

## Tree Protection Plan and Method Statement

In Support of the Discharge of Planning Condition:

Demolition of Existing Dwelling and Construction of Replacement Dwelling

Site: Badnam Cottage, High Street, Bursledon, Hampshire, SO31 8DJ

Planning Reference: F/24/97033

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### 1. Introduction

This Tree Protection Plan (TPP) and Method Statement has been prepared in support of the discharge of planning condition [ref] relating to tree protection for the demolition of the existing dwelling and construction of a replacement dwelling at Badnam Cottage, High Street, Bursledon, SO31 8DJ.

The document sets out the tree protection measures, working methods and sequence of operations required to safeguard retained trees during demolition and construction in accordance with BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations.

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### 2. Tree Retention and Constraints

Trees to be retained and protected are identified on drawing 2-05: *Tree Protection Plan – Tree Identification and Protection Zones*.

| Tree ref | Species                        | Status        | Proposed Protection                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| T1       | Taxus baccata (Yew)            | Retained      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Temporary ground protection to driveway/rooting area.</li></ul>                                                                                                                         |
| T2       | Taxus baccata (Yew)            | Retained      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Temporary ground protection to driveway/rooting area</li></ul>                                                                                                                          |
| T3       | Thuja (Western cedar)          | Retained      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Temporary ground protection to driveway/rooting area</li></ul>                                                                                                                          |
| T4       | Pittosporum tenuifolium        | Retained      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Protective fencing to Root Protection Area</li></ul>                                                                                                                                    |
| T5       | Taxus baccata (Yew)            | Retained      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Protective fencing to Root Protection Area</li></ul>                                                                                                                                    |
| T6       | Fagus sylvatica (Beech)        | Retained      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Protective fencing to Root Protection Area</li><li>Hand excavation only where RPA zone overlaps with existing built structure (wall), which will be removed and re-installed.</li></ul> |
| T7       | Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore) | Retained      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Protective fencing to Root Protection Area</li><li>Hand excavation only where RPA zone overlaps with existing built structure (wall), which will be removed and re-installed.</li></ul> |
| T8       | Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore) | To be removed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Scheduled to be felled. Application NC/26/101368</li></ul>                                                                                                                              |

Trees T1–T3 are located adjacent to the site driveway and require temporary ground protection to prevent compaction from demolition and construction traffic.

Trees T6 and T7 have Root Protection Areas overlapping with existing built structures to be removed and replaced. In these locations, works within or immediately adjacent to RPAs, shall be undertaken in accordance with the methodology set out in Section 4.3.

Trees T4–T7 require protective fencing to prevent encroachment, storage of materials and ground disturbance within Root Protection Areas.

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### 3. Sequence of Works

The following sequence of operations shall be adhered to:

#### Stage 1 – Pre-Commencement

Prior to any demolition, site clearance, material delivery, or construction activity:

1. Tree protection fencing shall be erected around the Root Protection Areas of the retained trees T4,5,6,7).
2. Temporary ground protection shall be installed to the existing driveway within the Root Protection Areas of the retained trees T1, 2, 3.
3. All protection measures shall be inspected and maintained for the duration of works.

No demolition or construction activity shall commence until the protective measures are fully installed.

#### Stage 2 – Demolition of Existing Dwelling

- Demolition operations shall proceed using the approved site access route only.
- Construction and demolition vehicles shall remain on the protected driveway route and shall not access unprotected rooting areas.
- No demolition arisings, spoil, or materials shall be deposited within retained tree Root Protection Areas.
- Works within or immediately adjacent to RPAs shall be undertaken in accordance with Section 4.3.

#### Stage 3 – Construction of Replacement Dwelling

During construction:

- Vehicle access shall be restricted to designated working areas only.
- Existing tree protection measures shall remain in situ and shall not be removed, relocated, or altered without arboricultural approval.
- Materials, spoil, skips, fuel, cement, or chemicals shall not be stored within RPAs.
- Ground levels within RPAs shall remain unaltered unless otherwise approved.
- within or immediately adjacent to RPAs shall be undertaken in accordance with Section 4.3.

#### Stage 4 – Completion

- Protective fencing and temporary ground protection shall remain in place until all heavy construction activities have ceased and final landscaping is complete.
  - Removal of protection measures shall only take place at practical completion of the development.
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### 4. Tree Protection Measures

Trees, Root Protection Areas – are identified on the accompanying plan drawing 2-05: *Tree Protection Plan – Tree identification and protection zones*.

#### 4.1 Retained Thuja and Taxus Trees (T1–T3)

##### Ground Protection

Three retained trees, Taxus (T1,T2) and Thuja (T3) are positioned adjacent to the site driveway. Their rooting environment is considered likely to extend beneath the existing driveway surface.

As the driveway will provide access for demolition and construction vehicles, there is potential for soil compaction and root damage from repeated trafficking.

##### Ground Protection Specification

To safeguard rooting areas during demolition and construction, temporary load-spreading ground protection shall be installed over the existing driveway where it passes through the Root Protection Areas of T1–T3.

Ground protection shall comprise:

- A compressible layer (minimum 100 mm compacted depth of woodchip) laid over a geotextile membrane and overlain by proprietary interlocking ground protection boards, steel plates or equivalent load-spreading system appropriate to expected loading.

The temporary protection system shall:

- Distribute vehicular loads across a wider surface area;
- Prevent compaction of rooting soils beneath the driveway;
- Avoid rutting or structural failure of the existing driveway;
- Remain in place for the duration of demolition and construction works.

Construction vehicles shall remain strictly on the protected access route and shall not deviate into adjacent soft landscape areas.

##### Restrictions within Root Protection Areas

Within the RPAs of T1–T3 the following shall be prohibited:

- Excavation, trenching, or soil stripping – with the exception below (4.3);
- Storage of materials or waste;
- Cement mixing or washout;
- Fuel or chemical storage;
- Changes in ground level;
- Uncontrolled parking or turning of machinery.

Should any unforeseen excavation become necessary within the RPA, works shall cease and an arboricultural consultant shall be consulted prior to recommencement.

#### 4.2 Retained *Pittosporum* (T4), *Taxus baccata* (T5), *Fagus sylvatica* (T6), *Acer pseudoplatanus* (T7) Protective Fencing

The trees are located to the rear of the site and require exclusion protection only.

Protective fencing shall be erected around the extent of the Root Protection Areas -

Fencing shall comprise weldmesh panels (Heras type) securely fixed to a scaffold framework and braced to resist impacts in accordance with BS5837:2012 Figure 2, or equivalent approved by the Local Planning Authority.

or

##### Option B

- A robust equivalent providing an immovable physical barrier.

Protective fencing shall be erected prior to commencement of any demolition or construction works and retained for the duration of development.

#### Exclusion Zone Requirements

Within the fenced Root Protection Areas of T4, 5, 6, 7 the following activities shall be prohibited:

- Storage of plant, machinery, or materials;
- Storage of spoil, waste, or topsoil;
- Site compounds or welfare facilities;
- Cement mixing or washout;
- Fires or heat-generating equipment;
- Excavation or trenching – with the exception below (4.3);
- Vehicle or pedestrian access.

Signs stating: “TREE PROTECTION AREA – KEEP OUT”, shall be attached to fencing.

#### 4.3 Retained *Acer pseudoplatanus* (T7) and *Fagus* (T6)

##### Wall Removal and Reconstruction Adjacent to Root Protection Areas

No excavation shall proceed adjacent to retained trees until roots have been exposed and the excavation approach confirmed by the project arboriculturist.

Note: The proposed works are adjacent to, rather than through, the principal rooting area, and utilise the alignment of existing foundations. Accordingly, the build methodology seeks to avoid opening new linear trenches through previously undisturbed rooting zones, thereby reducing the likelihood of incremental root severance beyond that associated with the historic built form.

Where demolition and re-construction works must take place within the Root Protection Areas, the following Methodology shall be applied:

##### 4.3.1. Root Investigation and Exposure Prior to Foundation Removal

The contractor shall establish the presence, extent and significance of roots within the proposed working area.

Root investigation shall be undertaken using low-impact excavation techniques, either:

- Hand excavation within sensitive areas immediately adjacent to retained trees and RPAs,
- Air-spade excavation shall be employed where hand excavation alone is insufficient to determine root distribution.

This work will:

- identify significant structural roots requiring retention;
- determine whether existing foundation removal can be undertaken without material adverse effect to retained trees;
- establish whether modifications to foundation methodology are necessary in response to root distribution encountered on site.

Where roots greater than 25 mm diameter are encountered, works in that location shall pause pending review by the project arboriculturist.

It is noted that the proposed excavation line follows the alignment of the existing foundation trench and therefore does not create a new excavation corridor extending through previously undisturbed rooting areas within the RPA.

##### 4.3.2. Confirmation of Foundation Strategy Following Root Exposure

Following root investigation and exposure, the final foundation removal and reconstruction methodology shall be agreed having regard to roots encountered.

The replacement foundation strategy shall seek to minimise excavation and root disturbance through the following measures where practicable:

- Retention and incorporation of existing foundation elements, where structurally feasible;
- Re-use of the existing foundation trench alignment, thereby avoiding creation of new excavation lines within the RPA;
- Undertaking excavation works from the side furthest from the retained tree(s) where reasonably practicable, thereby reducing disturbance to retained rooting areas;
- Avoidance of unnecessary widening or deepening of excavations adjacent to retained trees.

Should significant structural roots be identified during exploratory works, the foundation design shall be reviewed in consultation with the project arboriculturist and structural engineer.

#### 4.3.3. Removal of Existing Foundations

Demolition and removal of foundations adjacent to retained trees shall be undertaken in a controlled manner to minimise disturbance to roots and surrounding soil conditions.

Works shall include:

- normal demolition of the superstructure;
- careful break-out of slabs and foundations, progressing where practicable from the side furthest from retained trees and associated RPAs;
- avoidance of indiscriminate mechanical extraction or ripping of substructure in areas nearest retained trees;

Mechanical excavation immediately adjacent to retained roots shall be avoided unless expressly approved following root exposure.

#### 4.3.4. Protection of Exposed Roots

Where foundation removal results in root exposure, roots shall be protected from desiccation (drying out), temperature extremes and physical damage.

Suitable protection measures may include:

- covering exposed roots with damp hessian, geotextile fleece, or dampened burlap sheeting;
- temporary covering with moist topsoil or mulch where exposure periods are prolonged;
- minimising the duration of exposure, with excavations backfilled or construction progressed as soon as reasonably practicable.

Exposed roots shall not be left uncovered overnight unless protected in accordance with Section 4.3.4.

#### 4.3.5. Root Pruning

Where root pruning is demonstrably necessary and agreed by the supervising arboriculturist:

- roots shall first be carefully exposed;
- cuts shall be made cleanly using sharp hand tools or appropriate arboricultural equipment;
- roots shall be pruned back to a suitable lateral where practicable;
- torn or ragged roots shall be trimmed to sound tissue;
- exposed roots shall be protected immediately following cutting.

Root pruning shall be undertaken under arboricultural supervision.

#### 4.3.6. Construction of Replacement Foundations

Replacement foundations shall be designed and constructed to minimise additional impact on retained rooting areas.

The preferred approach shall comprise:

- re-use of the existing foundation trench alignment, avoiding new excavation lines across retained rooting areas;
- excavation and construction activity undertaken, where practicable, from the side furthest from retained trees;
- minimisation of excavation widths and disturbance adjacent to RPAs.

Should substantial roots be encountered during exploratory works, consideration shall be given to alternative engineering solutions, including:

- bridged foundations;
- mini-piled or piled foundations with suspended elements; or
- other low-impact foundation solutions as agreed between the structural engineer and project arboriculturist.

The objective is to avoid unnecessary severance of retained roots and to prevent the creation of new continuous trenches through retained rooting areas.

#### 4.3.7. Reinstatement and Soil Protection

Upon completion of foundation works:

- disturbed areas shall be reinstated using suitable soils where applicable;
- existing soil levels within retained rooting areas shall be maintained unless otherwise agreed;
- no unauthorised raising or lowering of ground levels shall occur within RPAs;
- soil compaction shall be minimised and any temporary protective measures removed carefully.

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### 5. Site Monitoring and Compliance

All contractors and subcontractors shall be informed of the tree protection requirements prior to commencement of works.

The Site Manager shall ensure protective measures are maintained in good condition at all times.

Any damage to fencing or ground protection shall be rectified immediately.

Should unexpected works be required within a Root Protection Area, works shall stop and arboricultural advice sought prior to proceeding.

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2-05 Tree Protection plan - tree identification and protection zones

### **Badnam Cottage: Tree Protection plan - tree identification and protection zones**

