



Detailed Arboricultural Method Statement

Application no.	PL/2024/03221
Site address:	Stone Mill, Adjacent to The Shires and River Biss, River Biss Corridor, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8AT.
Arboricultural Consultants:	Jack Pine Trees Ltd, 122, Bloomfield Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 3RD. Tel: 0117 377 8432 Email: steve@jackpinetrees.co.uk
Local Planning Authority:	Wiltshire Council
Applicant:	Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, Elm Tree Court, Long Street, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1NJ.
Agent:	Tom Sandler, The Landmark Practice, Unit 1, Theynes Court, Long Ashton Business Park, Yanley Lane, Long Ashton, BS41 9LB.
Main Contractor:	Pennys Group Ltd.
Proposed Development:	Public realm enhancements including the installation of a viewing platform.
Date:	4th December 2025

This method statement has been prepared with reference to BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition & Construction- Recommendations, and in consultation with the Wiltshire Council Tree Officer and the main contractor.

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- - **Site Drawing, Tree Protection Plan with underground service details**
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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Jack Pine Trees Ltd were instructed by Connor Goddard of the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to prepare the following detailed Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) for the proposed installation of a viewing platform at Stone Mill, Adjacent to The Shires and River Biss, River Biss Corridor, Trowbridge, BA14 8XR. This AMS relates to the approved planning application PL/2024/03221 and is to discharge Condition 3 of the approval.
- 1.2 The AMS is compiled to ensure the safe and healthy retention of all trees that are to be retained on the development site at Stone Mill, River Biss Corridor, Trowbridge. Implementation of the method statement, protection measures and construction methods outlined within this report are integral to achieving this goal.
- 1.3 The AMS must be made available to all operatives on site during the construction process, for them to understand the scope and importance of the tree protection measures identified in this report. It should be read in conjunction with Penny's Site Specific Method Statement and Risk Assessment Revision 4 – 07.01.26.
- 1.4 For details of the trees to be retained, reference should be made to the supplementary 'Tree Protection Plan' (DWG No. 260209-RB-TPP-Rev A-NB, AM&SD).
- 1.5 The information contained in this AMS is in line with BS5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition & Construction - Recommendations'
- 1.6 The controlling planning authority is Wiltshire Council, Planning Services, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JN. The authority should be consulted on any matters related to the retained trees. The Tree Officer can be contacted on 0300 456 0100 or Planningtrees@wiltshire.gov.uk.

2.0 Phasing and Monitoring of the Development

- 2.1 If required, further discussions should be held between the Wiltshire Council Arboricultural Officer and the project arboriculturist to agree the tree protection measures, site supervision and reporting procedures relating to the progression of the development on this site.
- 2.2 The phasing of the works is outlined in the site schedule (Appendix 1).
- 2.3 The project arboriculturist will be responsible for monitoring all operations relating to arboricultural issues on site. These will include:
 - Pre-commencement tree work

- Location and erection of protective fencing
- Authorised works within the root protection area (RPA)

- 2.4 Arboricultural monitoring involves a site visit and completion of a standard Certificate of Compliance which must be completed by the project arborist and signed by the client, site manager or his representative. A copy is kept by the client, the project arboriculturist and one is forwarded to the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- 2.5 Arboricultural supervision is to be carried out at all crucial stages throughout the development process to ensure that all detailed tasks are carried out as per the approved methodology.
- 2.6 The site will also be inspected by the project arboriculturist on a regular basis to ensure that the tree protection measures are being adhered to.
- 2.7 Should any issue arise during the development that may result in damage to the trees and/or incursion into the exclusion zone then the project arboriculturist will be contacted for advice, who will in turn contact the LPA.

3.0 Tree Works

- 3.1 To accommodate the proposed development the following remedial works will be required:
- T1 - Swamp cypress - Crown lift to a height of approx. 3m over development site and adjacent footpath with 40-60mm pruning wounds.
 - T2 - White willow – Reduce low laterals by approx. 1-2m with pruning wounds of 20-30mm, to provide 1m clearance from the fence and footpath and 3m clearance above the footpath.
 - T3a – Weeping willow – Crown lift to approx. 3m over adjacent footpath with pruning wounds of approx. 40-60mm.
 - G4 – Sycamores – Crown lift to 3m above footpath with pruning wounds of approx. 10-30mm.
 - T5a – *Sorbus sp.* – Crown lift to approx. 3m by reducing low lateral limbs by approx. 0.5m with 10-20mm pruning wounds.
 - H5d – hedge – fell to ground level and remove.
 - G5e – Shrub group – fell to ground level and remove.
- 3.2 All works are to be carried out to BS3998: 2010 ‘Recommendations for Tree Works’.

4.0 Tree Protection

- 4.1 For details of the tree protection measures required for this site reference should be made to the tree protection plan drawing number 260209-RB-TPP-Rev A-NB,AM&SD)
- 4.2 Trees T1 – G3 will be protected by a run of Heras® fencing attached to the existing fence on the edge of the footpath, with a section running from the corner of the fence by T1 to the edge of the river. Their location and the tarmac surface of the footpath provides adequate protection during the construction phase of this project.
- 4.3 The trees T5a, T5b and T5c will be boxed in around their RPAs using Heras® fencing panels supported on composite feet. The RPA will also be protected by the paviour surface of the car park, and the crowns are lifted above the level of the TPF.
- 4.4 To protect trees adjacent to the construction zone a TPF will be installed along the front edge of the access drive, the turning and parking area and the track towards the bowl. The existing fence on the east side of the parking area will also be considered as tree protection fencing. This will prevent damage to the tree's stems during any vehicle movements, while the tarmac/concrete surface of the roads and parking area will protect the roots from compaction and spills.
- 4.5 Ground protection will be provided where necessary using plywood sheets to prevent compaction of the soil in the RPAs on the riverbank. Protective fencing will consist of weld mesh panels fixed onto rubber block fencing feet or attached to existing fencing along the edge of the footpath. They will provide a secure barrier and create a construction exclusion zone (CEZ) beyond the construction area.
- 4.6 The LPA will be notified once the protective fencing is in place.
- 4.7 The exclusion zones within the protective fencing will be considered sacrosanct and the protective fencing will remain in place until completion of the main construction phase and then only be removed with the consent of the LPA, to permit the completion of the scheme.
- 4.8 No excavation, demolition, construction or storage/dumping of materials will take place within the exclusion zone (as defined by the protective fencing) for the duration of the development works. The storage of materials and the mixing of cement will be restricted to the designated areas to be agreed in the detailed arboricultural method statement and located on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP).
- 4.9 Exclusion zone site notices will be attached to the protective fencing for the benefit of site personnel.

5.0 Installation of the viewing platform

- 5.1 The viewing platform will be installed in accordance with the Stone Mill Platform Structural Arrangement Plan Drawing Number 12808-CDY-ZZZZ-D-S-1600 Rev PO2 and will be delivered in accordance with the Penny's Site Specific Method Statement and Risk assessment: River Biss – Rev 4 17.01.2026.
- 5.2 The installation will require excavation within the RPAs of T1 & T2 to determine the location of the piles in relation to the existing concrete retaining walls, and for the installation of the piles and retaining walls required for this project.
- 5.3 Excavation of the retaining wall and mini pile location will be carried out by a specialist contractor as per agreed Driven Piles Methodology (Construction Method Statement page 14-16).
- 5.4 It will be determined whether pre-made piles will be used or if the piles will need to cast on site. Mixing of concrete will take place in the mixing area and transported and poured in accordance with the agreed method statement.
- 5.5 The steel work for the deck will be delivered and constructed on site before being lifted into place using a Hiab from the lifting zone. A banksman will be required to ensure that no contact or damage is caused with T1.
- 5.6 The Installation of the retaining walls, seating and fencing will be carried out in accordance with drawing 3601-TLP-XX-XX-DR-L-40004.
- 5.7 The final wearing course for the footpath will then be laid, before the construction phase is completed.

6.0 Hard and soft landscaping

- 6.1 On completion of the construction phase Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) will be achieved through the approved landscape scheme and Plant Schedule 3601-TLP-XX-XX-SH-L-90006.

7.0 General Comments

- 7.1 No site vehicular or pedestrian movement will take place within the exclusion zone without the prior approval of the LPA. Access to the site will be restricted to the new access drive for the duration of the construction period.
- 7.2 No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health such as oil, bitumen or cement will be stored or discharged within 2m of the exclusion zone. All materials are to be stored in the agreed areas.



7.3 No fires will be permitted as part of this development.

Appendix 1

Indicative Site Schedule River Biss Viewing Platform, Stone Mill, River Biss Corridor, Trowbridge, BA14 8AT.

River Biss Viewing Platform – Phasing of Development and Indicative Works Schedule

Phase 1 – Pre-development Stage

Prior to July 20th, 2026.

- Check for nesting birds/mammals/reptiles.
- Pre-development site clearance and tree work.
- Installation of tree protection fencing.

Week 1 - commencing July 20th, 2026.

- Check pre-development tree work and installation of tree protection fencing.
- Deliver Arboricultural Method Statement.
- Site meeting July 29th, 2026.
- Inform Wiltshire Council of commencement date.

Phase 2 – Demolition Phase

Week 2 - commencing July 27th, 2026.

- Works on site to commence.
- Toolbox talk by Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.
- Location of site office, welfare units, storage areas and mixing area to be agreed. See Tree protection Plan 260209-RB-TPP-Rev A-NB,AM&SD.
- Riverbank stabilization/Sedimat™ installation.
- All works to be carried out in accordance with Pennys Site Specific Method Statement and Risk Assessment Revision 4 – 07.01.2026.
- Demolition works undertaken as per DRG 3601-TLP-XX-XX-D-L-70003.
- Removal of existing structures and hard surfaces with small excavator with breaker attachment.
- Debris storage/skip location to be agreed.
- All waste materials to be segregated and disposed of following the contractor's site waste management protocols.

Phase 3 – Construction Phase

Week 3 - commencing August 3rd, 2026.

- Excavation of retaining wall and mini pile location by specialist contractor as per agreed Driven Piles Methodology (Construction Method Statement page 14-16).
- Excavation for piling caps beyond existing foundations – install ground protection if required.
- Determination of whether to use pre-made piles or cast piles on site.
- Arboricultural supervision site visit carried out August 5th, 2026, during retaining wall/pile investigation to determine presence of tree roots.

Week 4 - commencing August 10th, 2026.

- Casting of mini piles by specialist contractor as per agreed Driven Piles Methodology (Construction Method Statement page 14-16).
- Access for pile driver to be agreed.
- Mixing zone to be agreed.
- Mixing/pouring for pile installation and transport from mixing zone.

Week 5 - commencing August 17th, 2026.

- Cutting of pile heads once set.
- Delivery and fabrication of deck steel work.
- Lifting steel work into place using Hiab from lifting zone.
- Banksman required to prevent contact with retained trees.
- Arboricultural supervision site visit – August 19th, 2026, tbc.

Week 6 - commencing August 24th, 2026.

- Installation of deck surface.
- Installation of retaining walls, seating and fencing as shown in drawing 3601-TLP-XX-XX-DR-L-40004.

Week 7 – commencing August 31st, 2026

- Installation of wearing course on footpath.

Week 8 – commencing September 7th, 2026

- Arboricultural supervision to check site and TPF.
- Remove Tree Protection Fencing.
- Leave clean and tidy site.

Anticipated completion of building works end – September 18th, 2026.

Phase 4 – Post Development Stage



- Planting works will be in accordance with drawings 3601-TLP-XX-XX-D-L-30000 series and document 3601-TLP-XX-XX-SH-L-90006.

Anticipated completion of landscaping work and tree planting - November 2026.

Appendix 2

Tree Protection Plan River Biss Viewing Platform, Stone Mill, River Biss Corridor, Trowbridge, BA14 8AT.

**See Drawing Number: Stone Mill Tree Protection Plan -
260209-RB-TPP-Rev A-NB,AM&SD**

Appendix 3

Details of Tree Protection Fencing

Default specification for protective barrier.

