

# Bucks Plant Care Ltd

## Arboricultural Consultancy Service

Wylderne, Bridge Street, Great Kimble,

Buckinghamshire, HP17 9TW

Contact : 07952338564

[Email-patrickprendergast@bucksplantcare.co.uk](mailto:Email-patrickprendergast@bucksplantcare.co.uk)

[www.bucksplantcare.co.uk](http://www.bucksplantcare.co.uk)

## ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

For

**1 Woodside Road, Northwood, HA6 3QE**

A tree report for planning purposes to :

***Add a double storey extension to the side of the  
property along with replacing the rear conservatory***

**8<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**Ref BPC 21318**

By

**Patrick Prendergast**

*DHE, MArborA, MIHort, Tech Cert(ArborA)*



**Arboricultural  
ASSOCIATION**  
Professional Member



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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Bucks Plant Care Ltd was instructed by Abhinav Kaushik to carry out a survey of all trees on and bounding the site at **1 Woodside Road, Northwood, HA6 3QE** in line with **BS5837- 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations**. Then produce an arboricultural report with an impact assessment plan in line with the recommendations of BS5837 in relation to the proposal.
- 1.2 Proposed add a double storey extension to the side of the property along with replacing the rear conservatory.
- 1.3 The work will include the :
  - survey from ground level, individually, or in groups, all on-site trees, identifying species, physiological condition and structural morphology, tree dimensions, preliminary management recommendations and BS: 5837 (2012) 'Retention Categories'. Estimate as far as possible off-site trees.
  - Number all trees, either individually or in groups:
  - Prepare a Tree Schedule.
  - Work up an arboricultural impact assessment that will incorporate Root Protection Areas (RPA) for those trees worthy of retention.
- 1.4 The process will take the form of three stages:
  - 1.4.1 **Phase 1** The initial stage for trees within the development process is a survey of those trees that should be retained and those that may/should be removed. Retention trees are allocated Root Protection Areas (RPAs) that are then detailed on a Tree Constraints Plan (TCP). The RPAs provide for

sufficient rooting (soil) volume to ensure that trees are successfully retained during and after the completed development. It indicates a notional development footprint for any given site but moreover, it **may affect the value of land** earmarked for development. The AIA1 is **only** a baseline survey. It is not intended to represent, in isolation, the supporting information for an LPA\* application: to obtain full planning permission.

- 1.4.2 **Phase 2** The next stage is for ‘site layout master planners’ to factor the tree constraints into draft layout proposals. This draft is then referred to the consulting Arborist for further implication assessment, to arrive at a ‘best fit’ scheme, which achieves site proposal viability whilst allowing for the retention of appropriate trees. Once it has been agreed, the consulting Arborist can then prepare a supporting report to accompany the planning application. This report should demonstrate that the trees have been properly considered such that the site layout is defensible in arboricultural terms, both at the application stage and also, if necessary, at Appeal.
- 1.4.3 **Phase 3** All the effort put into the pre-application phases to protect retention trees is likely to fail without effective site supervision. Arboricultural Implications Assessment (AIA3) covers the **on-site project implementation**, including arranging (LPA) approved tree removal/ pruning, overseeing the installation of tree protection fencing, ground protection and any special engineering works through to periodic reporting on the retention of tree protection measures. Many if not all of the latter are usually specified as LPA Planning Conditions that need to be formally discharged. All personnel associated with the construction process must be familiar with the specified Tree Protection Plans (TPP) and Arboricultural Method Statements (AMS) that affect the site. The TPP and AMS should be retained on site at all times and they should be included in the site’s Project Management Plan.
- 1.4.4 Phases 1–3 are in line with BS:5837 ‘*Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations*’ (2012).

\* Local Planning Authority

1.5 **Tree safety matters**

The BS:5837 tree survey is carried out in sufficient detail to gather data for and to inform the current project. Our appraisal of the structural integrity of trees on the site is of a preliminary nature and sufficient only to inform the current project. The tree assessment is carried out from ground level – as is appropriate for this type of survey - without invasive investigation. The disclosure of hidden tree defects cannot therefore be expected. Whilst the survey is not specifically commissioned to report on matters of tree safety, we report obvious visual defects that are significant in relation to the existing and proposed land use.

Lastly and to further clarify, this BS:5837 survey does not constitute a full *Visual Tree Assessment* (= TRAM\* Level 2 - *Basis Assessment*) that would ordinarily be carried out for Tree Risk Assessment reporting. In effect, this BS:5837 survey equates to a TRAM Level 1 *Limited Visual Assessment*.

\* *“Tree Risk Assessment Manual” Dunster, Julian A., E. Thomas Smiley, Nelda Matheny, and Sharon Lilly (2013) International Society of Arboriculture*

1.6 The **British Standard 5837 ‘Trees in relation to design, demolition, construction - Recommendations’ (2012)** provides “guidance on the principles to be applied to achieve a satisfactory juxtaposition of trees.....with structures”. The Standard recommends that trees with categories A-C (where A is the highest quality) are a material consideration in the development process. Such trees may then become a constraint for a planning proposal. Category U trees are those that will not be expected to exist for long enough to justify their consideration in the planning process (i.e. no more than 10 years). The tree categories are shown on plan by colour-coding:

- Category A (green colour-coded): Good examples of their species with an estimated life expectancy of at least 40 years.

- Category B (blue colour-coded): Not suitable for an 'A' category due to impaired condition or a tree lacking special 'A' qualities: with an estimated life expectancy of at least 20 years.
- Category C (grey colour-coded): Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or with a significant impaired condition not warranting an 'A' or 'B' category: with an estimated life expectancy of at least 10 years. See young trees below.
- Category U (red colour-coded): 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.
- Reasonably young trees below 150mm stem diameter would normally be given a C category (if they satisfy the retention quality criteria). However, as they are small they could be replaced/transplanted and as such they should not be regarded as a significant constraint on a development.

## 1.7 Wildlife legislation

The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Chapter 69 forms the basis for the legal wildlife protection in Great Britain. Amongst other protected flora and fauna, nesting birds and all species of bat are afforded statutory protection.

In brief, it is an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take a bat.
- Sell, hire, barter or exchange a bat, dead or alive.
- Be in possession or control of a bat or anything derived from them.
- Disturb a nesting bird.

**It is recommended that the client and/or their agent review the Act -**  
**<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3614> - for further information and guidance.**

## 1.8 Wildlife habitats

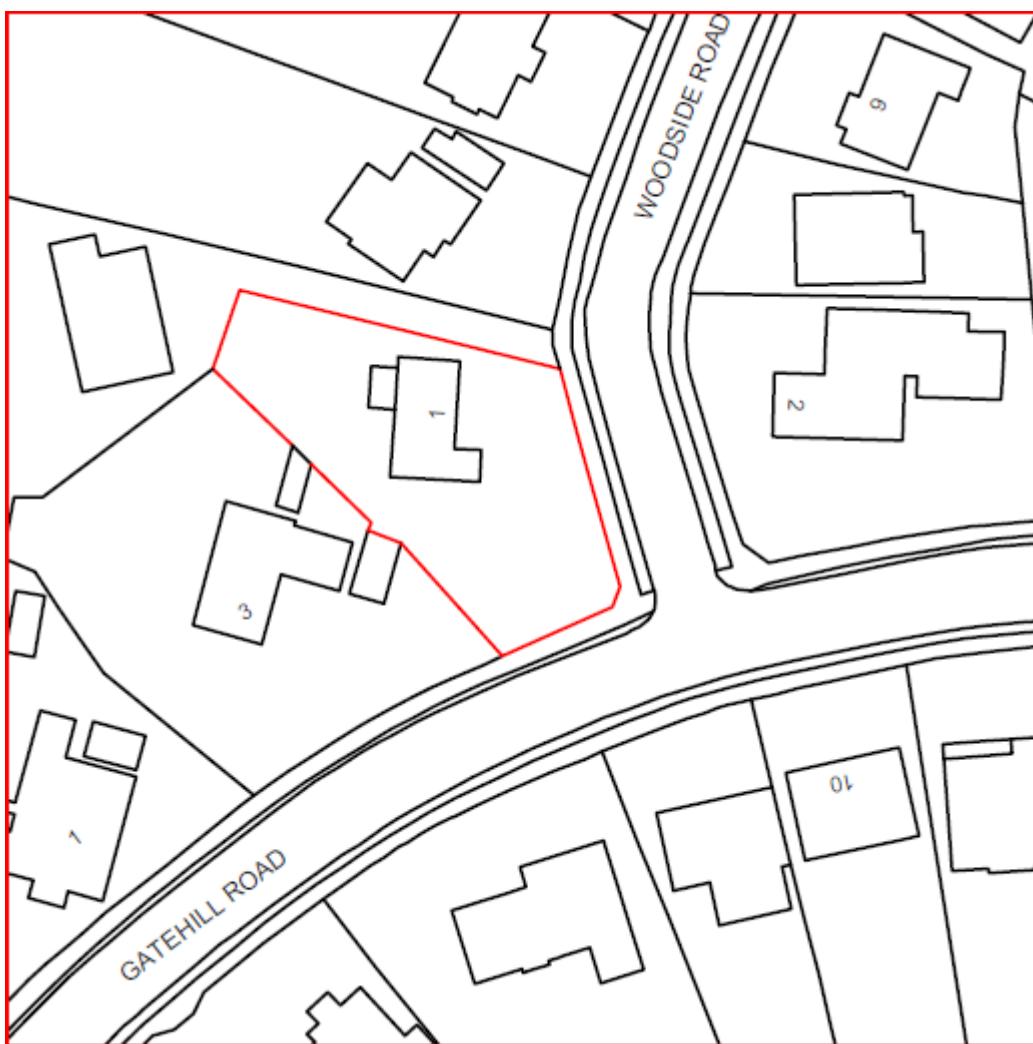
A cursory assessment of wildlife habitat values of trees and hedgerows on the site was carried out during the survey. No protected or exceptional

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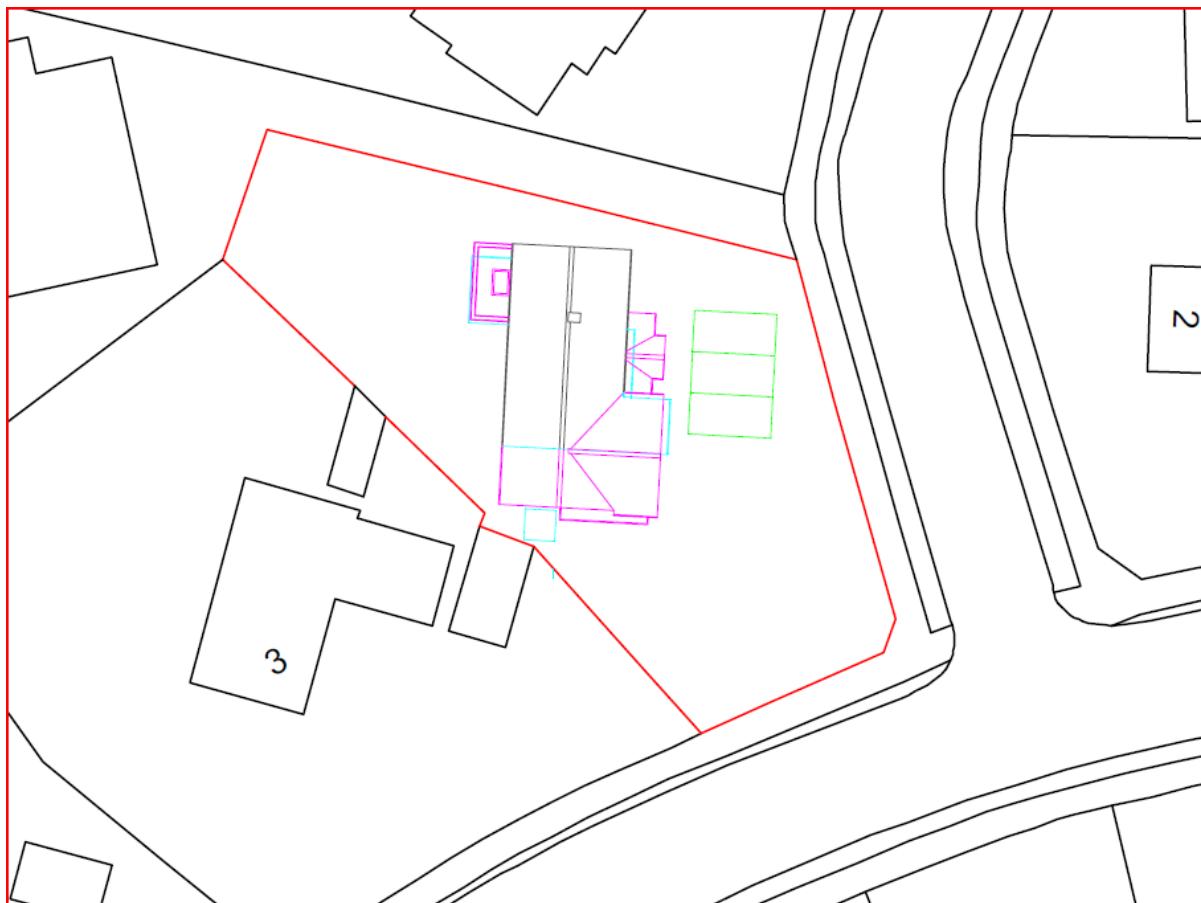
habitats were identified and details were not recorded. However, trees and hedgerows of most species provide valuable nesting sites for a wide range of birds and it is likely that nesting birds will be present on the site during the period March to September. We have not been made aware of the presence of roosting bats and have not identified any obvious signs of roost sites. However, this does not mean that roost sites are absent.

## 2. Site description

- 2.1 The site consists of a detached property in a garden plot.



2.2 **The proposal:** It is proposed to extend the property to the side and replace the conservatory in the rear.



The location and detail of the proposed development and the positioning and numbering of the trees can be found plotted on the AIA plan at Appendix 2 and separate document Ref : AIA/21318. NB The original of this plan was produced in colour – a monochrome copy should not be relied upon.

## 3. Tree survey

- 3.1 I surveyed the site on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024.
- 3.2 The details of the tree survey can be found in Appendix 1 with the tree locations in Appendix 2.

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## 1 Woodside Road, Northwood

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- 3.3 There are no significant trees on or off the site.
- 3.4 Trees T01 and T03 are 2 off-site trees growing next to one another.



## 1 Woodside Road, Northwood

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3.5 T05 is the largest on-site tree growing by the front boundary



3.5 The rear garden has a mixed selection of shrubs along the boundary.



## 1 Woodside Road, Northwood

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3.6 There is a mature mixed shrub bed by the gable side of the house.



3.7 There is also a mature mixed shrub bed in the front.



## 4. Statutory controls

### 4.1 Planning legislation (Trees)

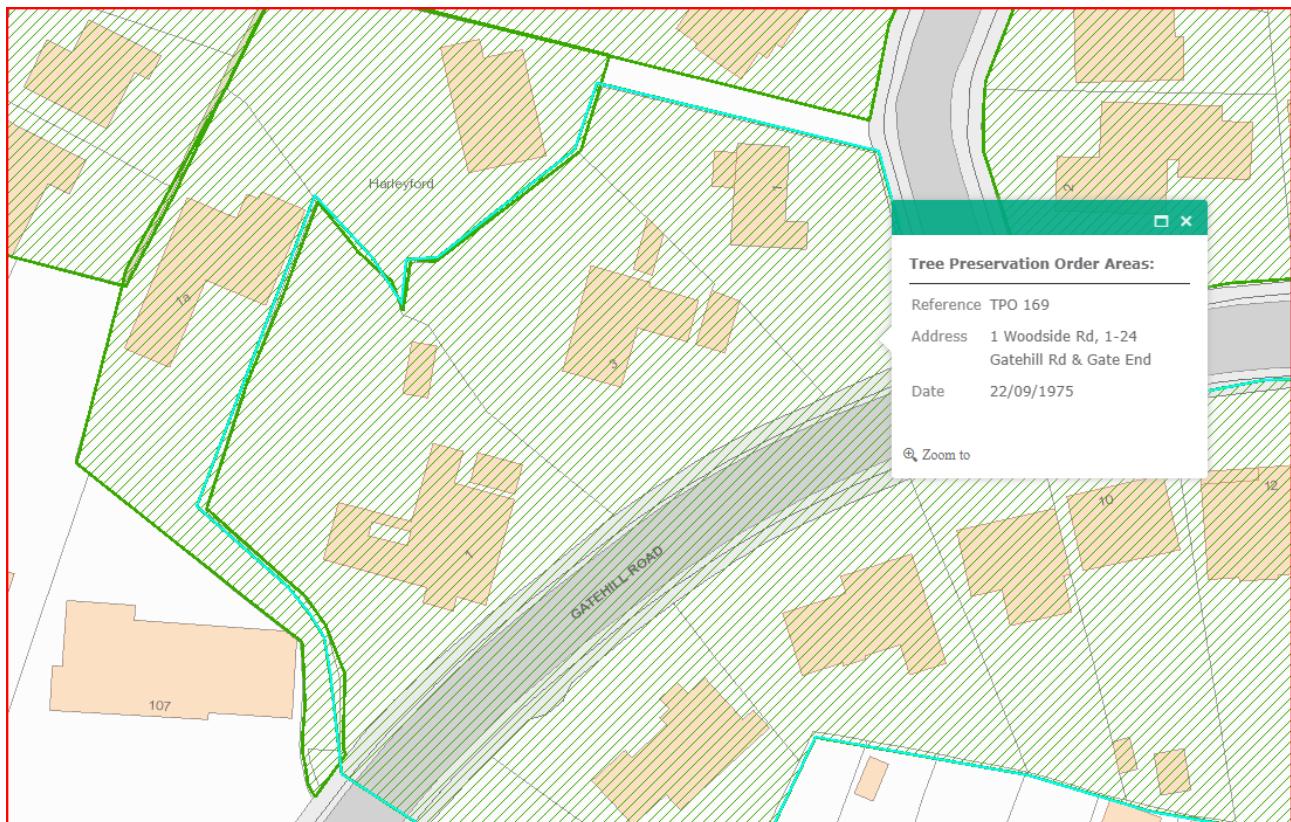
### 4.2 Statutory tree protection

Trees can be protected in law – via Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) or by virtue of them growing in a Conservation Area – by the Government's Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (the Act). Trees may also be protected by Planning Conditions. In all these instances, written LPA permission/consent is required before protected trees can be pruned or felled\*. Contravention of the Act may carry a fine of up to £20,000 and a criminal record.

\* Exceptions include those trees that are dead/hazardous or those that are causing an actionable nuisance to a third-party. In any event, evidence must be provided to defend the removal of such trees.

### 4.3 Trees on this site

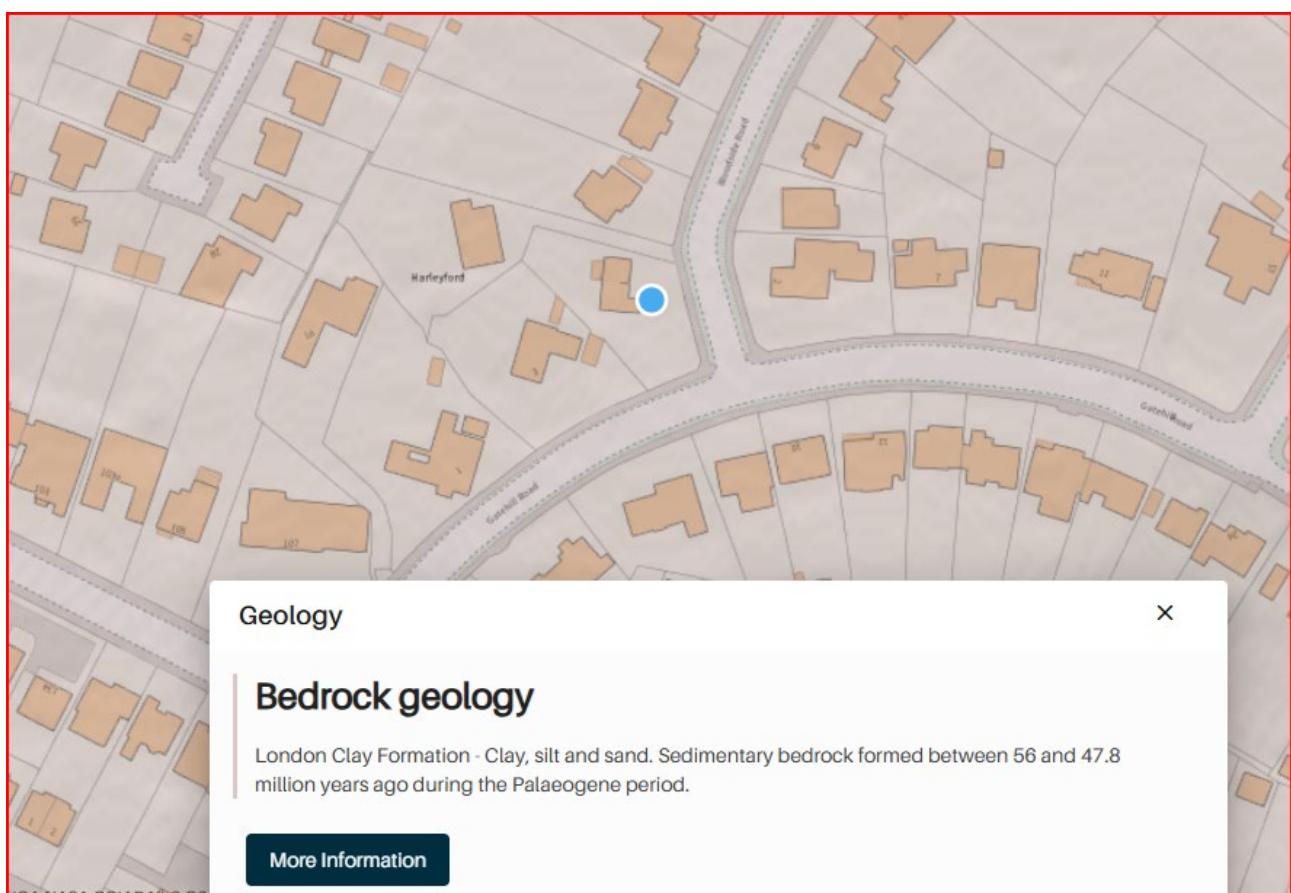
The trees on this site are protected by TPO 169 - 1975.



## 5. Soil assessment

Assessing the potential influence of trees upon load-bearing soils beneath existing and proposed structures, resulting from water abstraction by trees on shrinkable soils, was not included in the contract brief and is not, therefore, considered in any detail in this report. **Bucks Plant Care Ltd** cannot be held responsible for damage arising from soil shrinkage or heave issues related to the retention or removal of trees on site.

According to the British Geological Survey for this site the bedrock geology is London clay formation with Clay, silt and sand.



## 6. Arboricultural impact assessment

The mixed shrub bed by the gable end of the property will be removed to facilitate the build.

### 6.1 **IMPACT PROPOSAL ON TREES** (to be read in conjunction with the Arboricultural Impact Assessment- AIA - at Appendix 2)

There are no impact to the on or offsite trees by this proposal.

### 6.2 **Root Protection Areas (RPAs)**

There is no impacts to the RPAs by the development.

### 6.3 **Tree Crown Protection Zones**

There are no crown protection issues.

### 6.4 **Tree Dominance Zones**

There are no crown dominance issues.

## 7. Arboricultural method statement (AMS)

This AMS lays down the methodology for any demolition and/or construction works that may have an effect upon trees on and adjacent to this site. It is essential within the scope of any contracts - related to this development - that this AMS is observed and adhered to. It is recommended that this document forms part of the work schedule and that specifications are issued to the building contractor(s) and these must be used to form part of their contract.

Consulting Arborist contact details:

Patrick Prendergast – mob. No. 07952 338564

## SEQUENCE OF WORKS

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

- 1 **PRE- COMMENCEMENT SITE MEETING** To outline on-site working methods in relation to trees prior to any demolition and/or construction activity, a site meeting of the following shall take place:
  - Client • Consulting Arborist • Site Agent

- 2. ESTABLISH THE CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE (CEZ):**

As per the tree protection plan (TPP), ref PBC 21318 install the Tree Protection barriers as shown on the plan with the specified heras fencing.

- 3. MAIN CONSTRUCTION WORKS**

There must be no:

- (a) storage or disposal of any soil, building materials, rubble, machinery, fuel, chemicals, liquids waste residues or materials/debris of any other description
- (b) preparation of noxious substances (e.g. cement)
- (c) Parking/use of tracked or wheeled machinery or vehicles of any description.
- (d) Siting of any temporary structures of any description including site office/sales buildings, temporary car parking facilities, porta-loos, storage compounds or hard standing areas of any other description
- (e) Soil/turf stripping, raising/lowering of existing levels, excavation or alterations to the existing surfaces/ ground conditions of any other description

- (f) Installation/siting of any underground services, temporary or otherwise including; drainage, water, gas, electricity, telephone, television, external lighting or any associated ducting.

in any area designated as the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ)

In addition to the protection measures specified above,

- a) No fires shall be lit within 20 metres of the trunks of the canopies any trees or the spread of any hedgerow shown to be retained.
- b) No signs, cables, fixtures or fittings of any other description shall be attached to any part of any retained tree.
- c) No chemicals, fuel, liquids/waste residues of any other description to be stored or disposed of within close proximity to or drained towards/ into protection areas.

## **8 Conclusions**

- 8.1 It is proposed to extend the property to the side and replace the rear conservatory.
- 8.2 There are no impacts to any on or off site trees.
- 8.3 Following adherence to the Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan the retained trees will be protected during construction. Active random monitoring by a Consulting Arborist throughout the development process is strongly recommended.

APPENDIX 1  
TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

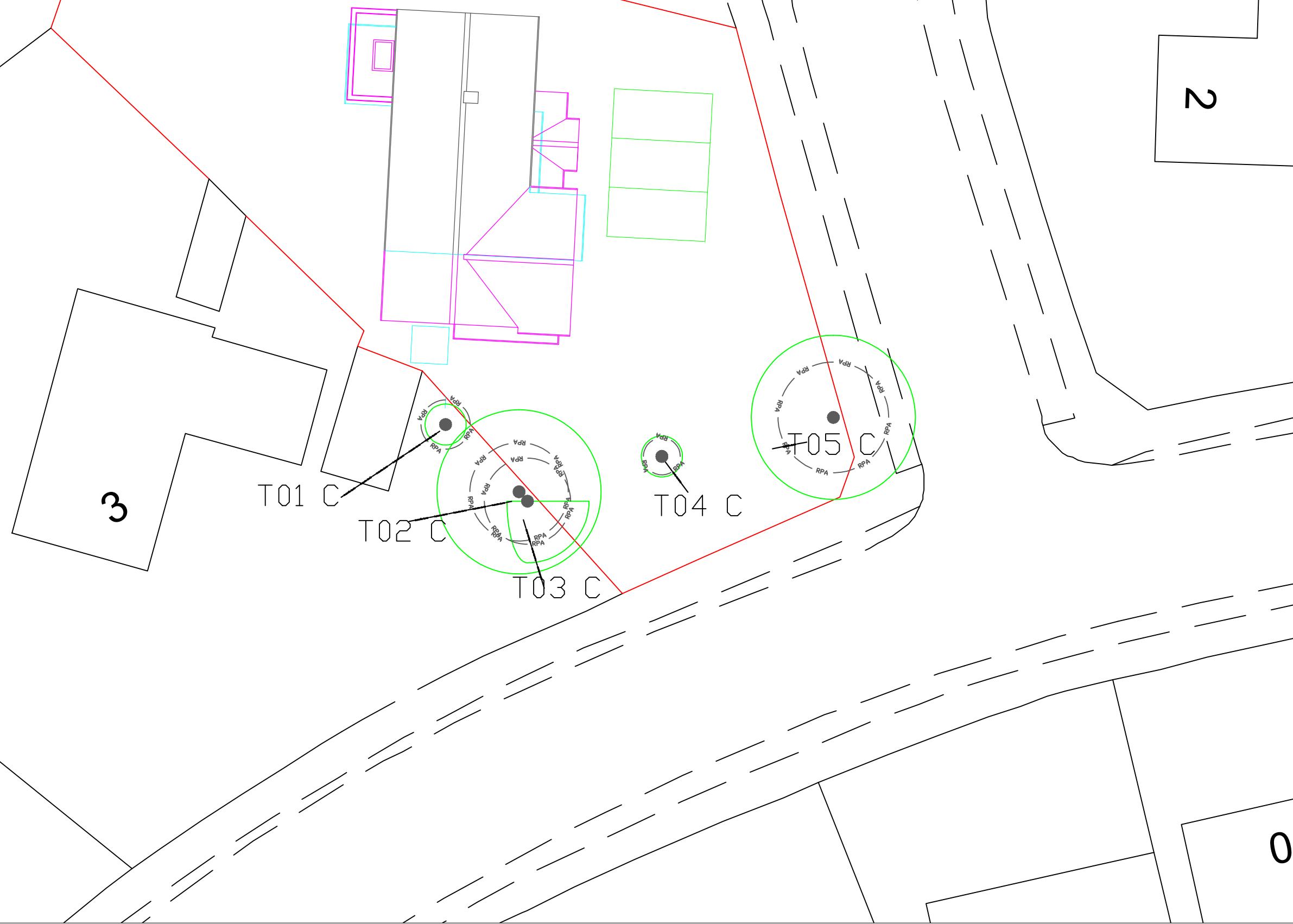
Ref.	Species	Measurements	General Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Recommendations
T01	Cherry ( <i>Prunus sp.</i> )	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam(mm): 100 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: young Rem. Contrib.: 10+ years	Off site tree	C	Radius: 1.2m. Area: 5 sq m.	Good	Good	No action required
T02	Cherry ( <i>Prunus sp.</i> )	Height (m): 9 Stems dia(mm): 200 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Off site tree	C	Radius: 2.4m. Area: 18 sq m.	Good	Good	No action required
T03	Mulberry ( <i>Morus sp.</i> )	Height (m): 5 Stems dia(mm): 100,100,100 Spread (m): 0N, 3E, 3S, 1W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Off site tree	C	Radius: 2.1m. Area: 14 sq m.	Good	Good	No action required

## 1 Woodside Road, Northwood

Ref.	Species	Measurements	General Observations	Retention Category	RPA	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Recommendations
T04	Weeping birch ( <i>Betula sp.</i> )	Height (m): 2 Stem Diam(mm): 50 Spread (m): 1N, 1E, 1S, 1W Life Stage: young Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	a small tree	C	Radius: .9m. Area: 3 sq m.	Good	Good	No action required
T05	Judas tree ( <i>Cercis sp.</i> )	Height (m): 7 Stem Diam(mm): 100,100,150,75,75,100 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	a mature multi-stemmed tree	C	Radius: 2.7m. Area: 23 sq m.	Good	Good	No action required

# Appendix 2

## Arboricultural Impact Assessment Plan



General Notes		
	Tree canopy	
	RPA Cat A	
	RPA Cat B	
	RPA Cat C	
No.	Revision/Issue	Date
Firm Name and Address		
Bucks Plant Care Ltd Wylderne Bridge Street Great Kimble HP17 9TW		
Project Name and Address		
1 Woodside Road, Northwood, HA6 3QE		
Project BPC - 21318 Date 06.12.2024 Scale 1:200 in A3		Sheet 01

# Appendix 3 Tree Protection Plan

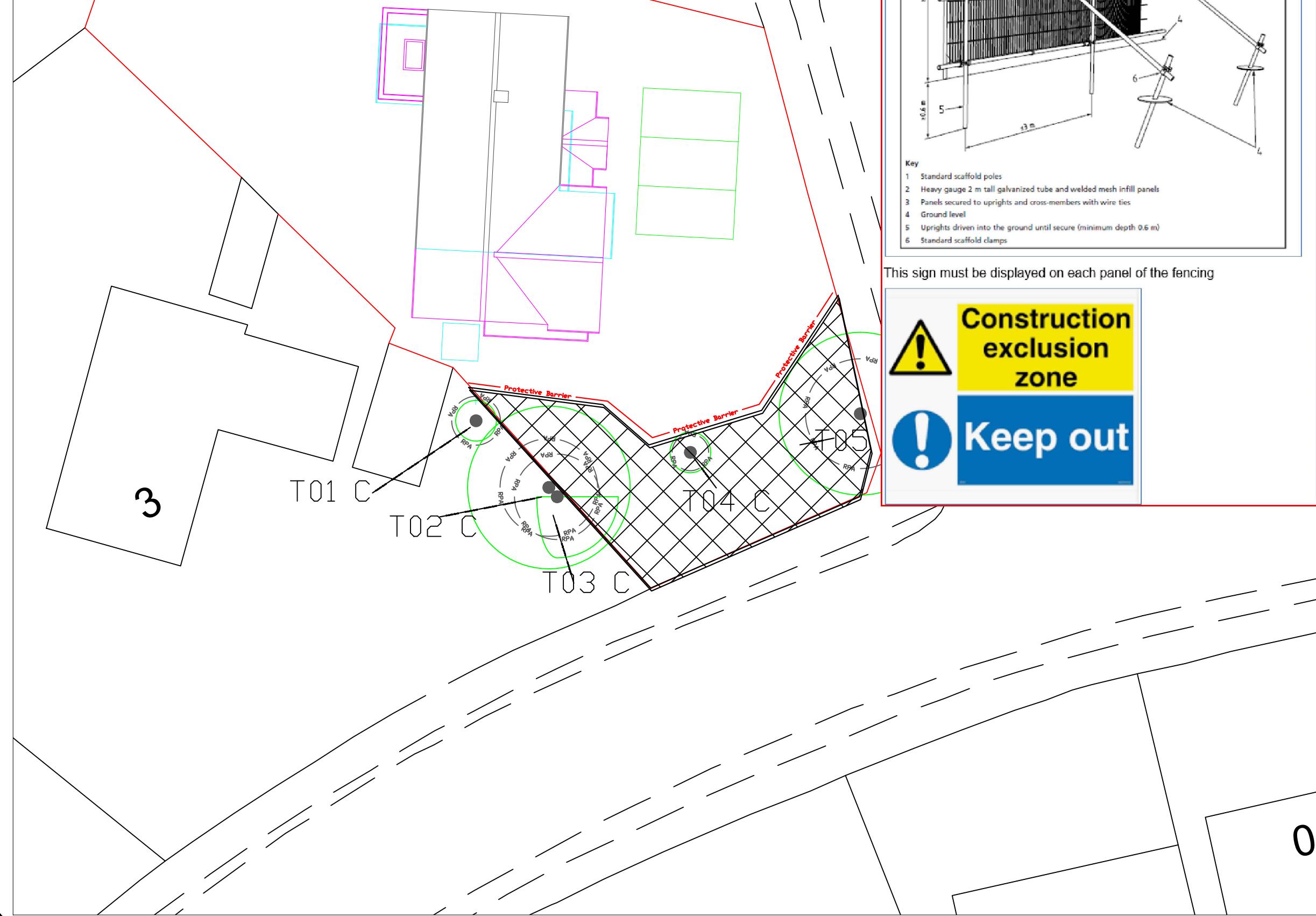
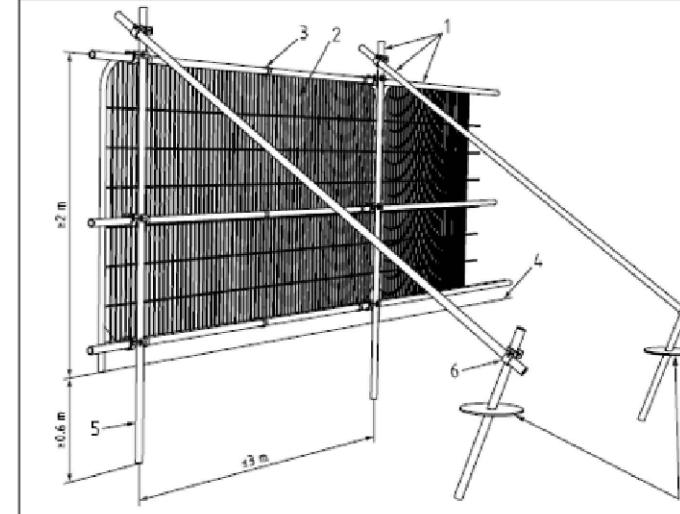


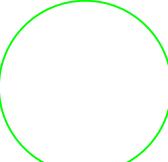
Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



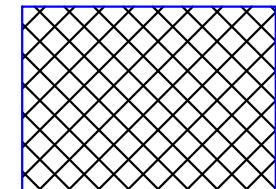
This sign must be displayed on each panel of the fencing



General Notes



Tree canopy



Construction exclusion zone

No.	Revision/Issue	Date

Firm Name and Address  
Bucks Plant Care Ltd  
Wylderne  
Bridge Street  
Great Kimble  
HP17 9TW

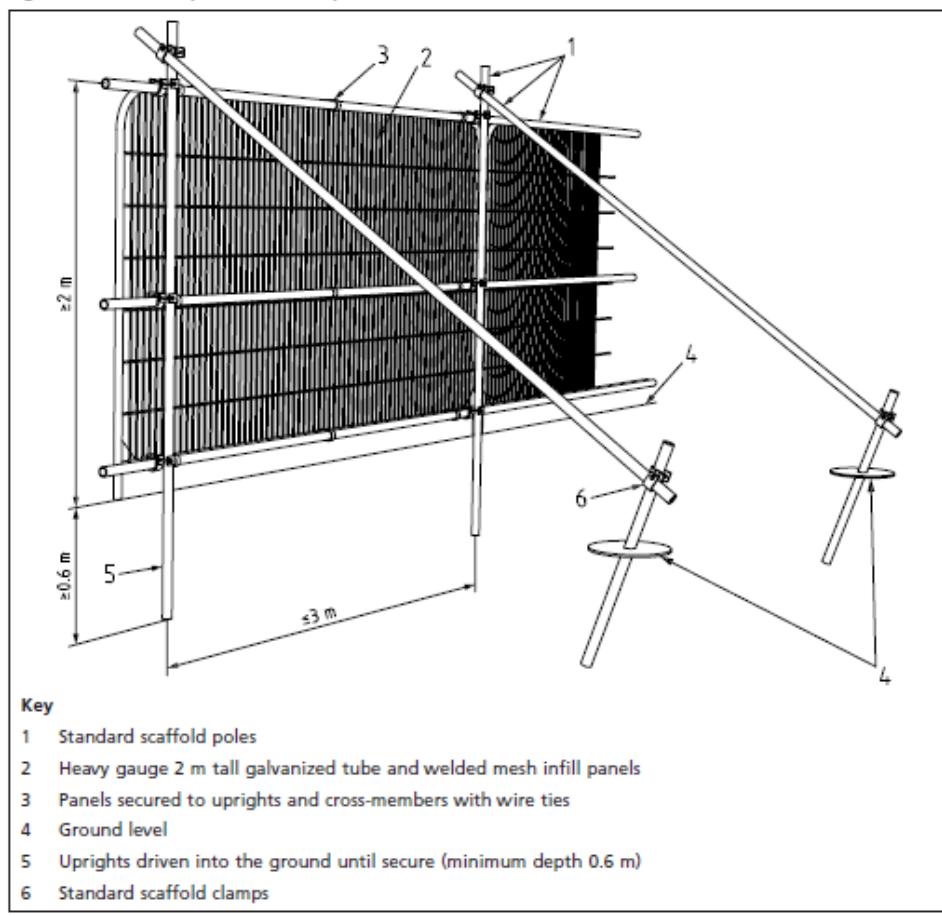
Project Name and Address  
1 Woodside Road,  
Northwood,  
HA6 3QE

Project  
BPC - 21318  
Date  
06.12.2024  
Scale  
1:200 in A3

Sheet  
01

## Appendix 4- Tree protection fencing specification

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier



This sign must be displayed on each panel of the fencing



### Appendix 5: Arboricultural Site Monitoring Form

Client contact details:

Site:

Ref:

LPA Tree Officer (if applicable):

Consultant:		Date of inspection:
Accompanied by site manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	Site currently active <input type="checkbox"/>
Previous actions complied with	<input type="checkbox"/>	

#### INSPECTION DETAILS:

Any signs/evidence within the RPA of:

Ground contamination	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changed soil levels	<input type="checkbox"/>
Excavations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Material storage	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water run off	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ground compaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unauthorised tree works	<input type="checkbox"/>		

If yes to any of the above provide details:

#### CONDITION OF FENCING:

Erected according to approved details	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protective signs present	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fencing in place/intact	<input type="checkbox"/>	Upright poles in ground	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bracing & clamps in place	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any signs of breach	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### ADDITIONAL NOTES including action taken/required:

Date of next inspection:

Copied to Client  Copied to Site manager  Copied to LPA

Signed – Patrick Prendergast -----

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## **Appendix 6**

### **Author qualifications:**

#### **Patrick Prendergast, DHE, MArborA, MIHort, Tech Cert(ArborA)**

Patrick has 40 years experience in arboriculture, working in local authorities managing trees in the public realm and private sectors. He studied commercial horticulture in Ireland and amenity horticulture in Edinburgh Botanic Gardens. In 1987 he decided to become a tree surgeon / arborist and worked for 2 years for the London Boroughs of Brent and Harrow, being involved in clearing up the 1987 storm. For the following 5 years he worked for Enfield Council as a tree officer. As well as dealing with general tree management issues he dealt with rehabilitation of the landscape following the storm in '87. He then moved to the City of Westminster where he spent most of his 12 years there working in the Housing Department managing the trees and ground maintenance. He left there to spend 10 years at Harrow Council managing all the public realm trees. Over the last 8 years he has been developing his own arboricultural consultancy business, which also deals with post development landscape design. He spent the first 3 year job sharing at Cherwell District Council dealing with both public realm and private tree issues. He dealt with development applications relating to trees and processed tree works applications for protected trees. He also managed the review of the Area TPO orders. Over his 25 years managing trees in local authorities he has organised the planting of thousands of trees.

He is a professional member of relevant institutes, attends conferences and seminars to ensure that he keeps up to date with current industry developments.

#### **Qualifications:**

- National Certificate in Commercial Horticulture, Kildalton, Co Kilkenny 1982
- Diploma in Horticulture from Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh 1987 –( D.H.E.)
- Technical Certificate in Arboriculture - Arboricultural Association 2003 – Tech Cert ( ArborA )
- Profession Tree Inspection Certificate 2014

#### **Professional membership**

- Member of the Chartered Institute of Horticulture ( MCIHort)
- Member of the Consulting Arborist Society
- Member of the Arboricultural Association ( MArborA)
- Associate member of the Chartered Institute of Foresters