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Arboricultural Method Statement: Pamber Heath Memorial Hall, Pamber Heath Road, Pamber Heath, RG26 3TQ

7th February 2022

Ref: GHA/MS/145860:22

CONTENTS

Method Statement

Location: Pamber Heath Memorial Hall, Pamber Heath Road, Pamber Heath, RG26 3TQ
Ref: GHA/MS/145860:22
Client: Pamber Heath Memorial Hall
Date: 7th February 2022
Prepared by: Glen Harding MICFor, MSc (Forestry), MArborA
Date of Inspection: 8th April 2019

Please note that abbreviations introduced in (brackets) *may be used throughout the report.*

Instructions

Issued by – Pamber Heath Memorial Hall

TERMS OF REFERENCE – To survey the subject trees within Pamber Heath Memorial Hall, in order to assess their general condition and to provide an arboricultural method statement for the approved development, that safeguards the long term well being of the nearby retained trees and satisfies planning conditions relating to trees.

Executive Summary

The proposal for the site is to extend the existing hall to the south and west. The parking layout will be altered / extended to provide additional parking. The proposed scheme requires the removal of a small number of relatively insignificant trees and shrubs, which will not significantly impact the local or wider landscape. The retained trees require protection in accordance with industry best practice and BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations, in order to ensure their longevity.

Documents Supplied

The client supplied the following documents:

1. Existing layout plans
2. Proposed layout plans
3. Existing elevation plans
4. Proposed elevation plans

Scope of Survey

1.1 The survey is concerned with the arboricultural aspects of the site only.

1.2 The planning status of the subject property was not investigated in detail.

1.3 A qualified Arboriculturist undertook the report and site visit and the contents of this report are based on this. Whilst reference may be made to built structure or soils, these are only opinions and confirmation should be obtained from a qualified expert as required.

1.4 Trees in third party ownership were surveyed from within the subject property, therefore a detailed assessment was not possible and some (if not all) measurements were estimated. Where the stem location of a third party tree has been estimated, this is noted on the plan.

1.5 Dense vegetation or climbers (such as ivy) also prohibited full inspections for some trees; this is noted where applicable.

1.6 No discussions took place between the surveyor and any other party.

1.7 The trees were inspected on the basis of the Visual Tree Assessment method expounded by Mattheck and Breleor (The body language of tree, DoE booklet Research for Amenity Trees No. 4, 1994)

1.8 The survey was undertaken in accord with British Standard 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations.

1.9 Pruning works will be required to be in accord with British Standard 3998 – 2010 (Tree Work - Recommendations).

1.10 Underground services near to trees will need to be installed in accord with the guidance given in BS5837 together with the National Joint Utilities Group Booklet 4: 2007 Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility services in proximity to trees (NJUG4).

1.11 Where hard surfacing may be required in close proximity to trees, BS5837: 2012, and the principles of Arboricultural Practice Note 12: Through the Trees to Development (AAIS) 2007 (APN12) with regards to "no dig" surfacing will be employed.

1.12 The client's attention is drawn to the responsibilities under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981).

Survey Method

2.1 The survey was conducted from ground level with the aid of binoculars if needed.

2.2 No tissue samples were taken nor was any internal investigation of the subject trees undertaken.

2.3 No soil samples were taken.

2.4 The height of each subject tree was estimated using a clinometer and recorded to the nearest half metre.

2.5 The stem diameter for each tree was measured in line with the requirements set out in BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations.

2.6 The crown spreads were measured with an electronic distometer and recorded to the nearest half metre. Where the crown radius was notably different in any direction this has been noted on the Plan (appendix A) and within the tree table (Appendix B). The crowns of those trees that are proposed for removal, or trees where the crown spread is deemed insignificant in relation to the proposed development are not always shown on the appended plan; however their stem locations are marked for reference.

2.7 The Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree is included in the tree table, both as an area, and as the radius of a circle.

2.8 The crown clearance was measured using a clinometer and recorded to the nearest half metre. Where it is significantly lower in one direction, this is noted within the tree table at appendix B.

2.9 All of the trees that were inspected during the site visit are detailed on the plan at Appendix A; this plan was produced in colour and **MUST** only be scanned or reproduced in colour. The trees on this plan are categorised and shown in the following format:

COLOUR CODING AND RATING OF TREES:

Category A – Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. Colour = light green crown outline on plan.

Category B – Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. Colour = mid blue crown outline on plan.

Category C – Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. Colour = uncoloured crown outline on plan.

Category U – Those in such a condition that they cannot realisitically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years. Colour = red crown outline on plan.

All references to tree rating are made in accordance with BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations', Table 1.

The Site

3.1 The site is located on Pamber Heath Road, a residential through road located in the small village of Pamber Heath.

3.2 A good tree cover is present on the site itself as well as adjacent sites, with many semi-mature and mature trees of both native and exotic origin characterising the local area.

3.3 Access to the property is currently gained via a driveway to the front (west) of the site.

The Subject Trees

4.1 The details of the subject trees are set out in the Schedule at Appendix B.

4.2 The overall quality of the trees is good.

4.3 Of the thirteen individual trees, and groups of trees surveyed, one has been assessed as BS 5837 category A, six have been assessed as BS category B, with the remaining two trees being assessed as BS 5837 category C.

Category A	1 tree
Category B	6 trees
Category C	6 trees

The Proposal

5.1 The proposal for the site is to extend the existing hall to the south and west.

5.2 The parking layout will be altered / extended to provide additional parking.

Method Statement and Procedures for Development Works

THE PROCEDURES OUTLINED BELOW ARE LISTED IN THE CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER THAT THEY MUST COMMENCE. ITEMS 6.1, 6.2 AND 6.3 MUST BE UNDERTAKEN BEFORE ANY CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY ENTERS THE SITE OR BEFORE ANY CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY (TO INCLUDE DEMOLITION) COMMENCES.

6.1 TREE WORK

A list of all tree works that are required (including trees to be removed) is included in the tree table at Appendix B. Where any tree work is needed, this work **MUST** be in accordance with British Standard 3998 – 2010 (Tree Work - Recommendations).

6.2 TREE PROTECTION BARRIERS

It is essential for the future health of the trees to be retained on site, that all development activity is undertaken outside the root protection zone of these trees. The position of the proposed protective fencing for the site is shown on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) by a **pink** line. The position of the fence **MUST** be marked out with biodegradable marker paint on site and agreed with appropriate representatives from the LPA and contractor. The fencing **MUST** be erected **prior** to any works in the vicinity of the trees and removed only when all development activity is complete. The protective fencing **MUST** be as that shown in BS 5837 (see Appendix C). The herras panels **MUST** be joined together using a minimum of two anti-tamper couplers which **MUST** be installed so they can only be removed from the inside of the fence. The panels **MUST** supported by stabilizer struts, which **MUST** be installed on the inside and secured to the ground using pins or appropriate weights.

The Fence must be marked with a clear sign reading:

"Construction Exclusion Zone – No Access"

6.3 GROUND PROTECTION – LIGHTWEIGHT ACCESS ONLY

An area of the site will require ground protection to ensure that soil erosion or excessive compaction does not occur. The areas where this protection is required are outlined in **orange** hatching on the appended plan. This area **MUST** be covered with a permeable membrane, with 150mm layer of compressible woodchip overlaying it; an 18mm marine ply boards will then be secured on top of the woodchip to allow a 1.5tonne mini-digger to access the area without causing major compaction or soil erosion.

6.4 BOUNDARY TREATMENTS

Boundary fencing installation / upgrades **MUST** be undertaken as part of the soft landscaping phase and **MUST** be installed ONLY when all machinery that is on site for the main build has permanently left the site (NB. If needed, boundary fencing can also be installed prior to the commencement of site works, i.e.. before any machinery has been bought onto the site). Where sections of new / upgraded fencing are located within the RPA of ANY tree that is to be retained, this work **MUST** be undertaken by hand using hand tools only. The locations of the new fence upright posts will be finalised following trial digs to confirm there are no major (over 25mm) roots present; if any such roots are found, the location must be altered. If any smaller roots are found, these can be cut using sharp hand

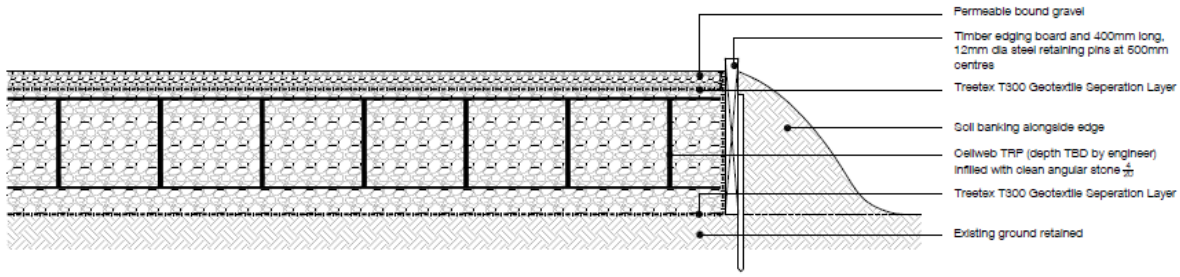
sharp tools to leave a 'clean' cut, in order to minimise the risk of infection by decay pathogens. The post holes within the RPAs should then be lined with plastic sheeting before any concrete or cement is placed into the hole, in order that there is no risk of leaching into the nearby soil as the mixture dries.

6.5 NO DIG SURFACING CONSTRUCTION METHOD IN ACCORDANCE ARBORICULTURAL PRACTICE NOTE 12 AND BS: 5837

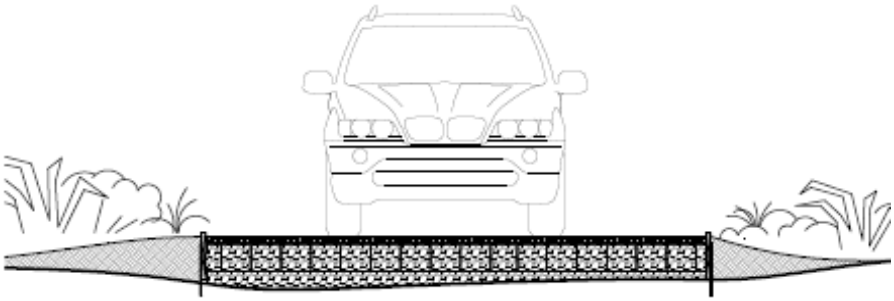
The sections of the new parking that are within the RPA's of the retained trees **MUST** be constructed as follows (see **blue** hatching on appended plan for locations).

Below is a diagram detailing the makeup of the new drive and also a typical cross the installation methodology is included below this diagram.

No dig drive makeup



Typical section:



METHODOLOGY:

- Eradication of all existing ground vegetation must be undertaken using a translocated herbicide. Any product used for this purpose must be selected to ensure that it will not have an adverse affect on the health of the retained trees, and carried out by a suitably trained operative.
- Any major protrusions within the soil must be removed, such as large rocks or existing tree stumps. Any holes should be filled with sharp sand.
- Lay a geotextile membrane over the entire area(s) to be protected, ensuring a one 1m overlap where necessary. All new surfacing **MUST** be positioned at least 500mm from tree stems or buttress roots.
- Construction of the edging of the area is to be implemented with the use of vertical steel pegs driven into the ground at intervals of 500mm with side

supports firmly attached. **CHECK FOR UNDERGROUND SERVICES PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF SUCH WORK.**

- The three dimensional cellular confinement system (e.g cellweb or similar) must be cut to size and placed within the pre-prepared area. This area must now be filled with a no-fines aggregate infill. This must then be compacted to avoid the possibility of future "rutting".
- Lay a final layer of the geotextile membrane on top of this surface.
- A porous material can now be placed on top to complete the construction.
- Graded top soil will be used to bring the adjacent grassed areas to the same level as the new driveway.

N.B. An engineer will prepare the exact specification in agreement with the retained Arboriculturalist.

6.6 DELIVERY AND STORAGE OF BUILDING MATERIALS
Storage areas **MUST** be outside of the tree protection barriers (**pink** lines).

6.7 SITE HUTS, WELFARE FACILITIES AND STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND CHEMICALS
All site huts **MUST** be positioned outside of tree RPAs and the tree protection barriers (**pink** lines).

6.8 MIXING OF CONCRETE
All mixing of cement / concrete **MUST** be undertaken outside of the RPA of all of the retained trees.

6.9 INCOMING SERVICES, DRAINAGE AND SOAKAWAYS
New services **MUST** be routed to avoid all RPAs of retained trees on site and within nearby sites. From an assessment of the subject site, undertaken in conjunction with the project architect, there is no reason to assume this isn't possible. Inspection chambers **MUST** be sited outside the RPA.

6.10 ON SITE SUPERVISION
Regular site supervision is essential to ensure all potentially damaging activities near to trees are correctly supervised. A pre start meeting will occur to ensure all parties are aware of their responsibilities relating to tree protection on site; this will include a site induction for key personnel.

The key personnel relating to this project are:

Name	**Position**	**Contact number / email:**
Glen Harding	Retained arboriculturalist	07884 056 025 Or info@ghatrees.co.uk
TBC	Local authority Arboricultural Officer	TBC
TBC	Site manager	TBC

It is deemed necessary for the retained arboriculturalist to visit the site at the following critical points.

- Prior to tree work to ensure work is correctly identified. **Date and time yet to be agreed, however once confirmed, these dates will be sent to the Local Planning Authorities Arboricultural Officer in order that he / she can attend if required.**

- Prior to erection of protective fencing to ensure it is located in the correct locations. **Date and time yet to be agreed, however once confirmed, these dates will be sent to the Local Planning Authorities Arboricultural Officer in order that he / she can attend if required.**

- Following completion of the erection of protective fencing to ensure it is constructed to the correct specification at the required proximity to ensure the healthy retention of the trees. **Date and time yet to be agreed, however once confirmed, these dates will be sent to the Local Planning Authorities Arboricultural Officer in order that he / she can attend if required.**

- Installation of the ground protection to ensure it is constructed to the correct specification at the required proximity. **Date and time yet to be agreed, however once confirmed, these dates will be sent to the Local Planning Authorities Arboricultural Officer in order that he / she can attend if required.**

- Pre start and periodically during demolition of the existing building(s) to ensure no damage occurs to the retained trees. **Date and time yet to be agreed, however once confirmed, these dates will be sent to the Local Planning Authorities Arboricultural Officer in order that he / she can attend if required.**

The records of future site monitoring will be recorded on the site monitoring sheet at appendix D, and submitted to the local planning authority for their records.

6.11 OTHER TREE PROTECTION PRECAUTIONS

- **NO** fires lit on site within 20 metres of any tree to be retained.
- **NO** fuels, oils or substances with will be damaging to the tree shall be spilled or poured on site.
- **NO** storage of any materials within the root protections zone.

6.12 HARD / SOFT LANDSCAPING NEAR RETAINED TREES

All new pathways and hard landscaping areas within the Root Protection Areas (RPA's) of the retained trees **MUST** be designed using no-dig, up and over construction techniques, and be specified in close co-ordination with the retained Arboriculturalist. Porous materials **MUST** also be used when surfacing near the trees. No machinery will be used for this work, which **MUST** all be done by hand.

6.13 DISMANTLING PROTECTIVE BARRIERS

Protective barriers must only be completely removed when all machinery, and equipment has left site.

Conclusion

7.1 Subject to precautionary measures as detailed above, the proposal will not be injurious to trees to be retained.

Recommendations

8.2 Site supervision – An individual e.g. the Site Agent, must be nominated to be responsible for all arboricultural matters on site. This person must:

a. Be present on the site the majority of the time.
b. Be aware of the arboricultural responsibilities.
c. Have the authority to stop any work that is, or has the potential to cause harm to any tree.
d. 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.
e. Make immediate contact with the local authority and / or retained arboriculturalist in the event of any related tree problems occurring whether actual or potential.

8.3 It is recommended, that to ensure a commitment from all parties to the healthy retention of the trees, that details are passed by the architect or agent 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.

7th February 2022
Signed:

Glen Harding MICFor, MSc (Forestry), MArborA
For and on behalf of GHA Trees

Appendix A
TREE PROTECTION PLAN
(see separate PDF)

Appendix B
TREE TABLE

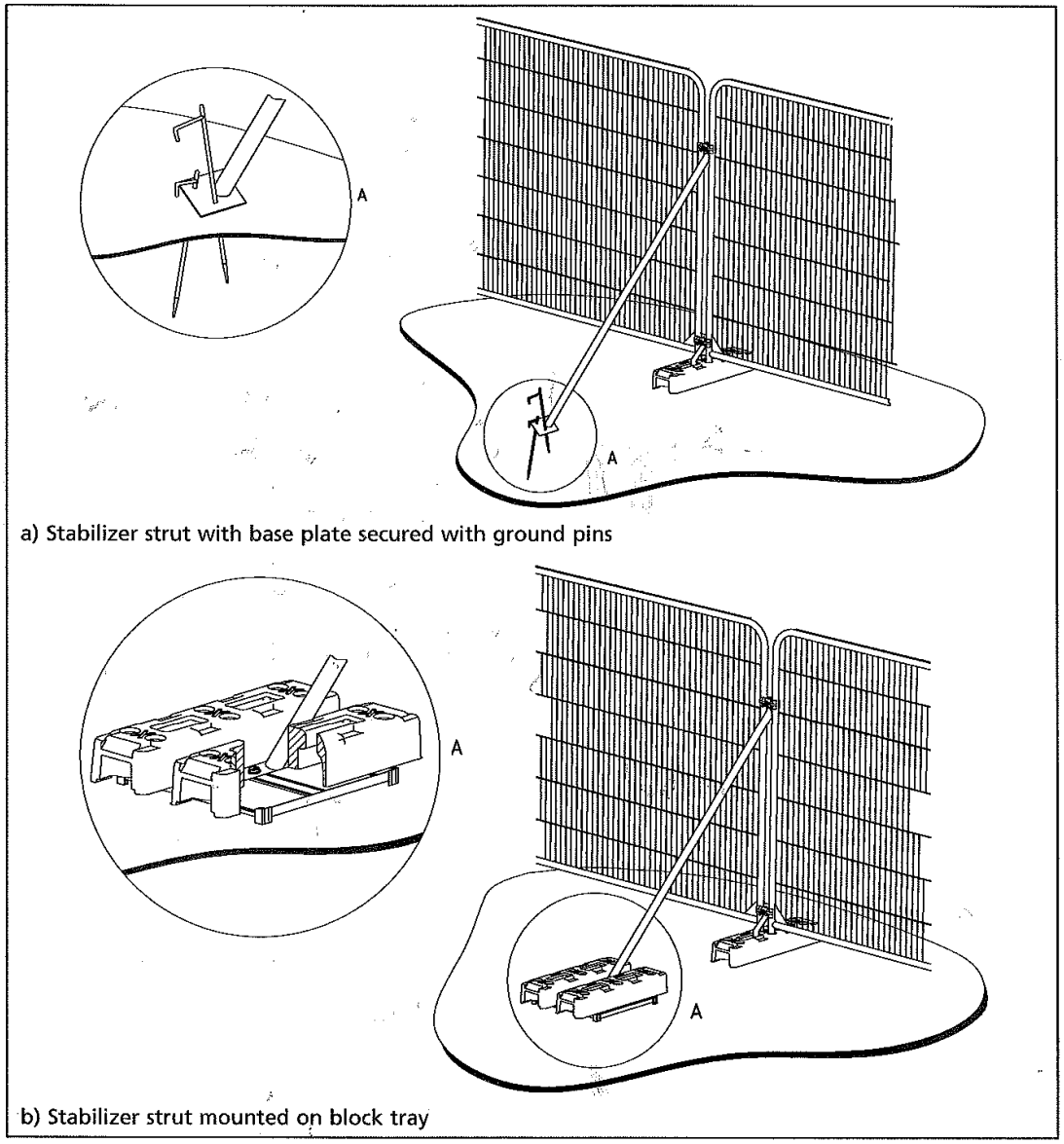
Tree Number	Tree Name (species)	Ht (m)	Calculated Stem Diameter (mm)	Number of Stems	Root Protection Area (Radius, m)	N (m)	E (m)	S (m)	W (m)	Age Class	Clearance (m)	Estimated life expectancy	BS Category	Comments / Recommendations
G1	Whitebeam	6	120	1	1.44	3	3	3	3	M	1.5	10-20	C2	Small trees of limited value. Recommend: to be removed.
T2	Oak	14	320	1	3.84	5	5	3	5	MA	4 (north)	20-40	B2	No notable defects recorded during inspection.
T3	Oak	14	820	1	9.84	8	9	9	9	M	3 (north)	20-40	B2	No notable defects recorded during inspection.
T4	Oak	14	420	1	5.04	7	3	7	7	MA	2 (north)	20-40	B2	No notable defects recorded during inspection.
G5	Birch, oak, ash, cypress	10 to 16	200	1	2.40	4	4	4	4	M	3	10-20	C2	No notable defects recorded during inspection.
T6	Oak	14	430	1	5.16	7	7	7	7	M	3	20-40	B2	No notable defects recorded during inspection.
G7	Hazel and other scrub	6 to 8	253	10	3.04	4	4	4	4	M	3	10-20	C2	Small trees of limited value.
T8	Oak	12	440	1	5.28	6	6	6	6	M	5	20-40	B1	No notable defects recorded during inspection.
G9	Oak, some pine and sweet chestnut	18	500	1	6.00	7	7	7	7	M	2 to 4	40+	A2	Limited inspection of some trees undertaken due to limited access.
T10	Oak	9	250	1	3.00	4	4	4	3	M	2.5	10-20	C1	Small tree of limited value. Recommend: to be removed.

Tree Number	Tree Name (species)	Ht (m)	Calculated Stem Diameter (mm)	Number of Stems	Root Protection Area (Radius, m)	N (m)	E (m)	S (m)	W (m)	Age Class	Clearance (m)	Estimated life expectancy	BS Category	Comments / Recommendations
G11	Holly and hawthorn	8	280	1	3.36	3	3	3	3	M	1.8	10-20	C2	Small trees of limited value. Recommend: to be removed.
T12	Oak	16	600	1	7.20	6	4.5	7.5	6	M	6 plus epicormic	20-40	B2	Ivy prevented full inspection. Recommend: prune laterally by 1m on south side.
T13	Hawthorn	3	100	1	1.20	1	1	1	1	M	2	10-20	C1	Small tree of limited value. Recommend: to be removed.

KEY :
Tree No: (T= individual tree, G= group of trees, W= woodland)
Age class: Young (Y), Middle aged (MA), Mature (M), Over mature (OM), Veteran (V)
Height (Ht): Measured in metres +/- 1m

Appendix C
TREE FENCING DETAIL

Figure 3 **Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems**



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins

b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

Appendix D

Site Monitoring Sheet

Site:				
Project:				
Client:			**Contact:**	
Site monitoring inspection date:			Name of inspector:	
Notes:				
Action required to rectify any issues:				
Date Action taken:				
Site monitoring inspection date:			Name of inspector:	
Notes:				
Action required to rectify any issues:				
Date Action taken:				
Site monitoring inspection date:			Name of inspector:	
Notes:				
Action required to rectify any issues:				
Date Action taken:				