



Arboricultural Method Statement

Stepnell

**Minety Primary School
2 Sawyers Hill
Minety
Malmesbury
SN16 9QL**

Arbtech Project Reference: 43495568

15 July 2026

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Introduction

Arbtech Consulting Limited (Arbtech) received written instruction in March 2026 from Stepnell to attend Minety Primary School, 2 Sawyers Hill, Minety, Malmesbury, SN16 9QL (The Site – Arbtech Project Reference: 43495568) to undertake an arboricultural survey guided by British Standard 5837:2012: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations of all trees, hedges and major shrub groups growing on and/or within influencing distance of the site and to produce a Schedule of Trees, Tree Constraints Plan (TCP), Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA), Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) and Tree Protection Plan (TPP).

Executive Summary

A tree survey guided by British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations' ("BS5837") was carried out to include all trees within influencing distance of the proposed area for development.

This report has subsequently been produced, balancing the layout of the proposed development against the competing needs of retained trees. This report comprises all of the requisite elements of an arboricultural implications assessment, method statement, and any required supporting plans.

It is the conclusion of this report that if followed, the overall quality and longevity of the amenity contribution provided for by retained trees within and adjacent to the site will not be adversely affected as a result of the local planning authority consenting to the proposed development.

Table 1: Documents referred to

Document	Originator	Reference Number	Title
Survey base drawing	Footprint Architects	2425-FTP-XX-MSOC-DR-A-1004	Existing Ground Floor Plan
Proposed layout drawing	Footprint Architects	2425-FTP-XX-MSXX-DR-A-1005	Proposed Site Plan
Tree Schedule (TS)	Arbtech Consulting Ltd	TS 01	Tree Schedule
Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)	Arbtech Consulting Ltd	43495568 AIA 01	Arboricultural Impact Assessment
Tree Protection Plan (TPP)	Arbtech Consulting Ltd	43495568 TPP 01	Tree Protection Plan
Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)	Arbtech Consulting Ltd	43495568 AMS 01	Arboricultural Method Statment

Tree Survey

An arboricultural survey guided by British Standard 5837:2012: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations of all trees within impacting distance of the site was undertaken by Russell Pearce on 9 April 2026.

A total of 22No individual trees and 8No groups and hedges were surveyed.

For full details of all the trees surveyed, see Appendix 1: Tree Schedule.

Survey Limitations

The survey was made at ground level using visual observation only. Detailed examinations, such as climbing inspections and advanced decay detection equipment, were not employed, though they may form part of the survey's management recommendations. Measurements were taken using specialist tapes, lasers, and GPS devices. Where this was not possible, measurements are estimated. Inaccessible trees will have the best estimates made about their location, physical dimensions, and characteristics. Trees have been grouped where BS5837 guides us that it is expedient to do so. Trees have been excluded from the survey if they are found by us to be sufficiently far away from the proposed developable area or if they are outside of the red line boundary plan showing the expectations of our client for the extent of the survey.

Scope

Pre-development tree surveys make arboricultural management recommendations based exclusively upon the condition of the individual tree or group of trees relative to their present context (*i.e., not in relation to the proposed development*).

Legal Status

No statutory protection check has been performed. BS5837 does not draw any distinction between trees subject to statutory protection, such as a Tree Preservation Order ("TPO"), and those trees without, starting at Annex B:

The potential effect of development on trees, whether statutorily protected (e.g. by a tree preservation order or by their inclusion within a conservation area) or not, is a material consideration that is taken into account in dealing with planning applications.

Consequently, we do not seek to offer any comparison between or infer any difference in the quality or importance of TPO trees and other trees.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

An Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) guided by British Standard 5837:2012: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations was undertaken by Anthony Jones on 24 April 2026 to determine the potential conflicts between the proposed development scheme and existing trees located on and near the site and has subsequently produced this Arboricultural Method Statement to demonstrate how the proposed scheme can be successfully implemented without causing harm to retained trees.

Several issues may need to be addressed in an Arboricultural Impact Assessment between the trees and the proposed development. these are as follows:

- The effect and extent of the proposed development within the root protection areas (RPAs) of retained trees.
- The potential conflicts of the proposed development with canopies of retained trees.
- The likelihood of any future remedial works to retained trees beyond those that would have been scheduled as part of usual management.

Table 2: Impacts upon the RPAs of retained trees

Tree Number	Species	Structure	Incursion	
			(m2)	(%)
T3	Pedunculate oak	Fence	Insignificant	Insignificant
T7	Goat willow	New Hard Surfacing	7.88	8.6
T7	Goat willow	Fence	Insignificant	Insignificant
T16	Cherry plum 'Pissardii'	Fence	Insignificant	Insignificant
T17	Not identified	New Hard Surfacing	36.9	11.6
T17	Not identified	Fence	Insignificant	Insignificant

These impacts can be seen on the Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA 01). See Appendix 2: Tree Constraints Plan.

Trees to be Removed

A total of 1No individual tree and 1No hedge will require removal as part of this proposed scheme. A breakdown of all tree works can be seen in Table 6: Summary of tree works.

Table 3: Number of individual trees to be removed

U	A	B	C
0	0	0	1

Table 4: Number of groups to be removed

U	A	B	C
0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)

() = partial removal of a group

Arboricultural Method Statement

This Arboricultural Method Statement, AMS 01, demonstrates how any aspect of the development that could potentially result in tree loss or damage may be implemented and provides an adequate level of protection for trees that are to be retained during the proposed works.

Details of key site personnel, including the Site/Project Manager, will be submitted to the Council's Tree Officer before site works commence. This Arboricultural Method Statement, AMS 01, is to be approved and agreed to in writing by all key personnel before the commencement of any site works.

No site personnel are to be present, and no demolition, site clearance, building work, or material delivery is to occur until the protective measures are in accordance with this Arboricultural Method Statement, AMS 01, and the Tree Protection Plan, TPP 01. Unless otherwise specified, protective measures will remain unaltered and in situ for the entire duration of the construction.

Sequencing of works

A logical sequence of events is to be observed and shall be phased as follows:

Table 5: Sequencing of works

Stage	Event
Stage 1.	Undertake and complete tree works as specified within Table 6: Summary of tree works
Stage 2.	Installation of protective measures in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan(s) (TPP 01).
Stage 3.	Pre-commencement site meeting.
Stage 4.	Undertake and complete demolition of existing site features.
Stage 5.	Undertake and complete demolition of existing site features.
Stage 6.	Undertake and complete ground works.
Stage 7.	Undertake and complete construction works
Stage 8.	Undertake and complete hard landscaping works.
Stage 9.	Removal of all machinery and materials from the site.
Stage 10.	Dismantle and removal of protective tree measures.
Stage 11.	Undertake and complete soft landscaping works.
Stage 12.	Site completion and sign-off from Project Arboriculturist.

Tree Work

For reasons of public safety, all tree works referred to herein must be carried out before site personnel commence work or building materials are delivered.

Table 6: Summary of tree works

Tree Number	Species	Works	Category
T3	Pedunculate oak	Prune: Crown lift to 4 m for new parking spaces clearance	B1
T7	Goat willow	Prune: Crown lifting for a 0.5 m clearance from new fence line	C1
T12	Common beech	Prune: Crown lifting to 2 m and selective branch reduction pruning for clearance from fence line	C1
T13	Common beech	Fell: Remove tree to ground level and remove stump	C1
H1	Osier	Fell: Remove hedge to ground level and remove stumps	C2
H2	Common hawthorn	Prune: Selective pruning / removal for a 0.5 m clearance from fence line and car parking area	B2

Notes

All tree work is to be undertaken in accordance with British Standard BS 3998:2010 - Recommendations for tree work. All arising's are to be removed, and the site is to be left as found. Care is to be taken of the ground around retained trees to make sure that it does not become compacted as a result of tree surgery operations. No equipment or vehicles such as timber Lorries, tractors, excavators, or cranes shall be parked or driven beneath the crowns of any retained trees to prevent subsequent compaction and root death.

Tree Removal

A tree should be felled in one piece only when there is no significant risk of damage to people, property, or protected species.

Where restrictions (e.g., lack of space, buildings, other features, land ownership or use, or other trees to be retained) cannot be overcome, trees should be dismantled in sections.

This also applies where a tall stump is being retained but where branches are to be removed/pruned.

Extensively decayed trees can be unpredictable when they are being felled, and special precautions should, therefore, be taken, such as the use of a winch to guide the direction of fall.

Stump Removal – Stump Grinding

Stump grinding will be to a minimum of 300mm deep or to extend through the base of the stump leaving the major roots disconnected if the intention is to reduce the potential for the spread of Honey fungus.

The grinding residue will be treated as arising's and removed from site.

NOTE: Mechanical destruction of a stump by stump grinding is less disruptive to the site than digging out.

The hole left by stump removal will be filled with soil or other material. The filling should be appropriate for future site usage and for any surface treatment that is to be installed.

Where future plant growth is desired, the backfill material will be firmed in 150 mm layers by treading, avoiding excessive compaction and destruction of the soil structure.

Stump Removal - Digging

Stump removal by digging out will include disposal/utilisation of woody material (see Clause 13).

NOTE: Mechanical destruction of a stump by stump grinding is less disruptive to the site than digging out.

Where possible, when winching out, a stump, a ground, or other type of anchor will be used rather than a tree to be retained. If there is no alternative to using such a tree as an anchor, appropriate protective measures will be adopted.

After Stump Removal

The hole left by stump removal, whether by digging out or grinding, will be filled with soil or other material. The filling will be appropriate for future site usage and for any surface treatment that is to be installed.

Where future plant growth is desired, the back-fill material will be firmed in 150mm layers by treading, avoiding excessive compaction and destruction of the soil structure.

Protected Species (general informative for tree works)

Conservation Status of British Bats

The consensus in Britain and Europe is that virtually all bat species are declining and vulnerable. Our understanding of population status is poor as there is very little historical data for most bat species. Certain species, such as the horseshoe bats, are better understood and have well-documented contractions in range and population size. Given this general picture of decline in the UK Government, the UK Biodiversity Action Plan has designated five species of bats as priority species (greater and lesser horseshoe bats, barbastelle, Bechstein's, and pipistrelle). These plans provide an action pathway for investigating the maintenance and restoration of the former populations' levels.

Legal Status of British Bats

Given the above position, all British bats, as well as their breeding sites and resting places, enjoy national and international protection. All bat species in the UK are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through inclusion in Schedule 5. All bats are also listed in Annex IV (and some in Annex II) of the EC Habitats Directive, giving further European protection. Taken together, the Act and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2012 (as amended)* make it an offence to:

- Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture (take) bats.
- Deliberately disturb bats (whether in a roost or not).
- Damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts.
- Possess or transport a bat or any part of a bat unless acquired legally.
- Sell, barter or exchange bats or parts of bats

Although the legislation does not strictly protect foraging grounds, it does protect roost sites. Bat roosts are protected at all times of the year, whether or not bats are present. Any disturbance of a roost due to development must be licenced.

**the regulations that delivered by the UK's commitments to the Habitats Directive.*

Breeding Birds

All nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) 1981, which makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage or destroy its nest whilst in use or being built, or take or destroy its eggs. Furthermore, several birds enjoy further protection under that Act and are listed on Schedule 1 of the Act. These further protected birds are also protected from disturbance and it may be necessary to operate “no-go” buffer zones around such nests – typically out to 100m. Planning policy guidance on the treatment of species identified as priorities under the biodiversity action programme suggests that local authorities should take measures to protect the habitats of these species from further decline through policies in local development documents and should ensure that they are protected from the adverse effects of development, where appropriate, by using planning conditions or obligations. The conservation of these species should be promoted through the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity designs within developments.

Protective Measures

Protective measures are to be installed immediately following the completion of the tree works and sited and aligned in accordance with the Tree Protection Plan, TPP 01, before the commencement of any works or the introduction of any machinery or material to the site.

Upon installing the protective measures around the retained trees, the client will instruct on a pre-commencement site meeting, during which the Project Arboriculturist will visit the site to inspect and document the position and specifications of the protective measures.

If the protective measures and their positions do not comply with this Arboricultural Method Statement, AMS 01, dated: 15 July 2026 and Tree Protection Plan, TPP 01, the Project Arboriculturist shall inform the client and Fencing Contractor so adjustments can be made.

When the protective measures comply with this Arboricultural Method Statement, AMS 01, and Tree Protection Plan, TPP 01, the Project Arboriculturist will sign-off the protective measures in writing to the client for which a copy can be sent to the Fencing Contractor, Site Agent and Local Authority Tree Officer.

If the protective measures become damaged or there is an accident or emergency involving trees, these areas are to be cordoned off immediately with high-visibility plastic mesh fencing. The site agent is to photograph and document the damage and inform the Project Arboriculturist immediately after the incident. All work within this area is to cease until the Project Arboriculturist has visited the site. Any damaged sections of protective measures shall be replaced within 48 hours of the initial incident.

The protected area is sacrosanct and will not be invaded by the storage of materials, the mixing of concrete or other products, the access of machinery, equipment, or pedestrians, or any other way disturbed by construction activity.

The protective measures will remain in place until the completion of Stage 9 (see Table 5: Sequencing of works) thereafter, they will be carefully dismantled only with the agreement of the Project Arboriculturist and or the Local Authority Tree Officer.

The proposed site fencing measures are to be installed and retained for the duration of the development. If, for any reason, the proposed fencing measures are not to be used, protective barrier fencing is to be installed along the line of the boundaries and is only to be removed upon the written permission of the Project Arboriculturist upon the completion of the development or immediately before the installation of the permanent boundary measures.

The proposed hard surfacing is to be installed immediately to act as ground protection. Where this is not a viable option, these areas are to be covered by ground boarding, as designed by the Project Engineer to cope with any likely loading, until the surface is installed.

No equipment, vehicles, or plant shall operate beyond the tree protection fencing. Booms, hoists, and rigs should be kept as far away from the canopies of retained trees as possible at all times. Where it is necessary to operate within 5m of a tree canopy, it will be done with the utmost caution and under the control of a banksman. Damage to trees will be considered a breach of this Tree

Protection Plan and Arboricultural Method Statement, which in turn could be a breach of planning permission.

Construction Exclusion Zone

A construction exclusion zone (CEZ), as designated by the protective barrier fencing, is an area where there is to be no construction activity. Access to the area for construction personnel or machinery is strictly prohibited unless detailed in the tree protection plan, and there is no scope for materials or waste storage, welfare facilities, etc. There may be some construction activities planned for these areas (e.g. the installation of service trenches) these activities will be undertaken under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist.

Protective Barrier Fencing

Protective barrier fencing should be appropriate for the intensity and proximity of the development to protect trees where development activity is nearby.

The protective barrier fencing will be fixed with signage denoting the words “tree protection area” at 5.0m intervals. See Appendix 5: Tree Protection Notice

Default Specification: The fence will comprise either a 2.4m wooden site hoarding or a 2.3m high scaffold framework, well-braced to resist impacts. The uprights will be spaced at a maximum of 3.0m intervals and driven into the ground by a minimum of 600mm. Standard anti-climb welded mesh panels will be securely fixed to each other with at least two scaffold clamps and to the scaffold framework with wire.

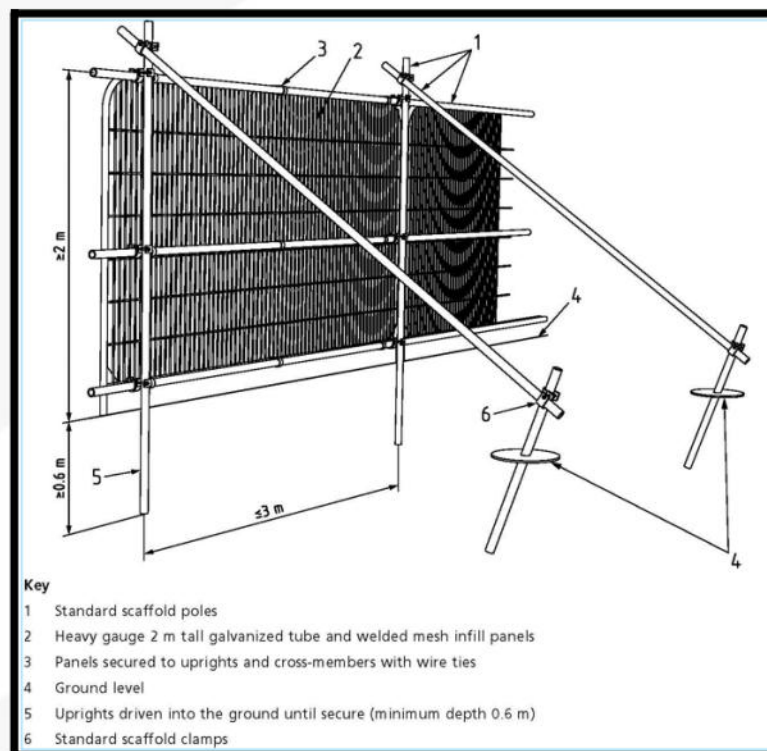


Figure 1: Default specification for protective barrier fencing (BS5837)

Secondary specification: The fence will comprise 2m tall welded mesh panels on rubber or concrete feet. The panels are to be joined together using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers installed so that they can only be removed from inside the fence. The panels will be supported on the inner side by stabiliser struts, which will be attached to a base plate and secured with ground pins.

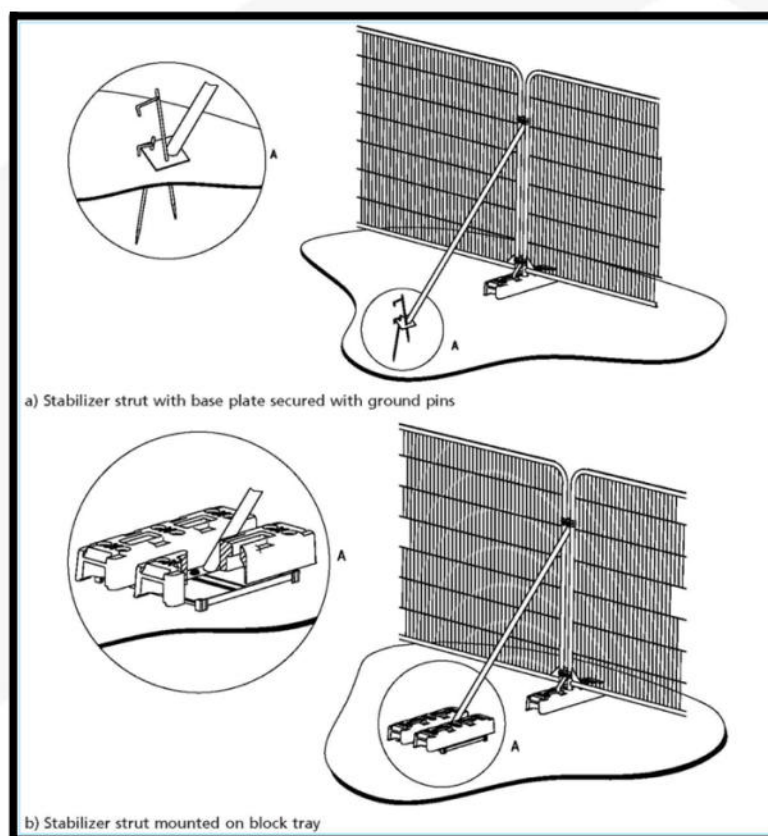


Figure 2: Example of protective barrier fencing with above-ground stabilising system (BS5837)

Ground Protection

The existing hard surfacing within the RPA of retained trees provides passive protection against compaction to the underlying soil and therefore must be retained for the duration of the project. when hard surfacing is being replaced, it shall be done so manually and under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist; it must be replaced immediately with either the new hard surface treatment or with suitable ground protection, capable of withstanding the likely loading for the site.

New temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.

Note: *The ground protection might comprise one of the following:*

Pedestrian movements only: A single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;

Pedestrian-operated plant up to 2t (gross weight): Proprietary inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer(e.g.150mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;

Wheeled/Tracked traffic exceeding 2t (gross weight): An alternative system (e.g. proprietary system or pre-cast reinforced concrete slabs) to be designed by a suitably qualified person to an engineering specification designed in conjunction with arboricultural advice, to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected.

In all cases, the objective of the ground boarding is to avoid compaction of the soil beneath, so that tree root function remains unimpaired.

Demolition

Before the demolition of the existing site features, all tree works are to have been completed, tree protection measures are to be in place as per Tree Protection Plan document, TPP 01, and have been signed-off, and a copy of the demolition method statement submitted and approved by the Project Arboriculturist to ensure that there is no conflict with this Arboricultural Method statement.

All demolition work within or immediately adjacent to RPAs or canopies of retained trees is to be undertaken under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist.

Structures

Demolition of the existing structure beneath the canopies and within the RPAs of retained trees, as shown on the Tree Protection Plan, TPP 01, is to be undertaken carefully and under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist.

The structures are to be taken down so that all debris and materials fall outside the RPAs and away from the canopies of all retained trees.

Foundations within and immediately adjacent to the RPAs of retained trees are to be left in situ wherever possible. Where this is not possible, the existing foundations must be demolished to the minimum depth required to allow for the installation of the new soft and hard landscaping.

The removal of the existing foundations within the RPA of retained trees is to be undertaken using a handheld pneumatic breaker, hand tools and wheelbarrows to break up and remove the debris from the RPAs. In some situations, and only at the discretion of the Project Arboriculturist, it may be possible to use a hydraulic breaker mounted on an excavator combined with a suitably sized toothless grading bucket.

Where the Project Arboriculturist permits the use of an excavator to demolish and remove foundations, it must be situated outside the RPAs of retained trees, on top of the hard surfacing working away from the RPAs, or from suitable ground boarding capable of handling the expected loading.

If it is likely that soil will collapse or the trench will begin to collapse within the RPAs of retained trees, leading to a loss of rooting environment, excavations are to be stopped immediately, and the trench shored up to prevent further soil collapse.

Where the removal of foundations occurs within the RPAs of retained trees, these voids are to be backfilled with clean topsoil.

Hard Surfacing

Where hard surfacing must be removed and/or resurfaced within the RPAs of retained trees, it is to be undertaken under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist during the landscaping phase of the development.

The wearing course will be broken up using a handheld pneumatic breaker, hand tools, and wheelbarrows to remove the surfacing. Where the subbase must be removed, a fork will be used to loosen the material, and shovels and wheelbarrows will be used to move it.

In some situations, and at the discretion of the Project Arboriculturist, an excavator using a hydraulic breaker and a suitably sized toothless grading bucket may be possible. If an excavator is to be used, it must be situated outside of the RPAs, on top of the hard surfacing, working away from the RPAs or from suitable ground boarding capable of withstanding the expected loading.

Whichever system is used, there is to be **NO** disturbance of the underlying soil. If roots are found, they are to be covered over with damp hessian, and a layer of either sharp sand, wood chip, or topsoil will be applied as soon as practicably possible to prevent desiccation.

Existing Underground Services

Existing services within the site should be retained wherever possible. Where existing services within RPAs of retained trees require upgrading, the utmost care must be taken to minimise disturbance. Trenchless techniques should be employed where feasible, and open excavations should be considered only where necessary.

Construction

Before the proposed development is constructed, a copy of the construction method statement will be submitted and approved by the Project Arboriculturist to ensure that it does not conflict with this Arboricultural Method Statement.

All excavations and construction work within or immediately adjacent to the RPAs or canopies of retained trees is to be undertaken under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist.

Hard Surfacing

New hard surfacing situated within the RPAs of retained trees is to be designed in conjunction with advice from the Project Engineer and Arboriculturist to ensure it can accommodate the likely loading required. The design will not require excavation. However, the removal of the turf layer or other surface vegetation may be acceptable if necessary. Ideally, the construction will be situated entirely above the existing ground level.

Appropriate options for the sub-base of hard surfacing situated within the RPAs of retained trees include multi-dimensional confinement systems (CellWeb™ or similar). Alternatively, piles, pads or elevated beams can be used to bridge over the RPAs or, following exploratory investigations to determine location, provide support within the RPAs while allowing retention of roots of 25mm or greater in diameter.

An exploratory investigation is to be undertaken manually under arboricultural supervision using hand tools (See Manual excavation).

Before the installation of the hard surfacing within the RPAs, vegetation may be removed using hand tools or sprayed with an approved non-residual herbicide such as 'Glyphosate'.

Note: *The use of a multi-dimensional confinement system will raise the finished level of the hard surfacing, which needs to be considered when designing foundations and setting the finished floor level of adjacent buildings.*

Multi-dimensional confinement system: If a multi-dimensional confinement system (such as CellWeb™ or similar) is to be used, it is to be laid entirely above the existing soil surface over a geotextile membrane and or a bi-axel geo-grid (such as Tensar TriAx). Prior to this, any small hollows on the surface may be filled with clean, sharp sand (not builders' sand) to a maximum depth of 150mm. The 'CellWeb' is to be backfilled by hand with a no-fines aggregate of 20mm – 30mm. The use of an excavator/machinery to fill the confinement system may be possible at the discretion of the Project Arboriculturist.

The area of 'CellWeb' shall be covered with permeable geotextile fabric, and the finished wearing course shall be laid on top. The wearing course shall be permeable to both water and air to comply with 'SUDS' regulations.

Edge supports of an appropriate size and strength will be set above ground level and will be secured with either haunching or steel pins driven into the ground. The outer edge of the supports may be banked up with clean topsoil.

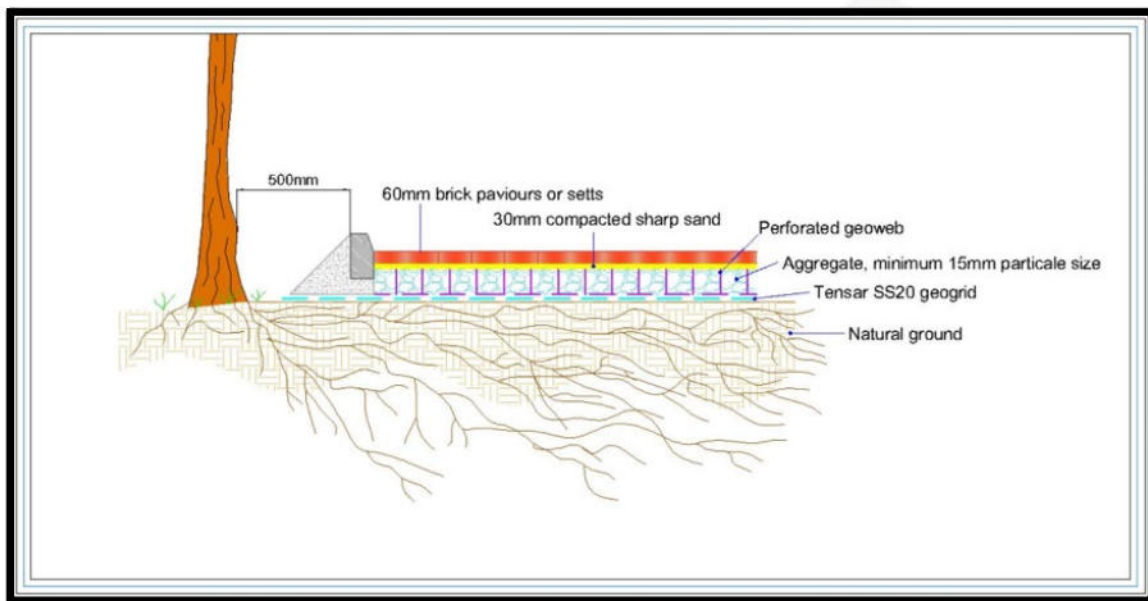


Figure 3: Example cross-section for multi-dimensional confinement system using kerb edging

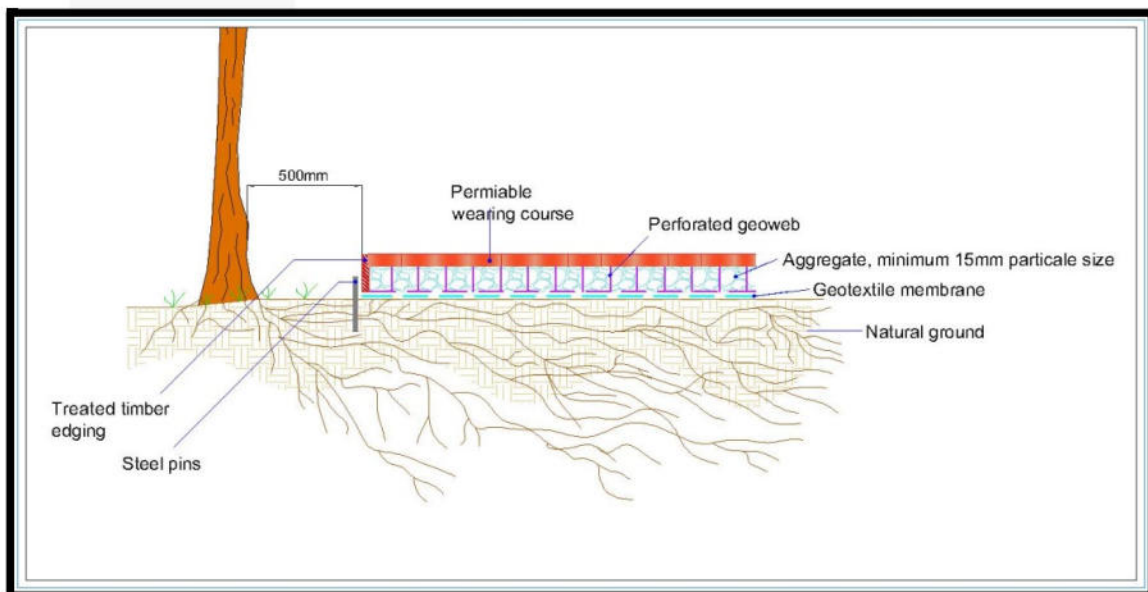


Figure 4: Example cross-section for multi-dimensional confinement system using timber edging

Based on the design of the hard surfacing, the proposed use is for a footpath (pedestrian access) and a road (vehicular access). Geosynthetics Limited recommends, within the product data sheet 'CellWeb® TRP weight capabilities', that a cell depth of 75mm (pedestrian use) to 200mm (vehicular access to include emergency access vehicles and HGVs) of their product CellWeb® TRP would possibly be suitable for the proposed use.

As a part of the design process and to allow Geosynthetics Limited to be able to calculate the exact correct depth of CellWeb® TRP please contact the Geosynthetics engineers.

Installation of a multi-dimensional confinement system

a) Prepare the surface

- Remove any surface rocks and debris.
- Create a level surface by filling in any hollows with clean, angular stone or sharp sand.
- Do not level off any high spots or compact the soil through rolling.

b) Layout Geotextile membrane

- Layout the permeable Geotextile membrane, overlaying the edges of the required area by 300mm.
- Overlap any joints by 300m or more.

c) Layout multi-dimensional confinement system (MDC)

- Layout the collapsed MDC system on top of the Geotextile membrane.
- Place one steel pin into the centre cell at one end of the panel and secure it into the ground.
- Pull out the MDC to its full length (see manufacturer specifications), place a steel pin in the centre at the opposite end and secure it into the ground.
- Pull out the MDC to its full width (see manufacturer specifications), and secure each corner into the ground with steel pins.
- Create a panel of the correct size using the required number of steel pins (as per the manufacturer's specifications).
- Makes sure all cells are fully extended (as per manufacturer specifications).
- Staple adjacent panels together (as per manufacturer specifications).
- If a curved shape is required, the panels are to be cut down to the required size and shape (once the MDC is pinned out. Do not curve or bend panels into place).

d) Infill with clean angular stone

- The infill material must be a clean (no fines) angular stone (as per manufacturer specifications)
- Do not use M.O.T type 1 or crushed stone with fines within or adjacent to RPAs.
- Infill the MDC cells with clean angular stone, working towards the tree using the infilled panels as a platform.
- The infill does not require compaction. Do not use a whacker plate, roller, or any other means of compaction.

e) Edge restraints

- All kerb edging will be situated on top of the MDC within RPAs. do not excavate within RPAs to install kerb edging.
- Where edging is required for light structures, a peg and treated timber board edging is normally acceptable.
- Other options include wooden sleepers, plastic, or metal edging.
- The outer edges of the supports may be banked up with clean topsoil and or mulch.

f) Wearing course

- Install a permeable geotextile membrane, overlapping any joints by 300mm before laying the wearing course.
- Surfaces can include block paving, asphalt, loose gravel, resin-bound gravel, concrete, etc..
- Within RPAs, the wearing course shall be permeable to both water and air.

Boundary fences

Proposed and/or replacement boundary fence posts are to be located so that they will not damage or require the removal of significant roots 25mm or greater in diameter. This may require individual posts to be relocated.

Note: *this will increase or decrease the spacing between the posts (bay lengths).*

All posts within the RPAs of retained trees are to be excavated manually using handheld tools (spade, shovel, rabbeting spade, post hole digger). no mechanised equipment (handheld or plant-mounted post borer) is to be used.

Note: *All boundary fencing must be installed prior to the commencement of any site works to serve as primary tree protection. In the event of a delay in installing permanent fencing, BS 5837-compliant temporary protective barriers must be erected until the permanent solution is in place.*

Concrete foundations

Before concrete is poured to form the foundations within or immediately adjacent to the RPAs of retained trees, the excavation is to be lined and sealed to prevent any leaching of the concrete into the soil and causing desiccation of retained roots by concrete runoff.

Manual excavation

Excavation within RPAs will be undertaken by hand under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist to the required depth of the foundations or to a minimum of 600mm deep of any excavation, whether for proposed foundations, hard surfacing, or underground services. The Project Arboriculturist will determine the total depth of the manual excavation while on site.

The soil is to be loosened with a fork or pickaxe and then cleared with an air spade, air vac, or shovel. The Project Arboriculturist will cleanly sever any roots found with either a hand saw or secateurs.

The Project Arboriculturist shall cleanly sever any roots found with a diameter of less than 25mm. Roots of 25mm and above shall be excavated around without damaging them. the Project Arboriculturist shall decide if it is feasible or necessary to retain the root. if not, it shall be severed.

The edge of the excavation closest to the trees will be covered with damp hessian to prevent soil collapse or contamination by concrete.

The soil beneath the depth may be sheet piled, regular piled, or excavated deeper. Machinery may be used for this, provided that it is situated outside of the RPAs of retained trees or has appropriate ground protection in place to move around and work upon.

Prohibition

- Mechanical digging or scraping is not permitted within a defined root protection area or areas cordoned off by protective barrier fencing.
- No access will be permitted within the protected areas.
- No materials, equipment or debris will be stored within any of the fenced areas or against the fencing.
- Fires are not permitted within 10m of any vegetation.
- Leaning objects against or attaching objects to a tree is not permitted.
- Machinery, plant, and vehicles are not permitted to be washed down within 10m of vegetation.
- Chemicals and materials are not to be transported, stored, used, or mixed within a root protection area or areas cordoned off by protective barrier fencing.
- Cement silos and mixing sites are to be situated within a bunded area to prevent spillage/leaking of chemicals harmful to trees. These areas are to be sited well clear of protected trees.
- Refuelling of plant or machinery is prohibited within 10m of the construction exclusion zones.
- An allowance must be made for sloping ground so that damaging materials such as concrete washings, mortar, or diesel oil cannot run towards trees.
- Where machinery is to be used within 5m of retained tree canopies, a banks man will be required at all times while setting up, moving, or operating within this distance of retained tree canopies.
- All caustic material and chemicals must be stored well clear of protected areas and preferably on lower ground if slopes are present or within a bonded area to prevent spills or leaks from entering the ground.

Site Management

The Site Manager will be responsible for briefing and inducting all personnel who will be working on any stage of this development, especially those who will be working within or adjacent to the canopies or RPAs of retained trees, and will make them aware of and provide a copy of this Arboricultural Method Statement, AMS 01, and Tree Protection Plan, TPP 01. this is to include but not exclusively the movement and or operation of plant, excavations, unloading deliveries, mixing and or pouring of cement and concrete.

The Site Manager will be responsible for the day-to-day running and protection of all retained trees and for liaising with the Project Arboriculturist about any tree-related matters and before any works that may or will affect the RPAs or canopies of retained trees. this is to include but not exclusively the movement and or operation of plant, excavations, unloading deliveries, mixing, pouring and storage of all caustic materials that may cause harm to retained trees.

The Site Manager will document any incidents of damage to retained trees or tree protection measures. Then, the Site Manager will report these incidents to the Project Arboriculturist immediately and ensure that works within this area cease until the Project Arboriculturist has had an opportunity to inspect the damage and, where appropriate, agree on a mitigation plan with the Local Planning Authority Tree Officer.

The Site Manager may designate another person to take charge of the briefing and inducting process of new site personnel or visitors in his absence.

If the Site Manager is replaced or is absent from the site for more than three consecutive working days, the Project Arboriculturist will be informed, and a new pre-start meeting will be held with the new or acting Site Manager.

It is the responsibility of the Site Manager to ensure that the planning conditions attached to any granted planning consent are adhered to at all times and that a monitoring regime and supervision of any works within or adjacent to the RPAs are adopted.

If pruning works other than those previously approved are required at any time, permission must be sought from the Local Authority Tree Officer. Once permission is granted, they are to be carried out by a suitably qualified person in accordance with BS3998:2010 Tree work—Recommendations.

Services

Detailed drawings of proposed underground services are not available at this time. hence it is not possible to identify any specific potential impacts associated with the scheme at this stage.

Existing services within the site will be retained wherever possible. Where existing services within RPAs require upgrading, the utmost care must be taken to minimise disturbance. Where feasible, trenchless techniques are to be employed, and only where necessary should open excavations be considered.

Where new services are to be introduced into the site, they will be located outside of RPAs so that they do not interfere with tree roots. If any excavations are required within the RPAs, all trenches are to be excavated by hand radially to the tree trunks under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist.

The final positions of any proposed services will be verified and approved by the Project Arboriculturist and Local Authority Tree Officer before implementation.

New Underground services

Trenching for the installation of underground services and drainage routes could sever any roots that may be present and, as such, adversely affect the tree's health. For this reason, particular care will be taken in routing and installation methods of all underground services. All underground services and drainage routes will be located so that no excavations are required within RPAs.

Where underground services have been impossible to prevent from passing through RPAs or within proximity to trees, these sections are to be installed in one of three ways listed below and under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist.

Trenchless Techniques

There are three main types of trenchless techniques: guided and unguided boring and pipe replacement by lining or bursting. These techniques allow for the installation, maintenance, or renewal of underground services without disturbing soil in which roots are likely to grow. Starting and receiving pits for the boring machinery are to be located outside of the RPAs of any retained trees, with the bore depth maintained at a minimum depth of 600mm below the existing ground level. Techniques involving external lubrication of the equipment shall use only water, as other lubricants (e.g., oil, bentonite, etc.) could contaminate the soil.

Broken Trench – Hand Dug

This technique combines both trenchless techniques and manual excavation, where excavation is unavoidable. Excavations will be limited to where there is clear access around and below the roots. All trenches shall be excavated by hand with the same precautions taken as for manual excavation. The open section of the trench will only be large enough to allow access for linking to the next section.

Manual Excavation

Excavation within RPAs will be undertaken by hand under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist to the required depth of the foundations or to a minimum of 600mm deep of any excavation, whether for proposed foundations, hard surfacing, or underground services. The Project Arboriculturist will determine the total depth of the manual excavation while on site.

The soil is to be loosened with a fork or pickaxe and then cleared with an air spade, air vac, or shovel. The Project Arboriculturist will cleanly sever any roots found with either a hand saw or secateurs.

The Project Arboriculturist shall cleanly sever any roots found with a diameter of less than 25mm. Roots of 25mm and above shall be excavated around without damaging them. The Project Arboriculturist shall decide if it is feasible or necessary to retain the root. If not, it shall be severed.

The edge of the excavation closest to the trees will be covered with damp hessian to prevent soil collapse or contamination by concrete.

The soil beneath the depth may be sheet piled, regular piled, or excavated deeper. Machinery may be used for this, provided that it is situated outside of the RPAs of retained trees or has appropriate ground protection in place to move around and work upon.

Landscaping

The ratio of trees removed to trees replanted should not necessarily be 1:1. Instead, the ratio should take into consideration the available space for tree growth and development to ensure the trees are physically suited to the site at maturity. A specification for and notation relating to the precise alignment of replacement trees will be contained in the landscape proposals.

Landscaping, such as planting, turfing, fencing, etc., around retained trees may only be carried out once all tree protection measures have been removed.

All excavations within the RPAs of retained trees shall be undertaken by hand and without reducing current ground levels unless it is agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority. At no time is the use of a rotavator permitted within the RPAs of retained trees.

Any tree roots discovered will be left in situ and shall not be cut or otherwise damaged. Where possible, the soil structure within the RPA shall be preserved.

No works will be carried out within the RPAs of any trees if the soil moisture is at a level where soil compaction may be likely. Should the soil become compacted or have a poor structure that would hinder the development of the existing trees and plants or any new plantings, the arboriculturist will be consulted about soil decompaction techniques.

Monitoring and Supervision

Where trees have been identified within this Arboricultural Method Statement, AMS 01, and Tree Protection Plan, TPP 01, for retention, there will be an auditable system of arboricultural monitoring. This is to extend to arboricultural supervision whenever demolition or construction activity is to take place within or adjacent to any canopy or RPA.

The development's tree protection measures are to be monitored, and all demolition and construction works are to be undertaken within or adjacent to the RPAs of retained trees. The Project Arboriculturist will supervise the work and record and report observations to the Council at appropriate intervals.

Pre-commencement site meeting

Before the commencement of any works or machinery and materials arriving on site, a pre-commencement site meeting involving the Project Arboriculturist, Landowner or Agent, Site Manager, contractors and Engineer (as appropriate) and the relevant Local Planning Authority Officers will be held to ensure that all aspects of the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan are understood and for all parties to swap contact details. See Appendix 6: Contact Details.

Monitoring and supervision schedule

The initial monitoring visit will check that the tree protection measures are in the correct location and as specified within the approved Arboricultural Method Statement, and if so, to sign off on their installation.

Thereafter, monitoring visits are to take place at regular intervals to ensure that tree protection measures are in place and are functioning as designed or whenever necessary to undertake works to be carried out under arboricultural supervision. The frequency of the monitoring visits is to be agreed upon with the Local Authority Tree Officer at the pre-commencement site meeting.

A record of all arboricultural monitoring and supervision visits will be kept, and any faults will be logged. This will then be copied to the Site Agent, Developer, and Local Planning Authority in a digital format.

If areas must be redesigned during the development so that they would require changes to the approved Arboricultural Method Statement or Tree Protection Plan and so affect retained trees, the Project Arboriculturist and Local Authority Tree Officer will be invited to attend a site meeting with all relevant parties. Before any changes are implemented, they must have been approved in writing by the Local Authority Tree Officer.

Supervision

The Project Arboriculturist will be required to attend the site to directly supervise all demolition and construction works that are to be undertaken within or adjacent to the RPAs of all retained trees and will be advised a minimum of 72 hours before the commencement of any works that require his attendance. these will include:

1. Pre-commencement site meeting.
2. Location of protective measures.
3. Supervised demolition of structure within the RPAs of G5.
4. Relocation of protective measures.
5. Supervised excavations for fence posts within RPAs of tree nos. T3, T7, T16 and T17.
6. Installation of 'No Dig' and replacement hard surfacing within the RPAs of tree nos. T3, T7, T16 and T17.
4. Installation of 'No Dig' play surfacing within the RPAs of tree nos. T15 and G5.
5. Any demolition and or excavations within or adjacent to RPAs, including foundations, hard surfacing or underground services (a non-exhaustive list).
6. Arboricultural sign off and removal of protective measures.

Completion meeting

Once all construction works have been completed and all materials and machinery have been removed from the site, the Project Arboriculturist shall be informed and will invite the Local Authority Tree Officer to meet on-site to discuss the process, final remedial works that may be required and sign the development off so that the protective measures may be removed.

Arboricultural Monitoring & Supervision Sign-Off Checklist

Minety Primary School, 2 Sawyers Hill, Minety, Malmesbury, SN16 9QL

Tree Number	Task	Date Completed	Signed (Arboriculturalist)	Signed (Site Manager)
All	Pre-commencement site meeting			
All	Sign-off of the location and specification of the protective measures			
G05	Supervised demolition of structure			
All	Relocation of protective measures			
T3, T7, T16 and T17	Fence installation			
T3, T7, T16, T17	Replacement and new hard surfacing			
T15, G5	Installation of new play surfacing			
All	Completion of groundworks			
All	Completion of construction			
All	Removal of machinery and materials from site			
All	Dismantle & removal of protective measures			

Tree Number	Task	Date Completed	Signed (Arboriculturalist)	Signed (Site Manager)
All	Completion of Landscaping			
All	Sign-off from Project Arboriculturist			

Appendices

The following documents were released to the Client as appendices to this report:

- Appendix 1: Tree Schedule
- Appendix 2: Tree Constraints Plan
- Appendix 3: Arboricultural Impact Assessment
- Appendix 4: Tree Protection Plan
- Appendix 5: Tree Protection Notice
- Appendix 6: Contact Details

If you require clarification of the information contained herein, please do not hesitate to contact us via 01244 661170.

Yours Sincerely,



Anthony Jones BSc (Hons) TechArborA

Arboricultural Consultant



anthonyjones@arbtech.co.uk

Appendix 1: Tree Schedule

Tree No.	Species	Ht. (m)	Trunk Diam. (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clear. (m)				Age Class	Phys. Cond.	Struct. Cond.	Comments	Est. Rem. Cont. (years)	Cat.
				N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W						
T1	Pedunculate oak	17	1,100	11	10	8	10	5	2	5	5	Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Minor reduction in vitality/crown density. Epicormic growth throughout crown.	40+ Years	B1
T2	Pedunculate oak	16	690	9	9	9	10	5	3	5	5	Early Mature	Good	Fair	Open balanced spreading crown. Reduced vitality/crown density. Lions tailing.	20+ Years	B1
T3	Not identified	13	690	10	8	8	8	5	3	3	5	Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Twin-stemmed at base.	40+ Years	B1
T4	Goat willow	8	300	4	6	5	5	0	0	0	0	Semi Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Prolifically multi-stemmed at base - DBH estimated.	20+ Years	C1
T5	Goat willow	8	400	5	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	Early Mature	Fair	Good	Good form and vitality. Prolifically multi-stemmed at base with acute included primary unions. DBH estimated.	10+ Years	C1
T6	Goat willow	8	360	5	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	Semi Mature	Fair	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Prolifically multi-stemmed below 1m with acute included primary unions. Compacted RPA.	10+ Years	C1

Tree No.	Species	Ht. (m)	Trunk Diam. (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clear. (m)				Age Class	Phys. Cond.	Struct. Cond.	Comments	Est. Rem. Cont. (years)	Cat.
				N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W						
T7	Goat willow	8	450	5	5	5	5	0	0	0	0	Early Mature	Fair	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Prolifically multi-stemmed below 1m with acute included primary unions. Compacted RPA.	10+ Years	C1
T8	Wild cherry	5	160	3	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	Semi Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Single straight stem.	40+ Years	B1
T9	Cherry	5	140	2	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	Young	Good	Good	Young established tree. Good form and vitality.	20+ Years	C1
T10	Pedunculate oak	4	90	2	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	Young	Good	Good	Young established tree. No defects noted.	40+ Years	C1
T11	Silver birch	9	120	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	Young	Good	Good	Young established tree. Good form and vitality. Single straight stem.	20+ Years	C1
T12	Common beech	6	90	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	Young	Good	Good	Young established tree. Good form and vitality. Single straight stem.	20+ Years	C1

Tree No.	Species	Ht. (m)	Trunk Diam. (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clear. (m)				Age Class	Phys. Cond.	Struct. Cond.	Comments	Est. Rem. Cont. (years)	Cat.
				N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W						
T13	Common beech	6	90, 120, 80, 60	3	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	Young	Good	Good	Young established tree. Good form and vitality. Open balanced crown. Multi-stemmed at base.	20+ Years	C1
T14	Silver birch	12	290	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	Semi Mature	Good	Fair	Reduced vitality. Compacted RPA. Single straight stem. Open balanced crown.	10+ Years	B1
T15	Silver birch	13	280	4	3	4	3	2	2	2	2	Semi Mature	Good	Fair	Slightly reduced vitality. Compacted RPA. Single straight stem. Open balanced crown.	20+ Years	B1
T16	Cherry plum 'Pissardii'	6	230	3	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	Semi Mature	Fair	Good	Multiple acute included primary unions. Crossing fusing limbs. Slightly suppressed by adjacent trees.	10+ Years	C1
T17	Not identified	21	840	8	7	5	5	2	3	2	3	Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Single straight stem. Moderate deadwood in lower east and south of crown.	20+ Years	B1
T18	Horse chestnut	16	340, 350	5	4	4	5	2	2	2	2	Semi Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. Twin-stemmed at base.	20+ Years	B1

Tree No.	Species	Ht. (m)	Trunk Diam. (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clear. (m)				Age Class	Phys. Cond.	Struct. Cond.	Comments	Est. Rem. Cont. (years)	Cat.
				N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W						
T19	Willow	4	390, 480	1	0	2	1					Semi Mature	Poor	Poor	Twin-stemmed monolith. Recently monolithed. Acute included primary union that is separating.	10+ Years	C1
T20	Willow	7	590, 610	1	2	2	2					Semi Mature	Poor	Poor	Twin-stemmed monolith. Recently monolithed.	10+ Years	C1
T21	Weeping willow	6	700	1	2	3	1					Mature	Fair	Fair	Old pollard. Recently repollarded. Some vigorous regeneration growth. Percussion test indicates stem decay/cavity. Good habitat.	20+ Years	B3
T22	Willow	5	450, 490	1	1	2	1					Semi Mature	Poor	Poor	Twin-stemmed monolith. Recently monolithed. Acute included primary union that is separating.	10+ Years	C1
G1	Mixed species	10	100	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	Young	Fair	Fair	Dense scrub. Competing. Slender phototrophic form. No significant defects noted. Limited access - dense brambles. Birch, Goat Willow, Blackthorn, Cherry.	10+ Years	C2
G2	Silver birch	12	160	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	Semi Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced crowns. Slender stems.	40+ Years	B2

Tree No.	Species	Ht. (m)	Trunk Diam. (mm)	Crown Spread (m)				Crown Clear. (m)				Age Class	Phys. Cond.	Struct. Cond.	Comments	Est. Rem. Cont. (years)	Cat.
				N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W						
G3	Common ash	10	140	1	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	Young	Good	Poor	x4 young trees. Slender phototropic form. Significant stem lesions. ADB. No SULE.	<10 years	U
G4	Cockspur hawthorn	5	90	1	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	Young	Fair	Good	Young established group of x4 trees. Pruned back from playground on N side.	10+ Years	C2
G5	Mixed species	14 to 17	590	8	8	8	8	2	2	2	2	Semi Mature to Mature	Good	Good	Linear narrow woodland copse dominated by large Oak trees. Generally in good form and vitality. High Visual Amenity.	40+ Years	A2
G6	Pedunculate oak	15	630	6	5	8	8	2	3	5	2	Mature	Good	Good	Good form and vitality. Open balanced spreading crown. No access.	40+ Years	B1
H1	Osier	3	80	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	Young	Fair	Fair	Managed group. Previously topped at 2m.	10+ Years	C2
H2	Common hawthorn	2	70	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	Semi Mature	Fair	Good	Maintained hedge. Dense ivy in places. Box leaf honeysuckle and field maple within hedge.	20+ Years	B2

Appendix 2: Tree Constraints Plan

Arboricultural Survey

Methodology
All trees, groups of trees, woodlands, hedges and large shrub groups growing on and/or within influencing distance of the sites red line boundary (RLB) or survey area (as defined by the client), were surveyed and categorised in accordance with the guidance set out in British Standards (BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations).

Where the Arboriculturist determined it appropriate to do so, trees forming groups and/or areas of woodland (including orchards, wood pasture & historic park land) have been recorded as such.

Survey Limitations:
- The survey was made at ground level using visual observation methods only.
- Detailed examinations, such as climbing inspections and advanced decay detection equipment were not employed, though may form part of the recommendations.
- It is not the purpose or within the scope of this survey to assess trees in detail with regard to tree risk/safety, however where obvious tree risk features/indicators are observed and pose an imminent risk to persons or property, the client will be notified;
- Measurements were taken using specialist equipment such as tapes, lasers & GPS devices;
- Where it was not possible to take accurate measurements (due to site restrictions) values have been estimated;
- Locations & physical dimensions of inaccessible trees have been estimated;
- Arboricultural features found to be of sufficient distance from the defined RLB or outside of the defined scope of the survey (as defined by the client) have been excluded;
- Arboricultural features found to be of insufficient size, as defined by BS 5837:2012 (i.e. less than 75mm stem diameter when measured at 1.5m) have been excluded from the survey where the Arboriculturist has determined it appropriate to do so;
- No searches to determine the presence of statutory tree protection on or around the area of survey has been carried out.
- All surveyed trees have been plotted onto a base plan provided by the client, which represents the site in its existing condition, where ever possible this should be a topographical survey carried out by a land surveyor. Acceptable alternatives include a measured survey from an architect or a OS file from Ordnance Survey. The Survey accuracy can vary depending on the quality of the provided base plan.

Tree Quality Assessment:
Each tree has been assigned a category (U, A, B, C) and one (or more) sub-category (1, 2, 3) in accordance with Table 1 cascade chart for tree quality assessment, as contained in British Standards (BS5837:2012, in addition to the British Standards defined categories, an additional category (V) has also been provided in compliance with UK Government guidance for Ancient and Veteran trees/woodland and to help provide clear distinction of these arboricultural features from other trees.

Tree Schedule (TS):
The tree survey schedule contains full details of all collected data for recorded trees, groups, woodlands and hedges. Information includes:
- Sequential reference number and suffix (T, G, W, H) denoting the type of arboricultural feature, i.e. Tree, Group of Trees, Woodland or Hedge;
- Common name;
- Height – recorded in meters (m);
- Stem diameter – recorded in millimeters (mm), measured in accordance with Figure C.1, Annex C (BS5837:2012);
- Crown extent – recorded in meters to either the four cardinal or inter-cardinal points (N, E, S, W or NE, SE, SW, NW);
- Canopy clearance – recorded in meters denoting the ground to canopy height at each of the four cardinal or inter-cardinal points (N, E, S, W or NE, SE, SW, NW);
- Age class – including Newly Planted, Young, Semi-mature, Early-mature, mature & Ancient;
- Physiological condition;
- Structural condition;
- BS 5837:2012 categorisation and sub-category;
- Estimated remaining life expectancy (<10 Yrs, 10+ Yrs, 20+ Yrs or >40 Yrs);
- Observations

Root Protection Area (RPA)

In order to avoid damage to the roots or rooting environment of retained trees, the RPA has been plotted around each tree. This is a minimum area (m²) which should be maintained and left undisturbed around each retained tree.

The RPA is calculated in accordance with chapter 4.6 of (BS)5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations. The calculated RPA is capped at 707m², which is the equivalent to a circle with a 15m radius.

Existing site features such as dwellings, retaining walls, roads, service roads, etc., are likely to be partial or complete barriers to root development. Where existing site features are believed to be significant enough to be considered barriers to root development, the RPAs affected have been modified to appropriately reflect these barriers.

Where RPAs have been modified, they have been done so to equal distances in all directions (with the exception of any identified root barrier) from the trunk of the tree. The RPAs are increased in size (radius) across both the "site" and adjacent land to maintain the area (m²) as per the original unmodified (circular) RPA.

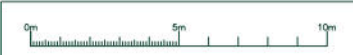
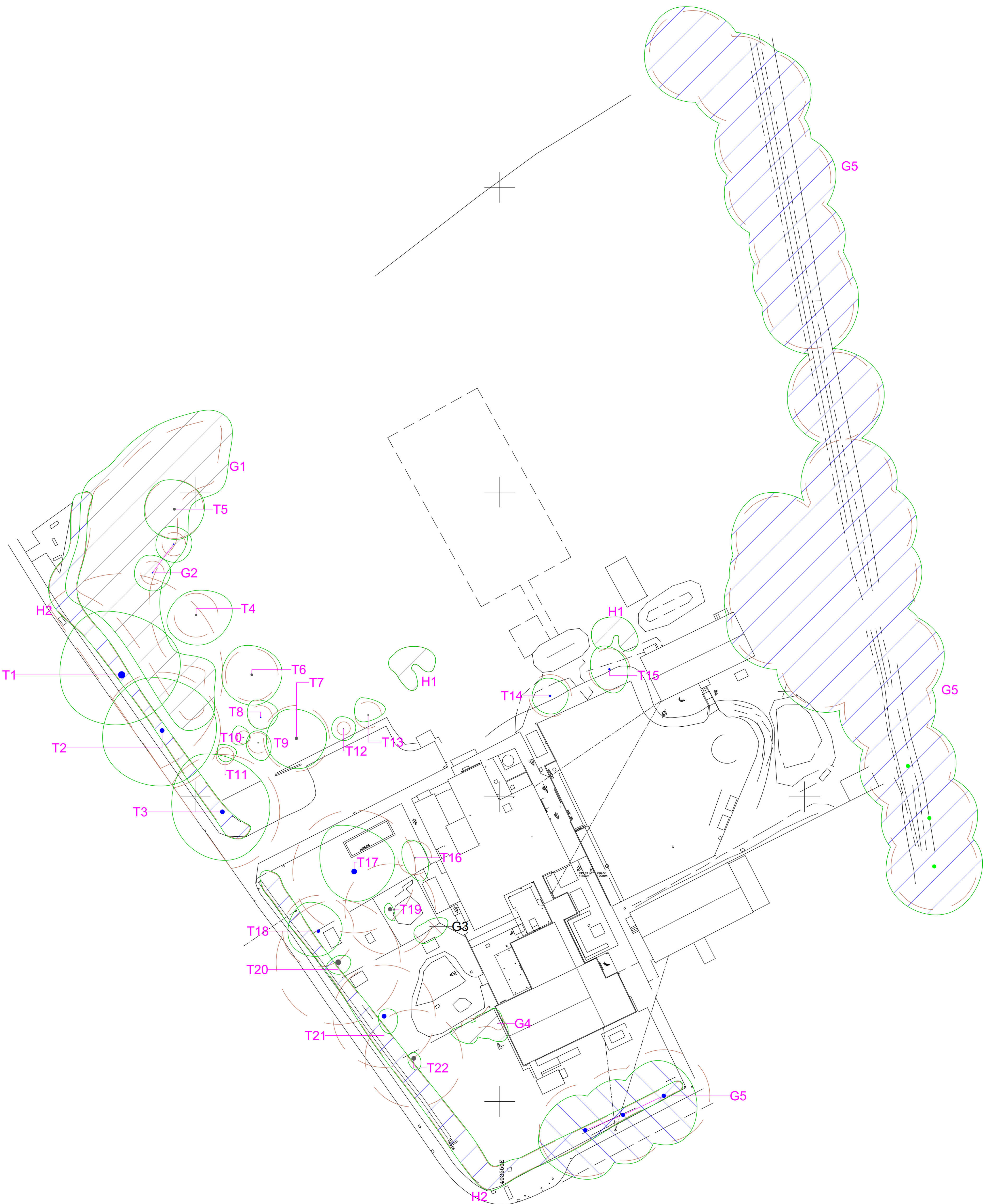
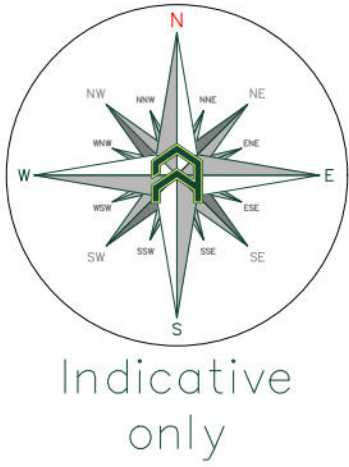
Survey Definitions

Age Class:
Newly Planted (NP) – A tree that has recently been planted, typically within the last 1–2 years.
Young (Y) – A tree that is well established but still in the early stages of growth;
Semi-mature (SM) – A tree that is significantly developed but has not yet reached full size or growth potential;
Early-mature (EM) – A tree that has reached near full size and may begin to show signs of ageing;
Mature (M) – A tree that has reached its full size and growth potential for its species and surroundings;
Ancient (A) – A tree which is surviving beyond its species typical age range.

Physiological Condition:
Good – Good vitality with no evident signs of physiological dysfunction;
Fair – Moderate vitality with some signs of physiological dysfunction, but unlikely to be of long-term significance and/or reversible;
Poor – Low vitality with significant and/or irreversible physiological dysfunction;
Dead – No vitality.
Structural Condition:
Good – No hazard indicators, with a form typical of the species or growing location;
Fair – Some hazard indicators, but of no long-term significance and/or easily mitigated;
Poor – Significant and/or irreversible hazard indicators that may result in premature failure (whole or in-part);
Not Visible – Restricted view/access prohibiting full visual inspection.

Categories & Life Expectancy:
Category 'U' – Trees in such condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.
Category 'A' – Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.
Category 'B' – Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.
Category 'C' – Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.
Category 'V' – Trees which, because of their age, size and condition, is of exceptional biodiversity, cultural or heritage value (Ancient/Veteran Trees); or land which has been continuously wooded since at least 1600 AD (Ancient Woodland).

Sub-categories:
1 – Mainly arboricultural qualities
2 – Mainly landscape qualities
3 – Mainly cultural values, including conservation



Address:
Minety Primary School, 2 Sawyers Hill, Minety,
Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9QL

Client:
Stepnell

Drawing:
Tree Constraints Plan

Project No.:
—

Drawing No.:
TCP01

Revision No.:
01

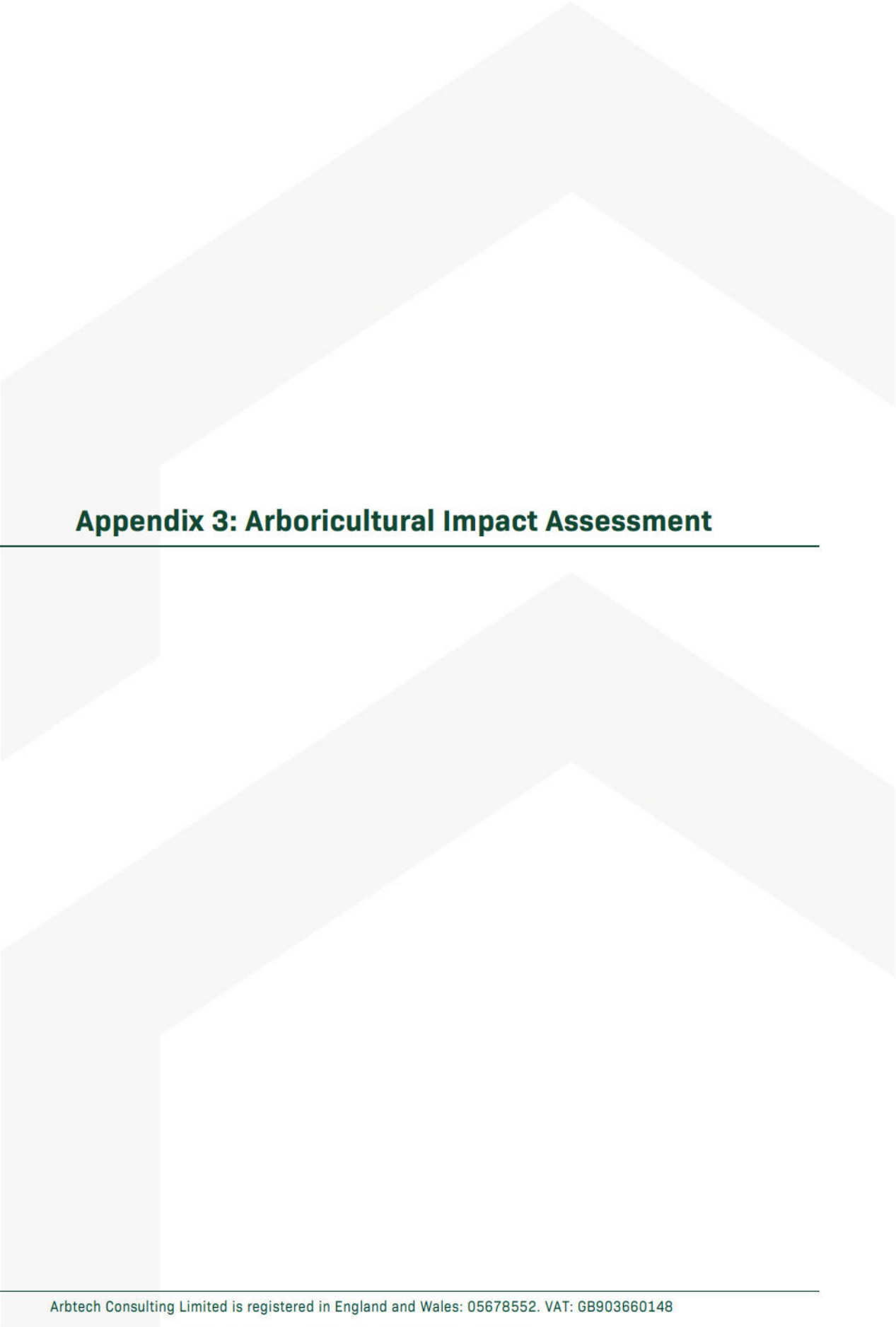
Date:
April 2025

Scale:
1:250±

Drawn:
RDP

Tree/Group number:	Tree	Trunks:
1T	Tree	Trunks:
Root Protection Area:	Ancient/Veteran Tree Buffer	Ancient woodland Extent
Category 'U' Tree	Category 'U' Tree	Category 'A' Tree
Category 'A' Tree	Category 'A' Tree	Category 'B' Tree
Category 'B' Tree	Category 'B' Tree	Category 'C' Tree
Category 'C' Tree	Category 'C' Tree	Category 'V' Tree
Category 'V' Tree	Category 'V' Tree	Category 'V' Tree
Category 'V' Tree	Category 'V' Tree	Category 'V' Tree

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A large, light green, stylized house icon that serves as a background for the central section of the page. It is composed of several geometric shapes forming a roof and walls.

Appendix 3: Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Modified RPAs

Existing site features such as dwellings, retaining walls, roads, service routes, etc., are likely to be partial or complete barriers to root development. Where existing site features are believed to be significant enough to be considered barriers to root development, the RPAs affected have been modified to appropriately reflect these barriers.

Where RPAs have been modified, they have been done so to equal distances in all directions (with the exception of any identified root barrier) from the trunk of the tree. The RPAs are increased in size (radius) across both the "left" and adjacent land to maintain the area (m²) as per the original un-modified (circular) RPA.

Hard Surfacing

Trees can be affected by construction within the RPAs either through the direct damage caused by the removal of roots or compaction of the rooting environment; or through secondary damage such as poisoning through leaks and spills (oil, fuels, etc.) including such activities as de-icing (road salt, etc.)

Proposed hard surfacing within the RPAs of retained trees is therefore to be designed so that it can be constructed above the existing soil level and minimise any adverse impacts upon the trees RPAs. As the use of traditional foundations and sub-bases can result in excessive root loss through the direct removal of roots during excavations and by compaction of the soil beneath the excavation, as such the 'traditional' methodology must be avoided.

When designing hard surfacing that is to be situated within the RPAs of retained trees, the design team need to pay particular attention to the proposed usage (pedestrian, domestic traffic, delivery vans, emergency services, HGVs, etc.) the existing and proposed levels of hard surfacing and finished floor levels, edging types and details, proximity to tree trunks and surface rooting, contamination capture and SUDs, etc.

Possible sub-bases (foundation systems) for new hard surfacing situated within the RPAs of retained trees could include:
-- A proprietary system such as a multi-dimensional confinement system (ColliWeb '90' or similar);
-- Engineered solution such as a road deck, bridge, etc.,

An engineered solution is likely to require a level of excavation for site specific investigations to locate roots to aid in foundation design so that a suitable foundation can be designed to avoid roots and for the installation of the structure.

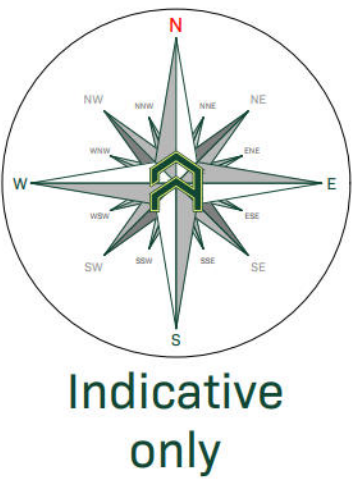
NB: The use of a multi-dimensional confinement system and/or engineered solution will affect the finished levels of the hard surfacing by raising the levels and needs to be considered when designing foundations and setting the finished floor levels of adjoining buildings.

Fencing

Fence posts are to be located so that they will not damage or require the removal of roots in excess of 25mm diameter. This may require individual posts to be relocated which will increase or decrease the spacing between the bay lengths. All posts within the RPAs of retained trees are to be excavated manually under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist, using hand-held tools (spade, shovel, robbing spade, post hole digger) only. No mechanical equipment (handheld or plant mounted post borer) is to be used.

Arboricultural Method Statement

All tree work must be undertaken in accordance with British Standards. Please refer to the Tree Schedule, Arboricultural Method Statement & Tree Protection Plan, for full details of all surveyed trees and how the development maybe implemented without detriment to retained trees.



Indicative only



Description: Hard surface replacement located within the RPA of retained tree T3. T7 and T15 will have no additional impact on the trees. The existing sub-base will be retained and re-used where feasible. Hard surface replacement will be installed with arboricultural supervision.

Impact: Proposed fencing situated within the RPAs of trees T3 and T7.
Mitigation: Excavation of post holes within the RPAs of retained trees are to be undertaken manually and under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist; posts will be relocated to avoid roots in excess of 25mm diameter.

Impact: Proposed fencing situated within the RPAs of trees T18 and T22.
Mitigation: Excavation of post holes within the RPAs of retained trees are to be undertaken manually and under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist; posts will be relocated to avoid roots in excess of 25mm diameter.

Impact: Proposed hard surfacing situated within the RPAs of trees T7 and T17.
Mitigation: Hard surfacing located within the RPAs of retained trees is to utilise a 'no dig' sub-base designed to an engineering specification in conjunction with the advice of the Project Engineer and Arboriculturist, so that it can be constructed entirely above the existing soil level.

Arboricultural Impacts

Impacts	No. of Trees
Trees to be removed	1
Groups / Hedges to be removed (Partial removal)	1 (0)
Trees with proposed incursions into the RPAs	4
Trees with proposed incursions into the RPAs	1
Trees that require pruning	3
Groups / Hedges that require pruning	2
Trees to be transplanted	0
Groups / Hedges to be transplanted	0

Arboricultural Impacts

Ref.	Species	Proposed Structure	Incursion (%)
T3	Pedunculate oak	Fence	Insignificant
T7	Goat willow	New Hard Surfacing	8.6
T7	Goat willow	Fence	Insignificant
T18	Cherry plum 'Pissardi'	Fence	Insignificant
T17	Not identified	New Hard Surfacing	11.6
T17	Not identified	Fence	Insignificant

Tree Work Schedule

Ref.	Species	Works	Category
T3	Pedunculate oak	Prune: Crown lift to 4 m for new parking spaces clearance	B1
T7	Goat willow	Prune: Crown lifting for a 0.5 m clearance from new fence line	C1
T12	Common beech	Prune: Crown lifting to 2 m and selective branch reduction pruning for clearance from fence line	C1
T13	Common beech	Fell: Remove tree to ground level and remove stump	C1
H1	Osier	Fell: Remove hedge to ground level and remove stumps	C2
H2	Common hawthorn	Prune: Selective pruning / removal for a 0.5 m clearance from fence line and car parking area	B2

All tree work is to be undertaken in accordance with British Standards (BS3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations). All arising are to be removed and the site left as it was found. Care is to be taken to ensure that the ground around retained trees does not become compacted as a result of tree surgery operations. No equipment or vehicles such as (but not limited to) timber lorries, tractors, excavators, or cranes are to be parked or driven beneath the crowns of any retained trees to prevent subsequent compaction and root death.

No. Individual Trees Removed

U	A	B	C	V
0	0	0	1	0

No. Groups/Hedges/Woodlands Removed (%) = Partial

U	A	B	C	V
0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)

Referenced Documents

Title	Originator	Drawing Number	Key
Existing Ground Floor Plan	Footprint Architects	2425-FTP-XX-M50C-DR-A-1004	
Proposed Site Plan	Footprint Architects	2425-FTP-XX-M50C-SR-A-1005	

Rev. Date Notes

01	26/04/2026	Initial assessment.
02	15/07/2026	Updated tree work schedule.

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Address: Minety Primary School, 2 Sawyers Hill, Minety, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9QL

Client: Stepnell

Drawing: Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Project No.: 43495568 Drawing No.: AIA01 Revision No.: 02

Date: July 2026 Scale: 1:250 Drawn: FG

Tree Key:

Tree/Group Number:	Tree Canopies:	Trunks:
1T		
Root Protection Area:		
Category 'U' Tree Stems:		
Category 'A' Tree Groups:		
Category 'C' Tree Stems:		
Category 'V' Groups:		
Proposed Pruning:		

All dimensions should be checked on site. No dimensions are to be scaled from this drawing.
Please refer to any accompanying report. Arbtech Consulting Ltd cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies in the tree drawing within this plan is based.
This drawing is designed to reflect the principles of the layout or design only, and release only to the protection of the proposed work.
This drawing is not to be used as a definitive part of the engineering or construction design or method statement. An arboricultural or structural engineer should be consulted for any matters of construction, loading or specification and for any standards or regulatory requirements relating to proposed structures, hard surfacing or underground services.
This drawing was produced in colour - a monochrome copy should not be relied upon.
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A large, light grey, stylized house icon that serves as a background for the central section of the page. It has a wide base, a steeply pitched roof, and a chimney on the left side.

Appendix 4: Tree Protection Plan

Appendix 5: Tree Protection Notice

Tree Protection Area

KEEP OUT

Do not move this fence

(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)

**TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY PLANNING CONDITIONS AND/OR
ARE THE SUBJECT OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.**

**CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER MAY LEAD TO CRIMINAL
PROSECUTION**

**ANY INCURSION INTO THE PROTECTED AREA MUST BE WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION
OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY**



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A large, light grey, stylized house icon that serves as a background for the central section of the page. It has a wide base, a steeply pitched roof, and a chimney on the left side.

Appendix 6: Contact Details

Name	Position	Company	Contact
	Client		
	Agent / Project Manager		
	Tree Officer		
	Project Arboriculturist	Arbtech Consulting Ltd.	01244 661170 https://arbtech.co.uk
	Site Manager		
	Main contractor		

Document Production Record

Document number	Author	Signature	Position	Date
43495568 - AMS 01	Anthony Jones		Arboricultural Consultant	15/07/26

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