

Arboricultural Report
composed of
Arboricultural Impact Assessment
Arboricultural Method Statement
& Tree Protection Plan
for

Mr Tom White
Woodside Lodge
Picts Lane Cowfold RH13 8AT

Written by
Barry Holdsworth MBA, RHS. Dip, MCI Hort, M.Arbor.A, MCMI
Horticultural Consultant

19th January 2026

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1.0 Survey Details

Site Location: Woodside Lodge Picts Lane Cowfold RH13 8AT

Local Authority: Horsham District Council

Survey date: 14th January 2026

Report date: 19th January 2026

Surveyed by: Barry Holdsworth MBA, RHS. Dip, MCI Hort, M.Arbor.A, MCMI

2.0 Instructions

2.1 I have been instructed to survey the trees potentially affected by the proposal and produce an arboricultural report fully compliant with the recommendations contained within 'BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.'

2.2 My name is Barry Holdsworth and I am the author of this report. I have over 30 years experience in horticulture including tree and landscape management in both the public and private sectors. I am a qualified horticulturist, professional tree inspector and a member of the Arboricultural Association and the Chartered Institute of Horticulture and hold the obligatory LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection certification.

3.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

3.1 The Proposal

3.1.1. The proposal is to build a new dwelling set on the footprint of the existing building.

3.2 The Site

3.2.1. The site is located off Picts Lane, Cowfold, set within a Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) tree plantation. A large open area from the gateway onto the site leads to the existing building set at the rear of the defined site boundary within the plantation, with a bund to the west behind the building and another bund to the north. Tracks into the plantation are found to the north and south of the existing building and also parallel to the road.

3.2.2. The site does not fall within a Conservation Area. There is no existing Tree Preservation Order (TPO) in place.

3.2.3. A number of trees of varying species, size and age are to be found both on the site and just over the boundary. All the trees were surveyed from ground level in accordance with the requirements of BS 5837:2012.

The trees are plotted on the Tree Survey Plan by Barry Holdsworth Ltd (Appendix 1. Tree Survey Plan) and details of each tree are specified in the Tree Survey Spreadsheet with the Key and General Comments for the survey data found below in Appendix 3. Tree Survey Spreadsheet.

See below for Site Photographs.

3.2.4. Bedrock Geology is Weald Clay Formation-Mudstone. These sedimentary rocks are fluvial, palustrine and shallow-marine in origin. They are detrital, forming deposits reflecting the channels, floodplains and deltas of a river in a coastal setting (with periodic inundation from the sea). Information obtained from the (online) 'Geology of Britain Viewer'. Reproduced with the permission of the British Geological Survey ©UKRI. All rights Reserved.

3.3 Access

3.3.1. Access will remain from Picts Lane, Cowfold. A new drive with a turning area is to be built on the existing hard standing.

3.4 Demolition

3.4.1. Demolition of the existing building is required.

3.5 Trees effected by Construction and other Tree Works

3.5.1. The Tree Survey Plan by Barry Holdsworth Ltd indicates the trees on site, their Root Protection Area (RPA) and if they are to be retained (green outlined tree canopy) or removed (red

outlined tree canopy). The Tree Protection Plan by Barry Holdsworth Ltd (Appendix 2. Tree Protection Plan) shows the proposed footprint of the buildings.

3.5.2. A number of trees are to be removed to enable this scheme to be implemented. These trees are the group of trees G1 in front of the existing building to the west, the group of self sown Willow to the east combined with the trees T6 and T7 set on the bund that will be removed to allow the new building too be constructed. Finally the two poor specimen Oak trees T8 and T9 set on the bund to the north of the site.

The trees affected are G1(B), G2 (U), T6(C), T7(C), T8 (U), T9U).

B - Moderate Quality, **C** - Low Quality, **U** - Unlikely to live more than 10 years

All the remaining trees found on the site are situated outside the building zone. However, in order to protect the root zones and canopies of the remaining trees a Construction Exclusion Zone is to be arranged with tree protection fencing erected across the site, as shown on the Tree Protection plan, see Appendix 2.

3.6 Implications of Sloping Ground

3.6.1. There are no arboricultural implications for the new building regarding sloping ground.

3.7 Requirement for Tree Barrier Fencing and Ground Protection

3.7.1. Protective fencing is to be erected on site before any digging and construction works begin. This must be fit for purpose and in full accordance with the requirements of BS 5837:2012 and positioned as shown on the Tree Protection Plan by Barry Holdsworth. Full details of the tree protection fencing are shown at the end of this statement.

3.7.2. The Tree Protection Fence will create a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) and this is shown as orange hatching on the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 2. Tree Protection Plan).

3.7.3. As the ground is soft at the entrance and the roots of T1 lie beneath this area it is advocated that ground protection is required (as shown on the Tree Protection Plan. Appendix 2) and heavy duty mats such as Hermes **Safe Trak Mats** are used that can take weights up to 80 tonnes on medium to soft ground. *These mats have a unique surface with one side being non-slip for pedestrians and the other side being a non-skid deep traction surface for vehicles. They are commonly used for moving large machinery and vehicles over soft ground in construction environments.*

3.8 Compound

3.8.1. There is sufficient area to accommodate the materials required for the construction of the proposed new building within the plot.

3.9 Monitoring

3.9.1. Monitoring may be required, as stated in 6.3 of BS 5837:2012, depending on the conditions set by the Local Planning Authority.

3.10 Landscape Implications

3.10.1. The proposed new dwelling will not interfere with the remaining trees, so there are no negative implications as regards landscaping.

3.11 Post Development Implications

3.11.1. The design of the development, together with the orientation of the site is such that issues involving trees (e.g., shading, privacy, screening, direct damage, future pressure for removal) are not considered to be significant issues.

3.12 Terms of Reference

3.12.1. The terms of reference are the site survey and Architects drawings that have been submitted to support the application.

3.13 Conclusions

3.13.1. It is concluded that the existing trees on site should not present a planning constraint to the development of this site.

3.14 Recommendations

3.14.1. It is advocated that the Local Planning Authority (Tree Officer) should consider approval of the application with the condition that the protective measures stated above in this report are adhered to for the duration of the build.

4.0 Arboricultural Method Statement & Tree Protection Plan

4.1 Securing of Tree Structure and Root Protection Areas (RPA)

4.1.1. All the remaining trees on site will be protected by the use of stout barrier fencing that is erected in the position indicated on the Tree Protection Plan. This fencing will be in accordance with the requirements of BS 5837:2012 including any necessary ground protection and will be erected prior to any development commencing on the site, therefore ensuring the maximum protection. This fencing, which must have all-weather notices attached stating 'Construction Exclusion Zone – No Access', or similar, with a sign such as shown in Appendix 7. Tree Protection Warning Sign. This area will be regarded as sacrosanct and, once erected, will not be removed or altered without the prior consent of the Local Planning Authority.

4.2 Location of Site Office, Compound and Parking

4.2.1. There is sufficient space for the storage of materials and plant required for the works.

4.3 On Site Storage of Spoil, Building Materials and Mixing and use of concrete around trees

4.3.1. Prior to and during all construction works on site, no spoil or construction materials will be stored within the CEZ. This is to eliminate any damage occurring to any of the protected trees including compaction of the tree roots. Details of the RPA for each tree are outlined in the Tree Survey Spreadsheet, Appendix 3, which is accompanied with a Key and General Comments, Appendix 4, by Barry Holdsworth Ltd. Any encroachment within this protected area will only be with the prior agreement of the Local Planning Authority.

4.3.2. Any facilities for the storage of oils, fuels or chemicals shall be sited on impervious bases and surrounded by impervious bund walls. The volume of the bund compound shall be at least equivalent to the capacity of the tank plus 10%. If there is multiple tankage, the compound shall be at least equivalent to the capacity of the largest tank, or the combined capacity of interconnected tanks, plus 10%. All filling points, vents, gauges and sight glasses shall be located within the bund. The drainage system of the bund shall be sealed with no discharge to any watercourse, land or underground strata. Associated pipework shall be located above ground and protected from accidental damage. All filling points and tank overflow pipe outlets shall be detailed to discharge downwards into the bund.

4.3.3. All material storage facilities and work areas must consider the effects of sloping ground on the movement of potentially harmful liquid spillages towards or into protected areas.

4.3.4. Mixing and use of concrete around trees - concrete or cementitious (mortar, cement, slurry) washout wastewater is caustic and considered to be corrosive with a pH over 12, which are toxic to trees. It is important that protection is provided to prevent these contaminants coming into contact with exposed roots, so limiting the potential for harm.

It is therefore recommended that an impermeable membrane such as heavy-grade polythene sheeting is used when these construction materials are utilised during the build.

If space is limited then the mixing will need to be carried out in a bunded area to contain any spillages and runoff. A proprietary mixing tray would suffice where only small quantities are required, but mixing of larger quantities (e.g. requiring a mechanical mixer) would require more substantial protection, constructed out of timber sheeting and edged 200mm boards, covered in heavy-grade polythene sheeting.

Should piling be required, then prior to pouring, all pile holes will be lined with heavy-grade polythene sheeting to prevent the leaching of concrete into the surrounding soil and contamination of roots.

4.4 Programme of Works

4.4.1. The protective fencing that forms the CEZ will be erected along the lines indicated on the Tree Protection Plan Appendix 3 by Barry Holdsworth Ltd, together with the ground protection measures as detailed above prior to commencement of any development works on the site.

4.5 Tree Surgery

4.5.1. Tree surgery is required, but should this alter then the work needs to be undertaken to BS 3998:2010 Tree work. Recommendations.

4.6 Levels

4.6.1. There are no areas of the site where there are any proposed alterations to soil levels within the RPA of retained trees.

4.7. Cranes, plant and machinery – general provisions.

4.7.1. Contractors' plant used during the build and break-down periods should only be of appropriate size for the operations they are required for, and not larger than is necessary. For excavators, a maximum weight limit of 7.5 tonnes will apply. Metal tracked equipment of any type is not permitted on site. Wheeled plant or vehicles must be fitted with grassland tyres; lugged tyres can be used on tarmac roads and temporary roadway sections only.

4.7.2. Cranes used should only be of the appropriate size for the operations they are required for, and not larger than is necessary. If, when in their working positions, crane outriggers or stabilisers project beyond the edges of existing or temporary roadways onto unprotected ground within RPAs, the ground beneath their stabiliser pads must be protected by a minimum of two standard (i.e. 8' X 4') sheets of 20mm exterior grade plywood per stabiliser pad.

4.8 Services

4.8.1. Detailed drawings of proposed underground services have not been produced at this stage of the planning process, thus it is not possible to identify any potential impacts between trees shown on the TPP and proposed services.

4.8.2. At the detailed design stage and subject to planning consent being obtained, proposed underground services will either utilise existing service routes where possible, or will be located outside the RPAs of trees shown retained.

4.8.3. If any existing services within RPAs require upgrading, care shall be taken to minimise disturbance and where practicable, trenchless techniques employed; only as a last resort should open excavations be considered. Where existing services within RPAs are deemed not satisfactory for any further use they should be left in situ rather than being excavated or removed.

4.8.4. In the event that incursions into RPAs are unavoidable, any new installation will comply with the methods and guidelines detailed in the National Joint Utilities Group publication NJUG 4, Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees.

4.8.5. The locations of proposed service routes will be approved by the Project Arboriculturalist and shown on a revised Tree Protection Plan.

4.8.6. All routes for overhead services will avoid any trees.

4.8.7. All service providers (Statutory Authorities) will be consulted prior to commencement of works with the aim of minimizing the number of service runs on the site.

4.9 Hard Surface Types & Construction within the Root Protection Area

4.9.1. No construction of footpaths, driveways, non adoptable roads and other hard surfaces are to be undertaken within the RPA of any remaining trees as calculated in accordance with BS

5837:2012 other than those detailed above in 1.5. Trees affected by Construction and other Tree Works.

4.9.2. If new boundary fencing is to be erected within the RPA of any retained trees, it is proposed that the fence posts will be secured by the use of “Met-Posts” or similar design in order to keep the disturbance and damage of the tree roots to a minimum.

4.10 Reporting and Monitoring Procedures

4.10.1. In accordance with item 6.3 of BS 5837:2012, the site and associated development may be requested to be monitored regularly by the Project Arboriculturalist to ensure that the arboricultural aspects of the planning permission (e.g. the installation and maintenance of protective measures and the supervision of specialist working techniques) are implemented. It is not deemed necessary in this instance.

4.10.2. The Council may require regular contact between the Site Manager and the Project Arboriculturalist, which will allow them to effectively deal with and advise on any tree related problems that may occur during the development process.

4.10.3. If site monitoring is required then item 4.11 *Site management and supervision* details the process involved.

4.11. Site Management and Supervision

4.11.1. *Pre-commencement site meeting*: Before any site works, including site clearance begin, a site meeting between the Site Manager and the Project Arboriculturalist will be held. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss tree protection measures detailed in this document and agree the monitoring and/or supervision arrangements between the Project Arboriculturalist and the developer using the Site Monitoring and Supervision Schedule, see Appendix 8 Site Monitoring and Supervision Schedule.

4.11.2. *Site management*: It is the responsibility of the main contractor to ensure that the details of this report are known, understood and followed by all site personnel. As part of the site induction, all site personnel who could have an impact on trees, should be briefed on specific tree protection requirements. Copies of the report and plans should be available on site at all times.

4.11.3. *Site monitoring and supervision*: Once the protective fencing and ground boarding (if required) have been erected, the Project Arboriculturalist will visit the site and inspect these tree protection measures. In the event that the specification or location of these items does not comply with this method statement, the Project Arboriculturalist will inform the fencing contractor, and adjustments will be made.

Once work begins on site, the Project Arboriculturalist should visit the site at an interval agreed at the Pre-commencement site meeting. The interval should be sufficiently flexible to allow the supervision of key works as they occur. The Project Arboriculturalist's role is to monitor compliance with arboricultural conditions and advising on any tree problems that arise or modifications that become necessary. Following every site visit, a brief report will be sent to the Local Authority Tree Officer and the client/developer using the Arboricultural Consultant Site Monitoring Form, see Appendix 9 Arboricultural Consultant Site Monitoring Form.

Site Photographs



Oak tree T1 set on bund hard by gateway into the site



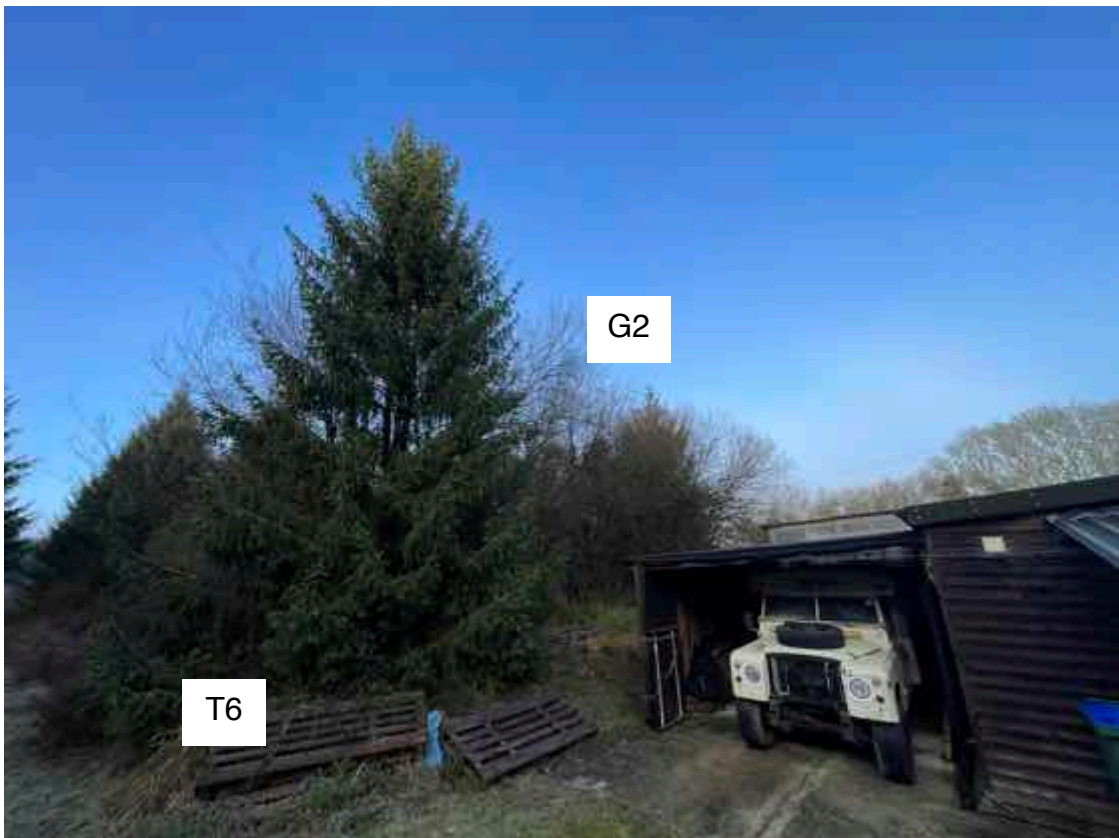
Oak tree T2 set on small bund along Picts Lane



Cluster of trees T3, T4 and T5



G1 trees and trackway into plantation





T7 tree and trackway into plantation



Frontage of existing building, hard standing and trackway into plantation

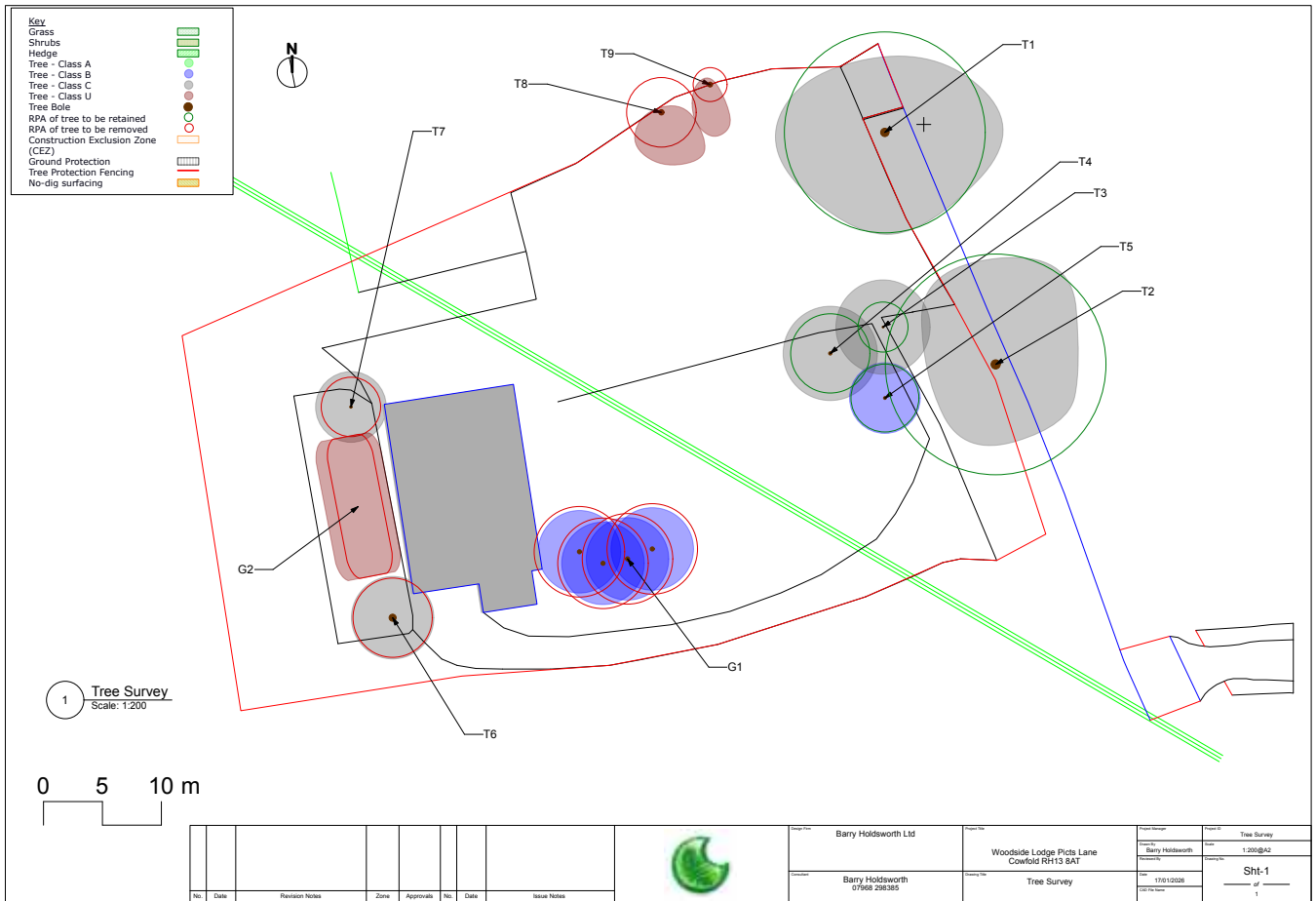


Northern bund and hard standing

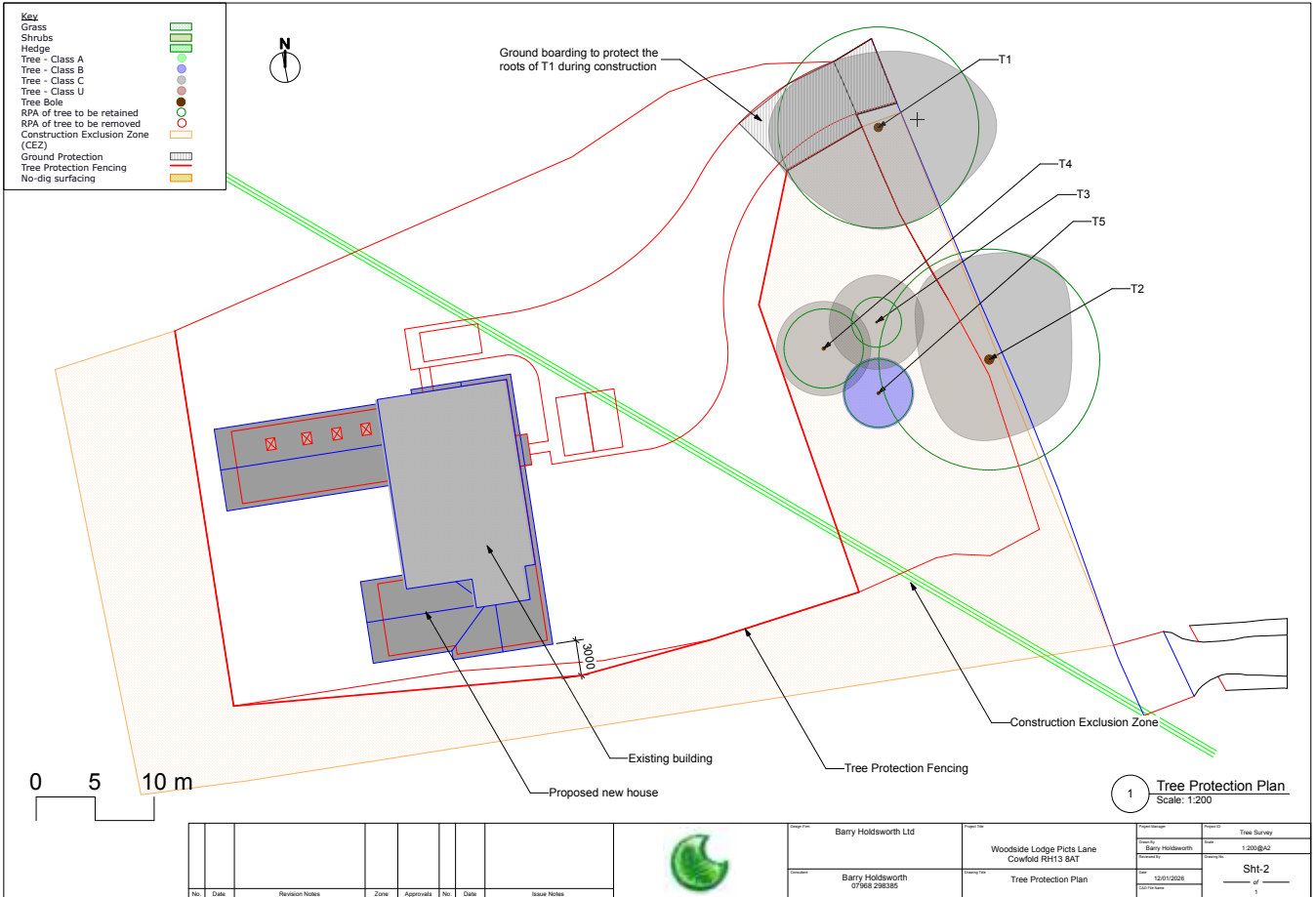


Hard standing and entrance by T1 where van is sited

Appendix 1. Tree Survey Plan



Appendix 2. Tree Protection Plan



Appendix 3. Tree Survey Spreadsheet

Tree Survey Spreadsheet at Woodside Lodge Picts Lane Cowfold RH13 8AT

No	Species	Height	Ø at 1.5m	Spread	Crown	Age	Condition and Recommendations	Removal	ERC	BS	RPA
				NSEW	clearance					Grade	
T1	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	20	710	6/8/10/9	4mS	M	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: None Ivy up trunk and into canopy 12m Recommend: Remove ivy	N R/I	>20 B	C2	8.52
T2	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	20	780	10/7/7/8	4mN	M	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Moderate Inspection Limitations: None Ivy up trunk and into canopy 15m Recommend: Remove ivy	N R/I	>20 B	C2	9.36
T3	Goat Willow <i>Salix caprea</i>	8	6x50 3x60 80	8.0Ø	0.5mE	SM	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Poor Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None main stems g/l -0.5m @45°W	N	>10	C2	2.12
T4	Norway Spruce <i>Picea abies</i>	15	280	8.0Ø	2.0mE	EM	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Ivy up trunk and into entire canopy	N	>20	C2	3.36
T5	Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	12	240	6.0Ø	1.5mS	EM	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Ivy up trunk and into entire canopy	N	>20	B2	2.88
G1	Norway Spruce <i>Picea abies</i>	16	320 av.	7.0Ø each	g/l	EM	Physiological Condition: Good Structural Condition: Good Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Group of 4 trees Recommend: Remove for development	Y Fell	>20 B	B2	3.84

Tree Survey Spreadsheet at Woodside Lodge Picts Lane Cowfold RH13 8AT

T6	Norway Spruce <i>Picea abies</i>	16	280	7.0Ø	g/l	EM	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Recommend: Remove for development	Y Fell	>20 B	C2	3.36
G2	Goat Willow <i>Salix caprea</i>	9	50-100	6-7.0Ø	g/l	SM	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Poor quality self sown plants growing on bund Recommend: Remove for development	Y Fell	<10 B	U	1.8
T7	Norway Spruce <i>Picea abies</i>	14	210	6.0Ø	1mN	EM	Physiological Condition: Fair Structural Condition: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Recommend: Remove for development	Y Fell	>20 B	C2	2.52
T8	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	8	105+160 2x110	0/6/3/3	6mW	SM	Physiological Condition: Poor Structural Condition: Poor Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Etiolated poor specimen leaning 25°S Recommend: Remove for development	Y Fell	<10 B	U	2.95
T9	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	7	120	0/6/1/1	6mW	SM	Physiological Condition: Poor Structural Condition: Poor Public Amenity Value: Low Inspection Limitations: None Etiolated poor specimen leaning 25°S Recommend: Remove for development	Y Fell	<10 B	U	1.44

Appendix 4. Key and General Comments

Key and General Comments

This survey was undertaken in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations.

The survey uses the site survey and plans supplied by Scandia Hus Ltd, Oakleigh House, 12 Scandia-Hus Business Park, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 2LP. Tree positions are as shown on the survey. Crown dimensions on the plan are indicative and should be taken from the schedule for the purposes of scaling.

The site does not fall within a Conservation Area. There is no existing Tree Preservation Order (TPO) in place.

No internal investigation of any tree was undertaken.

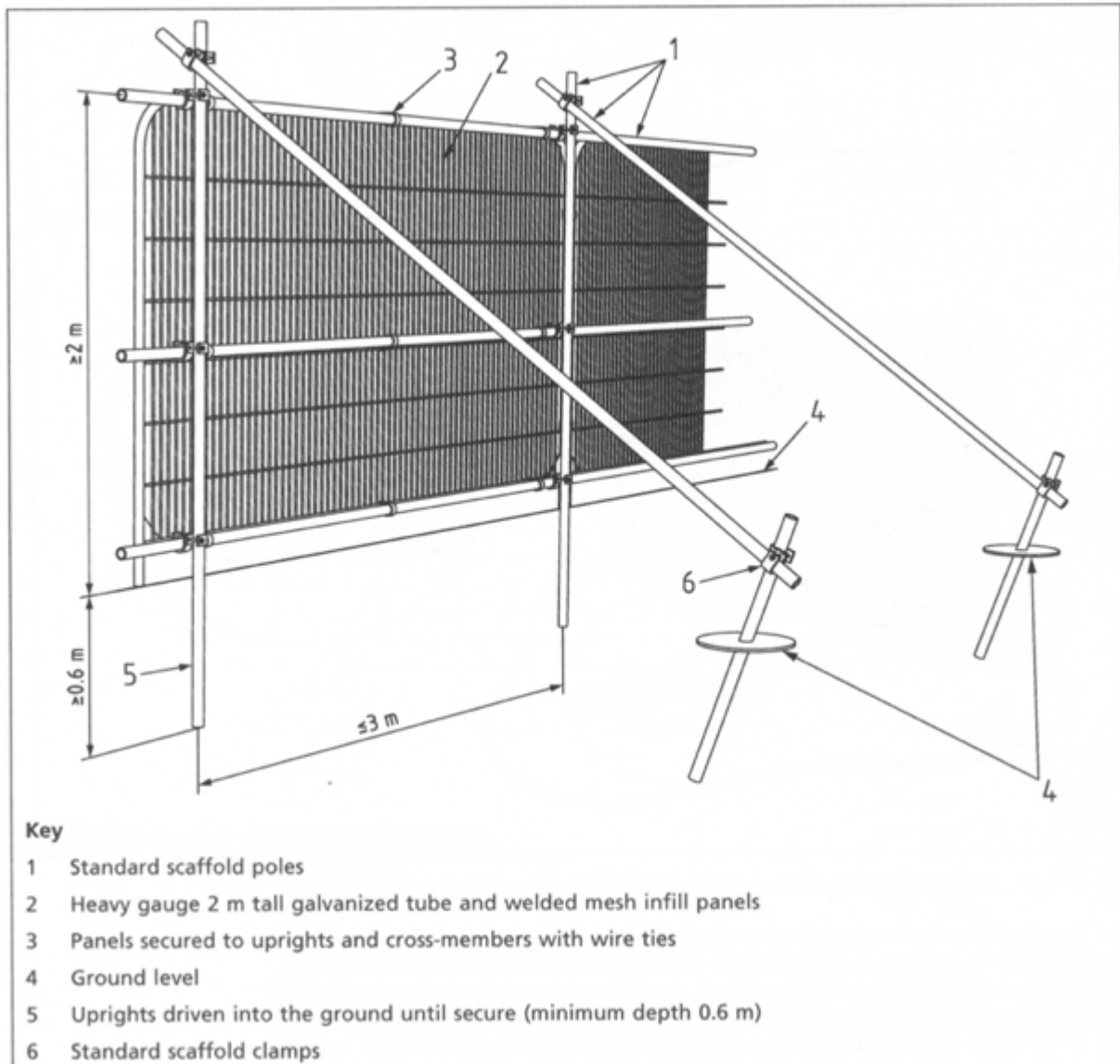
This survey was undertaken on 14th January 2026, the weather conditions were clear and frosty.

The details of this survey are based upon the condition of the subject tree/s present on the date of the inspection. Responsibility cannot be held for the subsequent effects of extremes of weather, vandalism or damaging acts either negligent or wilful. Liability cannot be held for any subsequent physical undertaking to the canopy, stem or roots of the tree/s. This survey is valid for a period of two years from the date of the site inspection unless the site conditions change or works unspecified in this report are undertaken.

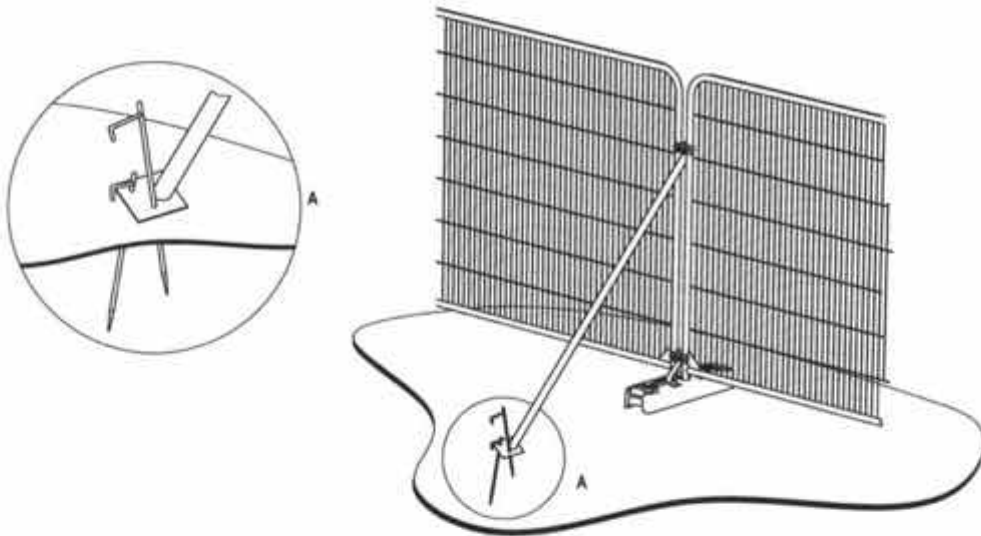
Item	Abbreviation Description
No.	Sequential reference number of single tree, shown as T and group of trees shown as G
Species	Species listed by common name - botanical name given in Key and General Comment
Height	Height in meters (estimated)
Stem Ø	Trunk Diameter in millimetres, to nearest 10mm, measured at 1.5m above ground level
Spread	Branch spread at the four cardinal points measured in meters, or crown diameter suffixed Ø
Crown Clearance	Height in meters of first significant branch and direction of growth of canopy above ground level
Life Stage	Y-Young, SM-Semi Mature, EM-Early Mature, M-Mature, OM- Over Mature, D-Dead
Condition and Recommendations	Structural condition and record of defects with preliminary management recommendations
ERC	Estimated remaining contribution in years (<10, 10+, 20+, 40+)
RPA	Root Protection Area
BS Grade	British Standard grading of tree A - High Quality, B - Moderate Quality, C - Low Quality, U - Unlikely to live more than 10 years 1- Arboricultural Qualities, 2 - Landscape Qualities, 3 - Cultural/Conservational Value
Bifurcated	Stem divides into two stems
N S E W	Compass Direction Point, may also appear as NE
#	Estimated dimension
g/l	Ground Level
m/s	Multi-stemmed
CB	Cut Back to boundary/clear from structure
CL#	Crown Lift to given height in meters
CT%	Crown Thinning by identified %
CC	Crown Clean (remove deadwood, crossing limbs and hazardous branches)
CR	Crown Reduce by given maximum % (of outermost branch & twig length)
RD	Remove Deadwood
Fell	Fell to ground level
POL	Pollard or Re-Pollard
S/I	Sever ivy
WP	Works Priority: A - Urgent (ASAP) , B - Medium - within 6 months, C - Low - 2-3 years
Monitor	Check / monitor progress of defect(s) at next consultant inspection which should be <18 months in frequented areas and <3 years in areas of more occasional use

Appendix 5. Tree Protection Fence - Default specification for protective barrier

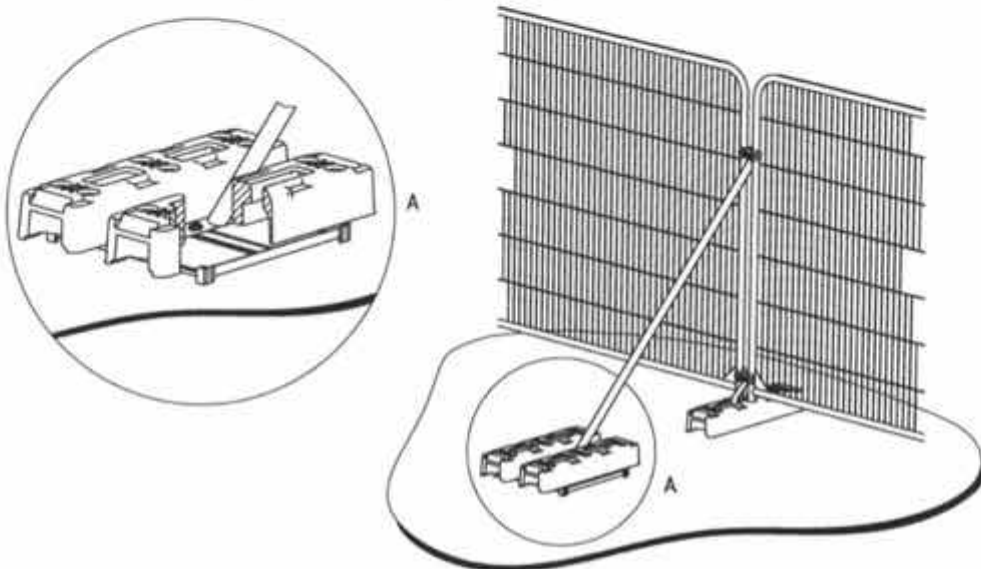
Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



Appendix 6. Tree Protection Fence - Above ground stabilising system



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins.



b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

Appendix 7. Tree Protection Warning Sign



Appendix 8. Site Monitoring and Supervision Schedule

Site Monitoring & Supervision Schedule

Constraints item	Supervision required?	Number of visits expected	Timing of site visits
Tree works operations	Yes / No		Prior to construction
Establishment of construction exclusion zones for retained trees incl. barriers and ground protection and ongoing maintenance of protection	Yes / No		Prior to site clearance and throughout development
Changes in soil levels in close proximity to retained trees	Yes / No		During site clearance phase
Excavation for foundations within RPAs	Yes / No		During construction build phase
Construction of hard surfaces within RPAs	Yes / No		Post site clearance, during construction
Protection and prevention of damage to retained tree canopies during construction	Yes / No		Post site clearance, During construction phase
Site access for construction vehicles and avoidance of compaction to the RPA of	Yes / No		During construction phase
Excavation of service trenches within RPAs of	Yes / No		During construction phase
Generic construction site constraints: 1. Site hut location 2. Temporary toilets 3. Siting of bonfires 4. Location of contaminant storage and washout	Yes / No		During construction phase
Replacement tree planting conforms with NHBC Ch.4.2 and planning conditions	Yes / No		Post construction

Appendix 9. Arboricultural Consultant Site Monitoring Form

ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTANT SITE MONITORING FORM

Client contact details:

Site:

Ref:

LPA Tree Officer:

Consultant:

Date of inspection:

Accompanied by site manager

Site currently active

Previous actions complied with

INSPECTION DETAILS:

Any signs/evidence within the RPA of:

Ground contamination

Changed soil levels

Excavations

Vehicle movements

Cement washings

Material storage

Water run off

Ground compaction

Unauthorised tree works

If yes to any of the above provide details:

CONDITION OF FENCING:

Erected according to approved details

Protective signs present

Fencing in place/intact

Upright poles in ground

Bracing & clamps in place

Any signs of breach

ADDITIONAL NOTES including action taken/required:

Date of next inspection:

Copied to client

Copied to Site manager

Copied to LPA

Appendix 10 Scope of the Report

1.0 Scope of the Report

1.1 The survey has been undertaken in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations' and was made in the context of the site's current usage. The purpose of the survey is to produce base line survey data for trees, identifying constraints and opportunities for sustainable tree cover for the development proposal that this site offers.

1.2 This report comprises the prerequisite information for the planning process recommended in BS 5837:2012 – The production of a Tree Survey, an Arboricultural Impact Assessment, a Tree Protection Plan and an Arboricultural Method Statement, as required.

1.3 The tree locations and canopy spreads are plotted on the Tree Survey and Tree Protection Plans referenced.

1.4 A detailed condition survey or hazard assessment of each tree has not been undertaken. If the condition of a tree was noted to require a more detailed assessment, then that observation is included in the tree survey data spreadsheet.

1.5 The findings within this report have been made on the basis of evidence seen during the site survey. Note that some indications of tree hazard, such as leaf appearance and density, fungal fruiting bodies, and specific pests and diseases, are only visible at specific times of the year.

1.6 This report is valid for two years from the date of inspection. Or, the re-inspection dates given for any tree in the survey schedule. Or, adverse weather conditions e.g. severe gales effect the trees surveyed.

1.7 Trees are protected in law in certain circumstances, such as Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's), Conservation Areas (CA's) or planning conditions that may affect the site and its trees. Therefore, it is important to check with the relevant Local Authority to ensure that prior permission is not required before tree works are undertaken

1.8 Works to trees can also be regulated because of the risk of harming wildlife which may live on, or around them. Wild birds and bats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981). It is an offence to knowingly disturb their nests or roosts, while works to trees in proximity to badger setts may require a licence.

1.9 Any tree works should be undertaken in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 'Tree work - Recommendations'.

2.0 Survey Method

2.1 Each tree was inspected from ground level, noting only external features and defects. The Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method was used to carry out the tree survey. VTA is a non-invasive method of examining the health and structural condition of individual trees.

It has become the standard approach for surveying trees. By visually examining a tree, an arboriculturalist can gather information on the condition of its roots, trunk, main branch structure, crown, buds and leaves to make an assessment and draw conclusions about general condition, health and vitality.

2.2 No climbing inspection was made of the crown, no excavation was made of the root system, and no specific decay detection equipment was used.

2.3 The following instruments were available to carry out the inspection:

Diameter tape for measuring tree stem diameters.

Binoculars for the visual inspection of the canopy and scaffold of the tree.

Nikon Forestry Pro Laser Rangefinder.

Nylon headed mallet to sound trees for audible indications of decay.

Steel probe to identify the presence and extent of cavities.

2.4 No soil or tissue samples were collected.

2.5 The following publications have been used to inform this survey, and the recommendations which follow from it:

1. British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.'
2. British Standard 3998:2010 'Tree work - Recommendations.'
3. 'Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management' by David Lonsdale, Forestry Commission, 1999.
4. 3. 'Diagnosis of Ill-health in Trees' by R.G. Strouts and T.G. Winter. Forestry Commission, 1994.

5. 4. 'The Body Language of Trees - A handbook for failure analysis' by C. Mattheck and H. Breloer, 1994.

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Ecology

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