

Arboricultural Method Statement

Land at Homestead Nursery, Gresford

Prepared for:

Homestead Nursery

Our Ref: 19/AMS/WXM/246

Planning Ref: P/2019/0189

April 2019

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1.0 INSTRUCTION

- 1.1 Tree Solutions Ltd has been instructed by Homestead Nursery to provide an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) with tree protection plan in support of planning application Ref: P/2019/0189 – Construction of timber building for use of classroom.
- 1.2 This Method Statement sets out the procedure and protection measures for all works within close proximity to trees located on and adjoining the site indicated on the Tree Protection Plan at **Appendix 2**. All tree surgery works have been specified within the tree survey schedule at **Appendix 1**. Compliance with this method statement will be a requirement of all relevant contracts associated with the approved development. Copies of this document will be made available for inspection on site.
- 1.4 Trees to be retained and details including the designated Root Protection Area (RPA) and location of tree protective fencing are clearly indicated on the Tree Protection Plan Ref: 19/AMS/WXM/246, Drawing No 1 which is at **Appendix 2** to this report.
- 1.5 The purpose of the AMS is to provide information on protection and control measures affecting the existing tree stock. The works, with applicable methodology, are divided into the sequence of operations at paragraph 5.0:

2.0 STATUTORY CONTROLS

- 2.1 We have been unable to ascertain if any trees on site are subject to a Tree Preservation Order or if the land falls within a designated Conservation Area. As such, you are advised to seek confirmation from Wrexham County Borough Council on this prior to undertaking any tree works. Pruning of the hedge (H1) does not require planning consent.

3.0 SITE PLAN

- 3.1 The observations and recommendations contained in this document relate to the submitted plan provided by the client. Please note that the position of the building has moved north from that shown on the submitted plan.
- 3.2 The method statement should be read in conjunction with the enclosed Tree Protection Plan, which is based upon the above drawing.

4.0 DEVELOPMENT IMPACT ON TREES

- 4.1 The proposed building is located outside the designated RPA of any tree/hedgerow. As such, we are satisfied that it can be installed with no adverse impact to their future health & vitality. Both tree and hedge can be retained to ensure the amenity and screening they provide the site is maintained well into the future.
- 4.2 The building will be constructed upon a concrete pad foundation that will be poured directly within the marked-out area on site. No Type 1 roadstone will be installed. As a precautionary measure and to ensure no lime leaching into the soil, a non-porous visqueen will be laid on the ground prior to pouring.



Photo 1 – Site marked-out & boundary hedge (H1) reduced back to allow access

5.0 SEQUENCE OF OPERATIONS

From commencement of the above development, the following methodology shall be implemented in the manner and sequence described:

1. Erect temporary tree protective fencing
2. Main construction phase
3. Removal of temporary fencing

1. Erect Temporary Tree Protective Fencing

1. Prior to commencement of any construction or material deliveries the main contractor shall erect the temporary protective fencing as detailed in the 'Tree Protection Specification' and in the location indicated on the Tree Protection Plan.

2. Main Construction Phase

1. Prior to pouring the concrete pad foundation, a non-porous visqueen will be laid across the virgin ground as discussed and agreed on site
2. There shall be no storage of construction material, site parking, site accommodation or equipment in any area designated as the Root Protection Area (RPA) and Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) and enclosed by Temporary Protective Fencing
3. No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health such as oil, bitumen or cement will be stored or discharged within 10 metres of the trunk of a tree that is to be retained. No fires will be lit
4. The site agent shall supervise deliveries by self-loading crane, with vehicles positioned in such a manner that retained trees are not at risk of damage

Cement Mixing

- The cement mixer will be laid on top of plywood boards in a position located outside the RPA of any tree. The mixer will be kept in this position throughout the development work.

Avoiding Damage to Stems and Branches

- Care shall be taken when planning site operations in proximity to trees to ensure that wide or tall loads or plant with booms, jibs and counterweights can operate without coming into contact with retained trees. Such contact can result in serious injury resulting in safe retention impossible

On Site Storage of Spoil and Building Materials

- Prior to and during all site construction works no spoil will be stored and no cement mixing will take place within the Root Protection Area of any tree on or adjacent to the site even if proposed site work is to be within the crown spread. Any encroachment within this protected area will only be with the prior agreement of the LPA Arboricultural Officer

3. Remove all Temporary Tree Protective Fencing

1. Tree Protective fencing will only be removed upon completion of all construction work and once all machinery associated with the works has left site.

Useful Contacts

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TREE PROTECTIVE FENCING

- 1 Before the commencement of any site excavations and subsequent construction works (other than those set out in the schedule of tree works contained in this document), protective fencing will be erected as detailed on the Tree Protection Plan and as specified below. The LPA Tree Officer will be given 5 days notice upon completion of the fencing in order to inspect and approve prior to the commencement of any site works.
- 2 The fencing will consist of a scaffold framework in accordance with Figure 2 of BS 5837 – 2012 (illustration below) comprising a metal framework, both vertical and horizontal, well braced to resist impacts. Vertical tubes will be spaced at a maximum interval of 3m. Onto this, weldmesh panels shall be securely fixed with wire or scaffold clamps. Weldmesh panels on rubber or concrete feet are not considered resistant to impact and for this reason will not be used. The site manager or other suitably qualified appointed person will be responsible for inspecting the protective fencing on a daily basis; any damage to the fencing or breaches of the fenced area will be rectified immediately.
- 3 Clearly legible weatherproof signage, stating “Protected Trees – Exclusion Zone” shall be attached to the fencing 1.5m from the ground, facing out of the Tree Protection Zone located at regular intervals along the fence line
- 4 The fencing will remain in place until completion of all site works and then only removed when all site traffic is removed from site
- 5 Other than works detailed within this method statement or approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority (LPA), no works including storage or dumping of materials shall take place within the exclusion zones defined by the protective fencing.

Protective Fencing Detail

The fence types are shown on the Tree Protection Plan with the following colour key: -

1. **Magenta** - 2.0M high heavy-duty rhino panels (with extra central support bar) mounted on scaffold poles (driven in to the ground) and secured with anti tamper bolts – as illustrated below.



Tree Protective Fencing Specification

Appendix One
Tree Survey Schedule

TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE (BS5837: 2012)

Tree Solutions

Arboricultural Consultants

SITE:	LAND AT HOMESTEAD NURSERY, OLD WREXHAM RD, GRESORD, LL12 8TY
CLIENT:	HOMESTEAD NURSERY
BRIEF:	TREE SURVEY FOR METHOD STATEMENT

SURVEYOR:	A. HENDERSON
ASSESSMENT DATE:	08/04/2019
VIEWING CONDITIONS:	GOOD
JOB REFERENCE:	19/AMS/WXM/246

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TREE NO. T - Tree G - Group H - Hedge	SPECIES (COMMON NAME)	AGE	HEIGHT (m) + CROWN CLEARANCE/ DIRECTION OF GROWTH (N.S.E.W)	RADIAL CROWN SPREAD (m)				STEM/ MULTI-STEM* DIA. (mm)	VITALITY	COMMENTS	MANAGEMENT	CATEGORY & SUB-CATEGORY GRADING BS 5837	BS 5837 RADIUS (m) RPA (m²)
				N	S	E	W						
T1	Ash	M	14	4	4.5	3	4	420	G	- Field boundary tree with no significant defects - Recently crown reduced to south to clear storm damage - E.R.C. 20+	No works required	B2	5 80m²
H1	Holly	M	≤9	2	2	2	2	≤200	G	- Lapsed field boundary hedge - Multi-stemmed from base with predominantly top growth - Provides good evergreen screen to proposed building - E.R.C.20	Reduce southern canopy back 1.5m to provide easement to building	B2	2.4 18m²

HEADINGS & ABBREVIATIONS

TREE NO.
SPECIES:
AGE RANGE/LIFE STAGE:
HEIGHT:
CROWN SPREAD:
CROWN CLEARANCE & DIRECTION OF GROWTH:
STEM DIA/MULTI-STEM DIA:
VITALITY:
E.R.C. = ESTIMATED REMAINING CONTRIBUTION:
BS 5837 CATEGORY & SUB-CATEGORY GRADING:
BS 5837 RADIUS & BS 5837 RPA:

REFERENCE NUMBER. REFER TO PLAN OR NUMBERED TAGS WHERE APPLICABLE (T = TREE, G = GROUP, H = HEDGE)
COMMON NAME (LATIN NAMES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST)
Y = YOUNG, SM = SEMI MATURE, EM = EARLY MATURE, M = MATURE, PM = POST MATURE
ESTIMATED AND RECORDED IN METRES. APPROXIMATELY 1 IN 10 TREES ARE MEASURED USING A CLINOMETER AND THE REMAINDER ESTIMATED AGAINST THE MEASURED TREES
MAXIMUM CROWN RADIUS MEASURED TO THE FOUR CARDINAL COMPASS POINTS FOR SINGLE SPECIMENS ONLY (MEASUREMENT FOR TREE GROUPS - MAXIMUM RADIUS OF THE GROUP)
HEIGHT IN METERS OF CROWN CLEARANCE ABOVE ADJACENT GROUND LEVEL (TO INFORM ON GROUND CLEARANCE, CROWN/STEM RATIO AND SHADING)
STEM DIAMETER - MEASURED AT APPROXIMATELY 1.5 METRES ABOVE GROUND LEVEL OR A COMBINATION OF STEMS FOR MULTI-STEMMED TREES
A MEASURE OF PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION. D = DEAD, MD = MORIBUND, P = POOR, M = MODERATE, G = GOOD
RELATIVE USEFUL LIFE EXPECTANCY (YEARS)
A = HIGH QUALITY AND VALUE, B = MODERATE QUALITY AND VALUE, C = LOW QUALITY AND VALUE, U = UNSUITABLE FOR RETENTION (SUB-CATEGORY REFERS TO ARBORICULTURAL, LANDSCAPE AND CULTURAL/CONSERVATION VALUES)
PROTECTIVE DISTANCE - RADIUS FROM THE CENTRE OF THE STEM TO THE LINE OF TREE PROTECTION (CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE - CEZ) AND PROTECTIVE BARRIER ROOT PROTECTION AREA - BS 5837 (2012) ANNEX D (THE RECOMMENDATIONS STATE THAT THE RPA SHOULD BE CAPPED AT 707 M²) NOTE – ALL CALCULATIONS ROUNDED TO NEAREST DECIMAL

Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those 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	- 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) - Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline - 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 <i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>			See Table 2
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Trees to be considered for retention				
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	See Table 2
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	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 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	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	See Table 2
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 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	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/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	See Table 2

Appendix Two

Tree Protection Plan

