

St Modwen Homes

St Andrews Park, Uxbridge

Proposed works for phase 2 of remedial tree works, this is to include the pruning of the linear belt of Hornbeams and the line of lapsed mature Horse Chestnut pollards. Please refer to attached site drawings for reference and positions of sites.

#### **Site A: Hornbeams**

As an established hedgerow we are aiming to retain the aesthetic appearance of the trees and their contribution to the visual character of the area. Since the tree line has been thinned by the removal of alternate trees, we now aim to make the overall appearance seem more like an avenue of amenity trees.

We aim to achieve this by target pruning in accordance with BS3998: 2010 'Tree works – Recommendations' and will comply with industry best practices. This will include removing no more than 30% of the crown volume of the larger trees and 20-25% of the smaller trees. All trees will be pruned to an aesthetically natural form and we will raise the crowns to a height of 4-5 meters. This will prevent the public from climbing on the trees and will ensure that vehicles will not impact the lower branches when parked under the canopy.

All staff undertaking the works will have full industry training and hold all relevant NPTC qualifications.

#### **Site C: Line of Horse Chestnuts**

As discussed, the first tree in the line (T24) shall be removed. This is mainly down to the poor health of the tree and because there would be an unsustainable relationship between the tree and the adjacent building once it is constructed (the new building would be located within 2m of the stem). The rooting medium surrounding T24 would also potentially be subject to compaction due to the increase in volume of traffic on the adjacent road.

The remaining trees will be pollarded to the historic pruning points at approximately 5-6 metres in height. All work will be carried out in accordance to BS3998: 2010 'Tree works – Recommendations' and will comply with industry best practices. An onsite ecological inspection of each tree will be carried out and any findings will be documented. The proposed work is due to the lapsed nature and condition of the trees. If the trees are left in their current form, branch unions at the historic pollard knuckles will become increasingly weak points in the trees structures and the potential for major branch failure could pose a significant risk for residents of the development. Re-pollarding the trees will mitigate this risk and should prolong the useful life expectancy of the trees (subject to appropriate future management).

#### **Site D: Single Chestnut No1876**

This tree will be removed by a soft sectional felling process. It will be removed due to it's poor vitality and the unsustainable relationship between the tree and the adjacent proposed building. If retained the tree would be located within 2 meters of the new building, which would impede working space during the construction phase of development, and would not allow sufficient space for future growth post development. The new building will also encroach of the trees root protection area in contradiction with guidance in BS5837: 2012 'Trees in relations to design, demolition and construction'.

