

Arboricultural Method Statement & Arboricultural Supervision and Monitoring Plan

relating to development at

*Woodfords,
Shipley Road,
Southwater,
Horsham,
West Sussex
RH13 9BQ*

Client

Bellway Homes

July 2026

2463-KC-XX-YTREE-MethodStatement-RevC

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Document history

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Rev0	Final	Initial report	JK / 18 February 2026
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WARNING

Existing trees on the northern boundary of the site are protected by Tree Preservation Order W1 of TPO 1436.

That Order protects all parts of the tree, whether above or below ground, and failure to comply with this method statement that results in damage to trees can result in prosecution resulting in a criminal record and substantial fine.

Within a Woodland classification of Tree Preservation Order the protection extends to all trees from the smallest sapling to the largest specimen.

ABSTRACT

Protective barriers are required throughout the construction process to protect the retained trees on the site.

Tree removal and pruning are required.

Swale formation is proximate to retained trees and needs to be implemented in accordance with this method statement.

Sections of hard surface are located within root protection areas and require specialist construction.

Specialist installation of specific utilities is required within root protection areas.

1.0 Statement of purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this method statement is to demonstrate how works will be undertaken at Land at Woodfords, Shipley Road, Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 9BQ, to avoid unacceptable arboricultural impact and provide an adequate level of protection for those trees that are to be retained.
- 1.2 This method statement has been produced for Bellway Homes in order to inform the construction team and satisfy the requirements of the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Horsham District Council. The works are the subject of a reserved matters consent (DC/25/1658) and this arboricultural method statement has been prepared to support the discharge of a condition appertaining to that consent.
- 1.3 This method statement merely considers the systems of work in relation to the health and safety of retained trees. It does not address requirements of the Health and Safety Executive that should be considered in detail by those parties involved.

2.0 Related documents and drawings

- 2.1 This method statement should be read in conjunction with the documents in Table 1 and drawings in Table 2 below.

3.0 Arboricultural issues & implications

- 3.1 Detail of the trees and their protection are discussed and detailed in the documents, and shown on the drawings, listed above and should be read in conjunction with this method statement.
- 3.2 The buildings are located outside the root protection areas of all retained trees and can therefore be constructed using conventional construction techniques.
- 3.3 Sections of proposed hard surface extend within the root protection area of retained trees requiring the adoption of specific construction techniques.
- 3.4 Tree removal and pruning work is required.
- 3.5 Utility provision can mostly be accommodated outside root protection areas and therefore be installed conventionally. Where installations are within root protection areas they shall adopt specialist installation techniques.

- 3.6 Proposed swales are proximate to trees and need specialist installation. Swales have been selected as the means to convey water to the existing ditch system at the perimeter of the site in accordance with the Flood Risk Assessment. Swales have been minimised in depth to avoid the need for trenching. Trenchless installation of a piped system has been ruled out as it requires a receiving pit to be dug on the ditch line where most trees are present.
- 3.7 A concrete base needs to be removed from within a root protection area. The works shall observe the methodology set out in this statement.
- 3.8 An existing driveway is to be removed. It shall be removed in accordance with the methodology set out in this statement.
- 3.9 Monitoring of works is required.

Table 1: Documents referred to

Originator	Title/Reference
British Standards Institute	<i>BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations</i>

Table 2: Drawings referred to

Originator	Drg No	Title
Ardent	2108061_A-ACE-XX-00-DR-C-0502 Rev B	Proposed Site Access Arrangement
Allen Pyke	3424-APA-ZZ-XX-PP-L-2006 to 2008 Rev P02	Planting Plan 1 to 3
Robert West	5960-002-5001 to 5004-T03	Proposed Drainage
Keen Consultants	2463-KC-XX-YTREE-TCP01Rev0	Tree Constraints Plan
Keen Consultants	2463-KC-XX-YTREE-TPP01Rev1	Tree Protection Plan

4.0 Facilitation tree works

- 4.1 Tree pruning and removal are required to accommodate the proposed development.
- 4.2 Details of the tree work are given in the schedule on the Tree Protection Plan referred to in Table 2 above.
- 4.3 All tree work shall be undertaken in accordance with *BS3998:2010:Tree Work – Recommendations*.

5.0 General site care

- 5.1 To ensure that the trees to be retained are afforded an adequate degree of protection during the works, the following general precautions will be observed:
 - 5.1.1 No fires will be lit on site
 - 5.1.2 No access will be permitted within the temporarily barriered areas, unless and only where otherwise approved herein. Ground levels will not be changed within them and existing vegetation and topsoil will be left undisturbed but may be treated with approved herbicides if eradication is required.
 - 5.1.3 No materials, equipment or debris will be stored within any of the barriered areas and no chemicals, petrol or diesel will be allowed to spill where they may contaminate the root protection areas of retained trees.
 - 5.1.4 All heavy plant, machinery, cranes and delivery vehicles shall be excluded from the areas demarcated for protection on the Tree Protection Plan.

6.0 Sequencing of works

- 6.1 A logical sequence of events is to be observed as follows:
 - Stage 1 Pre-commencement site meeting (See Section 12).
 - Stage 2 Undertake tree works.

- Stage 3 Erect protective barriers as shown on the drawing in Table 2 (specifications given in Section 7).
- Stage 4 Implement areas of no-dig construction (in accordance with site progress).
- Stage 5 Demolish existing structures, including concrete base (removal of driveway to be undertaken in accordance with programme).
- Stage 6 Implement development construction.
- Stage 7 Take down protective barriers and complete soft landscape works.

7.0 Protective barriers and ground protection

- 7.1 Temporary barriers will be erected as indicated on the Tree Protection Plan listed in Table 2. The specification for this barriers will be in accordance with the recommendations given in *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations* Section 6.2 and will comprise 2.0m mesh barriers (Heras type panels are a simple, readily available solution) attached to a scaffold framework. Support scaffolds will be attached to the scaffold framework as necessary at an angle of 45 degrees on the side of the trees and anchored by further scaffold poles carefully firmed into the ground. Alternatively, the alternative specification of Heras type panels, fitted with stabiliser struts as per Figure 3 of BS5837, may be used. Clear signs will be attached at 6 metre intervals along the line of barriers stating 'Tree Protection Area – No Access'.
- 7.2 The barriers shall remain in place until soft landscape operations require their full or partial removal (see section 11). No other construction activity will take place within those areas formerly protected by the barriers (see Section 5).

8.0 Treatment of existing hard surfaces

- 8.1 Existing hard surfaces are proposed for removal adjacent trees 5 and 53.
- 8.2 Roots often exist in the substrate below hard surfaces and extreme care must be taken to avoid damage to them.

- 8.3 The tree protection plan shows where these hard surfaces are to be removed. In both instances, subject to timing of the operation, it may be necessary to temporarily set aside the tree protection barriers. They shall be reinstated once the hard surfaces have been removed and voids filled.
- 8.4 The old driveway adjoining tree 5 shall be removed by machine operating from the extent of driveway. Removed material shall be loaded on to a dumper truck that will also operate from the existing driveway.
- 8.5 The concrete base near trees 53 shall be removed by machine operating outside the area defined by the temporary protection barriers (as shown on the tree protection plan).
- 8.6 In both the above locations, the removal shall be overseen by a banksman and will be subject to arboricultural advice. If roots in excess of 25mm diameter are encountered during the removal they shall be retained and the advice of an arboriculturist obtained.
- 8.7 In both the above locations, the void left as a consequence of their removal shall be filled with good quality topsoil as a prelude to soft landscape.

9.0 Creation of new hard surfacing within root protection areas

- 9.1 Areas of 'no-dig' construction shown on the drawing listed in Table 2 shall be implemented in accordance with site progress. These areas may be constructed and utilised for site access.
- 9.2 Any deleterious materials and debris deposited in the area are to be taken up by a tracked 360° excavator working from outside the root protection area. Final clearance shall be undertaken by hand picking.
- 9.3 The proposed areas of 'no-dig' construction within root protection areas shall be carried out in the following manner, subject to the manufacturers and engineers instructions.
- 9.3.1 Existing surface vegetation of grass is to be treated with approved herbicide to the manufacturer's recommendation. The surface mat may be removed to a maximum of 50mm depth.
- 9.3.2 Sharp sand is to be imported and spread over the area by hand equipment (wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes only) to bring the surface to an even level.

- 9.3.3 A geotextile material such as Fibretex F4m is to be laid on the surface of the ground in the area of the proposed car park.
- 9.3.4 A 3-dimensional cellular confinement material such as Cellweb Tree Root Protection System supplied by Geosynthetic Technologies Ltd is to be laid on top of the geotextile membrane.
- 9.3.5 Edging supports of railway sleepers or other treated timber are to be laid and pinned to the ground preferably through the cell confinement material.
- 9.3.6 The cells are to be filled with a no-fines aggregate commencing at the leading edge of the works and progressing forwards. Material can be imported to, and spread within, the working area by small excavators not exceeding 2 tonne capacity providing they work only off the filled cells area.
- 9.3.7 The final wearing course will be laid after the main construction works are complete.
- 9.3.8 Typical details of construction are shown at Appendix 1
- 9.3.9 Details of this construction must be verified by a qualified engineer.

10.0 Excavations proximate to root protection areas

- 10.1 Excavations are proposed proximate to the root protection area of retained trees.
- A foul drain run is proposed within the root protection area of trees 46, 47 and 49.
 - A swale is proposed near trees 33 to 36.
 - A swale is proposed near tree 69.
 - A culvert is proposed near tree group 23
- 10.2 The foul drain run, and any other utilities/services within root protection areas, shall be installed using specialist techniques including:
- excavation using hand-held tools, air spade or vacuum.
 - trenchless installation techniques such as moling, thrust boring, directional drilling etc.

- 10.3 All machinery necessary to undertake the swale and culvert excavations shall operate outside the areas protected by temporary barriers (barriers may need to be set aside to allow reach through to the excavation).
- 10.4 Works to excavate the swales shall be monitored by an arboriculturist.

11.0 Reinstatement and landscaping

- 11.1 Final grading to marry in new levels with existing ground will be achieved by importing topsoil and spreading by hand equipment only. The newly graded areas will be grass seeded or turfed by hand.
- 11.2 All tree and shrub planting pits will be dug by hand within the root protection areas of existing trees.

12.0 Arboricultural supervision and monitoring Plan

- 12.1 A list of useful contacts is attached at Appendix 2.
- 12.2 A pre-commencement meeting will take place on site attended by the appointed arboricultural consultant, the tree contractor and the site manager. The purpose of this meeting is to ensure that everyone fully understands the implications of the arboricultural method statement and to agree on finer points of detail prior to any works commencing.
- 12.3 The appointed arboricultural consultant shall monitor the works at the following key stages:
 - 12.3.1 Confirmation that protective measures are in place.
 - 12.3.2 Commencement of formation of no-dig surfaces.
 - 12.3.3 Commencement of installation of services/utilities with root protection areas.
 - 12.3.4 Commencement of removal of hard surfaces near trees 5 and 53.
 - 12.3.5 Excavation to form swales, particularly in the north east corner of the site.

- 12.4 It shall be the duty of the client to notify the arboricultural consultant when the works are ready for inspection.
- 12.5 At the completion of each monitoring visit the appointed arboricultural consultant will circulate a short monitoring report to the client and site team to record progress and adherence.
- 12.6 Monitoring visits will be undertaken by the arboricultural consultant at intervals commensurate with site progress, as notified by the client, to make sure that all tree protection measures are in place. A record of these visits will be kept and maintained for inspection on site.
- 12.7 Should any problems arise on site, the site manager will immediately inform the appointed arboricultural consultant who will assess the situation and make recommendations accordingly.
- 12.8 The site manager will brief all site personnel on the implications of the arboricultural method statement. A copy of this method statement will be available on site at all times. The progress reports detailed in Section 12.5 will be kept with the method statement so that both are readily available for inspection.

13.0 Transgression

- 13.1 Failure to adhere to the requirements in this method statement may result in a Stop Notice being issued by the local authority. This will bring all operations at the site to a halt until the local authority permits resumption.
- 13.2 Failure to adhere to the requirements of this method statement that results in damage to a tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order may result in prosecution of the individual, the contractor and the client.
- 13.3 The following measures will be required, but do not absolve the perpetrator from action, if the identified transgression occurs:
- a) Breakage of branches – the damaged shall be assessed by an arboriculturist, they shall advise on requirements and any pruning shall be undertaken in accordance with BS3998:2010 to remove the damaged section.

- b) Damage to bark – the damage shall be assessed by an arboriculturist and they shall advise on the measures that can be taken to optimise the reparation of the damage. Some paring back of damage may be required.
- c) Damage to roots – the damage shall be assessed by an arboriculturist and they shall advise on the pruning or reparation required.
- d) Compaction of soil – where machinery operates outside of ground protection and hard surfaces, leading to the compaction of soil, the compaction shall be alleviated by using compressed air injected to circa 1m deep to create fissures in the ground and lift the compacted areas. The compaction shall be assessed by an arboriculturist. A specialist company (for example Terrain Aeration Ltd) shall be appointed by the contractor to undertake the work.

13.4 All items of transgression shall be reported to the Local Authority tree officer to consider if action should be taken.

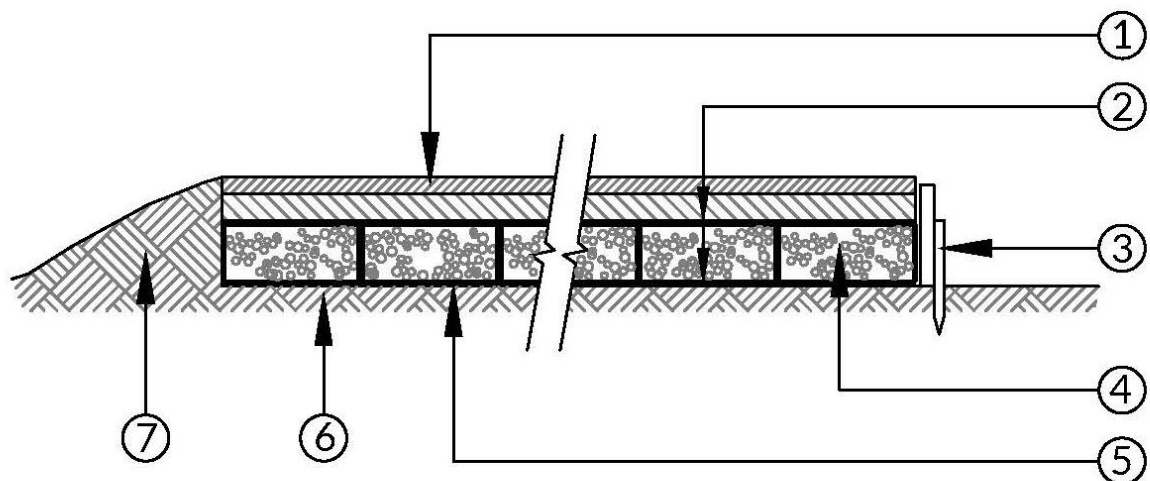
14.0 Conclusion

14.1 If the provisions of this arboricultural method statement are complied with in full, the proposed works will be able to proceed without detrimental impact to retained trees.

Appendix 1

Typical detail of no-dig construction

Figure 3: Typical detail of 'no-dig' surfacing



1. Surface material to engineer's specifications
2. Geotextile separation fabric as specified by engineers
3. Treated timber edging if required (sleepers can be used for a more robust edge)
4. 40/20mm clean angular stone
5. Cellular confinement system to engineer's specification and depth
6. Existing ground levels retained (no excavation)
7. Soil fillet can be used at edges

Appendix 2

List of contacts

List of contacts

Site Address:	Land at Woodfords, Shipley Road, Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 9BQ	
Site Manager:	To be decided (TBD)	Tele No:
Builder:	Bellway Homes Limited (Southern Counties)	
Address:	1st Floor, Regent House 1 3 Queensway Redhill Surrey RH1 1QT	
Contact Name:	TBD	
Arboricultural Consultant:	Jago Keen	
Address:	Keen Consultants The Studio Timbers Gables Road Church Crookham Fleet Hampshire GU52 6QY	
Tele No:	01252 850096 (office)	(mobile) 07836 279935
Local Authority	Horsham District Council	
Email address:	trees@horsham.gov.uk planning@horsham.gov.uk	
Telephone No.:	01403 215187	