



The Barlow RC High School, Parrs Wood Road, Manchester M20 6BX

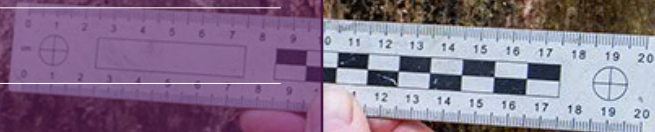
Arboricultural Impact Assessment

February 2025



Contents

Section	Description
Chapter 1	Introduction
Chapter 2	Background
Chapter 3	Tree Survey
Chapter 4	Development Implications
Chapter 5	Conclusions
Appendices	
A	Tree Tables
B	Method Statement



Contents

Drawing(s)

TCP/5242/Y/100 Arboricultural Plan



Contents

Figures

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Figure 1 | Google Earth view of site. |
| Figure 2 | Current Fence along the Northern Boundary (School Lane). |
| Figure 3 | Current Fence along the Southern Boundary. |
| Figure 4 | Current Fence along the Western Boundary (Parrs Wood Road). |



Limitation

ACS Consulting (ACS) has prepared this Report for the sole use by Bradbury Consulting in accordance with the Agreement under which our services were performed. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this Report or any other services provided by us. This Report may not be relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of ACS. Unless otherwise stated in this Report, the assessments made assume that the sites and facilities will continue to be used for their current purpose without significant change. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this Report are based upon information provided by others and upon the assumption that all relevant information has been provided by those parties from whom it has been requested. Information obtained from third parties has not been independently verified by ACS, unless otherwise stated in the Report.

Chapter 1 Introduction

1.01

ACS Consulting is instructed by Bradbury Consulting to report on trees and the implications for the proposed development at The Barlow RC High School, Parrs Wood Road, Manchester M20 6BX. The assessment and report was undertaken by Ian Murat, Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association.

1.02

In accordance with guidance on information requirements and validation for planning applications, this report fulfils the recommended national list criteria for tree survey/arboricultural information. More specifically, it contains the following:

- A full tree survey to the requirements of BS5837 (2012) Trees In Relation To Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations.
- A plan showing tree survey information, retention categorisation and root protection areas,
- An assessment of the arboricultural implications of development detailing trees to be retained/removed and appropriate protection measures (BS5837:2012 - 5.3.4),
- An Arboricultural Method Statement detailing a set of agreed principles for tree protection, implementation and phasing of works (BS5837:2012 – 6.1).

1.03

The site was visited during February 2025. A survey of the trees was completed in accordance with BS5837 – 2012. All the trees have been summarised in the tables in Appendix A.

Copyright of ACS Consulting.

All rights described in Chapter IV of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 have been generally asserted ©, February 2025.

Chapter 2 Background

2.01 Location

The Barlow RC High School is a comprehensive school in Didsbury, Manchester. (Figure 1).

2.02 The Site

The site is an existing educational establishment located in a residential area. It is a generally level rectangular site with the main school buildings located to the north and the playing field extending south. The northern boundary is formed with School Lane (Figure 2). The eastern and southern boundaries are formed by the area's main transport infrastructure (train and tram) (Figure 3). The western boundary is formed with Parrs Wood Road (Figure 4). As Parrs Wood Road travels south, it rises up to cross the tramline. As it rises, it forms an embankment with the school.

2.03 Statutory Protection

The site is not located in a Conservation Area. The position regarding Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) is not known.

2.04 Policy

In terms of trees, the application will be subject to The Places for Everyone Development Plan Document, a joint plan covering 9 out of 10 of the Greater Manchester local authority areas. The Development Plan includes objectives and planning policies that will be used in the determination of planning applications, and which will shape the quality of new development. The policy of most relevance to the arboreal aspects of the application is: G7. Also of relevance are policies 136 and 187 National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024.

2.05 Soils

BS 5837 – 2012 requires a basic assessment of the soils on site. An examination of the British Geological Survey site records the superficial deposits as: Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period.

The Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute Soilscales viewer shows soils at the site to be: Slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils.

2.06 Topographical Survey

The arboricultural survey is based on the supplied plan.

Chapter 2 Background



Figure 1



Figure 2

Chapter 2 Background



Figure 3



Figure 4

Chapter 3 Tree Survey

3.01

The tree data can be found at Appendix A. There is no requirement in BS 5837 to repeat the details of the constraints information save for confirming that the trees were surveyed for species type, age, height, crown spread, diameter-at-breast-height, condition, and their suitability for retention from ground level. Each tree or group was assigned to one of the four retention categories [A,B,C,U] specified by BS5837. The individual descriptions and other relevant information are contained in the attached schedule and they are shown on the attached plans, based on the original topographical survey. Only trees with a stem diameter of 75 millimetres measured at 1.5 metres above the ground are required to be recorded.

3.02

The heights were measured with a digital Hypsometer and the diameters taken with a diameter tape to give an average stem measurement. Canopy spreads have been measured at the cardinal points or where they significantly extend in other directions.

3.03 Groups

The group classification is intended to identify trees that form cohesive arboricultural features either aerodynamically, visually or culturally. Where there are prominent trees within the group, these have been noted individually.

Chapter 4 Development Implications

4.01 Application

The proposed development is for the installation of new boundary fencing along the northern, southern and western boundaries. Two different styles of fence will be installed. Along School Lane and Parrs Wood Road the fence type will be:

2500mm high Railing Fence Comprising of: Posts 70 x 70mm RHS, 50 x 10mm flat top and bottom rails, 25mm CHS infill at 110mm centres. Posts set in concrete behind the concrete upstand at 2810mm centres. [sic]

4.02

Along the southern boundary with the tram line the fence type will be:

'EuroGuard Regular' fencing of 2410mm (H) x 3054mm (W) panels with welded mesh of 5mm dia and wire spacing of 195mm x 45mm. Posts to be rectangle hollow section with anti-tamper connectors, galvanized to BS EN 1461. Post dimensions subject to height of fence and to be confirmed by contractor, set at maximum 3034mm centres with over length set in suitable concrete bedding as per manufacturer's instructions. Fencing and posts to be powder-coated colour Green RAL6005. [sic]

4.03 Development Implications

The methodology for assessment is based on BS5837 – 2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations. The guidance recommends that impacts on arboricultural assets should be assessed by considering:

1. Which arboreal assets are affected by the proposed development;
2. Understand what contribution the arboreal assets make to the significance of the site and location;
3. Identify what impact the loss of arboreal assets of the site might have on that significance;
4. Consider maximising enhancements and avoiding harm.

4.04 Loss for Development

The fence, in all locations, will be a new fence to replace the current fence that is in place. The fence, in all locations will follow the same alignment. At a number of locations along the alignment, the fence and its concrete upstand has been broken or deflected by the incremental growth of tree roots and stems. This is particularly noticeable along Parrs Wood Road. Along the southern boundary, there are no concrete uplifts. However, there are a number of self-set trees that are growing close to or through the fence. These will require removing.

Chapter 4 Development Implications

4.05 Loss for Development *Continued*

The proposal will require the removal of a small number of self-set low graded trees that are growing within the school site. They are Category C trees. They are unremarkable trees of very limited merit that offer low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits.

4.06 Retained trees that may be affected by disturbance

The scheme poses two distinct issues to retained trees:

- a) Disturbance of roots during the removal of current fencing.
- b) Disturbance of roots during the excavation of post holes.

4.07

- a) The boundary has a number of trees with extensive Root Protection Areas. For the extent of the trees' RPA the current fencing and concrete uplifts (where present) will be removed by hand working. The use of hand working will ensure that there will be no damage or negligible damage to any roots.

4.08

- b) In the majority of cases, it will be possible locate the fence post in a similar or the same location as they are currently found minimising any damage. The type of fencing is such that it is possible to reduce span width to ensure critical trees and roots are avoided. Each location will be assessed, where the location of a fence post is unavoidable, the post hole will be hand excavated. The size of the hole required to accommodate the post will be very small.

Where roots over and above 25 millimetres are encountered, the post can be relocated.

4.09 Pruning

There is a requirement for Access Facilitation Pruning. The pruning will be of small diameter tertiary branches. Pruning has no impact on visual amenity or tree physiology.

4.10 Policy

The development accords with the policies and guidance of the council and central Government. The proposed site layout incorporates much of the site's existing features as it is necessary or desirable to retain. It conserves and enhances the distinctive elements of landscape character and function retaining their valuable source of natural capital and ecosystem services.

4.11

The development in arboricultural terms, accords with the council's policies in that the development of the site and the overall benefit to the local and wider economy outweighs the limited amenity value of the trees being lost. It is acknowledged that trees are being removed. The loss of C Category specimens detracts minimally from the treed character of the site. Areas of potential conflict in terms of site development are addressed by a draft method statement at Appendix B.

Chapter 4 Development Implications

4.12 Summary

The trees proposed for replacement by the fence within the application footprint cannot be considered a “major constraint”. Overall, the removal of these trees has no implications for the tree cover at the site. In line with the advice set out in BS 5837, the trees are not of such importance and sensitivity as to be a major constraint on development or, justify substantial modification of the proposals.

Chapter 5 Conclusions

5.01

The application site is described in detail in the planning, design and access statement.

5.02

The development in arboricultural terms, accords with the council's policies in that the development to the site and the overall benefit to the local and wider economy outweighs the limited amenity value of the trees being lost. The loss of C Category specimens detracts minimally from the treed character of the site.

5.03

The method statement in Appendix B details the precautions to be taken for the fence erection. The impact is considered *de minimis*.

Appendix A

Contents

Key

BS 5837 2012

Tree data

KEY

Age	<p>Y – Young: Out-planted trees that have not yet established</p> <p>SM – Semi-mature: Established trees up to 1/3 of expected height and crown</p> <p>EM – Early mature: Between 1/3 and 2/3 of expected height and crown</p> <p>M – Mature: Between 2/3 and full expected height and crown</p> <p>FM – Fully mature: Full expected height and crown</p> <p>OM – Over mature: Crown beginning to break-up and decrease in size</p> <p>S – Senescent: Crown in advanced stage of break-up</p>
Physiological Condition	<p>Good – Very few defects a reasonable long life expectancy depending on age class</p> <p>Fair – Some defects giving the tree a shortened life expectancy</p> <p>Poor – Limited life with major problems</p>
Structural Condition	<p>Good – Very few defects</p> <p>Fair – Some defects rectifiable with minor tree surgery</p> <p>Poor – Significant defects rectifiable with major tree surgery or felling</p>
#	Estimated dimensions.
(a)	Average stem diameter across a group of trees.
*	Tree subject to TPO.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria			Identification on Plan
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other U category trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning). Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline. Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality. <p><i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7</i></p>			RED
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation.	
Trees To Be Considered For Retention				
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dormant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features.	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	GREEN
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation.	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality.	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.	BLUE
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 150 mm.	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits.	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural benefits	GREY

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments/Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading	RPA Radius (M)	RPA Area (M ²)
				N	E	S	W										
G1	Prunus	12	150	2	2	2	2	1	1	Y/SM	Good	Good	Approximately 20 trees in the group. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	1.8	10
1	Willow	9	200	2	2	3	3	1	1	SM	Good	Good	Located on the public side of the fence. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	2.4	18
2	Willow	9	200	2	3	3	3	2	2	SM	Good	Good	Located on the public side of the fence. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	2.4	18
G2	Willow	6	150	1	1	1	1	0	0	SM	Good	Good	2 trees as one visual unit in the landscape. Located on the public side of the fence. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	1.8	10
3	Prunus	6	150	0	1	2	1	0	0	SM	Good	Good	Located on the public side of the fence. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	1.8	10
G3	Prunus	8	200	3	3	3	3	1	1	SM	Good	Fair	3 trees as one visual unit in the landscape. Multi-stemmed with included stem unions. A group of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	2.4	18
4	Willow	10	200	3	3	3	3	1	1	SM	Good	Fair	Multi-stemmed. Located on the public side of the fence. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	C1/2	10+	2.4	18
W1	Copse	<15	<300	3	3	3	3	1	1	SM	Good	Good	Copse of prunus. A copse of moderate quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy height for working space.	20+	B1/2	3.6	41

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments/Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading	RPA Radius (M)	RPA Area (M ²)
				N	E	S	W										
5	Poplar	22	470, 540	5	5	#6	6	4	4	EM/M	Good	Poor	Twin stemmed at ground level with included stem union. Prominent specimen. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape.	10+	C1/2	8.6	232
6	Poplar	18	450	4	5	5	5	1	1	EM	Good	Good	A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2	5.4	92
7	Oak	10	200	0.5	3	2	0.5	0	0	Y	Good	Good	A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	2.4	18
8	Sycamore	10	120	0.5	2	2	0.5	2	2	Y	Good	Good	Incongruous feature. Self-set tree of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	1.4	7
9	Lime	18	550	4	6	6	6	0	0	M	Good	Good	Profusion of epicormic growth around the base. Dead wood. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Remove epicormic growth around the base.	40+	A1/2	6.6	137
G4	Sycamore	14	150	3	3	3	3	2	2	SM	Good	Good	8 trees. Growing against the concrete base and fence. Some trees are growing through the fence. A group of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	1.8	10
10	Lime	18	550	6	6	6	6	0	0	M	Good	Good	Prominent specimen. Profusion of epicormic growth around the base. Dysfunction to the concrete foundation. Dead wood. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Remove epicormic growth around the base.	40+	A1/2	6.6	137
11	Sycamore	9	200, 150	3	3	1	3	2	2	SM	Good	Good	Twin stemmed at ground level. Pushing against the concrete base. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. <u>Work</u> Fell.	10+	C1/2	3.0	28

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments/Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading	RPA Radius (M)	RPA Area (M ²)
				N	E	S	W										
W2	Broad-leaved Woodland	<9	<300	3	3	3	3	0	0	SM/EM	Good	Good	Birch, oak, sycamore, prunus, holly and 1 Scots pine with bramble. Located on a steeply sloping bank. A woodland of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown lift/crown reduce to give 3m clear branch height over the fence to allow working space.	40+	A1/2	3.6	41
12	Lime	18	500	6	6	6	3	0	0	M	Good	Good	Growing against the concrete foundation. Epicormic growth around the base. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Remove epicormic growth.	40+	A1/2	6.0	113
13	Lime	18	#600	6	6	6	6	0	0	M	Good	Good	Multi-stemmed at 2m. Ivy on the stem and into the canopy. Profusion of epicormic growth around the base. Pushing up against the concrete foundation and evidence of rooting in the pavement. Visually prominent. Work Remove epicormic growth around the base.	40+	A1/2	7.2	163
14	Ash	12	200	0	3	1	0	2	2	Y	Good	Good	Tall, drawn specimen. Incongruous feature. Ivy. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	10+	C1/2	2.4	18
15	Lime	18	550	5	6	5	5	1	3	M	Good	Good	Ivy on the stem and into the canopy. Profusion of epicormic growth. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Remove epicormic growth.	40+	A1/2	6.6	137
G5	Ash	10	150	0.5	3	0.5	0	1	1	Y	Good	Fair	Group of 4 trees growing against the fence. A group of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	10+	C1/2	1.8	10

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments/Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading	RPA Radius (M)	RPA Area (M ²)
				N	E	S	W										
16	Lime	16	490	6	7	7	6	1	1	M	Good	Good	Multi-stemmed at 3m. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown clean and remove epicormic growth.	40+	A1/2	5.9	109
G6	Group	<10	<200	2	2	2	2	0	0	Y/SM	Good	Good	Group of ash and lime growing against the fence. A group of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	10+	C1/2	2.4	18
17	Lime	18	650	7	7	6	7	3	3	M	Good	Good	Minor deflection to the pavement. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape.	40+	A1/2	7.8	191
18	Lime	18	550	6	6	5	7	2	2	M	Good	Good	A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Remove epicormic growth to the first branch to the west,	40+	A1/2	6.6	137
19	Lime	18	500	6	7	6	7	3	3	M	Good	Good	Growing close to the concrete fence foundation. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Remove epicormic growth to the first fork.	40+	A1/2	6.0	113
20	Lime	10	200	3	3	2	2	2	2	SM	Good	Good	A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy height over the fence.	40+	A1/2	2.4	18
21	Lime	10	200	3	3	3	3	2	2	SM	Good	Good	A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy height over the fence.	40+	A1/2	2.4	18
22	Lime	18	550	6	6	6	6	3	3	M	Good	Good	A tree of high quality and value in the landscape.	40+	A1/2	6.6	137
23	Sycamore	5	<75	0.5	2	2	0.5	1	1	Y	Good	Poor	Multi-stemmed. Appears to be epicormic growth from a cut stump. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	10+	C1/2	0.9	3

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments/Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading	RPA Radius (M)	RPA Area (M ²)
				N	E	S	W										
24	Lime	15	500	5	6	5	5	3	3	M	Poor	Good	Swamped by ivy. Poor distribution of buds and twigs. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Cut ivy and allow to wither.	10+	C1/2	6.0	113
25	Ash	12	200	1	3	1	1	2	2	SM	Good	Good	Tall, drawn specimen. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2	2.4	18
26	Ash	12	200	1	2	1	2	2	3	SM	Good	Good	Growing against the concrete foundation. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	20+	B1/2	2.4	18
27	Hawthorn	10	250, 200	2	1	2	2	3	3	M	Good	Good	Growing against the fence. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	B1/2	20+	3.8	46
28	Yew	3	100	2	2	2	0	0	0	SM	Good	Good	Growing against the fence. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	20+	B1/2	1.2	5
29	Lime	18	600	6	6	6	7	3	3	M	Fair/Poor	Good	Poor distribution of buds and twigs. Large pieces of dead wood. Ivy. Growing against the fence. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown clean.	10+	C1/2	7.2	163
30	Hawthorn	6	200	2	2	1	1	2	2	M	Good	Good	Located close to the concrete foundation. Ivy. A tree of low quality and value in the landscape. Work Fell.	10+	C1/2	2.4	18

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height M	Stem Diameter MM	Branch Spread M				Height of Crown Clearance M	Clear Branch Height M	Age Class	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Comments/Preliminary Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution Years	Category Grading	RPA Radius (M)	RPA Area (M ²)
				N	E	S	W										
31	Lime	15	500	5	5	5	5	2	3	M	Fair/Poor	Fair	Ivy on the stem and into the canopy. Large pieces of dead wood. Reasonable distribution of buds and twigs. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown clean.	40+	A1/2	6.0	113
32	Birch	15	300	3	6	5	1	2	2	M	Good	Good	Ivy on the stem and into the canopy. Slight lean then self-corrects. A tree of moderate quality and value in the landscape.	20+	B1/2	3.6	41
33	?	5	150	2	2	2	2	1	2	SM	Good	Good	Located in the highway. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy and stem height to the south.	40+	A1/2	1.8	10
34	?	5	150	2	2	2	2	1	2	SM	Good	Good	Located in the highway. A tree of high quality and value in the landscape. Work Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy and stem height to the south.	40+	A1/2	1.8	10

Appendix B

Contents

Method Statement

Arboricultural Method Statement

Arboricultural Supervision

The general purpose is to ensure compliance with planning conditions. It is anticipated that arboricultural input is likely to be needed for the following operations:

- Pre-commencement meeting;
- Tree/vegetation removal;
- Removal of Existing Fence;
- Excavation of post holes.

All supervisory visits will be logged and a copy of the minutes circulated to all team members including the LPA. A number of the operations named above can be undertaken in a single visit.

The pre-commencement site meeting is to be held before any work is undertaken. All tree protection measures, haul routes, site storage, contractor parking, deliveries, working methods are to be freely discussed and agreed in writing. Initial site visits may be intense to ensure measures are implemented.

General site visits will be undertaken once the site is 'live' at intervals agreed with the team. Our role will be to initially to act in a compliance capacity to ensure the protective measures are fit for purpose and meet or exceed the council's requirements and the tree works are undertaken to the required standard.

Once this has been completed, our role will be one of monitoring and 'troubleshooting'.

Targets

- Pre-commencement site meeting to agree roles, responsibilities and duties in relation to tree protection. Details to be minuted and distributed.
- Appointment of an Arboricultural Clerk of Works (ACoW) to oversee works.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Construction Methods and Sequence

A Construction Method Statement and Timetable is to be drafted on the appointment of a construction firm. As noted in BS5837 – 2012 5.5.6 it is sufficient to list a heads of terms summary of the issues requiring more detailed consideration once consent is issued. On this site, those issues are likely to include:

- site construction access;
- the intensity and nature of the construction activity;
- phasing of construction works;
- the space needed for excavations and construction works;
- the location and space needed for all temporary and permanent apparatus and service runs, including, electricity or other communication cables;
- working space for plant and access during works;
- space for storing (whether temporary or long-term) materials, spoil and fuel and the mixing of cement and concrete;
- the effects of slope on the movement of potentially harmful liquid spillages towards or into protected areas.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Tree Felling/Stump Removal/Tree Pruning

The following precautions are to be taken.

Targets

- Trees to be removed shall be felled so as to fall away from tree protection zones and to avoid pulling and breaking of roots of trees to remain. Brush can be chipped into the tree protection zone to a depth of 150 mm.
 - The roots shall be removed by severing the major woody root mass before extraction. This may be accomplished by Hydro Vacuum & Suction Excavation or Compressed Air Displacement and then, cutting through the roots by hand, with a vibrating knife, rock saw, narrow trencher with sharp blades, or other approved root pruning equipment.
 - Trees to be removed within the tree protection zone shall be removed by qualified tree contractors.
 - All felled brush and trees shall be removed from the tree protection zone either by hand or with equipment sitting outside the tree protection zone. Extraction shall occur by lifting the material out or by 'skidding' it across the ground.
 - Exposed roots to be kept moist with hessian sacking.
- Site inspections to be reported to the development team and the LPA.
 - Tree pruning to BS3998 – 2010. No deviation from the specification.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Tree Felling/Stump Removal/Tree Pruning

Tag No.	Identity	Particular Schedule of Works Required
G1	Prunus	Fell, grub out stumps.
1	Willow	Fell, grub out stumps.
2	Willow	Fell, grub out stumps.
G2	Willow	Fell, grub out stumps.
3	Prunus	Fell, grub out stumps.
G3	Prunus	Fell, grub out stumps.
4	Willow	Fell, grub out stumps.
W1	Copse	Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy height for working space.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Tree Felling/Stump Removal/Tree Pruning

Tag No.	Identity	Particular Schedule of Works Required
7	Oak	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
8	Sycamore	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
9	Lime	Remove epicormic growth around the base.
G4	Sycamore	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
10	Lime	Remove epicormic growth around the base.
11	Sycamore	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
W2	Woodland	Crown lift/crown reduce to give 3m clear branch height over the fence to allow working space.
12	Lime	Remove epicormic growth around the base.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Tree Felling/Stump Removal/Tree Pruning

Tag No.	Identity	Particular Schedule of Works Required
13	Lime	Remove epicormic growth around the base.
14	Ash	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
15	Lime	Remove epicormic growth around the base.
G5	Ash	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
16	Lime	Remove epicormic growth around the base.
G6	Group	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
18	Lime	Remove epicormic growth to the first branch to the west,
19	Lime	Remove epicormic growth to the first fork.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Tree Felling/Stump Removal/Tree Pruning

Tag No.	Identity	Particular Schedule of Works Required
20	Lime	Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy height over the fence.
21	Lime	Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy height over the fence.
23	Sycamore	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
24	Lime	Cut ivy and allow to wither.
26	Ash	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
27	Hawthorn	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
28	Yew	Fell, remove stumps by grinding.
29	Lime	Crown clean.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Tree Felling/Stump Removal/Tree Pruning

Tag No.	Identity	Particular Schedule of Works Required
31	Lime	Crown clean.
33		Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy and stem height to the south.
34		Crown lift to give 3m clear canopy and stem height to the south.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Fence Post Removal in Construction Exclusion Zone/Root Protection Area: Site Wide

Targets

- The works area is to be marked out. The ground to be protected.
- Using hand tools, the existing fence and concrete upstands are to be broken out.
- Arisings to be loaded into barrows or machine buckets.
- In all cases: Roots <25mm Ø are to be cut at the excavation face with secateurs. Roots >25mm Ø are to be assessed by the Arboricultural Consultant. Findings and decision on root retention/severance to be reported to the LPA.
- Site inspections to be reported to the development team and the LPA.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Fence Post Excavation in Construction Exclusion Zone/Root Protection Area: Site Wide

Targets

- The works area is to be marked out. The ground to be protected as detailed. Turf to a depth of 75 mm to be removed by a turf iron.
- Post holes to be excavated by hand digging.
- In all cases: Roots <25mm Ø are to be cut at the excavation face with secateurs. Roots >25mm Ø are to be assessed by the Arboricultural Consultant. Findings and decision on root retention/severance to be reported to the LPA.
- The excavation face to be lined with a root barrier (such as re-root 2000).
- Site inspections to be reported to the development team and the LPA.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Vertical Mulching for unauthorised access to Root Protection Areas/Construction Exclusion Zones:

Work area to be marked out.

Targets

- Use an air spade or hand-held auger to create holes that are between 50 and 75 millimetres in diameter and drilled at around 600-millimetre centres. The holes should be arranged in a grid pattern up to 1 – 1.5 x the RPA. They should be drilled to a depth of around 300/350 millimetres.
- Dispose of the soil dislodged by the air spade/auger and fill each hole with a diluted liquid fertiliser.
- The liquid fertiliser used and dilution rate (1:100 or 1:50) will depend on the results of a soil nutrient analysis.
- Once the liquid fertiliser has drained away refill each hole with the following blend of fresh soil:
- Biochar (5%):John Innes Soil No 2 or 3 (50%):Multi-Purpose Compost (40%): Slow release (6-12 month) inorganic or organic fertiliser (5%).

Arboricultural Method Statement

General Precautions

The retention of trees requires a number of general precautions to be taken. Compliance is to be maintained on site by the Arboricultural Consultant. The site visits are detailed at criterion 1 – Timing of Works.

Targets

- Spoil from the foundation pits or other excavations shall not be placed within the Construction Exclusion Zone.
- No materials, equipment, spoil or washout water may be deposited, stored or parked within the Root Protection Area/ Construction Exclusion Zone.
- On-site inspections to be undertaken by the Arboricultural Clerk of Works with the Arboricultural Consultant visiting during critical operations. The aim of the visits is to maintain on-going liaison with all personnel involved in the site development, Local Planning Authority and its Tree Officer.
- Any defects requiring rectification shall be notified to the Contractor/Site Manager/Arboricultural Consultant and the client.
- A site logbook for tree protection measures is kept to record all stages of the development from the erection of the protective fencing, right through to the completion of the project. This will be made available to the Arboricultural Consultant and the Local Planning Authority, if required, to show evidence of continuous site monitoring.

Protection and Emergency Procedure/Contacts

Adherence to the method statement, appointment of the Arboricultural Consultant and their involvement, at the critical demolition and construction phases, should negate any incident. The contact page details those personnel who should be contacted if an incident involving a retained tree should take place.

Targets

- Spill kit available.
- On site fuels to be located away from RPA/CEZ and contained in a bunded tank at 110% capacity.
- All incidents involving trees to be reported by telephone and email.
- Bunded storage of oil/fuels.
- Refuelling points for machinery at distance to the watercourse.
- Use of drop trays under plant/machinery overnight.
- Availability of spill kits on site – and training of site staff in their use.
- No excavation during periods of heavy rain.
- Regular maintenance and inspection of plant – engines and hydraulic systems.

Arboricultural Method Statement

Contact List

Title	Name	Address	Telephone	Email
Arboricultural Consultant	TBA			
Arboricultural Clerk of Works (ACoW)	TBA			
Design	TBA			
Project Manager	TBA			
Arboricultural Consultant (Council)	TBA			

Head Office

Booths Park, Chelford Road, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 8GS

01565 755 422

www.acsconsulting.co.uk

Scotland Office

272 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4JR

0141 354 1633

glasgow@acsconsulting.co.uk

www.acsconsulting.co.uk

Ian Murat

M.Sc, F.Arbor.A, CEnv, MCIEEM, RC. Arbor.A

Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association.

ian.murat@acsconsulting.co.uk

