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Arboricultural Method Statement

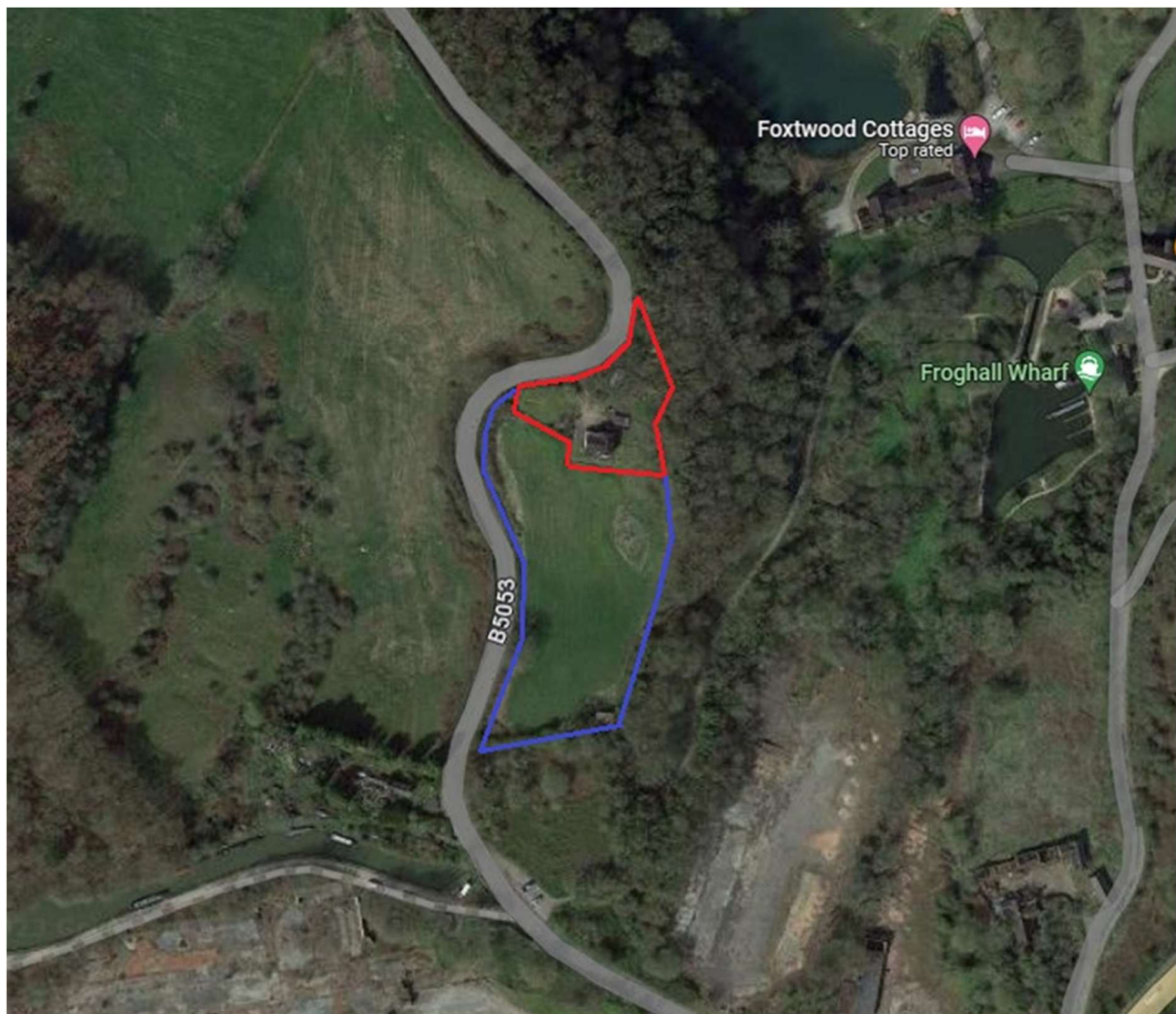


Photo courtesy of Google Maps

November 2024

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 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.

1.2 For details of trees to be retained, location and types of protection measures reference should be made to the drawing appendix A (PLO9) 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. Suitable site manager to oversee the erection protection measures and ensure they are in line with details provided on Appendix B

2.2.2. Tree Surgery – No tree surgery works are proposed as part of the development.

2.2.3. Tree Protection Fencing – There are two phases to the development, with Phase 1 being the demolition and removal of existing structures. For this protective fencing shall be erected around the perimeter of the existing outbuildings which extend into the SSSI. It will be required to use machinery to breakup the existing slab structures, however above ground structure, such as the timber shed, shall be removed by hand. No machinery will be permitted to stray outside the bounds of the current hardstanding areas, so there is no damage/interference with tree branches or roots. It is deemed that the area covered by building slabs or hardstanding is suitable for the siting and manoeuvring of small machinery required to carry out the demolition. Phase 1 fencing should be erected prior to any introduction of demolition machinery. RPA protective barriers, purple broken lines appendix 1, should be erected to create construction exclusion zones (CEZ) as shown in appendix A. Once phase one demolition and removal from site is complete, the protection fencing can be re-erected to suit Phase two, construction. The phase 2 RPA barrier will follow the garden curtilage boundary to the East of the dwelling, up to the position that encompasses the footprint of the new outbuilding. This will follow back down the edge of the driveway, so that all trees contributing to the SSSI and buffer zone are separated from the development site.

2.2.4. Ground protection – Due to the nature of the development, it is not deemed necessary to install any temporary or permanent ground protection measures. The development area surrounding the new outbuilding is an existing area of hardstanding and is accessed by an existing driveway. No further damage to tree roots will be incurred as a result of light machinery being used over these areas during demolition/construction or general use after completion. The working area for the extensions is not in close enough proximity to trees to warrant the use of ground protection measures. No working area, that is currently not hardstanding, shall be within the RPZ of a retained tree. Protective fencing shall ensure works are not carried out within unsuitable proximity to retained trees.

2.2.5. Building works- Main building work to commence and all building traffic should enter the site from the existing driveway. 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. Site supervisor will carry out daily checks of the barriers for movement. Any accidental changes should be reported and repaired before works on site continue.

Foundation work has been deemed not to cause adverse effect on tree roots or the adjacent cutting slope, so normal excavations can take place for foundations works.

2.2.6. Final works- Finalise all works on the building and remove all materials and machinery from site.

2.2.7. Remove RPA barriers and temporary ground protection- Once all works have been completed and signed off, protective measures can be carefully removed, with the supervision of a suitable individual.

2.2.8. Landscaping- Landscaping details are provided on PL07, but all engineering works will be carried out during the construction of the development. The only engineering works forming part of the revised landscape will be the new retaining wall down the east elevation of the dwelling. Earth shall be removed during excavations for the foundations and the new retaining structure shall be constructed in conjunction with the extension, whilst protective measures are in place. Earth shall be backfilled against the retaining wall and turfed over.

The existing driveway hardstanding shall be scraped off and a Terram Geocell 25/10 cellular fabric shall be laid over the gradient slope from the lower driveway level up to the new outbuilding. This is not to act as a root protection measure, but as a ground stabilisation and the driveway shall have loose chippings laid over the top. The new driveway finish shall be permeable.

TERRAM Geocell is a cellular confinement system fabricated from permeable geotextile, and used to combat erosion on slopes up to 45 degrees. The permeable nature of the geotextile allows water to flow freely between cells therefore encouraging drainage and vegetation growth, providing further erosion resistance.

Once placed and secured on the slope, the geocells can be filled with soil or a mineral fill, the confined fill being better able to resist the erosive effects of wind and run-off. For less-exposed slopes seeded topsoil is the most suitable fill, with small shrubs offering improved protection, whilst a granular material offers the highest protection.

The geocell is also flexible enough to be formed around trees and other obstacles.

Other landscaping works shall include normal garden activity such as planting and turf laying.

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 within a proximity of the development area. 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 A very small outer slither of the RPZ for T4 is within the proposed outbuilding footprint, however this is by an existing hardstanding area, so there would be not negative impacts on the ground condition, or tree roots in this area.

4.0 Tree Surgery/Felling

4.1 There are no tree works proposed as part of the development.

4.2 Vehicles are to be parked on the existing driveway with adequate signage for parking and delivery instructions.

4.3 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.

4.4 No access pruning shall be required to facilitate deliveries etc.

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, Construction works, Utility installation, and Landscaping.

5.2 Once erected the fencing will be inspected by a suitable site manager to ensure it is in the correct location and suitable for purpose. Once the fencing is erected it must not be moved until the phase of works is complete and there is no potential for harm to retained trees.

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. As it will not be possible to place ground spikes due to roots, underground services or hard surface in some areas, 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 under any circumstances for construction or demolition purposes, including the storage of machinery or materials.

6.0 Restrictions within the Tree Protection Areas

6.1 Inside the Tree Protection Areas the following shall apply;

No mechanical excavation whatsoever.

No lowering of the levels for any purposes.

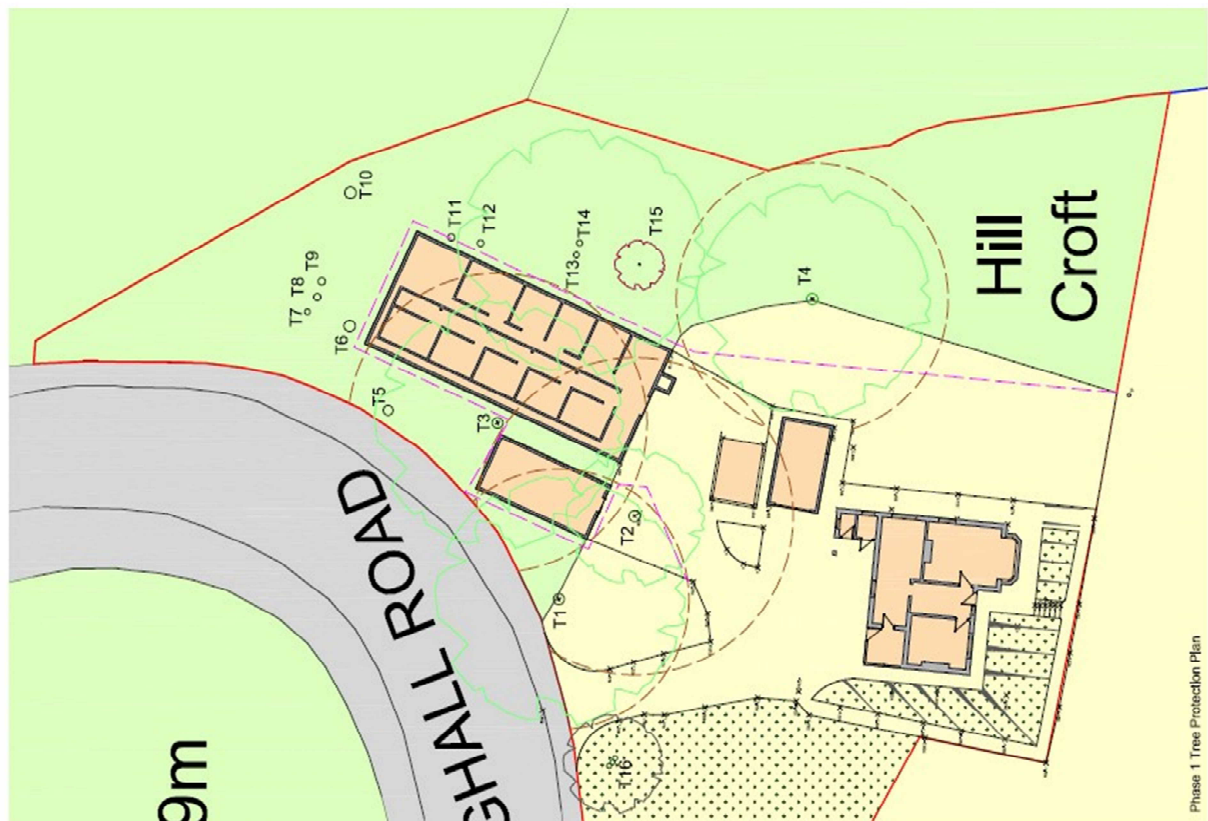
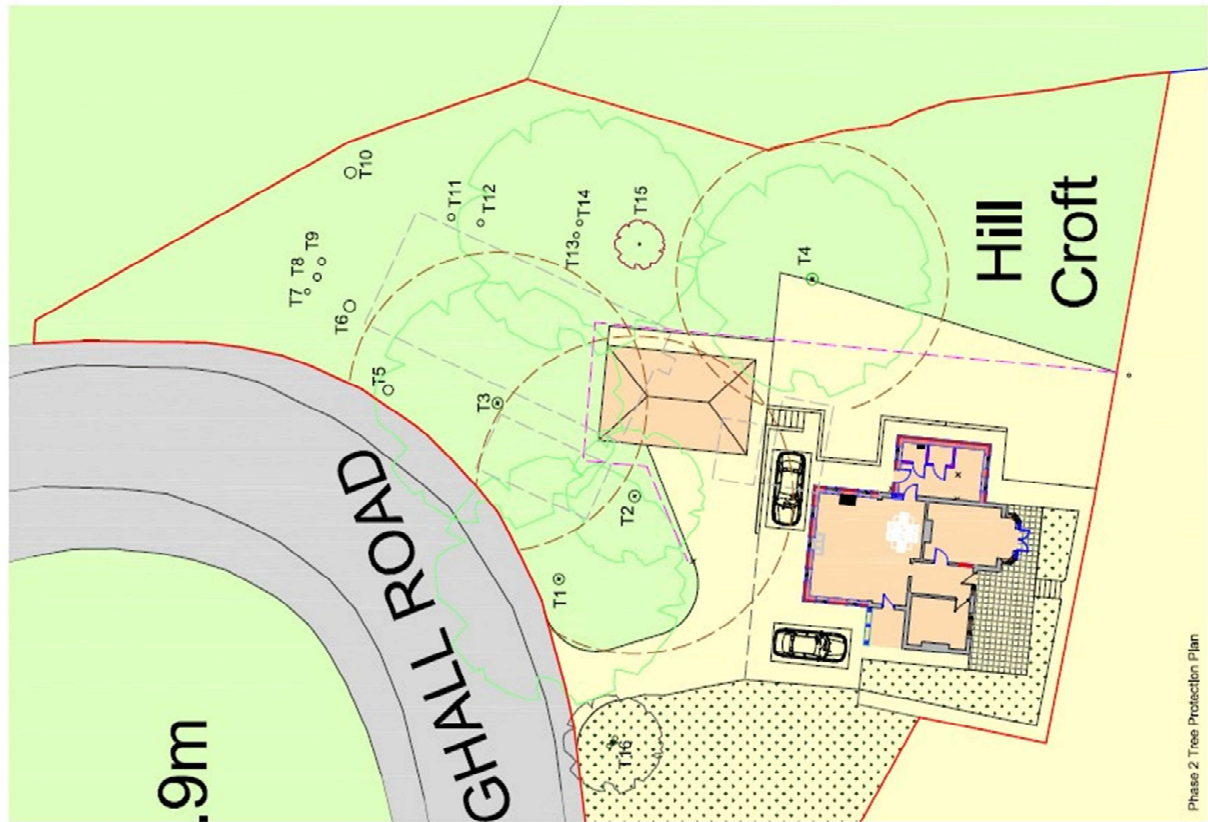
No storage of plant or materials.

No storage or handling of any chemicals.

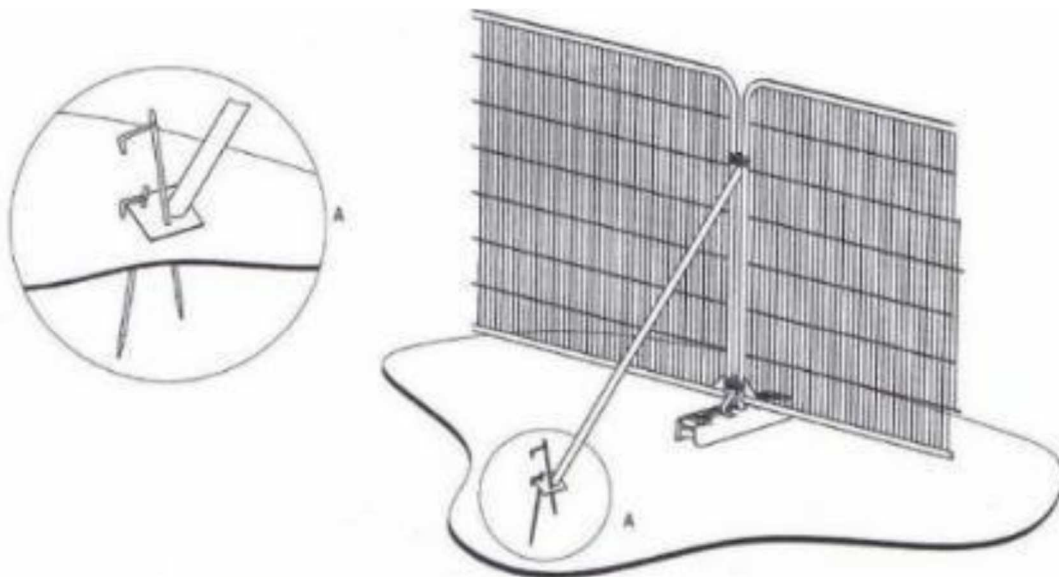
No vehicle access without ground protection.

Appendix A

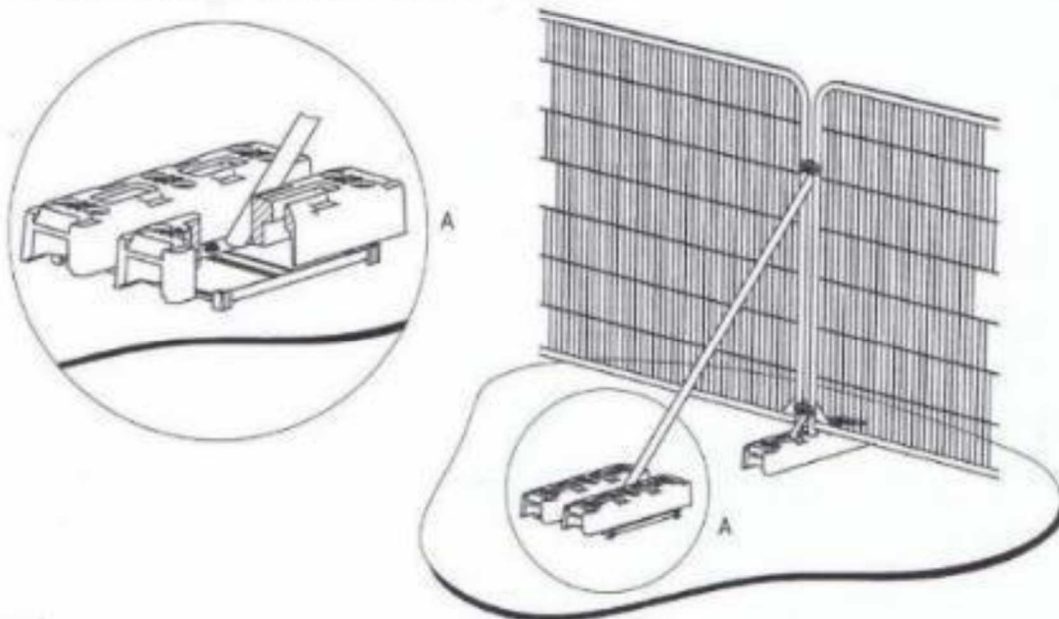
RPA Barrier location shown in purple broken lines, RPZ of individual trees in broken orange line.



Appendix B
Recommended RPA barrier fencing



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins



b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray

Appendix C

Terram Geocell 25/10 ground stabilisation fabric

