

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Tree Protection During Construction

Project: Lock House, Lock Lane, Partridge Green, RH13 8EG

Date: 1 July 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) has been prepared to ensure the protection and preservation of existing trees during construction activities. The statement addresses both general tree protection measures and specific crown lifting works to lime trees along the driveway access route.

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

The site contains mature trees both along the driveway access route and adjacent to the proposed building location. Key trees requiring protection include:

- Lime trees (*Tilia* species) along the driveway requiring crown lifting
- Adjacent trees near the construction zone requiring protection measures



3. TREE PROTECTION OBJECTIVES

- Protect tree root systems from compaction, severing, and contamination
- Prevent physical damage to tree trunks and canopies
- Maintain suitable growing conditions throughout construction period
- Execute safe crown lifting of lime trees to facilitate construction access
- Ensure compliance with BS 5837:2012 standards

4. PRE-CONSTRUCTION TREE WORKS

4.1 Crown Lifting of Lime Trees

Timing: To be completed before any construction traffic uses the driveway

Specification:

- Crown lift lime trees from current 3.0m clearance to 4.5-5.0m clearance
- Remove all branches below 4.5-5.0m height over the driveway
- Cut branches back to appropriate growth points (node, lateral branch, or trunk)
- Make clean cuts using sharp tools to minimize damage
- Apply wound dressing only if specifically required for the species/conditions

Method:

- Work to be carried out by qualified arborists with appropriate insurance
- Use appropriate access equipment (MEWP or climbing techniques)
- Remove branches in sections to prevent damage to remaining canopy

5. TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

5.1 Tree Protection Barriers

Standard: BS 5837:2012 compliant protective fencing

Specification:

- 2.0m high welded mesh panels on rubber feet or concrete blocks
- Vertical rails at 3.0m maximum spacing
- Panels securely linked and braced
- Warning signs attached: "TREE PROTECTION AREA - KEEP OUT"

Location:

- Install around Root Protection Areas (RPA) of all retained trees
- Minimum distance from trunk = 12 x stem diameter (measured at 1.5m height)
- Adjust for site constraints while maintaining maximum practical protection

5.2 Ground Protection

Areas requiring protection:

- Within RPAs where minor encroachment is unavoidable
- Access routes near protected trees

Method:

- Install ground protection using proprietary load-spreading systems
- Terram geotextile over hardcore/Type 1 granular material
- Temporary roadway panels where appropriate
- Minimum depth: 150mm (or as specified by structural engineer)

5.3 Above-Ground Protection

- Install scaffold protection for branches overhanging work areas
- Minimum 600mm clearance between scaffold and branches
- Soft padding on scaffold components near trees

6. CONSTRUCTION PHASE MONITORING**6.1 Site Supervision**

- Appointed Arboricultural Supervisor to oversee tree protection
- Regular site visits during construction phases
- Immediate reporting of any tree damage or protection breaches

6.2 Inspection Schedule

- Pre-construction: Full tree protection installation check
- Weekly: Visual inspection of all protection measures
- Post-severe weather: Additional inspections as required
- Monthly: Detailed condition assessment of protected trees

7. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES WITHIN TREE PROTECTION AREAS

- Storage of materials, equipment, or machinery
- Mixing of cement/concrete or disposal of washings
- Stockpiling of soil or other materials
- Vehicle parking or maneuvering
- Excavation or level changes
- Fire lighting or refueling activities
- Chemical storage or spillage

8. EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**8.1 Tree Protection Breach**

- Immediately stop work in affected area
- Contact Arboricultural Supervisor
- Assess damage and implement remedial measures
- Document incident and remedial actions taken

8.2 Root Damage Discovery

- Stop excavation immediately
- Expose roots carefully by hand or air spade
- Clean cut damaged roots with sharp tools
- Apply root hormone treatment if appropriate
- Backfill with suitable growing medium

9. POST-CONSTRUCTION RESTORATION

9.1 Soil Decompaction

- Carefully remove ground protection systems
- Decompact soil using air spade or similar non-invasive method
- Apply 100mm depth of topsoil/compost mix if required

9.2 Tree Health Assessment

- Post-construction tree condition survey
- Recommendations for any remedial treatments
- Monitoring program for stressed trees

10. RESPONSIBILITIES

10.1 Principal Contractor

- Implement all protection measures before construction begins
- Ensure all site personnel are briefed on tree protection requirements
- Maintain protection measures throughout construction period
- Provide access for arboricultural inspections

10.2 Arboricultural Supervisor

- Oversee installation of protection measures
- Conduct regular monitoring inspections
- Provide technical advice on tree-related issues
- Report any concerns or breaches immediately

11. COMPLIANCE AND STANDARDS

This method statement has been prepared in accordance with:

- BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction

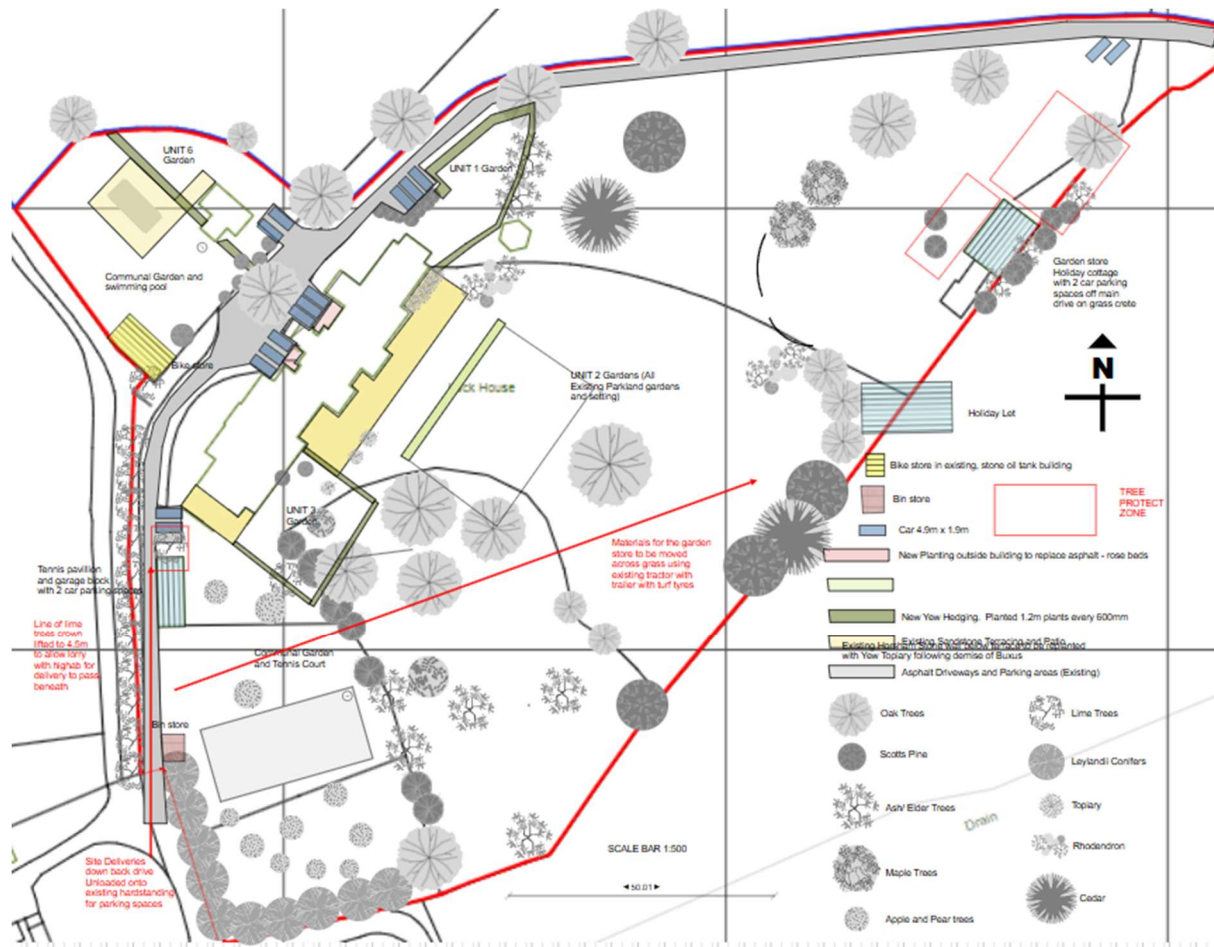
- BS 3998:2010 Tree work - Recommendations
- Chapter 8 of the NJUG Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees

12. APPENDICES

Appendix A: Tree Protection Plan

Appendix B: Tree Schedule and Condition Assessment

Appendix A: Tree Protection Plan



Appendix B: Tree Schedule and Condition Assessment

