

HAMPS VALLEY LIMITED

HAWTHORNE DRIVE

**ARBORICULTURAL
METHOD
STATEMENT**

Client: LC Construction Ltd

Site: Rear of 14 Market Place, Leek

Date: 08 August 2018

HAMPS VALLEY LIMITED, HAMPS HOUSE, ONECOTE, LEEK, STAFFS ST13 7RG

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 The following method statement has been prepared by Hamps Valley Ltd for use in the proposed development at land to the rear of 14 Market Place ,Leek

1.2 This Arboricultural Method Statement has been produced to aid the safe and healthy survival of all trees to be retained on the development site. Implementation of the protection methods and special construction details within this report are integral to achieving this goal.

1.3 For details of trees to be retained, location and types of protection measures reference should be made to the drawing appendix A of this report.

1.4 The information contained within this Arboricultural Method Statement is in line with BS 5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.*

2.0 Phasing and Monitoring

2.1 The following phasing and monitoring procedures are designed to protect the trees that are to be retained on site, from pre-development stage throughout construction to ensure their survival post development.

2.2 The order in which the works should commence is as follows;

2.2.1. Pre- Commencement Site meeting – This should include a detailed discussion of the exact position of the protective fences, the necessity to ensure adequate supervision at key stages and who is responsible on site for the welfare of the trees. **SMDC Tree Officer should be present.**

2.2.2. Tree Surgery – Including all felling and pruning works as per section 4 of this statement. Vehicles to stay on hard standing. Correct signage used while vehicle is parked outside.

2.2.3. Tree Protection Fencing – Fencing should be erected prior to any development work commencing on site as per section 5 of this statement.. No further work will be carried out until the SMDC tree officer has approved the deployment of the fencing. Once the fencing is erected it must not be moved without written consent from the SMDC Tree Officer.

2.2.4. Underground services- The exact location of the services is not at this time known. It will be a planning condition that an installation method statement be approved by SMDC Tree Officer before work commences. All digging to install services within the RPAs will be done only after a method statement has been approved by SMDC Tree Officer. This will require details such as; digging will only be carried out with an airspade and by hand. Any roots of 25mm diameter or above will be wrapped in damp hessian until they are recovered by soil. Any roots under 25mm can be pruned with sharp by pass secateurs unless they are in clumps. The roots should be recovered as soon as possible. Top soil or sharp sand will be placed around the roots when covering, not builders sand (this can damage the roots).

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2.2.5. Building works- Main building work to commence. Any cement mixing must be done on a non permeable sheet to prevent spillages. No access passed the RPA barriers is permitted at any time without written consent from to the SMDC Tree Officer . Site supervisor will carry out daily checks of the barriers for movement. Any accidental changes should be reported to the SMDC Tree Officer. Project arboriculturalist will inspect the barriers every 6 weeks.

2.2.6. Final works- Finalise all works on the building, remove all materials from site. Inform SMDC Tree Officer.

2.2.7. Remove RPA barriers- Once written consent has been obtained from the SMDC Tree Officer the fencing can be removed.

2.2.8. Ground protection - All areas requiring ground protection will have the correct ground layer installed. Remove the top 50 mm of soil. Sub base of sharp sand, 75mm deep Cellweb using clean angular stone type 4/20 with a base layer of sand on top ready for finishing layer, which will be laid after completion of building works. See appendix B. The protection will be pinned to a wooden edging on all sides to keep in place. This can remain on the inside of the finishing kerbs or left in situ against pre-existing walls. This specification is for pedestrian use only.

2.2.9. Landscaping- Any landscaping and the erection of the wood rail fence along the new boundary will be carried out by hand.

2.2.10 Emergency contact details for project arboriculturalist
mob:07976534780 email: hampsvalleryltd@gmail.com
SMDC Tree Officer 01538 395788

3.0 Root Protection Area

3.1 Based on the tree survey data, Root Protection Areas (RPA's) have been calculated for every retained tree. The RPA's are designed to protect at least a functional minimum of tree root mass in order to ensure the trees survive the development process.

3.2 It is the responsibility of everyone engaged in the development process to respect the tree protection measures and observe the necessary precautions within and adjacent to them. For details of the RPA's please see appendix A.

3.3 Any digging within the RPA areas should be done under supervision of the SMDC Tree Officer.

4.0 Tree Surgery/Felling

4.1 All tree work including felling and pruning shall be carried out prior to the start of the construction process. Details of all tree works to be carried out are listed in the tree works schedule located in Appendix C.

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All tree works should be carried out in accordance with current industry best practice, BS3998:2010 Tree Work - Recommendations.

4.2 All tree work should be carried out by fully qualified and competent contractors. The works should be discussed with the Arboricultural supervisor on site.

4.3 All operations should be carefully carried out to avoid damage to the trees being worked on and adjacent trees. No trees to be retained shall be used for anchorage or winching purposes.

5.0 Tree Protection Fencing

5.1 The tree protection fencing will be erected prior to any of the following taking place; Plant and Material delivery, Soil stripping, Construction works, Utility installation, and Landscaping. When trees are near boundaries the RPA may extend into adjacent land, it is not necessary to erect barriers on adjacent land unless this is being used for access.

5.2 Once erected the fencing will be inspected by the project arboriculturalist to ensure it is in the correct location and suitable for purpose. No further work will be carried out until the SMDC tree officer has approved the deployment of the fencing. Once the fencing is erected it must not be moved without written consent from the SMDC Tree Officer.

The fencing should also be inspected by the site supervisor on a daily basis and any concerns should be raised with the project arboriculturalist. Any accidental changes should be reported to the SMDC Tree Officer. Project arboriculturalist will inspect the barriers every 6 weeks.

5.3 The tree protection fencing will be suitable for purpose to protect the tree from vehicle and machinery damage throughout the entire construction process. An example of the type of tree protection fencing as recommended in BS5837:2012 is attached with this statement as Appendix B. If it is not possible to place ground spikes due to roots, underground services or hard surface there is another example of fencing anchors in the survey report, chapter 6.

5.4 The fencing will have signs attached warning that access into these areas is not permitted without written authority from the SMDC Tree Officer

5.5 Once the fencing is in place it will not be removed without written permission of the SMDC Tree Officer

6.0 Restrictions within the Tree Protection Areas

6.1 Inside the Tree Protection Areas the following shall apply;

- ☐ No mechanical excavation whatsoever. Any excavation should be preceded by the use of an airspade and under supervision of the SMDC tree officer.
- ☐ No excavation by other means without a detailed method statement and conditional agreement from SMDC.
- ☐ No lowering of the levels for any purposes.
- ☐ No storage of plant or materials.

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- ☐ No storage or handling of any chemicals
- ☐ No vehicle access without ground protection and written agreement from SMDC Tree Officer.

7.0 Avoiding Damage to Retained Trees

7.1 Care should be taken to ensure no damage occurs to the retained trees throughout the development, either through the demolition and construction process or through vehicle access and material delivery.

7.2 Any pruning work required to allow access for high vehicle access should be carried out at the tree surgery stage in accordance with BS3998:2010 and done by suitably qualified specialist staff.

7.3 Special care will be required when using cranes to avoid contact with the canopies of the trees by using a banks man to control the load while lowering. Notification will be required to be given the highways authorities and local residents when crane is used.

8.0 Installation of Underground Services

8.1 All installation of underground services should be carried out outside the Root Protection Area where possible. Any installation within the RPA should be carried out by hand, in accordance with the National Joint Utilities Group Publication Volume 4 and only after an installation method statement has been created and it has been agreed with the SMDC Tree Officer. This will require details such as; digging will only be carried out with an airspade and by hand. Any roots of 25mm diameter or above will be wrapped in damp hessian until they are recovered by soil. Any roots under 25mm can be pruned with sharp by pass secateurs unless they are in clumps. The roots should be recovered as soon as possible. Top soil or sharp sand will be placed around the roots when covering, not builders sand (this can damage the roots).

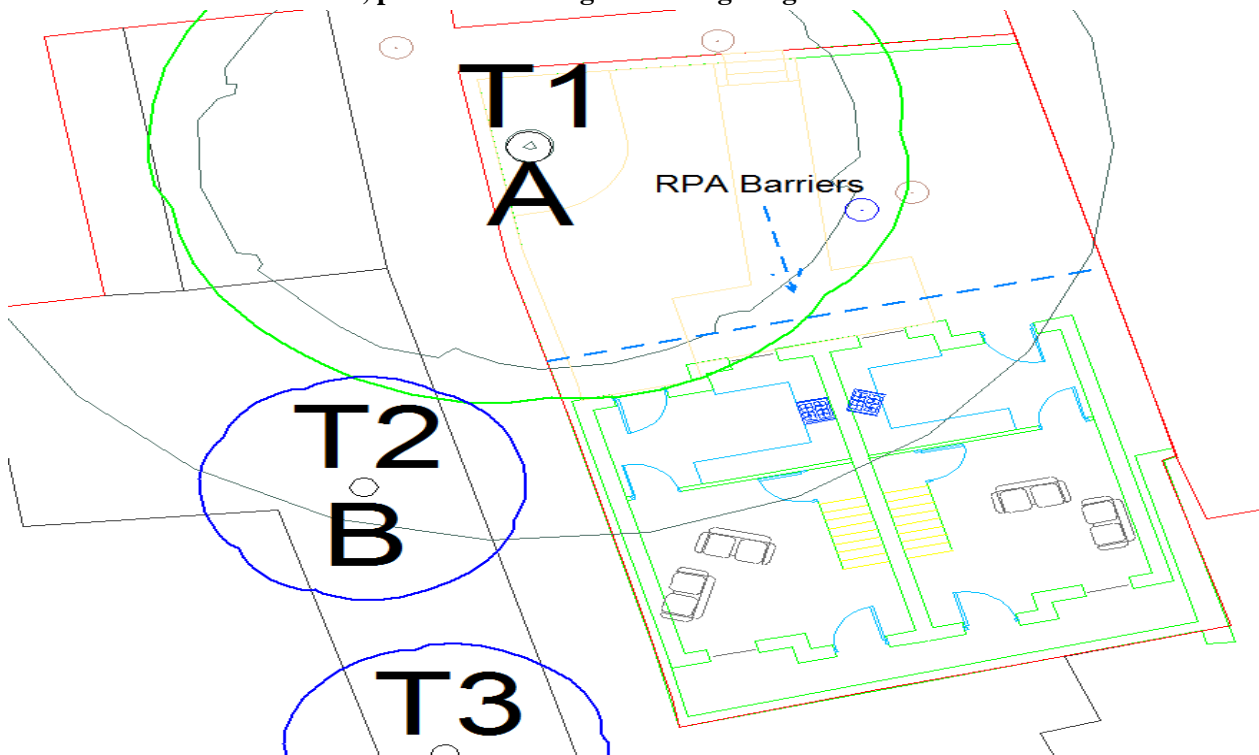
8.2 A detailed method statement for any work within the RPA of any tree shall be produced by the contractor and supervising Arboriculturalist and agreed with by the SMDC Tree Officer prior to the commencement of the work.

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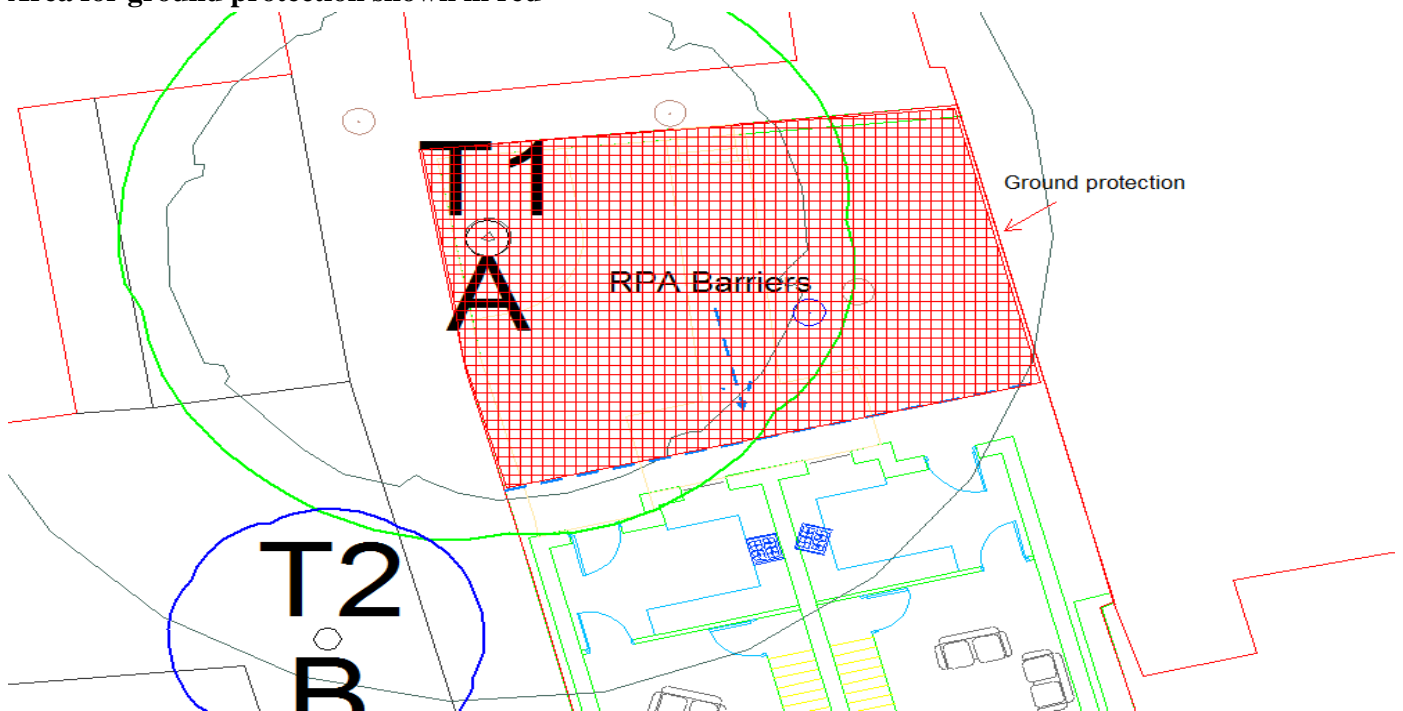
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Appendix A

RPA barriers shown in Blue, placed on the edge of the higher ground.



Area for ground protection shown in red



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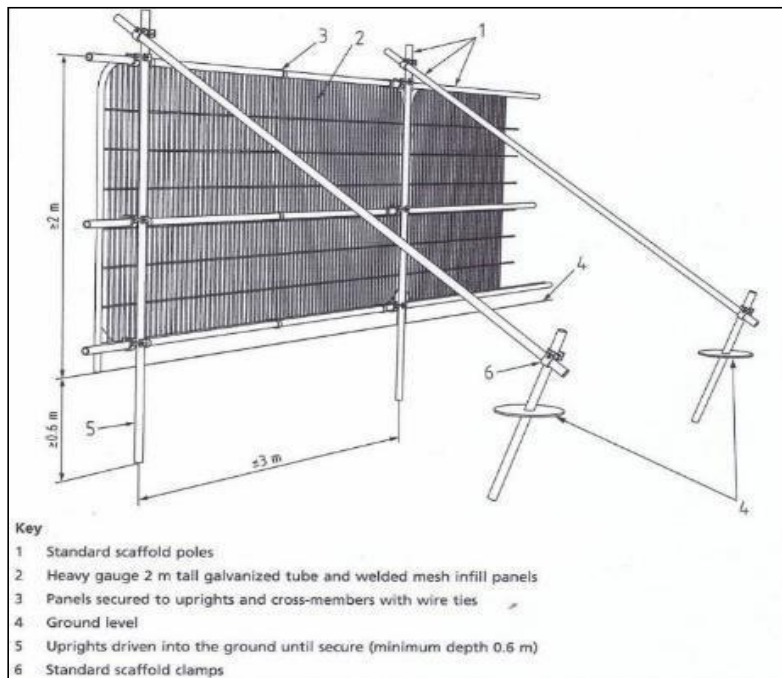
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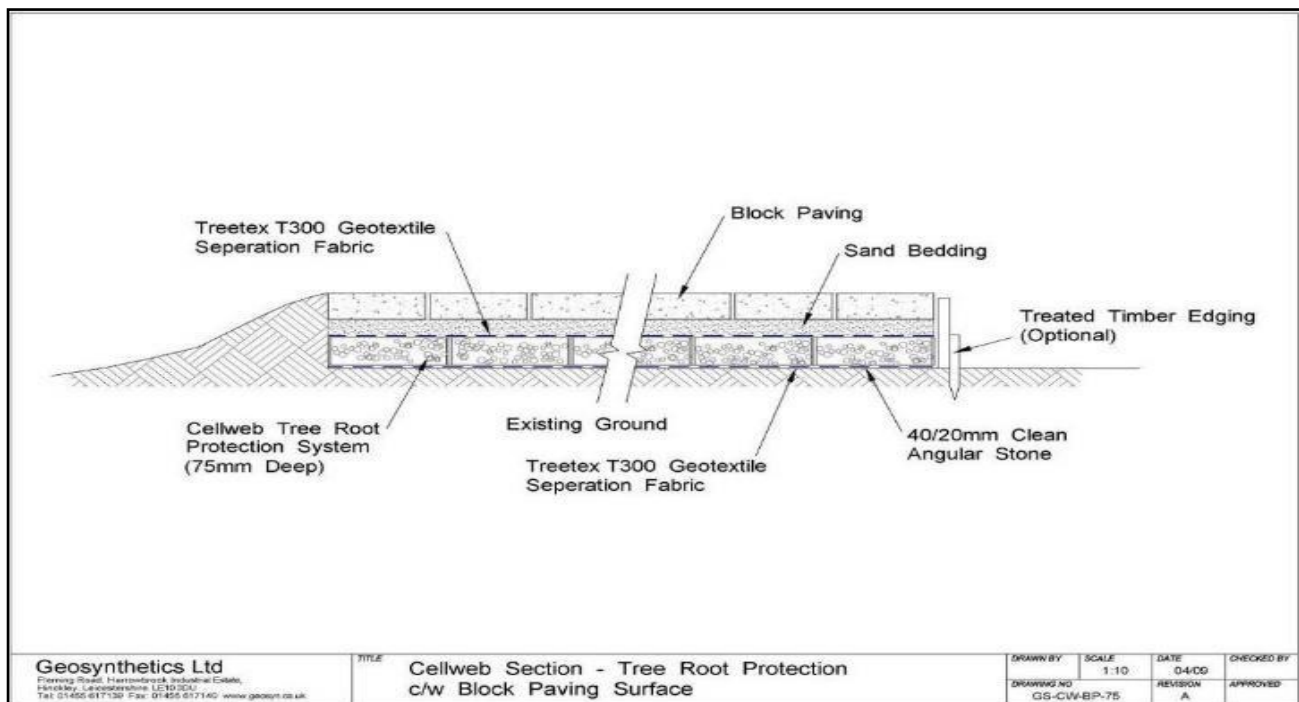
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Appendix B



Recommended RPA barrier fencing



Recommended Ground protection

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Appendix C

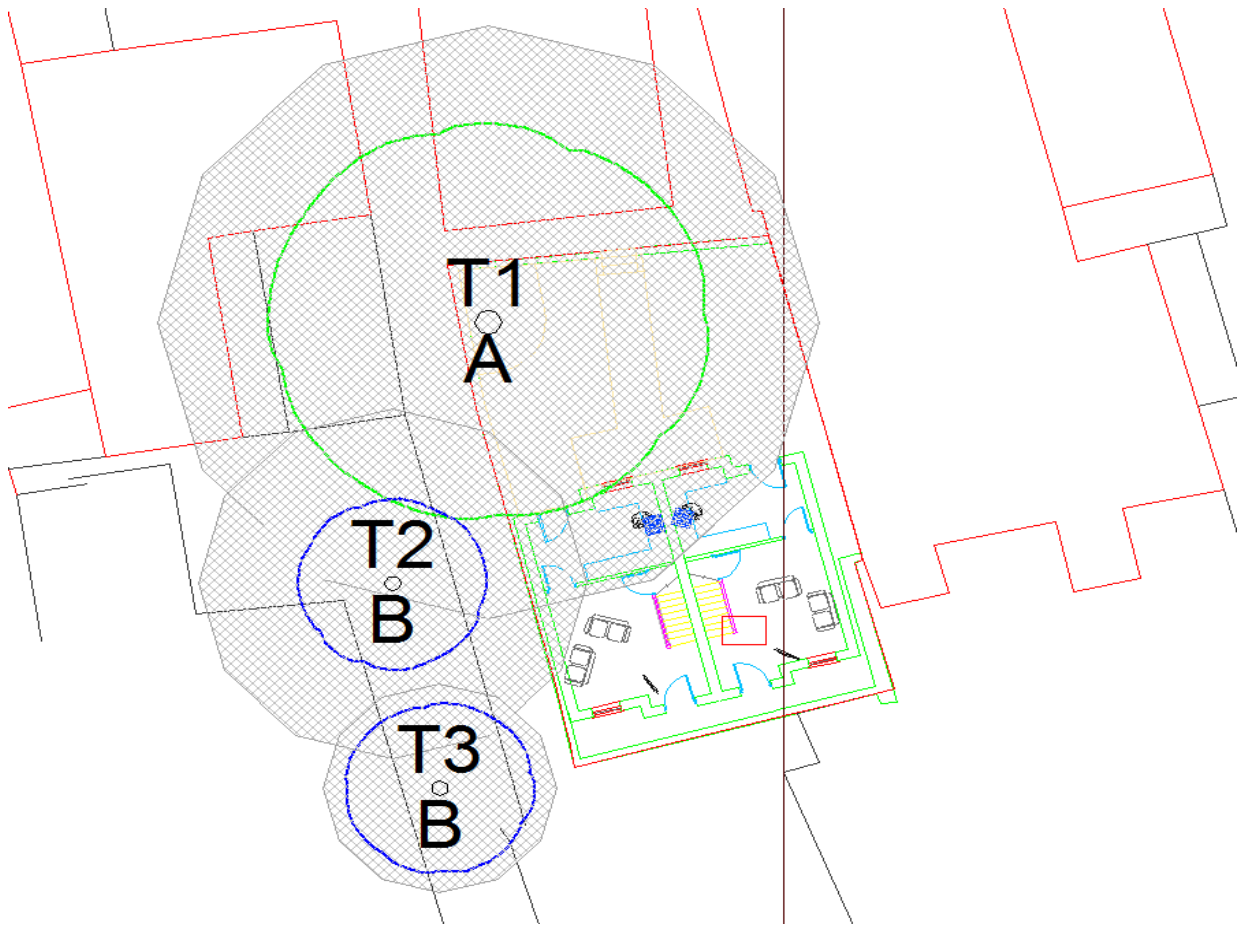
Table 1: Tree Works Schedule

Remove major deadwood from all trees.

Remove epicormic growth and basal shoots from T1

Prune roots with bypass secateurs to leave clean cuts. Where possible these will be cut back to a joining root junction.

Tree location plan



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