NICKBAILEY
TREE SURGEONS

Risk Assessment & Method Statement

Step Places – Hardy Farm M21 8DN
Work start date 19th February 2021
Work end date 26th February 2021

Significant hazards	People at risk	Existing controls/action required
Trees being felled, branches being dropped or lowered, head and body injuries	Tree workers	All tree-crew members trained and practiced in communication between climber and ground crew. High visibility clothing and CE approved head protection worn. Work to cease immediately if work area is breached. Site agent made aware of where we will be working and when.
Work in tree at height head and body injuries	Tree workers	All staff NPTC qualified and practiced in chainsaw use in tree. Use of ropes and harness to CE regulations and inspected to LOLAR regulations. Certificated and practiced second climber available to perform aerial rescue. AFAG 402 `A Guide to Good Climbing Practice`. NPTC: 30 – 41. HSE: INDG 317
Chipper: loss of body limbs from sharp blades and crushing action of in-feed rollers.	Tree workers	Forest ST8 wood chipper complies with HSE knee bar regulations. Fitted with 3-way emergency stop bar and buttons on both sides of hopper. All operators trained. Manufacturer`s instruction and safety manual kept on site.
Chainsaws: cuts and lacerations to body	Tree workers	All staff NPTC qualified and practiced in chainsaw use. Full PPE worn at all times, including chainsaw protective Kevlar trousers and boots. First aid box and mobile phone kept in truck. NPTC: 30 – 41. HSE: INDG 317.

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Traffic, Public roads and Pedestrians	Tree Workers & Pedestrians	Traffic cones and road/warning signs, high visible clothing and marshals will be placed around working area. A stop and go system for traffic and pedestrians will be implemented by ground crew when required.
Works near Tram lines and overhead power cables	Tree workers/ Pedestrians/ Garage workers/ Customers	When arboricultural (aerial and ground) works are proposed **within 10m** (measured at ground level horizontally from below the nearest wire) of overhead power lines a risk based approach needs to be adopted. In practice this means that you should seek specialist advice and guidance from the owner of the power line (Network Operator) before undertaking any work within this distance.

Method Statement

The following method statement has been developed to provide a safe system of work and must be adhered to always, any significant deviation from this system must first be authorised by your manager or safety representative. **Please read the entire sheet before beginning the procedure, if you have any questions please contact your manager or safety representative.**

PREPARATION:

Site contact informed of where and when we will be working.

Tree crew made aware of site address and location of work.

Weather conditions are assessed.

Work areas to be cordoned off and warning signs positioned.

Pre-climb inspection of trees must be carried out. Trees must be assessed for structural integrity, signs of decay and weakness before job and before each climb.

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Full PPE kit worn - chainsaw protective trousers and boots, CE approved top and side-impact helmets fitted with ear and eye protection

At least one certificated, competent and practised person in aerial rescue will always be present on site while any climber is working in any tree.

Emergency climbing kit made available and checked.

Element of stop and go while lowering tree branches.

Re-fuelling point established away from work zone and fire extinguisher kept in truck.

Location of First Aid kit and ambulance meeting point established.

Effective communication between all crew members maintained, at all times. Worksite is reassessed since time of risk assessment and new hazards or obstacles to be noted.

OPERATION:

Work specifications

- Remove trees T2-T7 as per the tree survey & stump grind
- Remove trees that are dead or in poor condition in the area G1 (Green highlighted area) as discussed on site. Remove brush and clear ground to fence-line where possible.
- Remove all trees and brush in G1 (pink highlighted area) to the fence-line
- Remove Ivy from T1
- Remove all waste from site as a result of the works.
- Maintain an exclusion zone appropriately sized during felling works

All work will be undertaken as per the report and in line with planning pre-commencement conditions

Survey Reference – Christians Environmental (CV-BS-001)

Planning Reference – 127696/FO/2020

Each tree will be climbed by one climber with at least two ground crew to assist.

Climber must ascend each tree with two lines of attachment, and always be attached with at least one lanyard or climbing line.

Secure anchor point must be established.

Site hazards and changing conditions need to be monitored.

Rigging line installed for lowering branches back into work area under controlled descent.

Awareness of activity around drop zones must be maintained. All work to cease immediately if work area is breached.

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All crew to be aware always of any site traffic and pedestrian movements.

Accurate cuts, with correctly tensioned and sharp chain, executed.

Branches lowered / dropped and then chipped. Branches up to 8 inches diameter to be chipped.

Chipper fitted with CE approved 3-way safety stop bar.

Close fitting clothing worn by ground crew using chipper.

Any logs will be loaded onto truck by hand.

Proper practise when lifting heavy lumber, bend your knees and keep a straight back. If it's too heavy, cut it in half.

COMPLETION & QUALITY CONTROL:

Tools and equipment checked and stored.

Ropes, harnesses and rigging kit checked for defects, such as glazing, snags and frays.

Final site check to make sure no branches have been left, and nothing damaged. Site contact must be informed immediately of any damage.

Walk-around check of truck and chipper - lights, coupling and tyres especially. Drive away from site with caution.

Data Protection Statement

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Authorised & Signed: Nick Bailey