

Arboricultural Method Statement

*relating to development at
land west of Ashington CE Primary School
Ashington*

Revised Scheme (March 2025)

Client
Bellway

March 2025

1780-KC-XX-YTREE-MethodStatement-RevD

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Document history

Revision	Issue Status	Details	Approved/Date
Rev0	Final	Initial report	JK / 24 October 2023
RevA	Final	Updated Arboricultural Method Statement	JK / 05 December 2023
RevB	Final	Updated Arboricultural Method Statement	JK / 08 December 2023
RevC	Final	Updated Arboricultural Method Statement	JK / 06 June 2024
RevD	Final	Updated Arboricultural Method Statement	JK / 06 March 2025

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ABSTRACT

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

Tree removal and pruning are required.

New hard surfaces are proposed within root protection areas are proposed and the methodology of placement is considered.

No utility installation is planned within root protection areas. If utilities do need to be installed within the root protection area of retained trees specialist installation techniques will be required.

1.0 Statement of purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this method statement is to demonstrate how works will be undertaken at land west of Ashington CE Primary School, Ashington., 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. 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 planning application and this arboricultural method statement has been prepared to support the application.
- 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 below.

Table 1: Documents referred to

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

and the following drawings in Table 2

Table 2: Drawings referred to

Originator	Drg No	Title
DHA Architecture Ltd	062009-BEL-SL-01 Rev E	Presentation Planning Layout
Motion	2109010-SK-01 Rev C	Proposed Site Access Typical Sections
Keen Consultants	1780-KC-XX-YTREE-TCP01Rev0	Tree Constraints Plan
Keen Consultants	1780-KC-XX-YTREE-TPP01RevG	Tree Protection Plan

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 Protective barriers are required throughout the construction process to ensure the rooting environment of retained trees is protected from harm.
- 3.3 The buildings are located outside the root protection areas of all retained trees hence require no specialist installation techniques to safeguard trees.
- 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 be located outside the root protection area of retained trees. If installation is required within root protection areas specialist installation techniques can be adopted to safeguard retained trees.
- 3.6 Monitoring of works is required.

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 (if required in advance of main construction phase).
- Stage 5 Implement development construction.
- Stage 6 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'.
- 7.3 The barriers shall remain in place until soft landscape operations require its 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).
- 7.4 Temporary site offices, welfare units, material storage and contractor parking may be located in any of the areas outside the zones protected by the tree protection barriers shown on the Tree Protection Plan.

8.0 Treatment of existing hard surfaces

- 8.1 Where existing hard surfaces are present within the root protection area they shall be broken up and removed by machine with the last layers removed by hand. The works within the root protection area shall be overseen by an arboriculturist.
- 8.2 Roots often exist in the substrate below hard surfaces and extreme care must be taken to avoid damage to them.
- 8.3 Immediately after, the void left as a consequence of their removal shall be filled with good quality topsoil as a prelude to soft landscape unless a replacement hard surface is proposed whereupon it shall be completed in accordance with the instruction contained herein.

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 advance of main construction works (if required) to provide areas of hard standing during the construction works. A dedicated design has been developed to achieve the site access where it passes through the root protection area of tree 3 and is referred to in paragraphs 9.4 to 9.5.
- 9.2 The proposed construction utilises the void left from the removal of the existing concrete farm track and extends south to utilise space currently dominated by a dense row of conifer trees. To minimise excavation the build-up of the new roadway will adopt 'no-dig' construction principles by using cellular confinement systems to minimise sub-base and absorb the loading from vehicles.
- 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 Where existing surface vegetation is present 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.
 - 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 Kerbs may be installed with minimal excavation, or 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 and on the Motion drawing listed in Table 1 above.
- 9.4 The specific proposals developed by Motion (refer to drawing listed in Table 1 and provided at Appendix 2 of this statement), in conjunction with the advice within this method statement, can achieve the site access without material harm to the retained, off-site tree, number 3.
- 9.5 The proposed access shall be constructed in accordance with the Motion drawing and this statement to ensure material harm to the tree is avoided.

10.0 Excavations proximate to root protection areas

- 10.1 Excavations are proposed remote from the root protection areas of retained trees.
- 10.2 Works outside of the protected areas around trees, as defined by the tree protection barriers, can proceed conventionally.

11.0 Reinstatement and landscaping

- 11.1 Where required, 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 where they are within root protection areas.
- 11.2 Any proposed tree and shrub planting pits will be dug by hand within the root protection areas of existing trees.

12.0 Planning, communication and supervision

- 12.1 A list of useful contacts is attached at Appendix 3.
- 12.2 A pre-commencement meeting will take place on site attended by the appointed arboricultural consultant, the tree contractor, the site manager and the local authority arboricultural officer (if they are able to attend). 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.
 - 12.3.3 Commencement of installation of access.
 - 12.3.4 Commencement of installation of 'no-dig' surfacing.
- 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, site and the local authority arboricultural officer to confirm that works are progressing satisfactorily.
- 12.6 Monitoring visits will be undertaken by the arboricultural consultant at monthly intervals commensurate with site progress, and 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. If any modifications to the method statement are proposed, the arboricultural consultant will immediately advise the local authority arboricultural officer.

- 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.

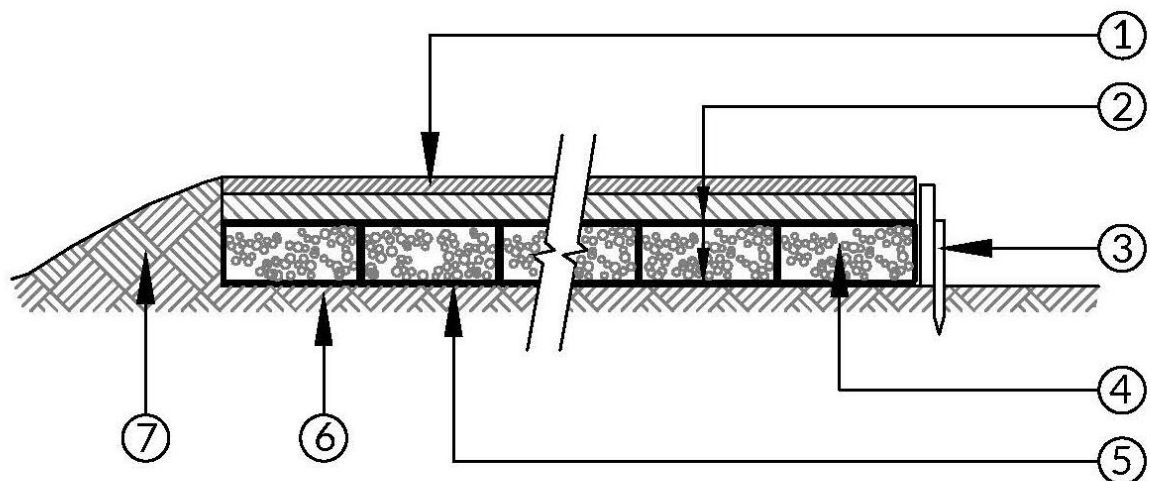
14.0 Conclusion

- 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

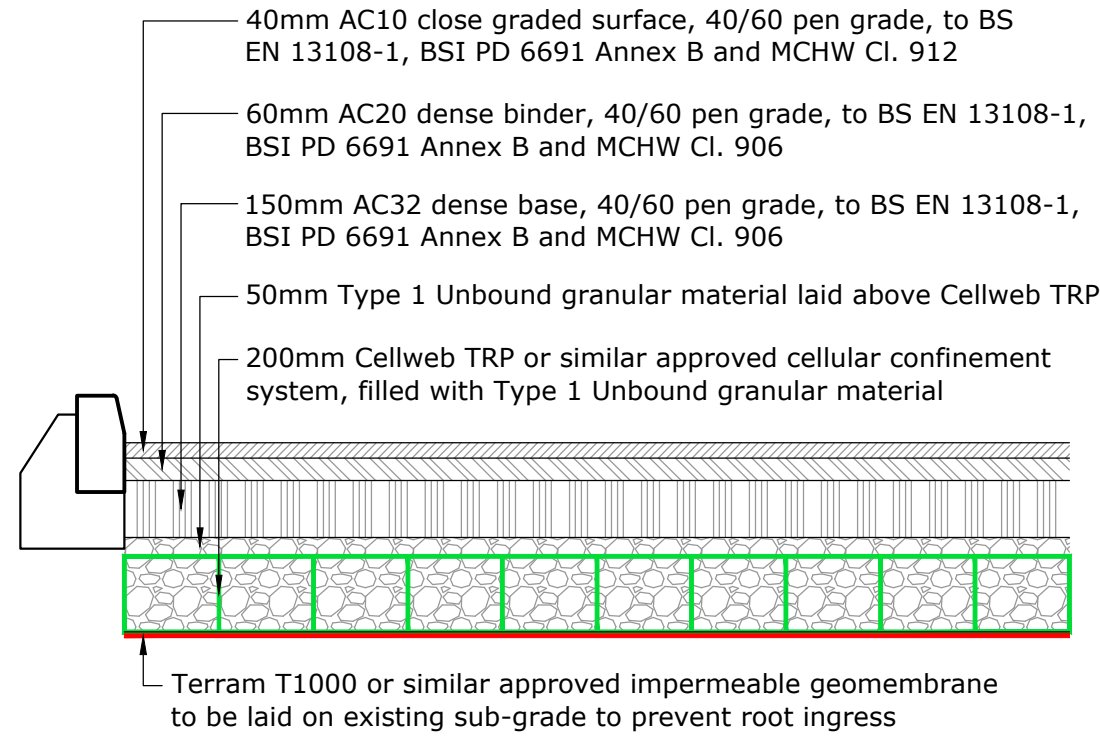
Figure 3: Typical detail of 'no-dig' surfacing



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

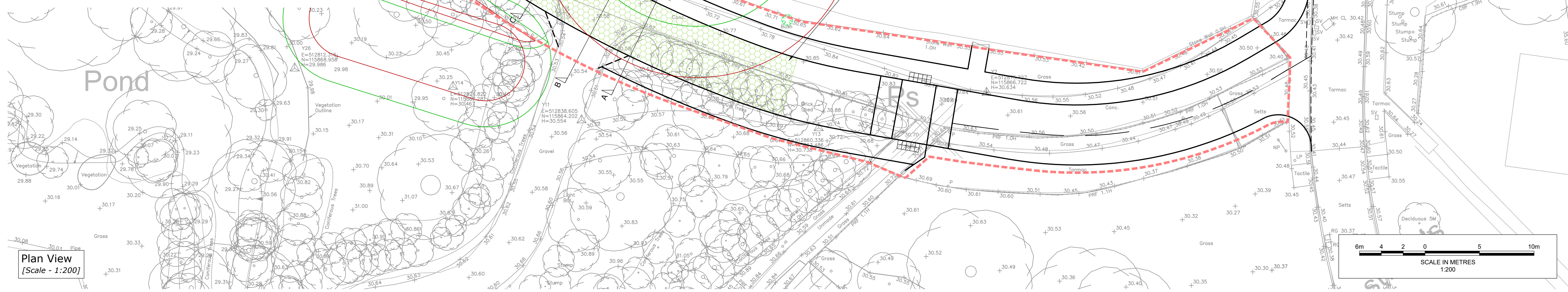
Motion Proposed Site Access Typical Sections



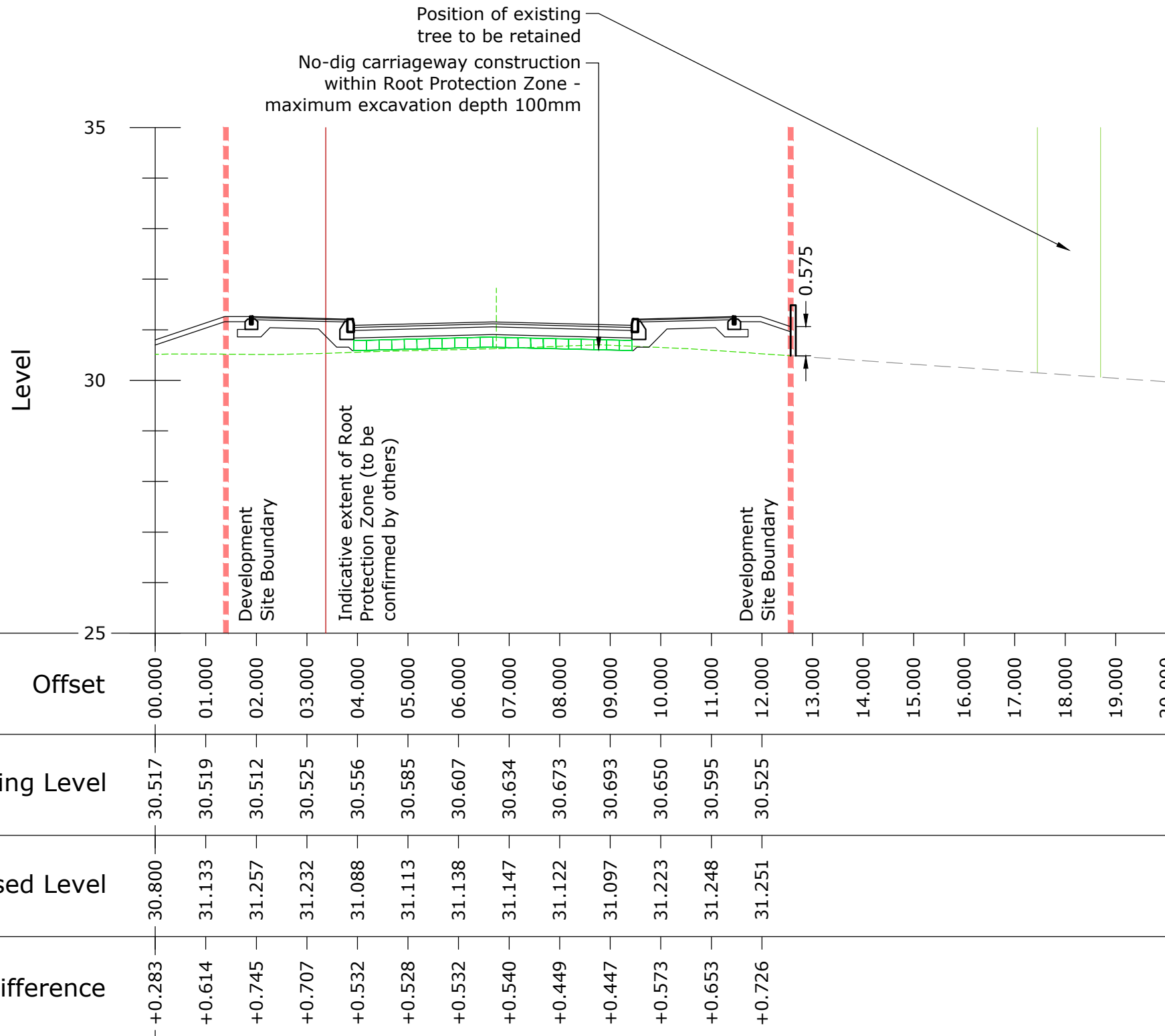
Typical No-Dig Carriageway Pavement Detail

Typical Detail
[Scale - 1:50]

The details provided on this drawing are indicative only, based on the survey information provided by Keen Consultants and Premier Surveys Limited. The proposed onsite levels are in abeyance and subject to confirmation via detailed design - it has been assumed that a maximum 100mm strip of existing topsoil can be excavated without impacting the existing tree roots.

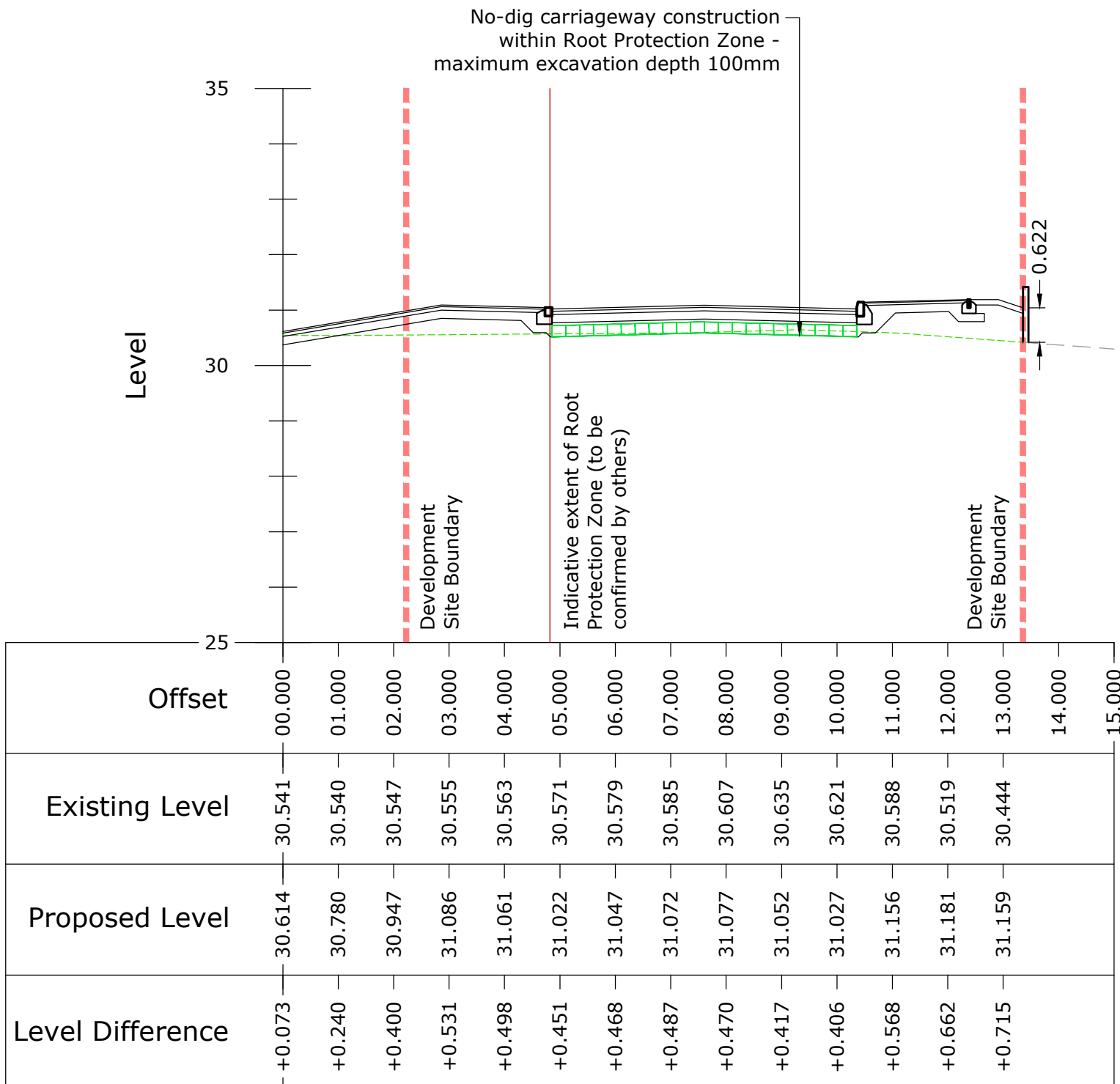


Plan View
[Scale - 1:200]

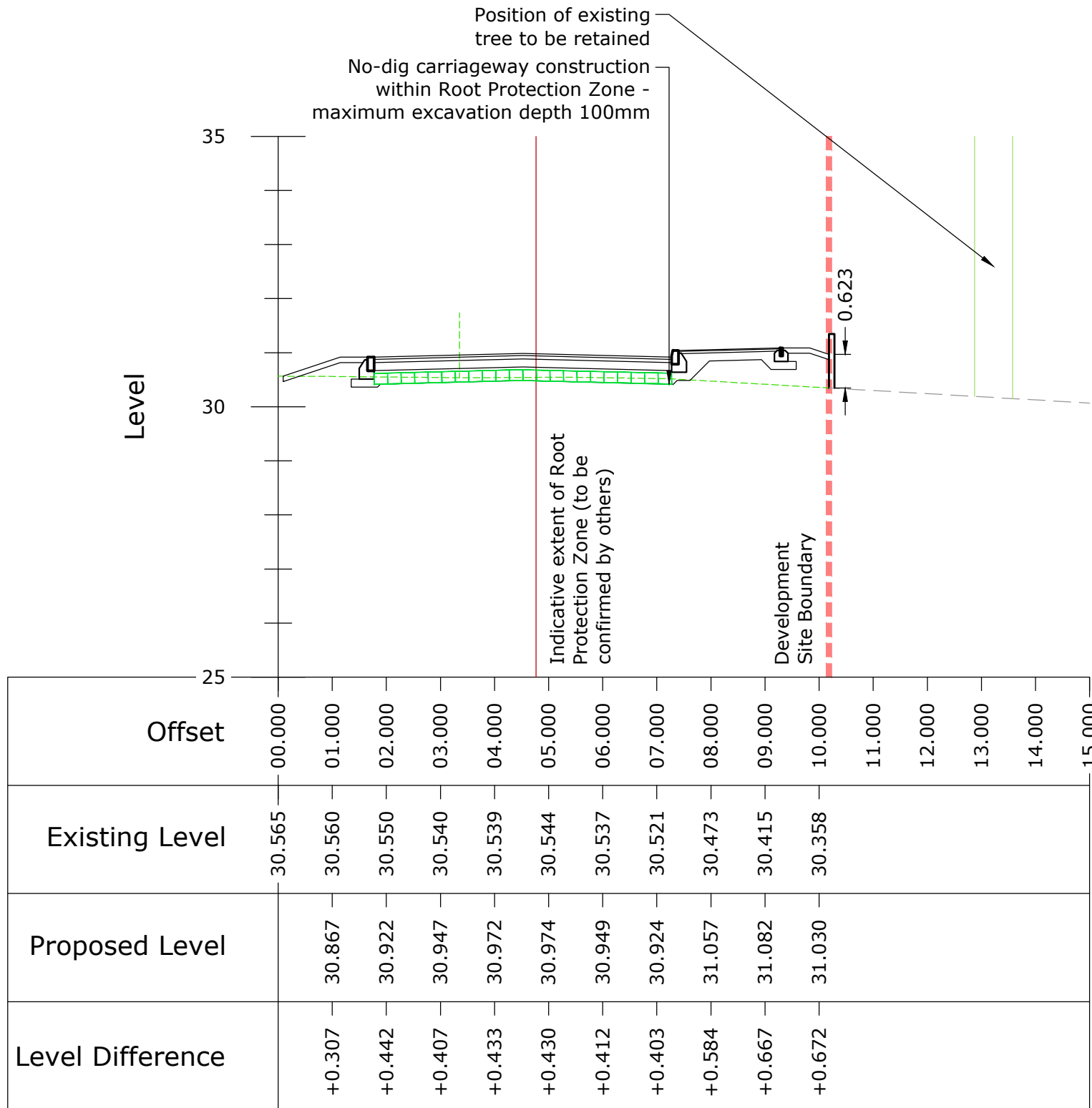


Section A-A

Sections
[Scale - 1:100]



Section B-B



Section C-C

- Notes**
- All levels and dimensions are to be checked on site before any work commences. All dimensions are in metres unless stated otherwise.
 - This drawing has been based on survey information provided by Premier Surveys Limited and Keen Consultants, and Motion cannot guarantee the accuracy of the data provided.
 - Any discrepancies should be reported to the architect and/or engineer immediately, so that clarification can be sought prior to the commencement of works.
 - This drawing should be read in conjunction with all other relevant architect and engineering details, drawings and specification.
- Legend**
- Development Site Boundary
 - Indicative Extent of Root Protection System - Cellweb or similar approved
 - Tree Root Protection Zone, Refer to drawing 1780-KC-XX-YTREE-TPP01
 - Cross section sample line and orientation of section view
 - Cross Section - existing ground profile

- Carriageway Pavement Notes**
- The carriageway pavement is based on a minimum 2.3% CBR. The contractor is to carry out CBR testing in locations as agreed with WSCC. Any areas of soft ground identified as having a CBR value of below 2.3% should be removed and replaced with a more suitable material (as set out in the DMRB document CD 225, paragraph 2.7).
 - The extent of the areas to be excavated and fill material type are to be agreed with WSCC. Should the ground CBR be generally less than 2.3%, consult the Engineer.
 - Bond coats shall be applied between all bound layers of bituminous materials.
 - The contractor is to undertake Road Core Samples to establish existing pavement construction. If the existing pavement layers are thicker than the proposed, then the higher thickness should be used.

A First Issue
Revision Notes:
Drawing Status: DRAFT
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

motion

84 North Street
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4AU
01483 531300

9 Greyfriars Road
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 1NU
0118 206 2930

Golden Cross House
8 Duncannon Street
London
WC2N 4JF
020 7031 8141

www.motion.co.uk

Client: **Bellway**

Project: Church Lane, Ashington

Title: Proposed Site Access
Typical Sections

Scale: AS SHOWN
Size: A1
Project No: 2109010
Drawing: 2109010-SK-01
Revision: A

Appendix 3

List of contacts

List of contacts

Site Address:	Land west of Ashington CE Primary School, Ashington.	
Site Manager:	To be decided (TBD)	Tele No:
Builder:	TBD	
Address:		
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 Tree Officer	TBD	
Address:	Horsham District Council, Parkside, Chart Way, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 1RL	
Telephone No.:	01403 215100	