

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

13 Blackwood Place, Banbury

December 2021

Barton Hyett Associates
Arboricultural Consultants

	SUMMARY TABLE										
Site name:	13 Blackwood Place, Bodicote										
Site Address:	Oxford Road, Bodicote, Oxfordshire, OX15 4BD										
Project reference:	4716										
Planning reference:	21/00026/F										
Local Planning Authority:	Cherwell District Council										
Relevant planning condition(s):	No development shall commence unless and until an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS), undertaken in accordance with BS:5837:2012 and all subsequent amendments and revisions, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, all works on site shall be carried out in full accordance with the approved AMS. Reason: To ensure the continued health of retained trees/hedges and to ensure that they are not adversely affected by the construction works, in the interests of the visual amenity of the area, to ensure the integration of the development into the existing built environment and to comply with saved Policy C28 of the Cherwell Local Plan 1996 Policy ESD15 of the Cherwell Local Plan 2011- 2031 Part 1 and Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy										
Statutory Controls:	Tree Preservation Order	Conservation Area									
	No No										
Tree Retention and Removal Plan:	BHA_1010_02A										
Tree Protection Plan:	BHA_1010_03										
Report author:	Paul Barton MSc, BSc (Hons), MArborA, RCArborA										
Date of issue:	03 December 2021										







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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Barton Hyett Associates Ltd were previously instructed to survey trees located at Land Rear of 13 Blackwood Place, Bodicote ('the site') in accordance with BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction recommendations' and to submit an arboricultural impact assessment to accompany a planning application at the site.
- 1.2. Planning permission was granted by Cherwell District Council in July 2021. We are now instructed to prepare an arboricultural method statement pursuant to the discharge of planning condition 7 of the decision.
- 1.3. Condition 7 of the planning permission states:

"No development shall commence unless and until an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS), undertaken in accordance with BS:5837:2012 and all subsequent amendments and revisions, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, all works on site shall be carried out in full accordance with the approved AMS. Reason: To ensure the continued health of retained trees/hedges and to ensure that they are not adversely affected by the construction works, in the interests of the visual amenity of the area, to ensure the integration of the development into the existing built environment and to comply with saved Policy C28 of the Cherwell Local Plan 1996, Policy ESD15 of the Cherwell Local Plan 2011- 2031 Part 1 and Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework".

1.4. This report includes the AMS (section 2), tree retention and removal plan (Section 3), and tree protection plan (Section 4). The tree survey schedule is also included in section 5 for reference.

Director

Arboriculturist

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT (AMS)

13 Blackwood Place, Bodicote, Banbury



1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The aim of this Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is to prevent and/or minimise the impacts of site operations on retained trees and hedges during development construction at 13 Blackwood Place, Bodicote, Banbury ('the site'). It gives step-by-step guidance and specifications for works which have the potential to result in loss of or damage to trees.
- 1.2. This AMS must be read with reference to the tree retention and removal plan (TRR) in **Section 3** and the tree protection plan (TPP) in **Section 4**.

2. KEY PERSONNEL AND INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.3. <u>The Client</u> shall hold overall responsibility for the project and shall appoint professionals and delegate responsibility in relation to the Scheme of Tree Protection as follows:
- 2.4. <u>Project Site Manager</u> shall hold the responsibility to ensure that all key contractors and all other persons working on-site have a responsibility to be aware of trees and to abide by tree protection procedures set out within the AMS.
- 2.5. <u>Project Arboriculturist</u> (as appointed) shall be responsible for independently monitoring/supervising the effectiveness of tree protection at regular intervals and report all findings in writing back to the client, the project site manager and the local planning authority. He/she shall also be instructed to provide additional advice should unforeseen circumstances develop. He/she must hold a recognised qualification in arboriculture to NQF Level 4 or higher.
- 2.6. Other appointed individuals and their contact information shall be recorded as part of the on-site precommencement site meeting.

HOW THE AMS MUST BE USED

- 3.1. The AMS must be used as a reference source for site operatives in order to guide tree-related aspects of the construction process. A precautionary approach is required.
- 3.2. The AMS must be referred to by site managers during the construction operation itself. A copy of this document must, therefore, be kept available in the Site Office for quick and easy reference.

4. SITE INDUCTION

- 4.1. Prior to commencing relevant works on site, all site operatives must be briefed by the Site Manager in relation to site procedures and rules that relate to retained trees as well as the content of the AMS. A 'tree awareness' site induction form is provided in **section 7** to assist with this.
- 4.2. The site operations must be sequenced in accordance with the over-arching timetable of work stages set out within the AMS. Should any change to the sequence of operations be necessary, or if any other incidents occur, the Project Arboriculturist must be consulted. The Project Arboriculturist shall then evaluate any potential arboricultural impacts that could arise and specify additional tree protection/remediation measures

- as required. Confirmation that the proposed changes are acceptable within the context of relevant planning permission must be obtained in writing from the local planning authority prior to any new operations on site.
- 4.3. Where site operations have the potential to result in more substantial impacts on retained trees, an arboricultural watching brief shall be required.

5. WORK PHASES

- 5.1. In relation to the above site, it is anticipated that arboricultural working methods are likely to be quite straightforward. The following sequence of work should be followed:
 - 1. Pre-commencement site meeting
 - 2. Tree and hedge removals and pruning
 - 3. Erect tree protection barriers and notices and temporary ground protection
 - 4. Groundworks and main construction phase
 - 5. Remove tree protection barriers

6. CONSTRUCTION PLANNING

- 6.1. The Project Arboriculturist will remain on hand in an advisory role to answer any questions relating to tree protection that may arise during construction planning or during the build phases.
- 6.2. The Project Arboriculturist should be consulted if any conflict with the Construction Method Statement or other approved construction schemes that may affect retained trees is identified during planning or construction stages.
- 6.3. The locations of contractor compound, storage, parking and working space for plant and scaffolding will be discussed and agreed at the pre-commencement meeting and recorded on a plan. There appears to be ample scope for these area to be located outside of the root protection areas (RPAs) of retained trees or on existing hard surfacing, and priority will be given to these areas. Where use of an unsurfaced area within an RPA is unavoidable, the area must be provided with temporary ground protection as discussed and agreed with the Project Arboriculturist. If scaffolding is required to straddle tree protection barriers then kickboards must be fitted to the platforms to prevent fading debris and additional temporary ground protection must be provided below.

7. ARBORICULTURAL MONITORING AND CONTINGENCY PLANS

- 7.1. In the event of unforeseen incidents occurring that may adversely affect or threaten the welfare or security of the trees, the resident Site Manager shall inform the Project Arboriculturist at the earliest opportunity and not more than one working day following the incident.
- 7.2. The Project Arboriculturist will visit the site to inspect and assess the circumstances and make appropriate recommendations. The Local Planning Authority Tree Officer will be informed by the Project Arboriculturist of such incidents, and recommendations will be submitted for approval by the Local Planning Authority; initially

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT (AMS)

13 Blackwood Place, Bodicote, Banbury



verbally, and then in writing. A record of any emergency incidents and works shall be maintained by the Project Arboriculturist.

- 7.3. Incidents which may merit such contingency plans include:
 - Accidental/unauthorised damage to the branches, roots or trunk of trees
 - The spillage of chemicals within or adjacent to a Root Protection Area
 - The discharge of toxins/waste within or adjacent to a Root Protection Area
 - The unscheduled breaching of a tree protective barrier or Construction Exclusion Zones.

8. PRE-COMMENCEMENT SITE MEETING

- 8.1. The purpose of the meeting is to enable all relevant parties within the development team to meet, to be aware of the requirements of the AMS, and to agree a coordinated approach to the project.
- 8.2. The meeting shall be pre-arranged, and the Local Planning Authority Tree Officer shall be given five working days' written notice and invited to attend.
- 8.3. Required attendees:
 - Site project manager
 - Project arboriculturist
 - Contractors (including arborist) and other relevant parties
- 8.4. Matters to be addressed:
 - Identification of persons present and exchange of contact information
 - Familiarisation with all aspects of the AMS
 - Familiarisation with the site in relation to the AMS
 - Identification of trees to be removed or pruned
 - Setting out of tree protection fencing locations
- 8.5. The Project Arboriculturist shall provide written confirmation to the Local Planning Authority Tree Officer that the meeting has occurred and that specified matters have been addressed.

TREE AND HEDGE REMOVAL

- 9.1. All tree work will be discussed and agreed in detail at the pre-commencement meeting. The approved removals and pruning work is shown as RED shared trees and areas on the tree retention and removal plan BHA_1010_02 in **section 3**, and is specified below.
 - T1 Lawson cypress fell and mechanically grind stumps
 - T2 plum fell and mechanically grind stump
 - T2 holly fell and mechanically grind stump
 - T4 hazel fell and mechanically grind stump
 - G1 holly, hawthorn, laurel, plum remove section as shown on TRR and grind stumps
 - T10 ash prune west side of crown by up to 3m in radial length

- 9.2. All tree work will be carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced tree surgery contractor, and in accordance with British Standard BS3998: 2010 Tree work recommendations.
- 9.3. All tree work operations must be carried out in-line with the contractor's own site specific risk assessment and method statement that shall be approved prior to commencement by the Site Manager.
- 9.4. All arisings shall be disposed of as instructed by the Site Manager.

10. ERECT TREE PROTECTION BARRIERS AND NOTICES AND TEMPORARY GROUND PROTECTION

- 10.1. The tree protection barriers and temporary ground protection are to be installed in locations as specified on the tree protection plan (TPP) in **section 4**, and as marked-out and agreed at the pre-commencement meeting. The barriers will form the Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZs).
- 10.2. If a risk of run-off ground contamination beyond the protective measures is identified, a run-off containment system (e.g. Kraken contamination containment barriers or similar with impermeable membrane attached) must be affixed to the base of the fencing panels.
- 10.3. The tree protection barrier must be installed in accordance with the default BS5837:2012 specification Figure 3 that is shown on the TPP and below.

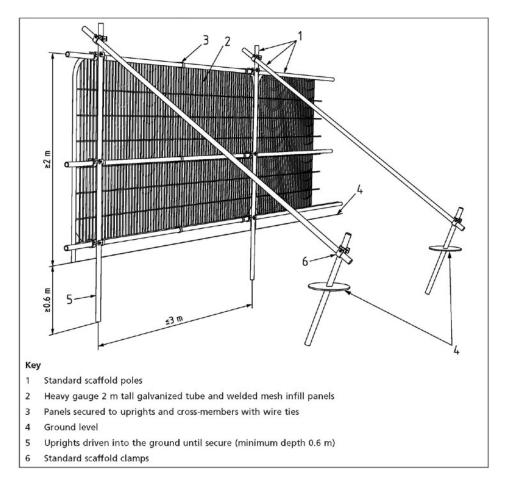


FIGURE 1: DEFAULT TREE PROTECTION BARRIER SPECIFICATION

ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT (AMS)

13 Blackwood Place, Bodicote, Banbury



10.4. All-weather A3-sized notices as included below shall be attached to the tree protection barrier at 10-metre intervals.

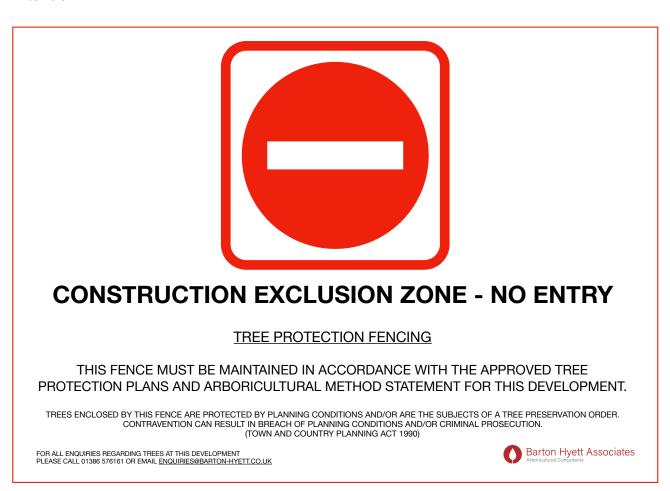


FIGURE 2: TREE PROTECTION SIGNAGE

- 10.5. The temporary ground protection will be of interlinked proprietary boards (e.g. Tufftrak or Terrafirma Durabase) or cut-to-fit boards laid over 150mm of wood chip, separated from the soil with a permeable geo textile membrane. The boards can be secured in place if necessary using metal pins.
- 10.6. The Project Arboriculturist must approve the condition and positioning of the barrier, notices and temporary ground protection and report to LPA Tree Officer prior to commencement of further stages in the construction process.
- 10.7. The barrier and temporary ground protection shall not be moved, altered or allowed to drift during construction activity. The barriers and ground protection will be checked at the beginning and end of each working day to ensure they remain fit for purpose of excluding any site activity and protecting the ground. They will remain in situ until all construction work on site has been completed.
- 10.8. If scaffolding is required to straddle tree protection barriers then kickboards must be fitted to the platforms to prevent fading debris and additional temporary ground protection must be provided below.

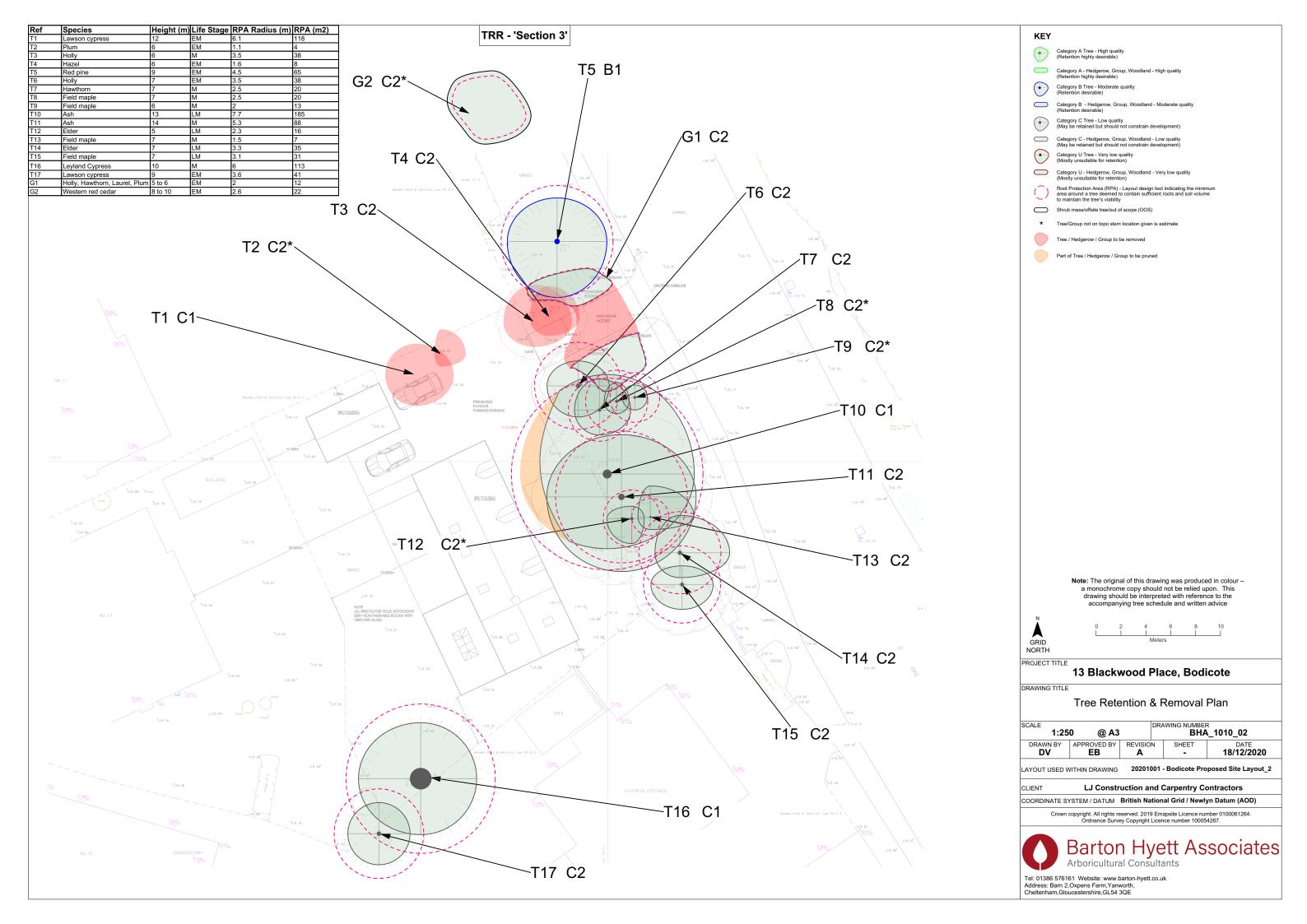
- 10.9. The CEZ formed by the barrier and temporary ground protection is to remain completely undisturbed for the duration of all development works. No construction activity of any description including but not limited to the following must occur within this area at any time:
 - No excavation of any description.
 - No storage, disposal of soil, rubble or materials of any other description.
 - No alterations to existing levels or ground conditions.
 - No use of any tracked or wheeled machinery of any description.
 - No tree works, without the written consent of the Local Planning Authority's Development Management service
 - No erection of temporary structures of any description.
 - No fixtures or fittings of any description, security lighting, signage etc shall be attached to any part of a tree.
 - No fires shall be light within 10 metres of the canopies of any tree or spread of any hedge.
 - 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.

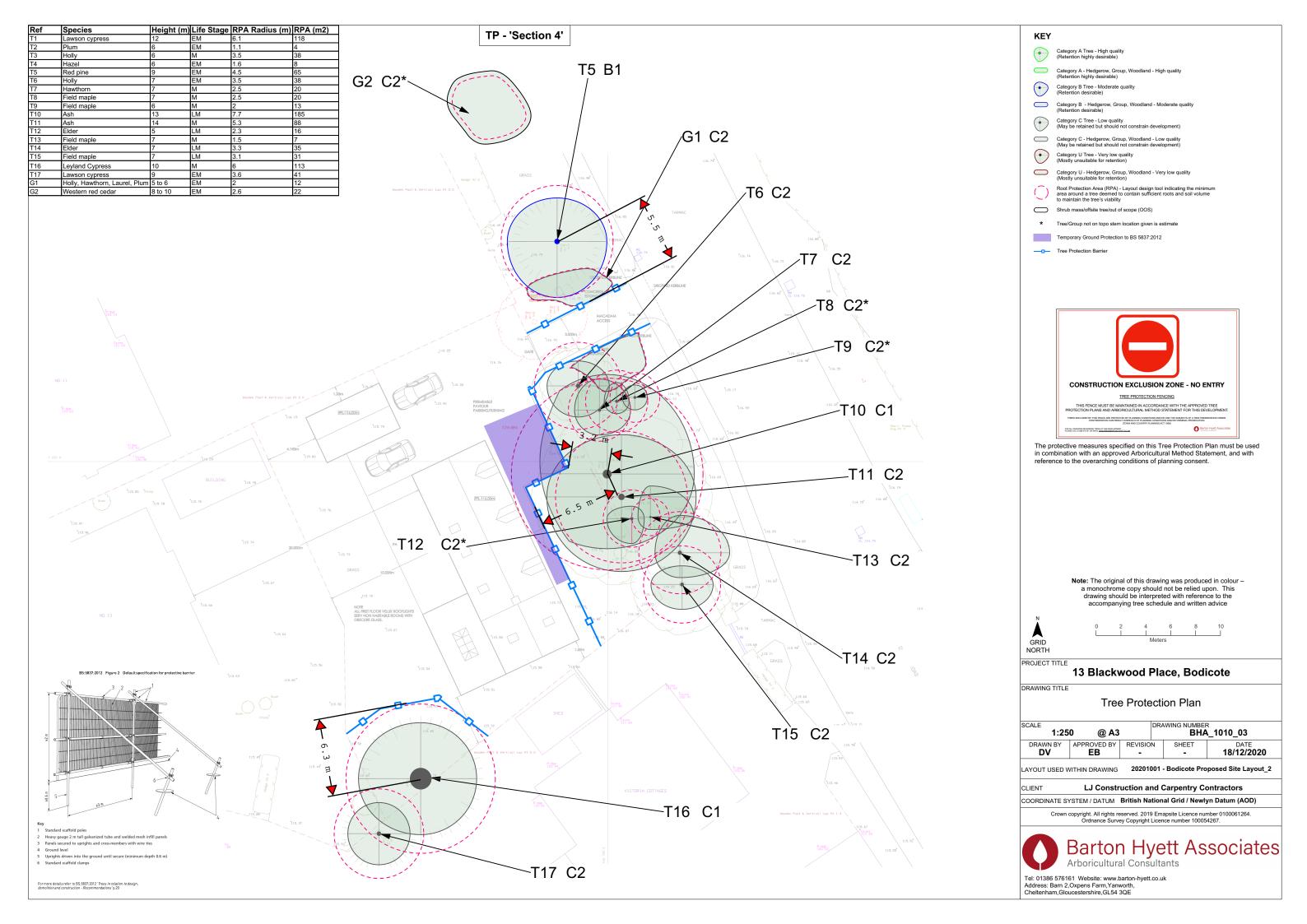
11. GROUNDWORKS AND MAIN CONSTRUCTION PHASE

- 11.1. All works and excavations shall be carried out outside of the CEZs. All restrictions and precautions specified in this AMS and in **section 6** must be adhered to.
- 11.2. Trenches for the installation of all new services and drainage shall be routed outside of the RPAs of retained trees, e.g under the new access from Oxford Road to the east. If for any reason the routing of services or drainage cannot be located beyond retained tree RPAs the excavation of new trenches shall be carried out by hand or using an 'air-spade' under supervise of an arboricultural clerk of works.

12. REMOVE TREE PROTECTION BARRIERS

- 12.1. The tree protection barriers must not be removed without the prior approval of the Project Arboriculturist.
- 12.2. The Site Manager will ask the Project Arboriculturist to approve the removal of barriers. The Project Arboriculturist will assess site conditions and confirm that it is an appropriate stage at which to remove the barriers.
- 12.3. Five working days written notice shall be given to the Local Planning Authority prior to the removal of tree protection measures.





SURVEYOR: ELLEN BOARDMAN

CLIENT: WELLAN LTD

SURVEY DATE: 04/09/2020



INDIVIDUAL TREES

Ref	Species	On / off site	Height (m)	No. of Stems	Est diam?	Calc. / Actual Stem Dia. (mm)	Crown radii (m) N-E-S-W	Avg. Canopy Height (m)	1st branch ht (m)	1st branch dir.	Life Stage	Special importance	General Observations	Health & vitality	Struct. cond.	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)	RPA m²
T1	Lawson cypress	On	12	1	-	510	2.5-3-2.5-2.5	1.5	-	-	EM	None	Within shrub border. Stem covered in ivy extending throughout crown.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	6	118
T2	Plum	On	6	1	-	90	2-2-1-0	2	-	-	EM	None	Within shrub border. Leaning to north east due to shading by T1.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	1	4
Т3	Holly	Off	6	3	-	290	3-3-2-2.5	1.5	1.5	W	М	None	One stem to east side dead. Ivy covering stem and extending into crown. Remove dead stem.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	4	38
Т4	Hazel	Off	6	3	-	130	2.5-2.5-1.5-1.5	3	2	NW	EM	None	Tree of average form for species.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	2	8
Т5	Red pine	Off	9	1	-	380	3.5-4-4.5-4	2	2	NE	EM	None	Within mown section of grass to rear of adjacent property. Average form for species.	Fair	Good	20+	B1	5	65
Т6	Holly	Off	7	2	-	290	2-2.5-2.5-2.5	2	1.5	NW	EM	None	Tree of average form growing against boundary fence. Ivy covering stem and extending into crown.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	4	38
Т7	Hawthorn	Off	7	2	-	210	2.5-2.5-2-2	2.5	1.5	W	М	None	lvy covering stem and extending into crown.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	3	20
Т8	Field maple	Off	7	1	-	210	1.5-1-1-1	2.5	-	-	М	None	Ivy covering stem and extending into crown. Slight lean to the north east.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	3	20
Т9	Field maple	Off	6	1	-	170	1-1-1-1	2.5	-	-	М	None	Ivy covering stem and extending into crown. Suppressed by adjacent tree.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	2	13
T10	Ash	Off	13	1	-	640	8-7-6-7	3.5	3	NE	LM	None	Ivy covering stem and extending into crown. Dieback in crown, potentially ash dieback.	Fair	Fair	10+	C1	8	185
T11	Ash	Off	14	3	-	440	5-6-6-6	4	2.5	NW	М	None	Multi stemmed tree of average form. Dieback in crown, potentially ash dieback.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	5	88

SURVEYOR: ELLEN BOARDMAN



CLIENT: WELLAN LTD

SURVEY DATE: 04/09/2020

Ref	Species	On / off site	Height (m)	No. of Stems	Est diam?	Calc. / Actual Stem Dia. (mm)	Crown radii (m) N-E-S-W	Avg. Canopy Height (m)	1st branch ht (m)	1st branch dir.	Life Stage	Special importance	General Observations	Health & vitality	Struct. cond.	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)	RPA m²
T12	Elder	Off	5	2	-	190	1-1-2-2	2	-	-	LM	None	Growing against boundary fence. OOS holly adjacent to T12.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	2	16
T13	Field maple	Off	7	2	-	120	2.5-3.5-1-1	2.0	1	NW	М	None	Leaning to east, towards road. Ivy covering stem and extending into crown.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	2	7
T14	Elder	Off	7.0	2	-	280	3-4-2-2	3.0	2	W	LM	None	Twin stemmed tree with eastern stem leaning to east, towards road. Ivy covering stem and extending into crown.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	3.3	35
T15	Field maple	Off	7.0	3	#	260	1.5-2.5-2-2.5	2.0	2	E	LM	None	lvy covering stem and extending into crown.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	3.1	31
T16	Leyland Cypress	On	10.0	1	-	500	4.5-4.5-4.5-5	3.0	2.5	N	М	None	Pegs on stem from previous pruning. Previously topped.	Good	Fair	10+	C1	6	113
T17	Lawson cypress	Off	9.0	3	#	300	2.5-2.5-2.5	3.0	3	SE	EM	None	Previously topped.	Good	Fair	10+	C2	3.6	41

GROUPS OF TREES

Ref	Species	On / off site	Height range (m)	No. of trees	Est diam?	Max stem diam (mm)	Av. Crown radius (m)	Avg. Canopy Height (m)	Life Stage	Special importance	General Observations	Health & vitality	Struct. cond.	Estimated Remaining Contribution (Years)	BS5837 Category	RPA Radius (m)
G1	Holly, hawthorn, laurel, plum	Off	5 - 6	8	-	160	2.0	2.0	EM	None	Several trees within the group are of asymmetric form due to shading.	Fair	Fair	10+	C2	2.0
G2	Western red cedar	Off	8 - 10	2	#	220	3.0	1.0	EM	None	Trees likely planted to provide a screen between the residential property garden and the highway.	Good	Good	20+	C2	2.6

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SURVEY DATE: 04/09/2020





IMAGE 1:Looking north-east cross the garden of 13 Blackwood Place. T1 and T2 are on the northern boundary.

IMAGE 2: Image of T1 within the garden area. The remaining trees are on the highway side of the boundary fence.



IMAGE 3: Image taken looking south west across the B4260. Line of trees is between the road and the boundary fence line of the rear garden at 13 Blackwood Place.



IMAGE 4: T16, Leyland Cypress within the garden of 13 Blackwood Place and T17 within the adjacent garden to the south of the site.

PRINCIPLES FOR TREE PROTECTION ON DEVELOPMENT SITES



THE IMPORTANCE OF TREES

Wider benefits:

There is a growing body of evidence that trees bring a wide range of benefits to the places people live.

Some Economic benefits of trees include:

- Trees can increase property values
- As trees grow larger, the lift they give to property values grows proportionately
- They can improve the environmental performance of buildings by reducing heating and cooling costs, thereby cutting bills
- Mature landscapes with trees can be worth more as development sites
- Trees create a positive perception of a place for potential property buyers
- Urban trees improve the health of local populations, reducing healthcare costs

Some Social benefits of trees include:

- Trees help create a sense of place and local identity
- They benefit communities by increasing pride in the local area
- They can create focal points and landmarks
- They have a positive impact on people's physical and mental health
- They can have a positive impact on crime reduction

Some Environmental benefits of trees include:

- Urban trees reduce the 'urban heat island effect' of localised temperature extremes
- They provide shade, making streets and buildings cooler in summer
- They help remove dust and particulates from the air
- They help to reduce traffic noise by absorbing and deflecting sound
- They help to reduce wind speeds
- By providing food and shelter for wildlife they help increase biodiversity
- They can reduce the effects of flash flooding by slowing the rate at which rainfall reaches the ground
- They can help remediate contaminated soil

On new development sites:

Trees bring many benefits to new development. Where retained successfully they can form important and sustainable elements of green infrastructure, contribute to urban cooling and reduce energy demands in buildings. Their importance is acknowledged in relation to adaptation to the effects of climate change. Other benefits brought by trees include:

- increasing property values
- softening, complementing and adding maturity to built form
- displaying seasonal change
- increasing wildlife opportunities in built-up areas
- contributing to screening and shade
- reducing wind speed and turbulence

INFORMATIVE - HOW TREE DAMAGE CAN OCCUR

Above the ground

Damage can occur as a result of contacts between branches and/or tree trunks. This is often but not always associated with machine operations, groundworks excavations, MEWPs, high sided vehicles and crane use. Other forms of above ground damage include fixings to trunk and unauthorised cutting back of branches.

Below the ground

It is often not appreciated that the majority of most tree roots are generally located within the top 600mm of the ground. On this basis it needs to be understood that damage to roots can occur in two ways:

Root severance can occur as a result of, for example, soil stripping during site clearance or excavations. Root dieback and death can result from compaction of the soil. Compaction can occur as a result of vehicle weight, weight of stored materials or increased pedestrian access. Compaction crushes out soil pore space and prevents tree respiration from occurring (respiration requires gas exchange between the ground and the atmosphere). Compacted soil is denser and therefore inhibits/prevents any further new root growth.

PRINCIPLES FOR TREE PROTECTION ON DEVELOPMENT SITES



The effects of these impacts can be disfiguring to a tree's appearance and also weaken a tree making it more liable to attack by pest and diseases. In addition, root damage or death results in corresponding decline above the ground with dieback occurring within the tree crown.

The effects of damage to trees generally take some time to become fully apparent. In many cases, damaged trees decline slowly after the completion of a new development, until they eventually need to be removed due to ill health.

A construction exclusion zone (CEZ) has been defined in order to prevent soil compaction from taking place.

GENERAL SITE RULES FOR TREE PROTECTION

Do not independently carry out any activity that is at odds with the site Scheme of Tree Protection.

In simple terms: do not carry out any work within the CEZ without prior liaison with the Project Arboriculturist and written authorisation from the Local Planning Authority.

Within the CEZ:

- No excavation of any description.
- No storage, disposal of soil, rubble or materials of any other description.
- No alterations to existing levels or ground conditions.
- No use of any tracked or wheeled machinery of any description.
- No tree works, without the written consent of the Local Planning Authority's Development Management service
- No erection of temporary structures of any description.
- No fixtures or fittings of any description, security lighting, signage etc shall be attached to any part of a tree.
- No fires shall be light within 10 metres of the canopies of any tree or spread of any hedge.
- 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.

Fires on site should be avoided if possible. Where they are unavoidable, they must not be lit in a position where heat could damage foliage or branches. Fires must be a minimum of 20m from the trunk of any retained tree or the centre line of any hedgerow to be retained.

No signs, cables, fixtures or fittings of any other description shall be attached to any part of a retained tree

STATUTORY CONTROLS

Statutory tree protection

Works to trees which are covered by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) or are within a Conservation Area (CA) require permission or consent from the Local Planning Authority. Where information is available on any Statutory designations such as this they are identified within the summary table in section 1 and in the Tree Survey Schedule in section 3.

Notwithstanding specific exceptions and in general terms, a TPO prevents the cutting down, uprooting, topping, lopping, wilful damage or wilful destruction of protected trees or woodlands without the prior written consent of the LPA.

Penalties for contravention of a TPO tend to reflect the extent of damage caused but can, in the event of a tree being destroyed, result in a fine of up to £20,000 if convicted in a Magistrates' Court, or an unlimited fine is the matter is determined by the Crown Court.

Similarly, and again notwithstanding specific exceptions, it is an offence to carry out any works to a tree in a Conservation Area with a trunk diameter greater than 75mm diameter at 1.5 height without having first provided the LPA with 6 weeks written notification of intent to carry out the works.

On many non-residential sites (excluding specific exemptions) there is also a statutory restriction relating to tree felling that relates to quantities of timber that can be removed within set time periods. In basic terms, it is an offence to remove more than 5 cubic metres of timber in any one calendar quarter without having first obtained a felling licence from the Forestry Commission.

Any proposed tree works that are planned to be carried out on site must be carried out in accordance with the statutory controls outlined.

Statutory Wildlife Protection

Although preliminary visual checks from ground level of likely wildlife habitats are made at the time of surveying, detailed ecological assessments of wildlife habitats are not made by the arboriculturist and fall outside of the scope for this report.

Trees which contain holes, splits, cracks and cavities could potentially provide a habitat for protected species such as bats in addition to birds and small mammals. It is advised that in some instances specialist ecological advice may be required. This may result in tree works being carried out following a detailed climbing inspection to the tree to ensure that protected species or their nests/roosts are not

PRINCIPLES FOR TREE PROTECTION ON DEVELOPMENT SITES



disturbed. If any are found, the site manager, site owner or consulting arboriculturist should be informed and appropriate action taken as recommended by the appointed Ecologist or Natural England.

It is advised that tree/hedgerow works are carried out with the understanding that birds will generally nest in trees, hedges and shrubs between March and August. This time period only provides an indication of likely nesting times and as such diligence is required when undertaking tree works at all times.

Irrespective of the time of year, and other than any actions approved under General Licence, it is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird. Ideally, tree operations should be avoided during the likely bird nesting period. However, any tree works should always only be carried out following a preliminary visual check of the vegetation.

For information, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations 2010, form the basis of the statutory legislation for flora and fauna in England and Wales. A different legislative framework applies in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

TREE AWARENESS - SITE INDUCTION FORM



TREE AWARENESS – SITE INDUCTION	<u>Remember</u>
	All trees on the site are protected by planning conditions. Many trees on the site may also be legally
SITE NAME:	protected by Tree Preservation Order (TPO) or Conservation Area status
	Planning Authority enforcement action needs to be avoided:
DATE OF INDUCTION:	 'Breach of Conditions' notices can prevent a site from being signed-off.
	 'Temporary Stop Notices' halt site operations and result in associated high costs.
Trees are an important part of this development. Retained trees must be kept undamaged so that they	• Wilful damage/destruction of TPO/Conservation Area trees can result in company and/or
can fully benefit the finished project well into the future. All persons working on this site have a	individual prosecutions - fines can me anything up to £20,000 (County Court fines can be higher).
responsibility to be aware of trees and to abide by tree protection procedures.	Remember that fines apply to the person committing the offence as well as the site owner and main contractors!
How trees can be damaged – think roots!	
Above the ground – contacts and impacts with branches and trunk (machine operations eg tele-handlers,	Be aware of tree protection and stick to the procedures. Tree protection is straightforward. If in doubt –
high-sided vehicles, crane use, fixings to trunk, unauthorised cutting back of branches)	ask!
Below the ground – root severance (eg soil stripping during site clearance, excavations) and root	I have received site induction in tree awareness and tree protection procedures
damage resulting from compaction of soil near trees (eg vehicles, pedestrian, storage of materials).	
Effects of root damage take time to become obvious, but will result in disfiguring dieback of leaves and	PRINT NAME:
branches, or even tree death.	
	SIGN:
Tree protection procedures	
Provided that the simple steps are followed most tree protection is straightforward:	DATE:
• Stay out of tree Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZs). These are the areas of ground surrounding	

retained trees that are protected by barriers. If you need to go into a CEZ, you must first gain

• No construction activity of any description within CEZs, eg soil stripping, cement mixing, services

• If authorised to work within a CEZ, work to the Arboricultural Method Statement, eg demolition,

authorisation from the Site Manager

installation, storage of materials etc

construction, landscaping works etc

• If damage occurs, inform the Site Manager.

• No fires within 20m of trunk of any retained tree