

**B.S. 5837 Arboricultural
Method Statement
at
Cherry Lane School
Sipson Road
Sipson
West Drayton
UB7 9DL**

**Client: Claire Rees Cranfield
Cherry Tree School
Sipson Road
UB7 9DL**

Important note for demolition and construction contractors

This document includes requirements for arboricultural supervision by a suitably qualified arboricultural consultant in certain areas and techniques that may involve a specialised input. Adherence to these requirements is necessary for this document to comply with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Prepared by
Simon Hawkins Dip Arb L6 (ABC) N.D Arbor M. Arbor. A.

Date
07/03/2022



Merewood.
Gregory Road, Hedgerley, Bucks. SL2 3XW
M. 07784 915944 T. 01753 647236
E. simon.hawkins@hotmail.co.uk
VAT No: 990 9313 9

1.0 Brief:

- 1.1 I am instructed by Dale Venn Architects to prepare an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) in respect of a proposed development of the site at Cherry Tree School, Sipson Road, West Drayton. The method statement is required to discharge planning condition 3 (planning ref. 4318/APP/2021/2545) for removing the existing and formation of a new school entrance for children and parents, fencing off the Children's Centre and provision of additional parking spaces and a charging point for electric vehicles.
- 1.2 I am to provide-instructions for tree retention and protection, including details of appropriate measures that are to be undertaken in order to minimize the impact of development.
- 1.3 The method statement is based on the best available information at this stage of the planning process and may need to be updated in the context of a specific planning condition when the detail is known.
- 1.4 The purpose of the method statement is to explain how and when the protection measures should be installed, and how they are to be maintained for the duration of the development activity.

2.0 Arboricultural Supervision

- 2.1 An arboricultural consultant will be appointed by the developer prior to the commencement of any works on the site.
- 2.2 Prior to the commencement of works a set up meeting between the main contractor, any (relevant) sub-contractors and the arboricultural consultant will take place.
- 2.3 The meeting will establish a line of communication between the working parties and to understand the parameters of the site, underlining the importance of maintaining and respecting tree protection barriers and/or any special techniques that are detailed in this method statement.
- 2.4 At the meeting the Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is to be signed off by the person responsible for the day to day running of the site (hereafter referred to as the site manager).
- 2.5 By signing off the AMS, the site manager agrees that he/she has read and understood the method statement and agrees to adhere to it. The site manager will be responsible for monitoring all arboricultural works and maintaining all tree protection measures.
- 2.6 In the event of the responsible person (site manager) being replaced at any time during the development it will be their responsibility to ensure the new person responsible for the site is made aware of the method statement and the need to adhere to the method statement.

- 2.7 A copy of this report will be permanently available on site for the duration of the development activity. It can also be copied for the purposes of tendering, planning the timing of operations and used as a reference as a general guide on how to protect important trees.
- 2.8 A full scale (1:200) copy of the tree protection plan (appendix 1) is to be available at all times on site including a scale bar.
- 2.9 No tree work is to take place without obtaining, in writing, the express consent of the Local Authority.
- 2.10 Once the site becomes active the Local Authority will be able to visit and monitor the site and to take enforcement against any breeches of the planning permission including the failure to adhere to this method statement.

3.0 The development

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 The expected programme of site development where arboricultural input is required is as follows:

- 1. Pre commencement meeting
- 2. Installation of protective fencing
- 3. Creation of new entrance
- 4. Removal of existing entrance
- 5. Removal of tree protection measures
- 6. Final landscaping

3.2 Erection of fencing

- 3.2.1 The tree protection plan (appendix 1) shows the line and position of the root protection fencing to be erected prior to any other works taking place on site.
- 3.2.2 The root protection fencing installation shall be approached from within the central working zone to avoid damage within the root protection area itself, in accordance with the recommendations of BS 5837/2012, as illustrated by Fig. 1.
- 3.2.3 The fencing for the root protection zones shall be constructed of scaffold tube uprights (set at 3m intervals with diagonal braces driven securely into the ground). Thereafter 'Heras' type fencing shall be attached to the scaffold framework using either steel strapping or scaffold clamps. The fencing shall comply with the requirements of the British Standard B.S. 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations'.
- 3.2.4 The fenced off areas are to be regarded as a Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). This area is to be considered sacrosanct and strictly off limits to any construction activity including any movement of machinery, storage of

materials or parking of contractors' vehicles.

- 3.2.5 The fencing protecting the RPA is not to be moved under any circumstances unless this has been specifically detailed in the AMS or agreed on site with the arboricultural consultant present.
- 3.2.6 Ignoring the fencing barriers may constitute a breach of the planning permission and may also be regarded as in contravention of any formal tree protection that applies (Tree Preservation Orders/ Conservation Areas).
- 3.2.7 There is to be no burning of any materials or substances within 10m of the root protection barriers.
- 3.2.8 There is to be no storage of cement bags, chemicals or any other toxic or potentially toxic substances within the CEZ.
- 3.2.9 Once the fencing has been properly installed, the retained arboricultural consultant will visit the site to confirm the correct installation of the fencing.

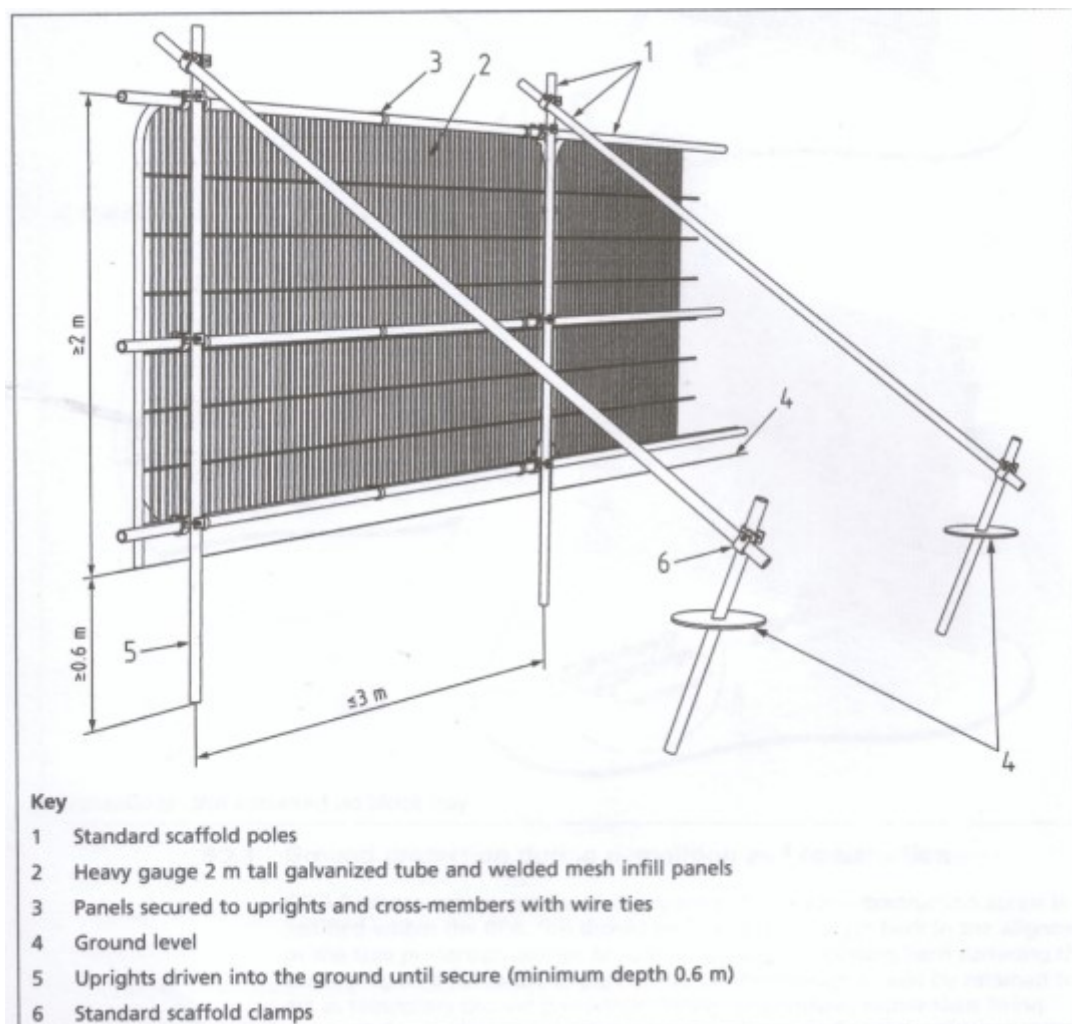


Fig. 1 Protective fencing in accordance with B.S. 5837



Fig 2. Signage attached to fencing reinforces the protection afforded by these barriers

3.2.10 The installation of the fencing will be photographed and recorded and a record of this will be passed on to the arboricultural officer at the Local Authority.

3.3 **Creation of the new entrance**

3.3.1 The trees that are in the way of the new entrance shall be removed prior to any other works starting on the site. These are shown on the tree protection plan and are: T2 – ash; T3 – elder; T4 – sycamore; T5 – field maple. In addition a few shrubs alongside the teaching block are to be removed as well.

3.3.2 The path shall be installed, approaching from the north side of the teaching block. A small excavator shall be unloaded in the parking area close to the main school entrance, having been brought to the site by way of the main vehicular access off Sipson Road, serving the school.

3.3.3 The excavator shall be driven to the furthestmost point (to the south) along the route of the proposed pathway. From there excavations shall commence, working backwards, towards the working area.

3.3.4 Excavated topsoil shall be taken from the working area either by wheelbarrow or by dumper truck to the working space where it shall be stored ready for collection and disposal. No soil is to be deposited around the trees to be retained.

3.3.5 The kerb edges of the new pathway shall then be installed. Once these are in place the sub-surface foundation of the path can be laid and tamped down ready for the final tarmac layer.

3.3.6 Once the path has been completed, the palisade fencing will be installed. The uprights for the fence shall be installed by hand digging the holes for the support posts.

- 3.3.7 The excavation shall be undertaken using hand tools (i.e. a spade, garden fork or similar). The excavation shall be no wider than the width of a spade, forming a square hole of 300mm deep.
- 3.3.8 The iron upright posts shall be placed vertically into the hole, aligning with the fence line as necessary. The hole shall be backfilled with a pre made fence post (dry mix) concrete mix and tamped down using the side of a sledgehammer, club hammer or similar hand held tool.
- 3.3.9 The palisade fence panels shall be affixed onto the upright posts once the concrete mix has gone off (normally one to two hours).

3.4 Removal of the existing entrance

- 3.4.1 The existing entrance is to be closed off by installing a palisade fence (the same as the existing fencing) across the frontage. This will involve attaching a new panel to the existing structure, which will not affect any trees.
- 3.4.2 The fencing along the edge of the existing footpath shall be removed by hand and carried from the site, also by hand.
- 3.4.3 The existing tarmac surface shall be dug up using hand tools (i.e. garden fork, mattock, pickaxe, shovel etc). The loosened material shall be transported by wheelbarrow to the working area, ready for collection and disposal.
- 3.4.4 The hardcore will be removed from site in skips.

3.5 Hazardous materials

- 3.5.1 All mortar mixing and handling of any other hazardous materials (including hot tarmac) shall take place outside the rpa's of trees. Water run-off from the cleaning of concrete mixers is to be directed away from rpa's and should take place as far from trees as possible.
- 3.5.2 A confinement area controlling the run-off shall be installed, incorporating an impermeable layer of strong plastic sheeting held within a raised bed. Washing of cement mixers shall take place only within the confined area.
- 3.5.3 All hazardous materials to be used during construction shall be brought to the working area by wheelbarrow on an as needed basis. All materials are to be stored within the working area as shown on the tree protection plan and brought to the working area by hand.

3.6 Storage of materials

- 3.6.1 Materials are to be delivered by way of the main access driveway to the working area at the front of the school using the existing entrance.
- 3.6.2 Materials will be re-distributed about the site as necessary using fork-lift trucks, by hand or other suitable means (e.g. wheelbarrow).

4.0 Post construction

4.1 Final removal of tree protective fencing

- 4.1.1 Following the conclusion of all construction operations, protective fencing will be removed to allow for landscaping operations such as turf re-instatement to take place.
- 4.1.2 Great care is needed at this stage from ground work contractors to continue to observe tree protection requirements. No machines are to be used within rpa's which specifically includes rotovators.

Signatures:

I confirm that I have attended a pre-application site meeting with the contractors and have gone through the requirements of the Arboricultural Method Statement and that a copy is available in the site office.

Arboricultural Consultant

I confirm that I have attended a pre-application site meeting with the arboricultural consultant and that I am responsible for the correct procedures being followed in accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement and that a copy is available in the site office.

Site Manager/Foreman

Contact details:

Simon Hawkins – Arboricultural Consultant 07784 915 944

London Borough of Hillingdon– Council Offices 01895 250 230



Simon Hawkins Dip Arb L6 (ABC), ND Arb, MArborA

Appendix 1 - Tree Survey Methodology

1. The ground level survey of the trees has been carried out in accordance with the criteria set out in Chapter 4 of B.S 5837. The survey has recorded information relating to all those trees within the site and those adjacent to the site which may be of influence on the proposals.
2. The purpose of this report is to modify the recommendation found in the tree constraints schedule for the future use of this site. Where applicable, trees with significant defects have been highlighted and appropriate remedial works have been recommended. However, this report should not be seen as a substitute for a full *Safety Survey* or *Management Plan* which are specifically designed to minimise risk and liability associated with the responsibility for trees. No climbed inspections or specialist decay detection were undertaken.
3. Evaluation of tree condition within the assessment applies to the date of survey and cannot be assumed to remain unchanged. It may be necessary to review these within 12 months in accordance with sound arboricultural practice as recommended by the National Trees Safety Group guidance 'Common Sense Risk Management for Trees'.
4. Trees have been divided into one of four categories based on Table 1 of B.S.5837, 'Cascade chart for tree quality assessment'. For a tree to qualify under any given category it should fall within the scope of that category's definition.

Category U - Red	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.
Category A - Green	Those trees of the highest quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested).
Category B - Blue	Trees of moderate to high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested).
Category C - Grey	Trees of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter of below 150mm
Subcategory 1 concerns mainly arboricultural values, how good a specimen is in terms of form and physiological condition; the value of a tree as a component in a group or in a formal or semi-formal arboricultural feature such as an avenue.	
Subcategory 2 concerns mainly landscape values and considers the importance of a tree or group of trees as an arboricultural or landscape feature. Trees present in larger numbers, such as woodlands for example may attract a higher rating than they would as individuals because of their collective value.	
Subcategory 3 concerns mainly cultural values including conservation, historical, commemorative, or other value such as veteran or wood pasture.	

5. RPA's of single stemmed trees are calculated according to the following formula:
RPA radius = 12 x stem diameter (measured at 1.5m above ground level)
6. Where a tree has more than one stem, the equivalent single stem diameter is usually recorded. This is calculated by adding the squares of the stems and then finding the square root of the total. The radius of the RPA is then calculated by multiplying the equivalent stem diameter by 12 (ref B.S. 5837:2012 para 4.6.1). Where access is restricted an estimate of the stem diameter is provided and this is indicated in the appropriate column.

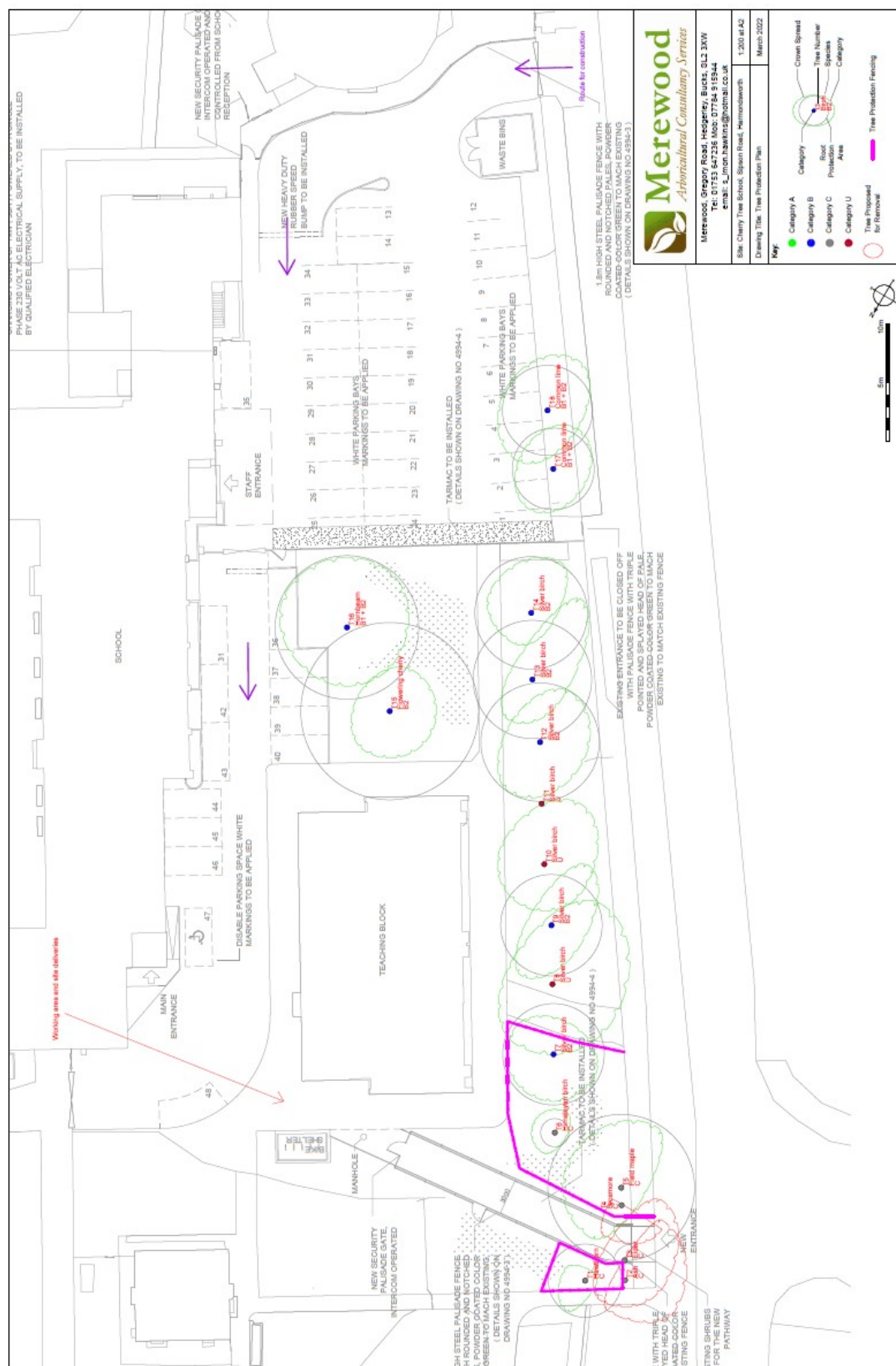
Appendix 2

Schedule of tree constraints

Tree no	Species	Height	Stem diameter	Crown spread				Physiological condition	Structural condition	Age	Observations/ Management recommendations	Life expectancy	Category
				North	South	East	West						
T1	Hawthorn	9	260	3	1	2	1	G	F	M	Ivy smothering the main stem	20 - 40	C
T2	Ash	10	400	3	6	1	5	F	F	M	Ivy smothering the main stem	40+	C
T3	Elder	10	200 310	4	6	2	4	F	F	M	Ivy smothering the main stem	10 - 20	C
T4	Sycamore	12	280	3	0	1	4	G	G	M	Ivy smothering the main stem	40+	C
T5	Field maple	12	520	5	6	5	2	G	G	M	Ivy smothering the main stem	40+	C
T6	Himalayan birch	7	100	2	2	2	1	G	G	M		40+	C
T7	Silver birch	15	360	4	3	4	4	F	F	M		10 - 20	B2
T8	Silver birch	15	570	6	8	4	6	P	F	M	Fungal fruit body at base of tree	<10	U
T9	Silver birch	15	360	5	6	2	3	F	F	M		10 - 20	B2
T10	Silver birch	15	470	4	6	4	4	P	P	M	Fungal fruit body at base of tree. Much of the crown is dead	<10	U
T11	Silver birch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Dead	-	U
T12	Silver birch	16	420	5	5	3	4	F	F	M		10 - 20	B2

Tree no	Species	Height	Stem diameter	Crown spread				Physiological condition	Structural condition	Age	Observations/ Management recommendations	Life expectancy	Category
				North	South	East	West						
T13	Silver birch	15	420	4	8	2	3	F	F	M		10 - 20	B2
T14	Silver birch	15	400	3	5	4	2	F	F	M		10 - 20	B2
T15	Flowering cherry	11	630	4	4	3	4	F	F	M			B2
T16	Hornbeam	12	310 310 260	5	6	6	5	G	G	M		40+	B1 + B2
T17	Common lime	16	290	4	4	3	3	G	G	M		40+	B1 + B2
T18	Common lime	16	320	5	5	4	3	G	G	M		40+	B1 + B2

Tree Protection Plan



Appendix 4

Qualifications and experience

- I am Simon Hawkins, proprietor of Merewood Arboricultural Consultancy Services.
- I hold the Level 6 Professional Diploma in Arboriculture. This is the highest level of award in the industry.
- I hold the National Diploma in Arboriculture which I attained in 1987. I have studied and practised Arboriculture for over 30 years, during which time I have been involved with both the private and public sector.
- I hold the LANTRA award for professional tree inspections
- I hold professional member status of the Arboricultural Association (M. Arbor A.), recognised as a higher vocational level within the industry.
- I have undertaken an intensive course in the principles and application of VTA Visual Tree Assessment. I have been assessed and found to have attained the advanced level of technical competence of a VTA Practitioner with Elite Training.
- I have over 18 years' experience working in the public sector, during which time I have dealt with all aspects of trees and development in the town planning context, within the inner city; in a greater London Borough; and in the Green Belt. Typically, I have worked with planners, developers, architects and other professionals in the construction industry in which I provide advice and assistance in dealing with arboricultural matters.
- I have appeared at numerous appeals, informal hearings and public enquiries to make formal representations. I have also appeared as an expert witness in court with regard to breaches of a Tree Preservations Order.