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ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

For Protection of Trees

at

Former Builders Yard, Mead Farm, Stane Street

Slinfold



April 2024

SJA ams 24153-01

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1. Statement of purpose

1.1. The purpose of this method statement is to detail what actions need to be taken to ensure the proposed redevelopment of existing builders yard and erection of 1no detached dwelling and a detached carport/garage at Mead Farm, Stane Street, Slinfold does not cause any unacceptable damage to the trees to be retained within this site and in the adjacent properties.

1.2. This method statement has been drawn up to comply with Condition no. 4 of the planning permission ref DC/22/0370 granted by Horsham District Council, which states: "**No development shall commence, including demolition pursuant to the permission granted, ground clearance, or bringing equipment, machinery or materials onto the site, until an Arboricultural Method Statement detailing all trees/hedgerows on site and adjacent to the site to be retained during construction works, and measures to provide for their protection throughout all construction works, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be implemented and thereafter carried out at all times strictly in accordance with the agreed details**.

Any trees or hedges on the site which die or become damaged during the construction process shall be replaced with trees or hedging plants of a type, size and in positions agreed by the Local Planning Authority"

1.3. This method statement has been drawn up to comply with the recommendations of British Standard BS 5837: 2012, *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*.

1.4. Details of the trees can be found in the tree survey schedule at **Appendix 1**. Their locations are shown on the tree protection plan (SJA TPP 24153-041) at **Appendix 2**. This plan is based on the site layout drawing, no. 2616/2 rev G.

1.5. The key words and phrases used in this statement are defined in ***Table 1*** below.

Arboricultural consultant	Arboricultural expert instructed by the developer to oversee the retention and protection of trees adjacent to the development site.
Arboricultural monitoring	Regular inspections of retained trees by the arboricultural consultant, to monitor their health and condition; and to inspect the effectiveness of the tree protection measures implemented.
Arboricultural supervision	Pre-arranged attendance on site of appointed arboricultural consultant for the duration of specific construction activities that could otherwise result in unacceptable damage to retained trees. Whilst on site the consultant will control, supervise and where appropriate assist in the undertaking of these activities.
Construction Exclusion Zone ('CEZ')	Area based on the root protection area (RPA), normally surrounded with protective fencing, from which access is prohibited during development works.
Ground boarding	Temporary ground covering, designed to prevent compaction of soil in which significant roots of retained trees are growing.
Protective fencing	Temporary fencing, erected for the duration of demolition and construction activities; designed to prevent access and disturbance to the trunks and root protection areas of trees.
Pruning	The removal of living or dead parts of a tree, especially branches, to reduce size, to maintain shape, health, safety, or to regulate growth.
Root Protection Area ('RPA')	The minimum area around a tree deemed to contain sufficient roots and rooting volume to maintain the tree's viability, and where the protection of the roots and soil structure is treated as a priority.
Tree Protection Plan ('TPP')	Drawing based upon the finalised proposals; showing trees for retention and illustrating the tree and landscape protection measures.

Table 1: Key words & phrases

1.6. This statement is designed to reflect the principles of the proposed layout as far as these relate to the protection of trees to be retained and should **not** be read as a definitive engineering or construction method statement for this development.[1]

2. Planning and communication

2.1. Unless otherwise agreed with the Local Planning Authority (LPA), the following actions are to be taken, in the order specified in the Sequence of Works at ***Table 2***.

2.2. The developer will appoint an arboricultural consultant to oversee all aspects of tree care and protection for the duration of construction works.

2.3. Prior to the commencement of works, the project manager will send copies of any construction method statements that might have implications for existing trees to the arboricultural consultant for his comments. The arboricultural consultant will liaise

[1] Reference should be made to the architect or structural engineer over any matters of construction detail, specification, engineering performance standards or regulatory requirements, relating to structures, surfaces or underground services to be constructed. As arboricultural consultants, Simon Jones Associates Ltd. can accept no liability for any matters relating to the structural integrity or engineering performance of structures, surfaces or underground services described, proposed or eventually constructed. The responsibility for satisfying any Health & Safety requirements relating to any operations described in this method statement remains with those commissioning or undertaking the operations concerned.

with the project manager to ensure that there are no conflicts between the construction method statements and this arboricultural method statement.

2.4. Prior to the start of any site clearance, ground preparation, demolition or construction works the developer will convene a pre-commencement site meeting. This shall be attended by the developer's contract manager or site manager, the fencing/boarding contractor, the groundwork contractor(s) and the arboricultural consultant. The LPA tree officer will be invited to attend. At that meeting contact numbers will be exchanged, and the methods of tree protection outlined in this statement shall be fully discussed, so that all aspects of their implementation and sequencing are made clear to all parties. Any clarifications or modifications to this statement required as a result of the meeting shall be circulated to all parties in writing.

2.5. On the same occasion, the arboricultural consultant will make a brief re-inspection of the trees to be retained, to identify any risks of tree, stem or branch failure that could cause harm to contractors working on the site. Any such risks will be recorded and passed to the client and to the LPA, to enable appropriate remedial works to be undertaken in a timely manner.

2.6. The developer will immediately inform the arboricultural consultant if at any time during site clearance or construction the site manager or agent is replaced or transferred. The arboricultural consultant will convene a site meeting with the incoming/replacement site manager, to be held within five working days, to explain all outstanding tree protection measures detailed in this method statement.

2.7. A copy of this method statement shall be supplied to all site personnel who have control over works of any nature within the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of trees to be retained, or within the footprints of their canopies. The contractor will provide adequate instruction on its implementation for all relevant staff. This instruction will be carried out by, or to the approval of, the arboricultural consultant.

Order	Works	Details at Section:	Arb. supervision required:
1	Pre-commencement site meeting	2	Yes
2	Site clearance and removal of tree group G4	3	-
3	Pruning of trees G1 & no. 8	3	-
4	Erection of tree protection fencing and site hoarding	4	Yes
5	Placement of temporary ground protection, if required, over exposed RPAs of trees along existing access drive	6	-
6	Installation of proposed replacement hard surfacing within RPAs of trees along existing access drive	8, 5	Yes
7	Clearance of machinery/materials from site, reinstatement and landscaping; Supervision and monitoring	9, 10	-

Table 2: Sequence of works (relevant to tree protection)

3. Site clearance, pruning and security

3.1. No clearance of trees or other vegetation and no erection of site security fencing or hoarding shall be undertaken until after the pre-start meeting and after the erection of the tree protection fencing (see below).

3.2. If any vegetation clearance is required behind the line of the protection fencing this will be made clear at the pre-start meeting and arrangements will be made to undertake this prior to the fencing's erection, under the supervision of the arboricultural consultant, who will ensure it does not cause any soil compaction or damage to the roots of trees to be retained.

3.3. The one group of self-seeded goat willow trees (G4) to be partially removed shall be felled and disposed of.

3.4. Stumps of those trees that are within the RPAs of trees to be retained shall either be left in place or shall be ground out.

3.5. The one tree (ash no. 8) and the section of group G1 along the east edge of the existing access drive and comprised of predominantly self-seeded goat willow, to be retained shall be pruned as specified on the TPP.

3.6. All tree works are to be done in accordance with British Standard BS 3998: 2010, *Tree work - Recommendations*. Climbing irons or spikes are not to be used whilst pruning trees; they may only be used for the sectional removal of trees.

3.7. Except where within the RPAs of trees to be retained, all other vegetation to be removed may be cut down or grubbed out as appropriate; but within the RPAs of trees to be retained, vegetation will be cut by hand to ground level and stumps will be either left in place or ground out with a lightweight self-powered stump grinding machine. No excavators, tractors or other vehicles will enter the RPAs.

3.8. The erection of site security fencing or hoarding will be undertaken in a way that causes no harm to trees to be retained and no compaction of the soil in which they are growing. This encompasses:

- holes for uprights (assuming hoarding rather than Heras) to be at least 1.5m from any tree trunk and dug with one- or two-man post hole borers rather than with an excavator;
- if uprights are to be concreted into the post holes, the holes shall first be lined with heavy-duty pvc, to prevent the leaching of wet concrete into the soil;
- concrete will be mixed outside the RPAs;
- no vehicles shall access the RPAs;
- no trenches shall be dug where the ground slopes or is uneven; and
- no fence panels or any other part of the fencing or hoarding shall be nailed, screwed or otherwise attached to any part of any of the trees to be retained.

4. Protective fencing

4.1. No site clearance, ground preparation, demolition or construction shall commence on site, and no demolition or construction vehicles or plant will enter the site until the RPAs of the trees to be retained have been safeguarded by the erection of protective fencing to the specification recommended in BS 5837: 2012, Section 6.2.2, as shown in Figure 2 of that document (see ***Figure 1*** below).

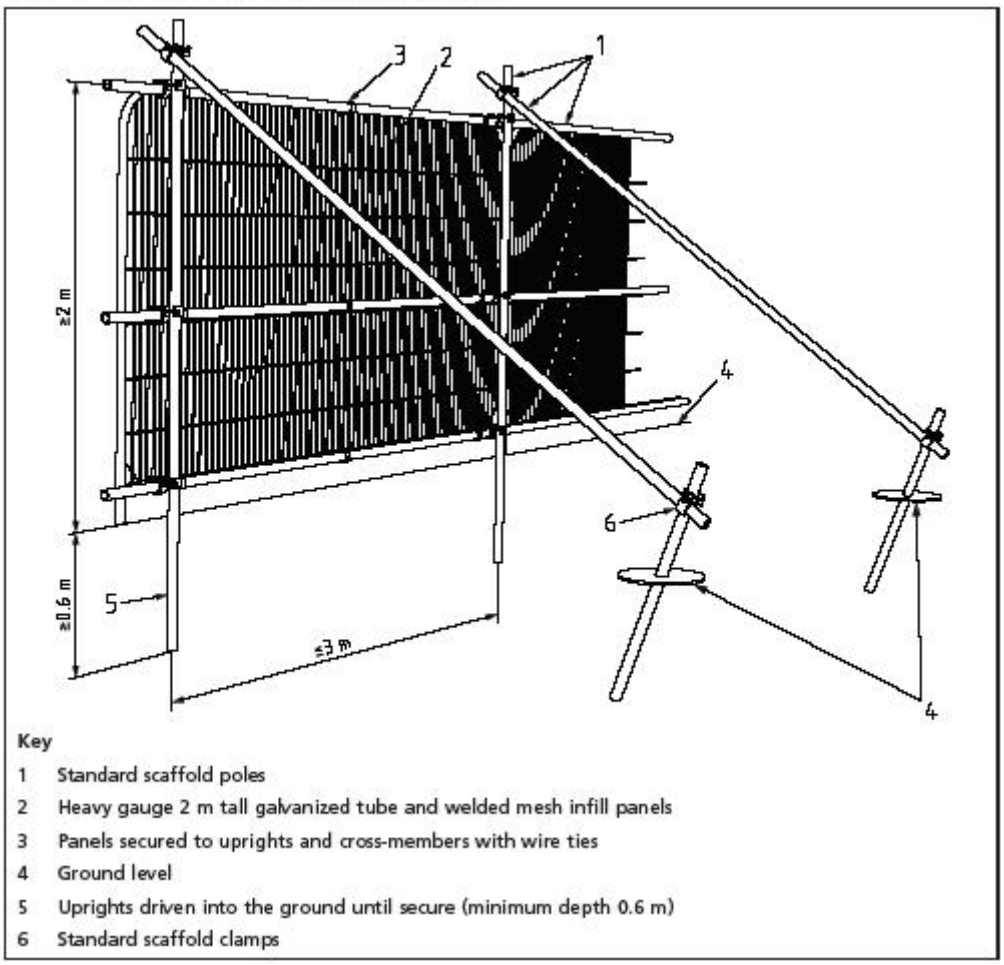
4.2. The protective fencing will be located in the positions shown by the **continuous bold blue lines** on the TPP.

4.3. The fencing shall be at least 2.1m in height, comprising a scaffolding or a timber post and rail framework supporting either a minimum of 20mm exterior grade ply or

other robust man-made boards, or standard anti-climb ‘Heras’ welded mesh fence panels, fixed to each other with at least two clamps, and secured with anti-lift devices to concrete or plastic bases (footings) that are pinned at least 450mm into the ground with lengths of scaffold tube.

4.4. Scaffolding construction shall be to BS EN 12811-1:2003; uprights shall be at minimum 3.5m centres and every other one shall be supported on the side closest to the trees by struts braced to the ground at an angle of 45°. If used, ‘Heras’ panels shall be secured to two cross members between the uprights with heavy-duty cable ties. Notices stating “Tree Protection Zone, Keep Out!” will be attached to every third panel with cable ties.

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



Key
1 Standard scaffold poles
2 Heavy gauge 2 m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
4 Ground level
5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6 m)
6 Standard scaffold clamps

Figure 1 Protective fencing.

(Based on Figure 2, BS 5837: 2012)

4.5. No activity will take place within the Construction Exclusion Zones (“CEZs”) behind the fencing: no equipment or materials will be stored, and no vehicles, plant or

personnel shall enter these areas. Ground levels will not be changed within them, and existing vegetation and topsoil will be left undisturbed.

4.6. Areas for the storage of materials shall be outside the CEZs. Oil, bitumen, diesel, and cement shall not be stored, mixed or discharged onto the ground within 10m of the trunks of any trees. Areas for the storage or mixing of such materials shall be agreed at the pre-commencement meeting.

4.7. No notice boards, or power or telephone cables, shall be attached to any of the trees. No fires shall be lit where their flames could extend to within 5m of any parts of trees.

4.8. Steps will be taken to ensure that no damage is done to trunks or lower branches when using mechanical equipment such as excavators, cranes, piling rigs, or mobile elevating work platforms ('MEWPs') in the proximity of trees, particularly, ash no. 8 which overhangs the existing access drive. If such equipment may be traversing or working beneath or adjacent to tree canopies, 6m high scaffold 'goalposts' shall be erected to ensure that branches, stems or trunks are not damaged. Where appropriate, uprights may be connected to the scaffold framework of the protective fencing; cross members will be wrapped with high visibility contractors' tape or hung with pendant marker bunting.

4.9. If the protective fencing or ground boarding is accidentally damaged or knocked over, those sections will immediately be cordoned off with high visibility plastic mesh fencing. The damaged sections then will be repaired or replaced within 48 hours (2 working days). All instances of damage and re-instatement shall be recorded and immediately reported to the arboricultural consultant.

4.10. Once the protective fencing has been erected, the arboricultural consultant will visit the site and inspect it. He will record the position of the fencing and the condition of the retained trees. If it complies with this statement, the arboricultural consultant will 'sign off' the fencing to the contractor and copy this (in writing) to the developer. (See also 'Supervision and Monitoring' below.)

4.11. The protective fencing will not be moved or re-located without the prior approval of the arboricultural consultant. It will only be removed once all construction works are completed: the arboricultural consultant will be informed in advance of when it is intended to remove the fencing.

5. Ground preparation and demolition

5.1. No ground preparation or excavation of any kind, including topsoil stripping and levelling or re-profiling of soil, shall be undertaken prior to the pre-start meeting and after the erection of the tree protection fencing (see below).

5.2. Existing areas of hard surfacing, formed by the historic access track, to be demolished abut or overlay the RPAs of three trees within the eastern woodland belt, to be retained, as shown on the TPP at **Appendix 2**.

5.3. Those parts of the existing hard surfacing that are within the RPAs of adjacent trees shall be removed either by hand (kerbs and the sub-base shall be broken up using a hand-held breaker, and be lifted by hand or excavated using hand tools), or by an excavator fitted with a toothless bucket standing either on the existing surface or outside the RPAs in order not to disturb tree roots that may be present beneath it. This exercise will be undertaken under the control of the arboricultural consultant to ensure that the soil beneath the hard surface is not disturbed in any way.

5.4. If any roots of less than 25mm diameter are encountered they shall be cut cleanly by the arboricultural consultant. If roots of 25mm diameter and above are found, they shall be covered with clean dry Hessian sacking to prevent desiccation. This will be removed only directly prior to backfilling, and this will be done by surrounding roots with a minimum depth of 50mm of topsoil and sharp sand (builders' sand will not be used as it has a high salt content which is toxic to tree roots).

At no point will any plant, machinery or materials, traverse or be stored within the RPAs of retained trees which have been exposed by the removal of existing hard surfacing. In the event that any temporary access to traverse an exposed RPA is absolutely necessary, this will only be undertaken following installation of suitable ground protection as detailed in section 6 below.

6. Ground protection

6.1. In the event, that following demolition and removal of the existing access drive within the RPAs of trees within the woodland belt, prior to the access replacement, if the RPAs are to remain exposed, to avoid soil compaction and the resulting

impairment of tree root function, the ground shall be covered by appropriate ground protection, in accordance with the recommendations at Section 6.2.3 of BS 5837: 2012. The places where this may be required is **hatched cyan** on the TPP.

6.2. For pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2t, proprietary inter-linked ground protection boards (temporary aluminium roadway such as 'Trakway' or similar, or interlocking plastic tread boards such as "Ground-Guards" or similar) will be placed above a compressible material (a 150mm depth of woodchip might be appropriate), laid onto an appropriate geotextile membrane (such as 'Terram').

6.3. For wheeled or tracked traffic exceeding 2t, ground protection will be designed by a structural engineer, in conjunction with the arboricultural consultant, to take account of the type of soil and the likely loadings to which it will be subjected. This will also be laid on top of a compressible material above a geotextile membrane.

6.4. The existing hard surfacing (mainly tarmac) within the RPAs of the eastern tree belt will be protecting the soil and roots below, and can be left in place throughout demolition and construction of the main dwelling, and only be removed, prior to immediate replacement, once the proposed main development is completed, and all scaffolding has been removed. This area is also **hatched cyan** on the TPP.

6.5. If these areas of existing hard surfacing need to be removed before the proposed development is completed, the ground beneath will be immediately covered with an appropriate ground covering and protection, as specified above.

6.6. The ground protection will only be removed once all construction works are completed. The arboricultural consultant will be informed in advance of when this is intended to be done.

7. Installation of underground services

7.1. All underground service and drainage routes shall be located so that no excavation is required within RPAs.

7.2. If their location within RPAs is unavoidable, underground services shall be installed in one of the following two ways, in accordance with NJUG guidelines[2].

7.3. **Trenchless technique**. This involves thrust boring or directional drilling of service routes to avoid all excavation and disturbance of soil in which roots are likely to be growing. The pits for starting and receiving the boring machinery shall be located outside the RPAs of any retained trees. The bore shall be made at a minimum depth of 600mm below ground level. Lubrication of the 'mole' shall be with water, rather than with oil or other lubricants which could contaminate the soil.

7.4. **Manual excavation**. This involves hand digging of a continuous trench to a depth of at least 750mm, under arboricultural supervision; with the careful retention and protection of all roots of a diameter greater than 25mm, as detailed elsewhere in this method statement. If soil conditions and/or root distribution render it appropriate, the arboricultural consultant may require hand excavation to extend to a greater depth than this.

7.5. Such an excavation will be undertaken using a pick or a hand fork to loosen the soil, which will then be cleared from roots using a compressed air soil pick and removed using shovels or trowels. All roots encountered of less than 25mm diameter will be cut cleanly with secateurs or a sharp pruning saw.

7.6. The faces of all excavations that contain exposed roots will be covered with hessian sacking and be kept moist at all times; they will not be left exposed to frost, wind or direct sunlight.

7.7. Protection of retained roots shall be conducted in the following way. A 50:50 mix of sharp sand and composted organic matter shall be prepared and packed around the root within a wrapping of Hessian (builders' sand will not be used as it has a high salt content and may be toxic to trees). The layer of sharp sand and compost shall be not less than 50mm in thickness around the full circumference of the root section. If concrete is to be poured or placed around these roots, they shall also be wrapped with an impermeable polythene membrane. Both the hessian wrapping and the polythene

[2] National Joint Utilities Group. Volume 4, GUIDELINES FOR THE PLANNING, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF UTILITY APPARATUS IN PROXIMITY TO TREES", Issue 2: 16th November 2007.

membrane shall be secured by degradable ties, in a manner that will not constrict future growth of the root.

7.8. Excavation beneath 750mm depth (or greater if the arboricultural consultant has deemed it appropriate) may be undertaken by an excavator working from outside the RPAs, provided this is supervised to prevent any retained roots being damaged.

8. Construction of permanent hard surfaces

8.1. To prevent unacceptable root damage, the proposed replacement access, located within the RPAs of the eastern tree belt and group G1, shall be constructed to the specification given below, in accordance with the recommendations of Section 7.4 of British Standard BS 5837. An illustration of these principles can be found at *Figure 3* below.

8.2. Within RPAs there shall be no lowering of existing soil level and no digging will be undertaken: all parts of proposed replacement hard surfaces shall be constructed above existing ground level. This is to ensure that roots are not severed, soil is not compacted, and oxygen can continue to reach roots beneath the engineered surface. No stripping of turf or topsoil shall be undertaken: herbaceous (non-woody) vegetation should be cut as close to ground level as possible and be raked off by hand; shrubs will be grubbed out using hand tools, and tree stumps will be ground out rather than dug or grubbed out.

8.3. Any hollows shall be filled with sharp sand; and to prevent compaction of the soil structure, a biaxial geotextile grid ('**geogrid**', such as 'Tensar') or a permeable **geotextile membrane** (such as 'Treetex' or 'Terram') of an appropriate specification for the particular characteristics of the soil and for anticipated loads shall be laid on the ground beneath the footprint of the proposed hard surface, and be secured with pegs or pins driven through it into the ground.

8.4. Edge supports of an appropriate size and strength should be laid above ground level, on top of the geogrid, either on a concrete haunching, or flat on the geogrid itself, secured with pegs or pins driven into the ground. If concrete haunching is used, a strip of heavy-duty polythene will be laid beneath it, on top of the geogrid, to prevent the

leaching of wet cement into the soil. The outer side of the edge supports should be banked up with topsoil, graded down to existing ground level.

8.5. A perforated cellular confinement system ('**geoweb**') shall then be laid above this. The grade and type of this web shall be selected by a structural engineer to ensure that anticipated loads can be supported without causing any additional compaction of the soil structure beneath. A 200mm standard cell width should be used; cell depth should normally be a minimum of 150mm for drives.

8.6. The geoweb shall be filled with an angular aggregate with a particle size of between 15mm and 40mm, with no fines (to permit vertical gaseous diffusion). Care will be taken that trucks do not drive onto the area to deposit the aggregate; it should be tipped at the edge of the area and then pushed into position and compacted so that machinery moves only on the sub-base and not on the ground either side of it. A temporary wearing course may, if necessary, be laid above this for the duration of the construction works.

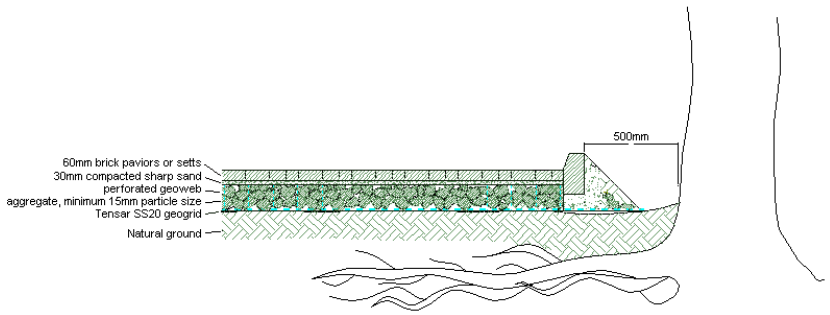


Figure 2 Illustration of a typical above-soil hard surface next to trees.

8.7. A permeable **geotextile membrane** (such as 'Treetex' or 'Terram') will be laid on top of the geoweb to prevent sand or other materials used as the base of the wearing course falling into the no-fines aggregate below.

8.8. The wearing courses shall be of a permeable and gas-porous nature such as washed gravel, shingle, cobbles or dry-jointed paviours, bricks, or blocks on a sand foundation. Permeable tarmacadam may be acceptable; concrete and binding gravels (such as hoggin) should not be used except for footpaths.

8.9. Construction should be undertaken in dry weather; ideally this should be between May and October when the soil is at its driest and least prone to compaction.

9. Fencing, landscaping and reinstatement

9.1. Care will be taken to ensure that fencing, landscaping and reinstatement do not cause any damage to the existing trees. Prior to the commencement of any landscaping works within RPAs the developer will convene a site meeting to be attended by the site manager or agent, the landscape contractor, the fencing contractor and the arboricultural consultant. The methods of tree protection outlined in this section of the arboricultural method statement shall be fully discussed, so that all aspects of their implementation and sequencing are made clear to all parties. Any clarifications or modifications to this statement shall be recorded and circulated to all parties in writing.

9.2. Within RPAs the following points shall be observed:

- Ground levels will not be changed.
- Only lightweight plant or vehicles shall enter the RPAs.
- No fuels or chemicals shall be brought into or stored within these areas.
- Digging (for fence posts etc.) shall be done by hand. Any roots of 25mm diameter and above that are encountered shall not be cut: if such sized roots are found the position of the proposed post will be re-located. Any smaller roots shall be cut cleanly. All roots exposed should be backfilled with sharp sand on the same day they are uncovered.
- No parts of any fencing shall be nailed or otherwise attached to any parts of the retained trees.
- Unwanted vegetation shall be removed manually or by using chemicals that cannot damage the roots of the trees.
- No irrigation or drainage pipes shall be installed within RPAs.

10. Supervision and monitoring

10.1. Once the protective fencing, ground boarding and ‘goalposts’ have been erected, the arboricultural consultant will visit the site and inspect these tree protection measures. If the specification or location of these items does not comply with this method statement, the arboricultural consultant will inform the fencing contractor, and adjustments will be made. Once compliance is achieved, the arboricultural consultant will ‘sign off’ the tree protection measures to the contractor and copy this (in writing) to the client.

10.2. Throughout the construction process the arboricultural consultant will monitor the condition of the trees, and the integrity and effectiveness of the protective fencing. They will visit the site at appropriate intervals, as agreed with the LPA Tree Officer at the pre-commencement meeting, to ensure that the protection measures outlined in this document are adhered to; and will contact the site manager or agent on a weekly basis whilst ground works are being undertaken, and on a fortnightly basis thereafter, to ascertain what works are planned for the coming week and whether any of these require arboricultural input or supervision. Records of all monitoring and supervisory visits will be made and will be forwarded to the client and copied to the LPA.

10.3. The arboricultural consultant shall directly supervise all works that have to be undertaken within RPAs. These include:

- location of protective fencing
- location of ground boarding
- demolition of existing hard surfacing
- construction of replacement hard surfacing
- (if necessary) installation of underground services

10.4. The project or site manager will give the arboricultural consultant at least 48 hours written notice of the date of intended construction of any proposed buildings or structures, underground service runs, or areas of hard surfacing that are within the RPAs of any of the trees, so that he/she can attend.

10.5. All drawings or revised drawings issued to the site agent or to sub-contractors, that show details of any works within or abutting RPAs or beneath the crowns of trees

are to be referred in advance to the arboricultural consultant to enable him to advise on any changes to the impact on trees that these drawings may cause, and to be able to provide solutions to avoid or minimise any further tree damage. All such drawings will be approved in writing by the arboricultural consultant before works within or abutting RPAs are proceeded with.

10.6. The arboricultural consultant will issue variation orders to the client in the case of any agreed changes to this method statement, and non-compliance notices in any cases of substantial deviation from the statement. These will be recorded in a final completion statement suitable for submission to the LPA if required.

SJAtrees

April 2024

APPENDIX 1
Tree Survey Schedule

SJA trees
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Tree Survey Schedule

Stane Street, Slinfold, West Sussex

March 2024

SJA tss 24153-011

Tree Survey Schedule: Explanatory Notes

Stane Street, Slinfold, West Sussex

This schedule is based on a tree inspection undertaken by Simon Gladman of SJAtrees (the trading name of Simon Jones Associates Ltd.), on Monday the 27th September 2021 and updated on Thursday 28th of March 2024. Weather conditions at the time were clear, dry and bright to overcast with rain. Deciduous trees were in full leaf.

The information contained in this schedule covers only those trees that were examined, and reflects the condition of these specimens at the time of inspection. We did not have access to the trees from any adjacent properties; observations are thus confined to what was visible from within the site and from surrounding public areas.

The trees were inspected from the ground only and were not climbed, and no samples of wood, roots or fungi were taken. A full hazard or risk assessment of the trees was not undertaken, and therefore no guarantee, either expressed or implied, of their safety or stability can be given.

Trees are dynamic organisms and are subject to continual growth and change; therefore the dimensions and assessments presented in this schedule should not be relied upon in relation to any development of the site for more than twelve months from the survey date.

1. Tree no.
Given in sequential order, commencing at "1". Numbers correspond with numbering on topographical survey plans.

2. Species.
'Common names' are given, taken from MITCHELL, A. (1978) A Field Guide to the Trees of Britain and Northern Europe.

3. Height.
Estimated with the aid of a hypsometer, given in metres.

4. Trunk diameter.
Trunk diameter measured at approx. 1.5m above ground level; or where the trunk forks into separate stems between ground level and 1.5m, measured at the narrowest point beneath the fork. Given in millimetres.

5. Radial crown spread.
The linear extent of branches from the base of the trunk to the main cardinal points, rounded up to the closest half metre, unless shown otherwise. For small trees with reasonably symmetrical crowns, a single averaged figure is quoted.

6. Crown break.
Height above ground and direction of growth of first significant live branch.

7. Crown clearance.
Distance from adjacent ground level to lowest part of lowest branch, in metres.

8. Age class.
Young: Seedling, sapling or recently planted tree; not yet producing flowers or seeds; strong apical dominance.
Semi-mature: Trunk often still smooth-barked; producing flowers and/or seeds; strong apical dominance, not yet achieved ultimate height.
Mature: Apical dominance lost, tree close to ultimate height.
Over-mature: Mature, but in decline, no crown retrenchment
Veteran: Mature, with a large trunk diameter for species; but showing signs of veteranisation, irrespective of actual age, with decay or hollowing, and a crown showing retrenchment and a structure characteristic of the latter stages of life.
Ancient: Beyond the typical age range and with a very large trunk diameter for species; with extensive decay or hollowing; and a crown that has undergone retrenchment and has a structure characteristic of the latter stages of life.

9. Physiology.
Health, condition and function of the tree, in comparison to a normal specimen of its species and age.

10. Structure.
Structural condition of the tree – based on both the structure of its roots, trunk and major stems and branches, and on the presence of any structural defects or decay.
Good: No significant morphological or structural defects, and an upright and reasonably symmetrical structure.
Moderate: No significant pathological defects, but a slightly impaired morphological structure; however, not to the extent that the tree is at immediate or early risk of collapse.
Indifferent: Significant morphological or pathological defects; but these are either remediable or do not put the tree at immediate or early risk of collapse.
Poor: Significant and irremediable morphological or pathological defects, such that there may be a risk of failure or collapse.
Hazardous: Significant and irremediable morphological or pathological defects, with a risk of imminent collapse.

11. Comments.
Where appropriate comments have been made relating to:
-Health and condition
-Safety, particularly close to areas of public access
-Structure and form
-Estimated life expectancy or potential
-Visibility and impact in the local landscape

12. Category.
Based on the British Standard "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations", BS 5837: 2012; adjusted to give a greater weighting to trees that contribute to the character and appearance of the local landscape, to amenity, or to arboricultural biodiversity.

Category U: Trees 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.
(1) 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 category 'U' trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning).
(2) Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline.
(3) 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.

Category A: Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.
(1) Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual.
(2) Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features.
(3) Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value.

Category B: Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.
(1) 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 minor 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.
(2) Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they form distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees present in numbers but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality.
(3) Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.

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 150mm.
(1) Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or of such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.
(2) 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 landscape benefits.
(3) Trees with no material limited conservation or other cultural value.

TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

Stane Street, Slinfold, West Sussex

No.	Species	Height	Trunk diameter	Radial crown spread	Crown break	Crown clear-ance	Age class	Physio - logy	Structure	Comments	Cate gory
1	English oak	15m	590mm	N 7.5m E 7.75m SE 7.5m S 8.25m W 7.25m	2.5m	N 3m E 3m S 1.5m W 3m	Mature	Average	Moderate	Brambles surrounding base of trunk; historic pruning wounds from branch removal at 2-2.5m on east side of trunk fully occluded; secondary branch removal at 2.5m to crown lift the tree, wound occlusion has started; upright tree with uniform crown spreads in all directions; visible from business park to north and properties to south & west.	B (12)
3	English oak	22.5m	785mm	N 6.5m E 4m S 8.75m W 8.25m	5m	5m	Mature	Low	Indifferent	Prominent buttress roots to SE and E; dead ivy still attached to trunk up to 7m; slightly leaning trunk to west; above average deadwood throughout the canopy; sparsely foliated showing signs of stress; visible from business park to north and surrounding properties; 2024 historic wound on W side at base; internal heartwood exposed; decay present; wound approx. 400mm wide at base; ascending to 400mm in height; no significant differences in tone when sounded with an acoustic mallet; single trunk; animal habitat hole on W side of trunk at approx. 3.5m; no evidence of swelling or bottle butt suggestive of internal decay; very sparsely foliated; significant component of group in which it stands; however, set against a backdrop of an established tall and dense tree belt to E; inessential component of wider landscape .	C (12)
4	Ash	23m	535mm ivy	N 6.5m E 3.75m S 4m W 4.75m	7m	15m	Over-mature	Below average	Moderate	Base of trunk on western bank of 1m deep ditch; slightly ivy-covered to 9m; slight lean to NE; bifurcation at 8m with stems to north & south showing tensile union; dead limb on south stem at 9m, 150mm diameter 3.5m in length; dead limb on south stem at 12m, 100mm diameter 3.5m in length; southern stem sparsely foliated; northern stem with full canopy of average foliage size, colour & density; visible from business park to north and properties to west; significant component of group in which it stands.	B (12)
5	English oak	18.5m	635mm	N 5.75m E 6.25m S 5.5m W 8m	4m	NE 2.5m	Mature	Average	Moderate	Prominent buttress roots in all directions; small amount of ivy at base of trunk to 2m; cambium damage at 1m on north of trunk 200x75mm fully occluded; dead branch at 6.5m, 100mm in diameter 2.5m in length; asymmetrical crown due to mature oak located 4m to SE; visible from Maydwell avenue to SE; significant component of group in which it stands.	B (12)
6	Hornbeam	16m	350mm ivy	N 6m E 6.5m S 5.75m W 5m	2.5m	1m	Semi-mature	Average	Moderate	Heavily ivy covered from base to 12m; bramble and ivy around the base of trunk; upright tree with average crown spreads; average foliage size, colour and density; visible from surrounding properties to west and in narrow view from stane street to west.	B (2)

No.	Species	Height	Trunk diameter	Radial crown spread	Crown break	Crown clear-ance	Age class	Physio - logy	Structure	Comments	Cate gory
7	Field maple	12m	295mm 260mm	N 3m E 2.5m S 4.75m W 4.25m	1m	1m	Mature	Average	Indifferent	Twin stemmed from base with tensile union; asymmetrical crown as overtopped and suppressed by adjacent individuals; inessential component of group in which it stands; unremarkable tree of limited merit.	C (1)
8	Ash	15m	465mm	N 2m E 0m S 4m W12m	3m	2.5m W 1m NW	Semi-mature	Average	Indifferent	Trunk located directly adjacent to strem bank; prominent buttress roots; swept stem and phototropically grown trunk to W with an angle of approx. 45^0 growing for approx. 5m, proceeds growing W at level for a further 4m before stem sweeps and corrects to vertical; canopy entirely offset from base; asymetrical crown; overhangs existing access track; reduced shoot extension lengths but no evidence, suggestive of colonisation of ash-dieback or notable physiological decline; readily visible along access track and adjacent property; however, inessential component of the wider landscape as set against backdrop of mature established tree belt and hidden in all long external public views.	C (12)
G1	Various	22m	Max 600mm Avg. 425mm	11m	0.1m	0.5m	Mature	Average	Moderate	Various species including hornbeam, ash, hazel, holly, elderberry and oak; group of mature trees prominent feature of the local landscape; visible from surrounding properties and Maydwell avenue to south and east. Approx. 80 individuals.	B (12)
G2	Various	22m	Max 540mm est.	10m	0.1m	0.5m	Mature	Average	Moderate	Various species predominantly ash with hawthorn, elderberry, bramble, hornbeam and oak; group of mature trees prominent feature of the local landscape; visible from surrounding properties and Maydwell avenue to SE. Approx. 30 individuals.	B (12)
G3	Various	12m	Max 340mm est.	5m	0.5m	0.5m	Semi-mature	Average	Indifferent	Off-site group of trees; species including ash, field maple, hawthorn and goat willow; group of mature trees on southern extremity of business park; visible to surrounding properties; inessential component of the wider landscape. Approx. 15 indivduals.	C (12)
G4	Various	6m	Max 140mm est.	2.5m	0.1m	0.5m	Young	Average	Indifferent	Group of young self seeded goat willow inaccessible due to thick brambles around the base of trees; hidden from public views. 2024: Group had more recently spread across the site and on either side of access track; indiviudals demonstrating physiological and morphological features cosistent with species including formation tight compression forks, suggestive of included bark; Approx. 45 individuals.	C (1)

Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

Root Protection Areas have been calculated in accordance with paragraph 4.6.1 of the British Standard 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations', BS 5837:2012. This is the minimum area which should be left undisturbed around each retained tree. RPAs are portrayed initially as a circle of a fixed radius from the centre of the trunk; but where there appear to be restrictions to root growth the circle is modified to reflect more accurately the likely distribution of roots.

Tree No.	***Species***	***RPA***	***RPA Radius***
1	English oak	157.5m²	7.08m
3	English oak	278.8m²	9.42m
4	Ash	129.5m²	6.42m
5	English oak	182.4m²	7.62m
6	Hornbeam	55.4m²	4.2m
7	Field maple	70m²	4.7m
8	Ash	97.8m²	5.58m
G1	Various	162.9m²	7.2m
G2	Various	131.9m²	6.5m
G3	Various	52.3m²	4.1m
G4	Various	8.9m²	1.7m

APPENDIX 2
Tree Protection Plan

Arboricultural Impacts: Summary

(For details, see below)

Impact	No. of Trees
Trees to be removed	0
Groups of trees to be removed	1
TPO trees to be removed	0
Trees/Groups to be pruned	2
Trees where manual excavation needed within RPAs	0
Trees where above soil surfacing needed within RPAs	3
Trees with proposed underground services within RPAs	0

Trees to be Removed

No	Species	Category
G4	Goat willow - partial	C (12)

Trees to be pruned

No.	Species	Works (Outline only)
8	Ash	Crown lift W canopy extent by removal of x2 lateral limbs emanating on trunk at 1.5m and 2.5m above ground leaving wounds no greater than 100mm; Crown lift W lateral limb, emanating on trunk at 4m, and directly over existing access track, by removal of small dia. pendulous branches to provide 4m clearance over existing access track, leaving wounds no greater than 50mm dia. and retaining main lateral branch
G1	Various	Crown reduce W lateral extents back to E edge of existing access track of all small self-seeded, predominantly goat willow, individuals lining access drive.

Pruning is to be undertaken in accordance with the British Standard Recommendations for Tree work, BS3998: 2010.
Climbing irons or spikes are not to be used whilst pruning trees.

Trees that require above soil surfacing within RPAs

No.	Species	Type of structure
G1	Various	Proposed replacement access drive

SJA Trees to be removed

SJA Proposed electrical connection

SJA Protective fencing as per BS5837; see inset panel

SJA Proposed water connection

SJA Removal of existing hard surface and kerbing to be undertaken under on-site supervision of arboricultural consultant; see inset panel.

SJA Trees to be pruned to specification in inset panel

SJA Proposed hard surfacing to be founded no deeper than base of existing; soil beneath not to be disturbed

Works

Off-site un-surveyed tree

Existing DNO & BT Services Pole

DNO & BT Services Pole

DNO & BT Services Kiosk

1 English oak

3 English oak

4 Ash

5 English oak

6 Hornbeam

7 Field maple

8 Ash

G1 Various

G2 Various

G3 Various

G4 Various

Material storage

Access and turning area

Parking, site office, wheel washing/dust suppresssion

Muck away area

Eaves: 47.34

Ridge: 49.42

THL

CL: IL:

Ø0.10

Eaves:

Ridge:

Plnv

Stmp

WL

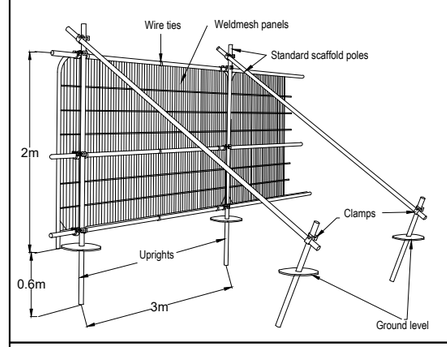
Lost



SJA Ash tree no. 8; proposed pruning outlined in **dashed yellow**

Protective Fencing

To be erected prior to the commencement of all works on site, and retained in place throughout construction. To comprise either 2.4m wooden site hoarding; or a 2m high scaffolding framework, with uprights at maximum 3m spacings, every other one braced to the ground with 45 degree struts; supporting standard anti-climb 'Heras' welded mesh fence panels secured with anti-lift devices to concrete or plastic bases pinned to the ground by scaffold uprights sunk to a minimum depth of 600mm; individual panels fixed to each other with at least 2 clamps and to scaffolding with heavy-duty cable ties. "TREE PROTECTION ZONE - KEEP OUT" or similar notices to be attached to every fifth panel.



TREE PROTECTION FENCING as shown in BS 5837: 2012, Section 6.2.2 & Figure 2.

Ground Protection

If required, to be installed over exposed root protection areas (RPAs) to minimize and avoid potential compaction by plant, materials or machinery. For wheeled or tracked traffic: temporary aluminium roadway ("Trakway" or similar), interlocking polyethelene tread boards ("Ground-Guards" or similar), or reinforced concrete slabs laid on an appropriate compressible layer above a biaxial geotextile grid - to be designed by a structural engineer to accommodate likely loadings.

Supervised demolition

Within root protection areas ('RPAs') existing hard surfaces shall be removed with care, under the direct supervision of the arboricultural consultant. Surfaces will be broken up with handheld breakers, and then removed by hand, wheelbarrow, or in the bucket of an excavator standing outside the RPA. At the discretion of the arboricultural consultant, an excavator positioned outside the RPA and using an appropriately sized toothless bucket may be used in some instances. Once completed, the base of the excavation and/or the edge closest to the trees will be covered immediately with hessian sacking to prevent drying out of the soil. At no point will any RPA be exposed to compaction by the movement of plant or machinery, if any access that traverses and exposed RPA is required, suitable ground protection will be installed prior to the movement of plant, machinery or materials.

Above Soil Surfacing

Proposed hard surfacing within root protection areas (RPAs) of retained trees to be constructed in accordance with section 7.4 of BS 5837: 2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations. Other than the careful removal, using hand tools, of any turf layer, surfaces will be installed above existing soil level, or no deeper than the base of any existing surfacing it is replacing, so that the soil is not disturbed and no roots are severed; and an appropriate ground covering, possibly using a geogrid, a geoweb, or a combination of the two will be placed beneath the sub-base to minimise compaction of the soil in which tree roots are growing. Edge supports will also be installed above existing soil level.

Arboricultural Supervision

The arboricultural consultant will directly supervise all construction works that have to be undertaken within root protection areas (RPAs). These include:

1. Location of protective fencing.
2. Lifting/excavation of existing hard surfaces.
3. Construction of above-ground hard surfacing.
4. All excavations, whether for proposed foundations, hard surfacing, or underground services.

SJA trees ARBORICULTURAL PLANNING CONSULTANTS

Project:	Former Builders Yard, Mead Farm, Stane Street
Client:	Mr & Mrs Cox
Drawing:	TREE PROTECTION PLAN
Drawing No:	SJA TPP 24153-041 — Revision No:
Based On:	SJA TPP 21478-041
Drawn By: NHK	Date: April 2024 — Scale: 1: 250 @ A2
Checked by: NHK	Tel:(01737) 813058 — sja@sjatrees.co.uk

Tree nos.: ● 1 — Canopies of trees to be retained: — Trees to be pruned: —
Trees to be removed: G4 — Category 'B' RPA: — Category 'C' RPA: —
Protective fencing: — Ground protection: — Above soil surfacing: —

For further information refer to the SJAtrees Tree Survey Schedule
Do not scale from this drawing: please check all dimensions on site, and notify us of any discrepancies. SJAtrees (the trading name of Simon Jones Associates Ltd.) cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies in the topographical plan on which this drawing is based.
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