Arboriculture Limited.

I have over 20 years' experience working in the field of Arboriculture and for the past 17 years I have worked as a Local Authority Tree Officer both directly and independently providing contracted support. Since 2010 I have worked as a private consultant carrying out a range of Arboricultural Reports and Assessments for private clients.

I hold the Royal Forestry Society's Professional Diploma (Level 6) for which I received the Lockhart Garrett Award. I also hold the Arboricultural Association's Technicians Certificate (with Distinction).

I am a LANTRA qualified Professional Tree Inspector and a Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association.